



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



## United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

### Regional Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Scaling Up Investment on Small-Scale Renewable Energy in Rural Areas; A Cross Sectoral Approach

**Date/Location:** 16 & 17 October 2024 / Tunis, Tunisia

**Venue:** Marriott Hotel, Centre Urbain Nord, Tunis, Tunisia

**Organizers:** ESCWA and Sida in partnership with ANME

**Participating Organizations:** LAS, IsDB, MEMR Jordan, MoA Jordan, MoA Algeria, MoA Mauritania, MoE Tunisia, MoA Tunisia, MoE Yemen, MoE Iraq, MoE Sudan, MoE Somalia, APIA, AOAD, CGDR, JREEEF, CBF, ICESCO, IRENA, GIZ, ICU, FAO, WFP, UNDP, RCREEE

#### Forum Structure:

*Day 1:* High-level opening statements, followed by scene-setting presentation, high-level panel, and thematic roundtable discussions

*Day 2:* Thematic roundtable discussions, followed by panel discussion, breakout group discussions, and closing remarks

### AGENDA

DAY 1 Wednesday, 16 October 2024	
08:30 – 09:00	Welcome Coffee and Registration
<b>Opening Session</b>	
09:00 – 9:45	<p><b>Master of Ceremony:</b> Ms. Samah Abdullah, Co-founder of Meyahh, Egypt</p> <p><b>Opening Statements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherrfane, Leader of the Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, UN ESCWA</li> <li>- Ms. Cecilia Wramsten, Ambassador of Sweden to Tunisia</li> <li>- Mr. Azouz Samri, Chief of mission, UN RC a.i , Tunisia</li> <li>- Mr. Fethi Hanchi, General Director of National Agency for Energy Conservation (ANME), Tunisia</li> </ul> <p><i>Presentation of the forum structure and agenda</i></p> <p><i>Introductory REGEND Short Video: Achievements, Impacts, and Testimonials</i></p>

<b>Roundtable 1: REGEND's Success Stories, Achievements, Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts</b>	
<b>09:45 – 10:35</b>  <b>50 minutes</b>	<p><b>Scene-setting presentation: REGEND Integrated Business Model</b> Mr. Omar Kaaki, Research Assistant (Sustainable Energy), ESCWA</p> <p><b>Moderated by</b> Mr. Omar Kaaki, ESCWA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Jamila Jazi, President of Aljawhara Charitable Association, Maan, Jordan</li> <li>2. Ms. Radia Ben Haj Mohammad, CRDA, Chorbane, Mahdia, Tunisia</li> <li>3. Mr. Helmi Ammar, Technical Manager of Société Mutuelle de Services Agricoles (SMSA) "El Faouz", Chorbane, Mahdia, Tunisia</li> <li>4. Mr. Mohammad Khalil, Mayor of Akkar Atika, and Professor at Lebanese University, Lebanon (virtual)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will discuss REGEND's impact on the energy access of its beneficiaries, and the operation of their productive activities.</p>
<b>High-level panel: Renewable Energy and Cross-Sectoral Policy Approach</b>	
<b>10:35 – 11:35</b>  <b>60 minutes</b>	<p><b>Moderated by:</b> Ms. Radia Sedaoui, Chief Energy and REGEND Project Coordinator, ESCWA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Jamila Matar, Director of the Energy Department, League of Arab States (LAS)</li> <li>2. Mr. Fethi Hanchi, General Director of National Agency for Energy Conservation (ANME), Tunisia</li> <li>3. Mr. Fawzi Ghrab, Director General, General Commission for Regional Development (CGDR), Tunisia</li> <li>4. Mr. Hussein Mogaibel, Manager Economic Infrastructure, Economic &amp; Social Infrastructure, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)</li> <li>5. Ms. Lina Mobaideen, Head of Project Development Division, Jordan Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Fund (JREEEF), Jordan (Virtual)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This panel will cover the regulatory aspects from policy design to implementation and will discuss the policies and regulations needed to accelerate investment in small-scale renewable energy in rural areas.</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
<b>11:35 – 11:50</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>Roundtable 2: REGEND's Best Practices and Demand-Driven Governance Models</b>	
<b>11:50 – 12:40</b>  <b>50 minutes</b>	<p><b>Key Presentation:</b> Ms. Jessica Obeid, Founding Partner of New Energy Consult</p> <p><b>Moderated discussion by:</b> Mr. Mohamed Zied Gannar, CEO of Gannar Sustainable Energy Consulting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Maher Dmoor, Head of Southern Region Department, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR), Jordan</li> <li>2. Mr. Paul Saoud, Mayor of Chaqdouf Municipality, Lebanon (virtual)</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Mr. Mohammad Khatib, President Union of Beekeepers in Akkar, Lebanon (virtual)</li> <li>4. Ms. Nahed Ahmad, President of the Cooperative for the Production of Agricultural Products in Akkar Atika, Lebanon (virtual)</li> <li>5. Mr. Fathi Hamad, Regional Director at ANME Sousse, Tunisia</li> <li>6. Mr. Zaid Abdulfatah Abdulrahman Al Ayash, Senior Manager, Regulatory Department, Ministry of Electricity of Iraq (virtual)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will discuss the importance of meeting the local community’s needs and requirements and ensuring stakeholder engagement and a participatory approach.</p>
<b>Roundtable 3: Renewable Energy Technologies; Designing for Durability and Sustainability</b>	
<p><b>12:40 – 13:30</b></p> <p><b>50 minutes</b></p>	<p><b>Moderated by:</b> Ms. Jessica Obeid, Founding Partner of New Energy Consult</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Khaled Bedoui, CEO of KB Consulting</li> <li>2. Mr. Mohammed Ali Gam, General Manager of Gamco Energy</li> <li>3. Mr. Samer Zawaydeh, Sustainable Energy Expert, Jordan</li> <li>4. Mr. Yaser Abdallah Said Elhag, Director General of Renewable Energy, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum of Sudan</li> <li>5. Mr. Ilyes Jayari, Project Coordinator, GIZ</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will cover the technological aspect of renewable energy and will address the importance of following a flexible approach that is adaptive to local infrastructure conditions. It will also highlight monitoring as an engine for project effectiveness.</p>
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p><b>Group photo</b></p> <p><b>Lunch break</b></p>
<b>Roundtable 4: Reverse Knowledge from Regional and International Experiences</b>	
<p><b>14:30 – 15:20</b></p> <p><b>50 minutes</b></p>	<p><b>Moderated by:</b> Ms. Asma Rouabhia, Youth Development Delegate, UNDP</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Tarig Ahmed, Regional Programme Officer-MENA, International renewable Energy Agency, IRENA (Virtual)</li> <li>2. Mr. Badreddine Oumid, Head of Maghreb Office, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)</li> <li>3. Mr. Houcem eddine Mechri, Project Manager, Institute for University Cooperation (ICU)</li> <li>4. Mr. Fahman Fathurrahman, Expert, Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO)</li> <li>5. Mr. Maged Mahmoud, Executive Director (Acting), Technical Director, Lead Renewable Energy Advisor, Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), (Virtual)</li> <li>6. Ms. Sana Kacem, Chief of Service at the Solar Directorate, ANME, Tunisia</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>

	This roundtable will explore experiences and lessons learnt from implementation of small-scale renewable energy applications by international organizations.
<b>Roundtable 5: Capacity and knowledge building</b>	
<b>15:20 – 16:10</b>  <b>50 minutes</b>	<p><b>Moderated by:</b> Mr. Abdessalem Khazen, CEO of Khazen Consulting Services, Tunisia</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Siham Maaitah, President of Shabat Batir Charitable Association, Batir, Jordan</li> <li>2. Mr. Adel Kacem, Regional Coordinator of the Integrated Development Programme in Mahdia, CGDR, Tunisia</li> <li>3. Ms. Sabine Saba, Sustainable Development Consultant, Lebanon (virtual)</li> <li>4. Ms. Halima Khaled, Principal Engineer, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria</li> <li>5. Mr. Mohammad Yahya Sidi Mahmoud, Minister’s Office, Ministry of Agriculture of Mauritania</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will discuss the importance of capacity building as a key enabler of ensuring the sustainability of small-scale renewable energy applications in rural areas.</p>

<b>DAY 2</b> <b>Thursday, 17 October 2024</b>	
<b>08:00 – 08:30</b>	<p><b>Welcome coffee</b> <b>Introduction to Day 2</b></p> <p><b>Master of Ceremony:</b> Ms. Sarra Mansour, MENA Regional Focal Point, SDG7 Youth Constituency – UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY)</p>
<b>Roundtable 6: Entrepreneurship Development and Women Empowerment in Rural Areas</b>	
<b>8:30 – 9:30</b>  <b>60 minutes</b>	<p><b>Moderated by:</b> Mr. Khaled Bedoui, CEO of KB Consulting</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Lama Shamayleh, Head of Economic Empowerment of Rural Women, Ministry of Agriculture in Jordan</li> <li>2. Mr. Mohamed Abdessalam, General Commission for Regional Development (CGDR), Tunisia</li> <li>3. Ms. Leila Brahim, Rural Women Division, Regional Delegation for Agricultural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries in Tunisia</li> <li>4. Ms. Fatiha Geurrouche, Director of Studies, National Institute for Agricultural Promotion, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria</li> <li>5. Ms. Samah Abdullah, Co-founder of Meyahh, Egypt</li> <li>6. Ms. Lydia El Bouazzati, Independent Energy Policy Consultant, Morocco</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will shed light on entrepreneurship as a key priority for women empowerment and rural development.</p>

<b>Panel discussion: Financing Challenges and Opportunities for Investment in Small-Scale Renewable Energy in Rural Areas</b>	
<b>9:30 – 10:30</b>  <b>60 minutes</b>	<p><b>Scene-setting Presentation: Derisking Small-Scale Renewable Energy in Rural Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Mustafa Ansari, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion moderated by:</b> Mr. Mustafa Ansari, ESCWA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Hussein Mogaibel, Manager Economic Infrastructure, Economic &amp; Social Infrastructure, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)</li> <li>2. Ms. Bdour Alhyari, Director of Strategic Planning and Business Development, Microfund for Women, Jordan</li> <li>3. Ms. Kawthar Kouki, Principal Engineer, APIA, Tunisia</li> <li>4. Ms. Faten Lassoued, Conseil Bancaire et Financier (CBF), Tunisia</li> <li>5. Ms. Yara Katami, Local Consultant, Green Finance in Jordan, MSMEs (Virtual)</li> <li>6. Mr. Carlos Salgado, Senior Energy Finance Policy Expert, Sustainable Energy Hub UNDP (virtual)</li> <li>7. Ms. Katharine Baragona, MNA Energy, World Bank (virtual)</li> </ol> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>This panel will explore strategic frameworks and financial instruments that mitigate risks and enhance access to finance for small-scale renewable energy in rural areas.</p>
<b>10:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>Roundtable 7: Youth and Green Jobs</b>	
<b>10:45 – 11:35</b>  <b>50 minutes</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Samer Zawaydeh, Sustainable Energy Expert, Jordan</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Asma Rouabhia, Youth Development Delegate, UNDP</li> <li>2. Ms. Sarra Mansour, MENA Regional Focal Point, SDG7 Youth Constituency</li> <li>3. Ms. Samah Abdullah, Co-founder of Meyahh, Egypt</li> <li>4. Ms. Rania Sadek, Technical Manager, GDA “El Intilaqa”, Chorbane, Madia, Tunisia</li> <li>5. Mr. Mohamed Sharif Ibrahim, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Somalia</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>This roundtable will tackle youth empowerment, with an emphasis on the creation of green jobs and developing a robust value chain in a nexus approach.</p>
<b>Breakout groups discussion across stakeholders on the identified risks and opportunities of investment in renewable energy in rural areas</b>	
<b>11:35 – 12:35</b>  <b>60 minutes</b>	<p>Two moderated breakout groups will openly discuss investment in small-scale renewable energy in rural areas, within the below thematic areas. Each group will brainstorm five challenges and five opportunities.</p> <p><b>A. Financial instruments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facilitator: Mr. Rafik Missaoui, Expert Energy Climate, ACOR</li> <li>○ Co-Facilitator: Mr. Mustafa Ansari, ESCWA</li> <li>○ Rapporteur: Ms. Bdour Alhyari, Director of Strategic Planning and Business Development, Microfund for Women, Jordan</li> </ul>

	<p><b>B. Enabling Policy Environment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facilitator: Mr. Mohamed Zied Gannar, CEO of Gannar Sustainable Energy Consulting</li> <li>○ Co-Facilitator: Ms. Fatiha Geurrouche, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria</li> <li>○ Rapporteur: Ms. Halima Khaled, Principal Engineer, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria</li> </ul>
<b>12:35 – 13:35</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
<b>Reporting back:</b>	
<b>Upscaling and expanding renewable energy in rural areas in an integrated Business model</b>	
<b>13:35 – 14:20</b> <b>50 minutes</b>	A representative of each breakout group will present their outcomes, and they will be discussed by partner organizations: LAS, ESCWA, ANME, APIA, GIZ, UNDP, FAO, RCREEE
<b>Panel Discussion: Partnerships and Forward Looking</b>	
<b>14:20 – 15:20</b> <b>60 minutes</b>	<p><b>Moderated by</b> Ms. Radia Sedaoui, ESCWA</p> <p>Organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Jamila Matar, Director of the Energy Department, LAS</li> <li>2. Mr. Maki Abdourahman, Land and Water Officer, FAO</li> </ol> <p>Financial institutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Mr. Hussein Mogaibel, Manager Economic Infrastructure, Economic &amp; Social Infrastructure, IsDB</li> </ol> <p>Country representatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Abdulhakim Fadhel Mohamed, Assistant Deputy, Ministry of Electricity, Yemen</li> </ol> <p>NGOs :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Mr. Aymen Bouazizi, Expert in NGO Management &amp; Development, Tunisia</li> </ol> <p>Youth :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Ms. Amal Ridene, Tunisian Young Climate Negotiators</li> </ol>
<b>Closing Session</b>	
<b>15:20 – 15:45</b>	<p><b>Wrap up and Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Nafaa Baccari, Director Solar Energy, National Agency for Energy Conservation (ANME), Tunisia</li> <li>- Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Leader of the Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, UN ESCWA</li> </ul> <p><b>End of the forum</b></p>