



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**

“WOMEN IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY”

**Wednesday, 7th July 2021
6:30 – 9:00 PM (IST)**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

International Solar Alliance

Joining link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LbYfw59aT42sWaLxh2i3TQ

**Concept Note
(Virtual Conference)
Women In Renewable Energy and Sustainability**

Renewable Energy is established as a “change enabler” when it comes to sustainability. India’s energy and emission reduction targets necessitate a strong role of Renewable Energy in the country’s developmental path in the future. The need of the hour is to bring in transformational shift towards inclusivity in this sector to significantly impact and accelerate Renewable Energy deployment.

The role of women in contributing to the clean energy value chain is important and increasingly recognized by the global community. Government of India’s Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has been working to scale up decentralized Renewable Energy solutions to complement the grid extension efforts in rural areas, in turn providing multifarious growth opportunities for thousands of women. It is important to acknowledge the influence a gender perspective can create on the Renewable Energy sector. Not only will it help in adoption and encouragement of sustainable methods of living, but also ensure better entrepreneurial and employment opportunities for women. There is a clear link between energy access and women’s economic empowerment and well-being.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has always recognized, celebrated and motivated women’s vital involvement in India’s successful Renewable Energy movement thus far. MNRE acknowledges that women and Renewable Energy can have a synergistic, partnership. Women can be key players in the rapidly expanding Renewable Energy space, and the Renewable Energy sector can play a crucial role in increasing women’s participation in economic activities. The Ministry envisages and encourages women to take a lead role in driving the renewable energy revolution.

Empirical evidence shows that despite the RE sector having immense possibilities for involvement of women, they are still under-represented in the renewable energy value chain. This is both at the policy and decision-making level and in the Renewable Energy workforce. Owing to deep-rooted social and cultural discrimination, difficulty in accessing large funds and limited access-to-education and training, women mostly remain at the periphery. This restricts not only the welfare and economic potential of Energy policies and programmes being launched by the government from time to time, but also diminishes the overall growth potential of the country’s economy. MNRE truly feels that more programmes are required which focus on women working as leaders in the sector and especially in last mile energy enterprises. The Ministry wants to encourage mentoring and training of women in technical, marketing and business skills with a need to increasing their role and participation in RE sector.

MNRE takes this opportunity to open a consequential dialogue towards bringing more and more women to forefront and at leading positions in the Renewable Energy sector as well as impacting women’s lives by making entrepreneurial opportunities available to them.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Webinar on “Women in Renewable Energy and Sustainability”

Day & Date: Wednesday, 7th July 2021, Time: 6:30-9:00 PM IST

Duration: 6:30 PM- 9:00PM (IST)	
	Inaugural Session
06:30 - 06: 40 PM (IST)	Welcome Remarks Shri Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy,
06:40 - 06: 50 PM (IST)	Keynote Address Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance
06: 50 - 07: 00 PM (IST)	Keynote Address Ms. Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO SE4ALL
07: 00 - 07: 15 PM (IST)	Inaugural Address Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Hon’ble Minister of State (I C) Power, New and Renewable Energy, and Minister of State, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India
7:15: - 8:00 PM (IST) (45 min Session)	SESSION 1 Women Leadership in Renewables: Envisioning a ‘New World’
	Narration: This session aims to highlight the merit-based importance of having women at every step of renewables-based energy transition. Dissect some of the challenges while making the environment conducive to accelerate women leadership.
	Moderator: Ms. Kanika Chawla, Programme Manager – UN Energy Sustainable Energy for All
	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Gauri Singh, DDG, IRENA • Ms. Richa Sharma, AS (MoEF&CC) • Dr Vibha Dhawan, DG, TERI • Ms. Mahua Acharya, CEO, EESL Convergence • Ms. Sullajja Firodia Motwani, Kinetic Green • Dr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, CEEW
8:00- 8:45 PM (IST) (45 min Session)	SESSION 2 - Women Entrepreneurs in RE: A gateway to innovation and economic growth
	Narration: The objective of this session is to discuss some of the best real-life examples of women entrepreneurs as an inspiration for the coming generation. How it opened a new world of innovation and economic growth. The session will also deliberate on what the eco-system should look like to support aspiring women entrepreneurs.

	<p>Moderator: Dr. Megha Pushpendra, Lead- Strategic Communication, International Solar Alliance</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Reema Nanavaty, Secretary General, Self Employed Women’s Association • Ms. Meagan Fallone, Barefoot college • Ms. Ajaita Shah, CEO, Frontier Markets • Ms. Cecile Martin Phipps, Director Communication and Strategy, ISA • Ms. Suhela Khan, UNWOMEN (Case Study: MP & Nagaland, Rajasthan & UP) • Mr. Praveen Saxena (CEO, Skill Council for Green Jobs)
	<p>8:45- 8:55 PM (IST)</p>
<p>8:55 – 9:00 PM (IST)</p>	Vote of Thanks