

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION

The establishment of a global policy network was embraced in the Political Declaration of the International Conference for Renewable Energies – renewables 2004 – that took place in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 4 June 2004.

Ministers and Government Representatives agree to work within a "global policy network" together with representatives from parliaments, local and regional authorities, academia, the private sector, international institutions, international industry associations, consumers, civil society, women's groups, and relevant partnerships worldwide. (Paragraph 9)

Precisely one year later, in June 2005, the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century was officially launched in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Network is governed by a Steering Committee of some 30 distinguished and committed individuals. Balanced geographically and by sector, the Steering Committee comprises several key categories, such as Governments, International Governmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations, Industry, Finance, Regional Governments, Local Governments, and At-large Members. From among its members, the Steering Committee elects Chairpersons to constitute the Bureau which makes management decisions on behalf of the Steering Committee.

In February 2006, REN21 opened its permanent secretariat offices in Paris. The Secretariat is provided by GTZ and UNEP and supported by IEA.

Participation in REN21 is rapidly increasing with many dedicated people taking part in the work for the Global Status Report, the International Action Programme Follow Up and policy issue papers.



REN21 is a global policy network in which ideas are shared and action is encouraged to promote renewable energy. It provides a forum for leadership and exchange in international policy processes. It bolsters appropriate policies that increase the wise use of renewable energies in developing and industrialised economies.

Open to a wide variety of dedicated stakeholders, REN21 connects governments, international institutions, non-governmental organisations, industry associations, and other partnerships and initiatives. Linking actors from the energy, development and environment communities, REN21 leverages their successes and strengthens their influence for the rapid expansion of renewable energy worldwide.

Visit the website at www.ren21.net

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POLICY • ADVOCACY • EXCHANGE

REN21 Renewable Energy
Policy Network
for the 21st Century



ADVOCACY POLICY EXCHANGE

REN21 - providing international leadership for the rapid expansion of renewable energy in developing and industrial countries – based on the cooperation of stakeholders from the energy, development and environment sectors .
REN21 encourages action in three areas: Policy, Advocacy, and Exchange.

POLICY Framing Priority Issues

REN21 convenes and engages key leaders and stakeholders in national legislation and international processes. REN21 and its participants encourage the inclusion of renewable energy matters in the deliberations of appropriate meetings and venues, and target relevant political processes, such as UN CSD 14/15, meetings of the G8, UNFCCC ...

REN21 encourages political support for the strengthening of regulatory environments and market structures in order to accelerate the use of renewable energies in developed and developing countries and emerging economies, and to expanded access to public and private financing.

REN21 encourages countries to meet commitments to renewable energy (particularly in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and in the International Action Programme of the renewables 2004 conference) and helps document and report on progress.

Two years after the International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn 2004, REN21 is following up on the almost 200 specific actions which were put forward by committed participants to be included in the International Action Programme. REN21 is reporting on the status of IAP implementation to the UN CSD 14/15.

ADVOCACY Highlighting Benefits

REN21 improves the understanding of the value of renewable energy as a critical component of a sustainable energy future. REN21 participants combine their expertise to produce conclusive policy issue papers on the essential contribution of renewable energy to increase access to energy services and to alleviate poverty in developing countries, to mitigate climate change and other negative environmental impacts of energy production, and to improve the security of energy supply.

REN21 produces authoritative periodical information on the status and progress of renewable energies worldwide, the placement of new investment and the development of the industry, as well as the respective promotion policies.

The highly recognised “Renewables 2005: Global Status Report” was launched in November 2005 at the Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference. In September 2005, the Network published “Energy for Development: The Potential Role of Renewable Energy in Meeting the Millennium Development Goals” during the UN World Summit in New York. In February 2006, REN21 launched its issue paper “Changing Climates, the Role of Renewable Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World” at the Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Dubai. All issue papers are available on www.ren21.net

EXCHANGE Promoting Knowledge Flow

REN21 promotes knowledge generation and exchange by providing links among databases on renewable energy markets and policies, and by working to ensure that knowledge gaps are filled by capable organisations and individuals. This makes REN21 a catalyst for policy advice and capacity building.

Inviting common analysis and frank debates, the website and Issue Groups of REN21 provide the forum where the diverse community of government ministries, international organisations, and stakeholder groups can come together to share experiences and engage in ongoing dialogues on priority issues for the expansion of renewable energy.

Knowledge exchange and common analysis will spur joint activities that have the benefit of multi-stakeholder backing.

Facilitating exchange among the community, REN21 is working together with the REEEP Partnership to build the regele.info Information Gateway, a one-stop-shop for high quality, up-to-date information on renewable energy, energy efficiency and key industry actors.



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