

Empowering Women as Managers of the Renewable Energy Sector

APEC Project: PPWE 03 2017A

Dear Colleagues,

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) launches the initiative “*Empowering Women as Managers in the Renewable Energy Sector*,” a project developed by the United States and implemented by the Renewables Academy AG (RENAC), Nedworc Foundation (NWF) and SD Strategies. Through an ambitious, comprehensive and targeted capacity-building and mentoring program, this project aims to support the accelerated career advancement of women in APEC economies who work in the field of renewable energy. It intends to develop their full personal potential and increase their confidence and skills to become effective employees, decision makers, entrepreneurs and leaders in the public or private sector. Specifically, *Empowering Women as Managers in the Renewable Energy Sector* seeks to support women’s career development by:

- Increasing their knowledge of renewable energy technologies, markets and policy;
- Enabling them to develop sound, comprehensive and convincing business plans; and
- Facilitating professional exchanges and peer-to-peer mentoring.

Training Program Description

This program combines online training, mentoring program and face-to-face training allowing women the flexibility to access the training materials at a pace and time that is convenient to them. The project consists of three consecutive components. Participants will be selected through a competitive process. The first program phase is a three-month online training, at the end of which participants will take an online exam. Trainees passing the exam will advance to the second stage, the development of their business plan ideas through professional feedback and the engagement with experienced mentors. Selected women with promising business plan ideas will then progress to the third phase, an intense one week in-person workshop. The week will include further lectures and trainings, business plans pitches to experienced stakeholders, and networking opportunities. An alumni network open to all participants will facilitate continued peer-to-peer engagement and mentoring after the program’s completion.

Who can apply?

Empowering Women as Managers in the Renewable Energy Sector is specifically designed for **women holding mid-level career positions in the energy sector in the APEC economies. Applications from women in travel eligible economies¹ are strongly encouraged** and participants from travel eligible economies will receive APEC funding for their attendance at the one-week workshop (see below).

¹ Chile, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Viet Nam

The typical applicant will have between 6 and 12 years of experience working in the energy sector, including for but not limited to a ministry or other public agency; grid operator; power generation company or supplier or other enterprise providing energy goods or services; academic or lobby or financial institution or NGO working in the energy sector.

Seminar fees

Participation in all online and in-person sessions will be covered by the project. This includes access to online courses, all course material, as well as lunch and coffee breaks during the in-person training.

Travel costs

Participants from the 11 travel-eligible APEC economies (see above) who are selected for the one-week workshop will receive funding from APEC for economy-class return fares and a per diem to cover hotel accommodation, meals and incidentals. Advance payment may be considered upon approval of the APEC Secretariat.

How to apply?

Women interested in joining the program are requested to apply through RENAC's website at using this [link](#) on or before **27th May 2018** midnight CET. The application includes a motivation to participate, CV, information on eligibility and qualifications, and initial idea for business idea.

Participants will be selected based on their suitability and the quality of their applications. Applicants must demonstrate that they fulfil all eligibility criteria as outlined above. RENAC will inform candidates via e-mail one week before the first online session. Successful applicants must confirm their participations by sending an email to RENAC within one week after their acceptance. If a candidate fails to confirm her participation, the offer might be transferred to another applicant on the waiting list.

Terms and conditions

If a candidate is accepted for the APEC program and confirms her participation, she is obliged to take part in the entire programme as stipulated by the access conditions. Confirmed participants should be willing to take part in the three month online training program, online exam, mentoring program for business plan development, the face-to-face training and the pitching sessions.

Necessary time resources

The full participation in the project will require roughly:

- Minimum of 100 hours for the online trainings
- Time for the business plan development
- Time for up to 3 mentoring sessions
- One week for the face-to-face training and pitching

For additional information about the program, please contact Emilienne Tingwey at tingwey@renac.de