



**GFSE**  
GLOBAL FORUM on  
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

## GFSE Newsletter

Dear Friends of GFSE,

We are pleased to send you our March 2024 edition of the GFSE newsletter, containing updates, important events, and news from stakeholders working towards gender equality and value chains in energy sector. In cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences – Campus Vienna, GFSE will be hosting an event dedicated to green skills in the building sector on May 2nd 2024 (17:00-19:30).

Enjoy reading!

The Global Forum on Sustainable Energy

**Save the Date: GFSE Event on Green Skills in the Sustainable Building Sector**

GFSE is pleased to announce an upcoming event, focusing on green skills in the sustainable building sector. In collaboration with the University of Applied Sciences – Campus Vienna, this event aims to address current critical questions in the field of sustainable building, while offering a distinct opportunity for keynote speakers and experts to engage in dialogue.

Join us on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 from 17:00 – 19:30, to be granted an in-depth perspective into sustainable building materials, direct attention to gender-quality issues, and learn more about innovative approaches in the sustainable building sector in Austria.

Please note that this event will be held in German.

[To view the event, please click here](#)

**Women in Green Industry**

In cooperation with the German Cooperation, the UNIDO accentuates the pivotal role of women in green industry through the evaluation of interviews conducted with female professionals in the field. It has been identified that the integration of women into green industry is not only beneficial for the overall advancement of women in the industry, but also advantageous for furthering the green transition itself, as women more often showcase character traits associated with preservation and nurture.

However, existing barriers continue to impede the growth of women in the green industry. Therefore, despite the increased interest in gender-equality, a paucity of data leads to the absence empirical research for policy makers to advance women's integration in green industry. Nonetheless, recommendations have been drafted, such as:

- Overall capacity building of opportunities in the green sector for women on a national level.
- There is a need for capacity building of national and local government in the development and implementation of relevant laws
- Develop a Monitoring framework that collects gender KPIs
- Promote visibility of women entrepreneurs

[For further information, please visit the publication](#)

### **Young People and Green Skills**

Plan International conducted online surveys to characterize the basis for assessing the current situation of the global youth within the sustainable transition. Key findings, such as a substantial lack of educational opportunities for green skills or the identified gap in the capacity building between men and women, draw attention to widespread jeopardizing cleavages. In addition, education was identified as a priority for addressing climate change.

Taken into consideration the evaluation of the survey, Plan International encourages the establishment of an increase in educational and gender awareness for young people to become professionally integrated into the sustainable transition process. Building on these efforts, breaking the glass ceiling for women, as well as recognizing unpaid labour in households and other societal areas, will facilitate the incorporation of women into the green transition, ensuring a fair and just transition for young people and young women.

[For further information, please visit the publication](#)

### **Energy Employment Worldwide**

The sustainable energy transition is crucial to the mitigation of the climate crisis. However, with the shift away from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources, the global labor market is facing changes as well. Therefore, it is necessary to address these new socio-economic developments for the global workforce.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has delivered an overview of the global energy employment. Employment in new sectors such as low-carbon energy, industrial energy efficiency, building renovation, heat pumps and bioenergy already compete with established energy sectors such as oil, coal and gas supply.

Employment throughout the global energy sector accounts for professionals along the entire energy supply chain, maintenance and construction of energy efficient projects, among others. Despite this, as current demand for skilled energy workers is increasing, the pool of qualified workers is decreasing. Therefore, capacity building in green skills, as well as re- and upskilling current employees are vital for securing the advancement of the sustainable energy transition.

The expansion of the workforce faces several risks. Among others, concerns about cost inflation reduce the willingness of energy companies to increase spending on the qualification of the workforce. In addition, shortage of qualified workers and increased worker turnover are making it difficult for companies to hire.

IEA

## Green and Gender Equal

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) aims to further address the gender-aspect of the sustainable transition, especially during the current Belgian Presidency. As there is an urgent need to address this issue, EIGE has opted to establish various practice-oriented gender-evaluation methods, as well as providing policy makers with examples of best points of references. Accounting for the gender-based aspects of the sustainable transition are crucial to the overall implementation of the European Green Deal.

EIGE supports EU institutions the integration of a gender perspective in their work. Among others, EIGE has published the report [“The pathway to progress: strengthening effective structures for gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the EU”](#). The report identified the need to strengthen structures to coordinate gender mainstreaming activities across governments and to increase use of gender mainstreaming tools such as ex-ante gender impact assessments and gender budgeting.

EIGE also publishes the [Gender Equality Index](#) for the European Union (EU). The index has achieved 70.2 points in 2023, showing a growth of 1.6 points since 2022. EIGE’s Gender Equality Index analysis of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) shows, however that only 10 out of 27 NECPs refer to gender equality. One of the issues that needs to be addressed is energy poverty, which is linked to gender inequalities.

For further Information,  
please visit the full article  
here

EIGE Homepage

We hope you enjoyed reading our news updates and look forward to staying in touch with you within the GFSE community. We highly welcome reactions and suggestions! If you do not wish to receive the GFSE newsletter anymore, please send an email to [gfse@energyagency.at](mailto:gfse@energyagency.at)

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The Global Forum on Sustainable Energy is a neutral multi-stakeholder platform facilitating international dialogue on energy for sustainable development by considering the special interests and challenges of developing countries. GFSE aims to establish a sustainable world energy system from a social, economic, and environmental perspective.

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