

**Secretary-General Report on the Implementation
of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA)
Inputs by International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
March 2021**

- Affordable, reliable, sustainable, modern, and renewable energy for all is a key enabler for development, and it is rightly recognised as a priority in the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) for LLDCs.
- The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) as the global intergovernmental organisation leading the energy transformation is working closely with its 163 Members, including most LLDCs, to promote the transition towards renewable energy in the context of advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as well as the VPoA, as a part of the MoU signed with UNOHRRLLS in September 2021.
- The Agency has implemented the following activities since the last reporting period on the progress made in the implementation of the VPoA, namely since January 2020:
 - Implementation is underway for the development of the joint UNOHRRLLS - IRENA report on scaling up renewable energy in LLDCs. IRENA and OHRRLLS experts are developing the report that will provide an overview of deployment trends and outline possible actions to scale-up renewable energy to bridge the energy access gap in LLDCs and assist these countries in harnessing the vast socio-economic benefits of renewables.
 - IRENA continued its support in LLDCs to assess conditions needed to accelerate renewable energy deployment through the Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA) tool. With this regard, and in coordination with respective governments, RRA implementation is ongoing for Burkina Faso, and Kyrgyzstan.
 - The Agency continues to support member countries including LLDCs to enhance renewable energy ambitions in National Determined Contributions (NDCs). Significant progress has been made and substantive inputs provided to: Mali, Niger, North Macedonia, Uganda, Botswana, Sudan, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Paraguay, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.
 - IRENA is providing technical support to promote decentralized renewable energy solutions to address multiple SDG targets. In connection to the energy- health nexus, the Agency in partnership with the government of Burkina Faso is conducting an assessment for electrification of rural health facilities to facilitate electricity access to unelectrified primary rural health centers particularly in relation to the COVID-19 response as applicable.
 - The Agency continues to offer tailored capacity building trainings on long term energy planning, where LLDCs (Burundi, Central Africa Republic, and Chad) alongside other countries participated in the regional workshops on Energy System Planning.

