



ECPA Ministerial Dialogue Series Gender and Energy: Considerations for Diversity and Inclusion

General Secretariat of the Organization of American States
1889 F Street N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006 • Ruben Dario Room (8th Floor)

October 23, 2019

Background

In preparation for the IV Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) Ministerial to convene in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on February 27-28, 2020, the OAS is convening a series of Ministerial dialogues. The purpose of these events is to seek the input and advice of Permanent Missions, international development agencies, multilateral organizations, and the diplomatic corps as the delegations of the 34 OAS member States prepare to convene in Montego Bay. This dialogue will address gender and energy from two perspectives: access to energy and the gender gap in the energy industry.

Access to modern energy services enables economic prosperity. However, there are considerable inequalities with regard to energy access, which typically put women at greater economic disadvantage. Promoting gender equity with regard to energy access brings economic and social benefits to broader, more diverse spectrum of society.

On the other hand, despite progress in women’s employment in the energy industry, the energy sector remains one of the least gender-diverse. In 2019 the EY Women in Power and Utilities Index reported that the representation of women in utility leadership remains “disappointingly low.” Closing the gender gap will be vital as women are key drivers of innovation and inclusiveness.

Transitioning towards transformative energy solutions will require innovative thinking and business models. Diversifying the regional talent pool from which to draw new ideas will bring the Americas a step closer to achieving a sustainable energy future. The event will explore strategies that proved effective at empowering women in respect to energy.

Agenda

09:30am	Participant registration
10:00am	<i>Welcome and Introduction</i> Audrey Marks (TBC) Ambassador of Jamaica to the United States and the OAS
10:30am	<i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Ambassador Elizabeth Thompson Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations
11:00am	<i>Panel Discussion: Gender perspective on Access to Energy and Gender Gap in the Energy industry</i>



	<p>Janine Finnell Executive Director, Leaders in Energy</p> <p>Ruth Spencer National Coordinator for the GEF/SGP, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p> <p>Rachel Miller Managing Partner, Forbes Tate DC</p> <p>AnneMarie Horowitz Director, STEM Rising, Office of Public Affairs U.S. Department of Energy</p> <p>Lauren Glickman Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy (WRISE) Managing Partner at RenewComm</p> <p>Moderator Juan Cruz Monticelli Section Chief, Sustainable Energy Department of Sustainable Development Organization of American States (OAS)</p>
12:30pm	Conclusions
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