



MISSION

GFSE is a neutral, multi-stakeholder platform working to make world energy systems more sustainable from a social, economic and environmental perspective. GFSE activities focus on three working areas:

- fostering international dialogue on energy for sustainable development,
- building bridges between policy makers, donors and investors for sustainable energy projects, and
- brokering knowledge for well-informed decision making.

CONTACT

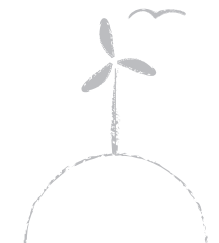
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GFSE is a member of the global network REN21, and actively participates in networking and outreach activities. GFSE President Irene Giner-Reichl was elected as one of the REN21 vice-chairs in 2013.



Partnering for Sustainable Energy and Development



BUILDING BRIDGES...

...between Policymakers, Donors and Investors for Sustainable Energy Projects

Enormous advancements have already been made in renewable energy technology and energy efficiency in recent years. Despite growing political support, in many regions of the world there is still no access to affordable, safe and sustainable energy sources.

The Global Forum on Sustainable Energy believes that awareness and experience with successful technologies and energy options “off the beaten track” need to be shared and highlighted in order to overcome persisting barriers. It interacts and networks with initiatives and organizations engaged in sustainable energy to enhance synergies and complementarities. GFSE has, on several occasions, brought them together with policy makers, donors and investors to provide fertile ground for common initiatives and projects. In cooperation with the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL) and other stakeholders, GFSE has organised several workshops and events showcasing the potentials for private sector engagement and civil society involvement, explaining available support instruments and displaying successful project examples.

FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE...

...on Energy for Sustainable Development

Energy and development are complex and interdisciplinary topics, impacting virtually every aspect of traditional and modern livelihoods. This constitutes a huge challenge to political decision makers to find the best possible solutions while building bridges among multiple sectors, interests and stakeholders.

GFSE enables a structured high-level dialogue and organises global and regional conferences on crucial aspects of energy for sustainable development. These conferences, regional fora and workshops are the visible peak of GFSE activities, through which GFSE promotes and disseminates renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and showcases inclusive solutions for the transition towards a sustainable energy system.

GFSE has successfully prepared the ground for the Vienna Energy Forum, which has become a well-established, bi-annual platform for exchange, discussion and dialogue. In 2012, GFSE together with ECREEE, GEF, UNIDO and the government of Ghana co-organised the High Level Energy Forum “Paving the Way for Sustainable Energy for All in West Africa through Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency” in Accra. The enactment of the ECOWAS Renewable Energy Policy (EREP) and ECOWAS Energy Efficiency Policy (EEEP) with its flagship energy efficiency initiatives were among the most relevant outcomes of the conference.

BROKERING KNOWLEDGE...

...for well-informed decision making

Comprehensive and complex decision making requires a sound knowledge base coupled with hands-on experience in the energy field. In this regard, GFSE aims to play the role of a knowledge broker when it comes to sustainable energy solutions in the context of emerging and developing countries. Targeted research about pivotal topics can complement and enrich a structured dialogue, in order to support the closing of gaps in the conception and implementation of sustainable energy solutions in policy and practice.

Working areas range from favourable framework conditions to inclusive business models or the contribution of certain technologies to a sustainable energy development path. GFSE then draws, documents and shares relevant insights with key stakeholders to help achieve a more sustainable energy system worldwide.



Solar Bakery, Lesotho.
Source: AEE INTEC