

ICLEI Energy Exchanges

A technical webinar series for the local energy transition

Background

To address the climate emergency and achieve a sustainable net-zero future, it is imperative that we intensify our collective efforts towards developing and implementing climate and energy solutions. A renewables-based sustainable energy transition, coupled with energy efficiency and energy conservation measures, is a key pillar of this endeavor. However, this transition may look very different across different countries, regions and cities, depending on their unique situations and circumstances. Furthermore, depending on the region's energy consumption patterns and available resources, certain sectors may be initially prioritized over others, such as transportation or industry.

This transition will be realized at the local level. Cities, towns and regions are on the frontlines in setting renewable energy and net-zero emissions targets and implementing them while taking their communities' priorities into account. Not only are local and regional governments (LRGs) transitioning towards a renewables-based future to mitigate their communities' impacts on the climate, they are also aiming to improve their resilience and adaptive capabilities, creating sustainable, healthier and more livable urban environments.

While LRGs play a key role, they do encounter certain challenges and barriers along the way. Effective governance across multiple levels of government, combining top-down and bottom-up approaches, must converge with technological advances, enabling policies and access to finance to turn local strategies into action through various implementation mechanisms. This needs extensive coordinated action across various stakeholders—from utilities to the private sector, from local legislative bodies to local citizens—for a successful sustainable energy transition.

How can incentives for various actors, including financial institutions, governments, the private sector and communities, be aligned? How can innovation in technology, financing mechanisms, and policy be encouraged and what role can it play? What cutting-edge technologies can help close the gap? What are the key methodologies and applications that should be considered within implementing sustainable energy solutions, keeping in mind every city and region has its own specific context?

These are some of the questions that ICLEI's Energy Exchange webinar series aims to find answers for. Along with partners, ICLEI will bring together a host of experts and practitioners across the various walks of the energy sector to share their experiences, expertise and knowledge on a range of topics, to enable the exchange of solutions and approaches that can lead to a rapid and accelerated sustainable energy transition and a much needed impact on the ground.

Objective

This webinar series aims to provide light-touch technical assistance to dedicated cities and regions actively undertaking their sustainable energy transition, through connections and exchanges with experts and peers on solutions across the energy technology and policy spectrum, as well as implementation mechanisms that can be applied to their local contexts.

Themes

The following is a glimpse of the themes that will be covered by the Energy Exchanges:

- Technical advancements and innovative applications for renewable energy technologies (such as agri-voltaics, floating solar panels, building integrated photovoltaics, urban wind power, etc.), energy efficiency, and transition enablers (Green Hydrogen, Power-to-X, energy storage, etc.)
- Technology innovations, digitalization, circular economy, etc. in the clean energy sector.
- Innovative policy interventions in electricity market design, renewable energy incentives, etc.
- Financial mechanisms and instruments to mobilize investments for the implementation of clean energy projects

This list is by no means exhaustive, but each Energy Exchange will aim to provide insight into recent global developments in the energy sector.

Target audience

Given the technical nature of the themes chosen, this webinar caters to professionals and experts engaged in various levels of the energy value chain, especially those working with and for local and regional governments. However, everyone is welcome to attend and to gather valuable information from these interactions.

The webinar series particularly invites the participation of representatives from cities and regions around the world who are engaged in their local energy transitions. These representatives may be technical staff from the departments of energy, environment, engineering, transportation, forestry and urban planning, as well as other relevant departments. Other private sector organizations, NGOs, CSOs, etc. are also encouraged to attend in order to engage with local and regional stakeholders and learn from and share their insights.



Indicative agenda

Each Energy Exchange will tentatively adhere to the following structure:

Time	Description
5 minutes	Introduction by ICLEI WS
40 minutes	In-depth dive into the chosen theme
15 minutes	Audience interactive discussion (Q&A) and closing remarks

Venue

Each Energy Exchange is planned to take place virtually on **Zoom**.

The description of each Exchange as well as joining information will be shared in advance of each session.

Contact information

In case of questions or concerns, or interest in partnering or participating, please contact the Sustainable Energy team at the ICLEI World Secretariat at sustainable.energy@iclei.org.

About ICLEI

[ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability](#) is a global network of more than 2,500 local and regional governments working for sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

[The 100% Renewables Cities and Regions Roadmap](#) project supports nine cities and regions across Argentina, Indonesia and Kenya to develop bankable renewable energy projects and in-depth local strategy and action plans to reach the target of 100% renewable energy. The project is implemented by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI), which is implemented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA).

The [100% Renewables Cities and Regions Network](#) and associated [Energy Compact](#) are open to other local and regional governments interested in setting a 100% renewable energy target, as well as those further along the path, to encourage peer learning and exchange and knowledge dissemination, while providing technical assistance as needed.

Energy Exchanges are supported by:



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Energy Exchanges are in collaboration with:



Partners for Season 1 of the Energy Exchanges:

