

## Renewable Energy and Jobs: Annual Review 2023

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### Introduction:

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) have published their 10th edition of the "Renewable Energy and Jobs: Annual Review" report. This annual report offers an in-depth analysis of the global renewable energy sector's employment landscape, providing valuable insights into the sector's growth and its impact on job creation.

In this increasingly urgent time for climate action, renewable energy presents a powerful solution. It not only contributes to mitigating climate change but also offers significant economic opportunities. This report is particularly timely, highlighting the vital role the renewable energy sector plays in creating sustainable jobs and fostering economic development.

### Key Findings:

The global renewable energy sector directly and indirectly employed 13.7 million people in 2022, demonstrating continued growth in the sector's workforce.

- **Employment Growth:** Renewable energy employment has grown steadily, reaching 13.7 million jobs in 2022, a significant increase from previous years. This growth is driven by several factors, including increasing investments in renewable energy projects, technological advancements, and supportive government policies.
- **Job Distribution:** Solar PV employs the most people (4.3 million), followed by biofuels (2.1 million), wind power (1.4 million), and hydropower (1.3 million).
- **Indirect Jobs:** For every direct job in the renewable energy sector, an estimated 2.4 indirect jobs are created in related industries such as manufacturing, construction, and installation. This highlights the significant impact of the renewable energy sector on the overall economy.
- **Geographical Distribution:** Asia accounts for the largest share of renewable energy jobs (67%), followed by Europe and North America. However, other regions are also experiencing significant growth, particularly Africa and Latin America.
- **Skills and Training:** The report emphasises the need for skills development and training programs to equip the workforce with the necessary skills for the evolving renewable energy sector.
- **Localisation:** The report highlights the growing interest in localising supply chains for renewable energy technologies, which can further boost domestic job creation.
- **Future Trends:** The report predicts continued growth in the renewable energy sector and associated job creation in the coming years. This is driven by factors such as the increasing

urgency to address climate change, technological advancements, and supportive government policies.

### **Green sector highlights:**

- **Solar Powerhouse:** Solar PV leads job creation with 4.3 million positions.
- **Global Growth:** Asia dominates with 67% share, but Africa and Latin America are rising stars.
- **Future Bright:** Continued growth predicted due to climate urgency and technological advancements.
- **Skills Up!:** Investment in skills development needed to meet the green workforce demands.
- **Local Focus:** Localising supply chains creates more jobs and strengthens local economies.
- **Green Jobs for All:** Equitable job distribution across regions is crucial for a just transition.
- **Renewable Energy = Sustainable Future:** Green sector offers a path to economic growth and environmental responsibility.
- **Collaboration Key:** Governments, businesses, and individuals must work together to unlock full potential of the green sector.

### **Conclusion**

The ILO and IRENA report on renewable energy and jobs offers a compelling message. The renewable energy sector is not only crucial for achieving a sustainable future but also presents a significant opportunity for economic growth and job creation. By investing in skills development, localising supply chains, and implementing supportive policies, governments and industry leaders can harness the full potential of this sector and build a more equitable and prosperous future for all.

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