

# About IRENA

IRENA promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, including bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, ocean, solar and wind energy in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon economic growth and prosperity.

As a global platform for inclusive co-operation, IRENA is uniquely positioned to bring together ... different constituencies. It serves as the convening platform to advance the widespread adoption and use of renewable energy, with the ultimate goal of safeguarding a sustainable future.

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## International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

### Description:

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is an intergovernmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future, and serves as the principal platform for international co-operation, a centre of excellence, and a repository of policy, technology, resource and financial knowledge on renewable energy. IRENA promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, including bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, ocean, solar and wind energy, in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon economic growth and prosperity.

### Stakeholder(s):

#### Countries :

*With more than 180 countries actively engaged, IRENA promotes renewable resources and technologies as the key to a sustainable future and helps countries achieve their renewable energy potential.*

#### Governments :

*With a mandate from countries around the world, IRENA encourages governments to adopt enabling policies for renewable energy investments, provides practical tools and policy advice to accelerate renewable energy deployment, and facilitates knowledge sharing and technology transfer to provide clean, sustainable energy for the world's growing population.*

#### Renewable-Energy Community :

*The international renewable-energy community is large, resourceful, and rapidly evolving. IRENA's role is to seek out, establish and develops new synergies, facilitate dialogue, share best practices, promote enabling policies, build capacity and foster co-operation at the global, regional and national levels. IRENA encourages investment flows and works to strengthen technology and innovation, with diverse stakeholders contributing to these shared goals.*

#### International Organisations :

*International, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations are natural and indispensable partners to IRENA, as are the many private-sector companies already seizing the opportunities offered by renewable energy. Civil-society groups can also contribute to the IRENA vision by advocating and observing the actions of governments and the private sector. IRENA facilitates knowledge-sharing partnerships, ensuring that existing information and experience is developed, organised, and made accessible.*

#### Intergovernmental Organisations

#### Non-Governmental Organisations

#### IRENA Senior Managers

#### Francesco La Camera :

*Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency — Francesco La Camera is the Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). He was appointed at the Ninth Assembly of IRENA, the ultimate decision-making body of the Agency. Mr. La Camera took office on 4 April 2019 and brings more than thirty years of experience in the fields of climate, sustainability, and international cooperation. In his role, Mr. La Camera is responsible for leading the delivery of IRENA's work programme and strategy in cooperation with the Agency's member states. At a critical time for climate change and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, Mr. La Camera is tasked with redefining the structure and operations of the Agency in response to the urgent needs of its members. Under his leadership the Agency has forged a series of new strategic partnerships with UN organisations including UNDP, UNFCCC and Green Climate Fund among others. A key priority of his tenure is to implement a more action-oriented approach to the Agency's work. Previously, Mr. La Camera served as Director-General of Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage, EU and International Affairs at the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land & Sea since 2014. In this capacity, he developed cooperation and partnership agreements with a wide range of countries, particularly developing countries including Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Mr. La Camera held number of roles at the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea. As the national coordinator for climate, environment, resource efficiency and circular economy, he led the Italian delegation to UNFCCC's COP 21 to 24 and the EU Presidency at COP 20. He was responsible for the preparation and organisation of Italy's G7 Environment Presidency in 2017. He was a leading member of the Italian delegation to the G7 Environment Ministers meetings in 2016 and 2018. He served as co-chair of the Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development established in Rome in partnership with FAO and UNDP and co-chaired the Financial Platform for Climate and Sustainable Development in partnership with the Italian Development Bank Cassa di Risparmio di Roma. He has also coordinated a number of national strategies including on sustainable development, green finance*

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## Stakeholders (continued)

and fossil fuel subsidies among other things. Mr. La Camera led the support provided by Italy to several renewable energy initiatives such as the Initiative for Renewable Island Energy (IRIE) and the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA), coordinated by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Mr. La Camera spearheaded international cooperation on issues related to climate change and the environment. He played a key role in developing initiatives between Italy and multilateral organisations such as the World Bank, the African Development Bank, UNEP, UNDP and FAO, to implement the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. He chaired the meetings of the Signatories to the Aarhus Convention led by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) and chaired the advisory board for the Convention's implementation. Author of many publications, Mr. La Camera was a Lecturer of Sustainable Development at the University of Cosenza and of Environment & Land Economics at the University of Roma 3. He began his career as an economic analyst at the Italian Ministry of Budget and Planning. Mr. La Camera is a national of Italy, and graduate of the University of Messina in Political Sciences (Economic Policy major).

**Gauri Singh :**

*Deputy Director-General* — Gauri Singh is the Deputy Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency. Ms. Singh brings more than 30 years of experience in policy, advocacy and project implementation within the field of renewable energy and sustainable development from India and the international system. Prior to joining IRENA, Ms. Singh worked within India's federal government and at the apex level within provincial government. Federally, she was responsible for leading the development of the National Solar Mission of India policy in 2010, an early policy framework designed to drive solar power development across the country. At the Madhya Pradesh provincial Government, Ms. Singh steered rural development providing strategic planning and implementation guidance across the state for large initiatives. Her work involved poverty reduction and sustainable development within rural communities. She was also responsible for spearheading initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods for nearly two million poor women across the state. In Madhya Pradesh, Ms. Singh led livelihood projects based on decentralised renewable energy solutions to support rural artisans and ran an ambitious intervention to restore the flow of 40 rivers across the state, based on the use of remote sensing maps. She also played a key role in drafting the framework for the state Right to Water Act. Prior to that, Ms. Singh was Director, Country support and Partnerships at IRENA where she was responsible for regional and country level initiatives and for spearheading partnerships with regional energy and economic organisations.

**Mohamed El-Farnawany :**

*Chief of Staff* — As Chief of Staff, Mohamed El-Farnawany oversees the Governance Support Office, Communications, Legal Affairs, Protocol and Liaison, in addition to the Agency's Observer Office in New York. He started his work with the Agency in October 2011 as Secretary of the Governing Bodies. Before joining IRENA, Mr. El-Farnawany represented Egypt as Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Chief of Mission in Paris. Prior to this assignment, he held a number of positions in his Government and its diplomatic service, including Political and Economic Officer in the office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

and Congressional Liaison in Washington, D.C. He served in New York as Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations, where he actively participated in the 2005 World Summit, as well as other negotiations including financing for development, South-South co-operation and funds and programmes. He later worked in the UN Secretariat as Senior Officer in the Secretary General's High-level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment. Earlier in his career, Mr. El-Farnawany was a Teaching and Research Assistant in international relations and development studies at the American University in Cairo and International Coordinator at the Arab Organization for Human Rights. Mr. El-Farnawany holds a Master's of Philosophy in International Relations from the University of Cambridge, U.K. He graduated from the Diplomatic Institute, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cairo, and has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a minor in Economics from the American University in Cairo.

**Rabia Ferroukhi :**

*Director, Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre* — As Director of the Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre (KPFC), Dr. Rabia Ferroukhi oversees the Agency's work on a range of renewable energy policy issues including design, socio-economic benefits and integrated resource management. Dr. Ferroukhi joined IRENA in 2011 and has over 20 years of experience in the fields of energy, development and environment. She worked in both public and private sectors, including with governments in the Middle-East and North Africa, energy companies in the Mediterranean region and the GCC, and international institutions. Dr. Ferroukhi holds a Master in Applied Economics and a Ph.D. in Economics from the American University in Washington DC.

**Dolf Gielen :**

*Director, IRENA Innovation and Technology Center* — As Director of the IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC) since 2011, Dolf Gielen oversees the Agency's work on advising member countries in the area of technology status and roadmaps, energy planning, cost and markets and innovation policy frameworks. Before joining IRENA, Mr. Gielen was Chief of the Energy Efficiency and Policy Unit at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Vienna. In that capacity, he managed a number of large projects involving energy efficiency and renewable energy (including those in Sri Lanka, Ukraine and India). Previously, he was a Senior Energy Analyst in the Energy Technology Policy Division of the International Energy Agency, Paris. Mr. Gielen has a PhD in Energy and Materials Modelling from the Technical University of Delft. He graduated with an MA in Environmental Sciences at the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands.

**Gurbuz Gonul :**

*Director, Country Engagement and Partnerships* — As Director of the IRENA's Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP), Gurbuz Gonul oversees the Agency's work on supporting member countries in the development and implementation of national and regional renewable energy strategies and programmes through IRENA's regional initiatives, tailored country support as well as partnership initiatives. Mr. Gonul joined IRENA in 2014 as Head of Regions Unit. Formerly, he worked as Senior Energy Economist of the Islamic Develop-

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*Stakeholders (continued)*

ment Bank between 2010 and 2014, where he led the work for the development of an Energy Sector Policy for the Bank as well as the processing of complex loan and technical assistance projects in Africa and Asia. Between 2004 and 2010, Mr. Gonul served as Senior Expert at the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels, where he spearheaded policy analysis, sectoral in-depth reviews, regional/country reviews concerning energy investments, trade and transportation. He also held positions in the EU Commission's Delegation in Ankara and Turkey's Ministry of Energy since 1993. Mr. Gonul holds Master of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees in Oil and Gas Engineering from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara.

**Bruce Neese :**

*Director, Administration and Management Services — As Director of the Administration and Management Services (AMS), Bruce Neese oversees the Financial, Budgetary, Human Resources, Information and Communications Technology, Procurement and Facilities Management operations of IRENA. He has more than 30 years of experience in administrative operations with both for-profit and non-profit entities in the Middle East, Europe and the United States. Mr. Neese has a Master of Business Administration from the University of Oklahoma in addition to his financial certifications as CPA, CMA, CTP and qualified financial advisor.*

**Elizabeth Press :**

*Director, Planning and Programme Support — As Director of the Planning and Programme Support (PPS), Elizabeth Press oversees the internal co-ordination and the strategic integration of extra-budgetary resources in IRENA's programmatic work. She leads the reporting on programmatic matters to*

*governing bodies and individual donors, facilitates Agency-wide participation in global or thematic initiatives and contributes to strengthening IRENA's presence in Europe, including at the EC level and with Germany as Host Country. Ms. Press joined IRENA in November 2010 and was a member of the team that led the transition from the Preparatory Commission to becoming a full-fledged Agency in April 2011. Prior to joining IRENA, Ms. Press had some 18 years of international experience, mainly with the United Nations, in the field of development, humanitarian assistance, rule of law and political affairs. She has served in HQ duty stations in New York and Geneva, as well as in different field locations, including Rwanda, Kenya, Burundi, DRC, Cambodia, and Kosovo. Ms. Press holds an MA in Public Administration.*

**Roland Roesch :**

*Deputy Director, IRENA Innovation and Technology Center (IITC)*

**Ahmed Badr :**

*Acting Director, Project Facilitation & Support*

**Marly Altschuler :**

*Chief Human Resources*

**Neil MacDonald :**

*Senior Editor and Publications Manager*

**Moez Charfeddine :**

*Chief Information Communications Technology*

**Luay Naim Shalkhoub :**

*Chief Procurement Officer*

## Vision

Sustainable economic growth and prosperity

## Mission

To promote the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy

## Values

**Development:** The Parties to the IRENA Statute, desiring to promote the widespread and increased adoption of renewable energy with a view to sustainable development,

**Energy:** inspired from firm belief in the vast opportunities offered by renewable energy for addressing and gradually alleviating problems of energy security and volatile energy prices,

**Sustainability:** convinced of the major role that renewable energy can play in reducing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, thereby contributing to the stabilisation of the climate system, and allowing for a sustainable, secure and gentle transit to a low-carbon economy,

**Technology:** desiring to foster the positive impact that renewable energy technologies can have on stimulating sustainable economic growth and creating employment,

**Decentralisation:** motivated by the huge potential of renewable energy in providing decentralised access to energy, particularly in developing countries, and access to energy for isolated and remote regions and islands,

**Health:** concerned about the serious negative implications that the use of fossil fuels and the inefficient use of traditional biomass can have on health,

**Efficiency:** that renewable energy, combined with enhanced energy efficiency, can increasingly cover the anticipated steep increase in global energy needs in the coming decades, and

**Cooperation:** affirming their desire to establish an international organisation for renewable energy that facilitates the cooperation between its Members,

**Collaboration:** while also establishing a close collaboration with existing organisations that promote the use of renewable energy, Have agreed to establish the International Renewable Energy Agency.

## 1. Policies

*Encourage governments to adopt enabling policies for renewable energy investments*

**Stakeholder(s)**

**Governments**

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## 2. Tools & Advice

*Provide practical tools and policy advice to accelerate renewable energy deployment*

### 2.1. REmap

*Maintain a roadmap to double renewable energy use worldwide by 2030*

### 2.2. Regional Planning

*Facilitate regional renewable energy planning*

### 2.3. Tools

*Host renewable energy project development tools*

like the Project Navigator, the Sustainable Energy Marketplace and the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility.

#### 2.3.1. Project Navigator

*Enable projects to access financing more efficiently*

Develop bankable renewable energy projects — The IRENA Project Navigator is an online platform providing comprehensive, easily accessible, and practical information, tools and guidance to assist in the development of bankable renewable energy projects. The platform facilitates the deployment of renewable energy by enabling projects to access financing more efficiently and by supporting investors and financiers in building stronger renewable energy project portfolios.

**Stakeholder(s):**

**Investors**

**Financiers**

### 2.3.2. Sustainable Energy Marketplace

*Scale up investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency in developing countries and emerging countries*

The Sustainable Energy Marketplace aims to scale up investments – both public and private - in renewable energy and energy efficiency in developing countries and emerging countries to meet global climate and sustainable development goals. IRENA launched the Marketplace, an online platform, at COP21, in December 2015, to improve the transparency and liquidity of renewable energy and energy efficiency markets in Africa, Latin America, Asia, South-East Europe and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Acting as an investment catalyst, the Marketplace connects project owners, financiers/investors, host governments, service providers and technology suppliers to bring projects to fruition. Investment opportunities are made visible and easily identifiable for investors, and project developers can access relevant funding sources and expertise to advance their projects.

#### Stakeholder(s):

**Developing Countries**

**Emerging Countries**

### 2.3.3. IRENA/ADFD Project Facility

*Support renewable energy projects in developing countries*

Financing accessed for renewable energy projects in developing countries — The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) have collaborated in the provision of a joint Project Facility to support replicable, scalable and potentially transformative renewable energy projects in developing countries. ADFD committed USD 350 million in concessional loans, over seven annual funding cycles that have concluded in 2020, to renewable energy projects recommended by IRENA. The IRENA/ADFD Project Facility has resulted in the selection of 32 renewable energy projects, with over USD 100 million being allocated in the seventh cycle to eight renewable energy projects.

#### Stakeholder(s):

**Developing Countries**

**Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)**

### 3. Knowledge & Technology

*Facilitate knowledge sharing and technology transfer to provide clean, sustainable energy for the world's growing population*

#### 3.1. Employment

*Publish annual reviews of renewable energy employment*

#### 3.2. Capacity

*Provide renewable energy capacity statistics*

#### 3.3. Costs

*Conduct renewable energy cost studies*

#### 3.4. Readiness

*Conduct Renewables Readiness Assessments*

in partnership with governments and regional organisations, to help boost renewable energy development on a country by country basis

**Stakeholder(s):**

**Governments**

**Regional Organisations**

#### 3.5. Global Atlas

*Map resource potential by source and by location*

#### 3.6. Benefits

*Conduct renewable energy benefits studies*

#### 3.7. Briefs

*Publish renewable energy technology briefs*

## Administrative Information

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