



**United Nations**



HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON  
**ENERGY**  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 2021

## Ministerial Thematic Forums

21 – 25 June 2021

Event name: **2021 Climate Action Pathway for Energy**

Event date and time: **Thursday, 24 June (6AM EST/12PM CET/2PM GST)**

Organizers: **IRENA, REN21**

Number of participants: 30

### Main speakers

- Paul Durrant, Head of End-use Sectors and Bioenergy, IRENA
- Elizabeth Press, Director of Planning and Programme Support, IRENA
- Laura Williamson, Institutional and Member Partnerships, REN21
- Ayman Cherkaoui, Coordinator and Chargé of Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection
- Claudia Schaeffer, Global Climate Change and Latin America Energy Director, Dow
- Yunus Arikan, Head of Global Policy and Advocacy, ICLEI World Secretariat

### Brief summary [max 300 words]:

COP25 & COP26 High-level Champions, **Gonzalo Muñoz** and **Nigel Topping** introduced the Energy Pathway, highlighting that the energy sector is at the heart of the Race to Zero and global climate action.

Speakers included Laura Williamson (REN21), Elizabeth Press (IRENA), Ayman Cherkaoui (Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection), Claudia Schaeffer (Dow), and Yunus Arikan (ICLEI).

**Elizabeth Press** noted the valuable input received from different members of the Marrakech Partnership Energy Group in the past year in putting together the updated pathway, which covers the following sub-sectors: renewables-based power systems, structural change: coal phase out and oil & gas, green hydrogen and end-use sectors. While more countries announced net zero targets in 2020, **Laura Williamson** underscored the need for more concrete action to follow up on renewable energy targets. REN21's Global Status Report 2021 shows that renewables consumption and capacity has increased, but investment in fossil fuels is still six times larger than in renewables. A structural shift is needed to transition to renewables everywhere, not just the power sector.

Several themes emerged from the panel discussion on priorities to mainstream the Climate Action Pathways into relevant sectors and businesses:

- The first is the need to remain inclusive and leave no one behind in the transition by ensuring all parts of society are included in the conversation, including the global south, youth, and all genders.
- Secondly, the importance of a framework for which to continue investing in innovation, particularly where companies that produce materials for daily use is a challenge to decarbonise. Additional solutions that take time to develop and scale, such as hydrogen use for heat, will be required.
- Thirdly, the role of cities featured in the revised pathway emphasises the need to bring the energy discourse and climate debate together at the local as well as national level.

**Key outcomes [max 100 words]:**

This event formally launched the [2021 Climate Action Pathway for Energy](#) (version 2.1), which are a vital part of the [Marrakech Partnership](#) tools to enhance climate action and ambition towards fully implementing the Paris Agreement. The Pathway lays out actions to be taken by 2021, 2025, 2030, and 2040 by policymakers, financial institutions, technology providers and innovators, business and service providers, and civil society to achieve 1.5°C by 2050. The Pathway covers the following sub-sectors of the energy system:

- Renewable-based power system
- End-use solutions
- Green hydrogen
- Coal phase-out
- Oil and Gas

Links to livestream recording/website/social media:

Event website:

<https://irena.org/events/2021/Jun/HLDE-Climate-Action-Pathway-for-Energy>

Meeting Recording:

[https://irena-org.zoom.us/rec/share/1ZoCwGoK2X\\_cxT9Ra\\_sF527Z-wnRiL-BI47xEh4W1DS7947fsCYimJ0TreG2VOCp.lqdq60BqrwDuwLR7](https://irena-org.zoom.us/rec/share/1ZoCwGoK2X_cxT9Ra_sF527Z-wnRiL-BI47xEh4W1DS7947fsCYimJ0TreG2VOCp.lqdq60BqrwDuwLR7)

Access Passcode: 6+HzE!Zy

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