BACKGROUND

Gender mainstreaming has increasingly gained importance over the past three decades. Originally viewed as an issue best confined to the social and development issues, the importance of gender mainstreaming has gained momentum with the realization that all regulations and policies have different impacts on the different genders. This is especially important in the context of trade policy, which was originally viewed a ‘gender-neutral’ and therefore not in need of any specific considerations as to the differentiated impact that trade policies can have on men, versus women.

However, there are new and emerging industries that warrant a gender-specific lens to improve their inclusivity of women as leaders, experts, and participants in this industry. One such industry is the energy sector, specifically renewable energy, which is receiving growing interest and investment across the developing world. This training module aims to identify how can trade and industry development of the renewable energy sector can be made more gender-friendly and gender aware.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, the participants should be able to:

- Understand the major trends in growth of the renewable energy industries and their importance in terms of trade in green services and goods.
- Understand what gender mainstreaming is, its importance and why it is a relevant policy tool.
- Gain an understanding of the gender-energy-poverty nexus, how this phenomenon impacts women in
developing countries, and what can be done by policymakers to mitigate this effect.
- Learn about online resources available to help the design of gender mainstreaming toolkits for renewable energy trade.
- Be able to prepare a gender mainstreaming toolkit for their domestic green economies.

**CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

This course consists of the following five modules:

**Module 1 - An introduction to the course and understanding gender mainstreaming**
Module 1 introduces participants to the basic principles of gender mainstreaming, and the need for gender-specific targeting for trade. It provides a historical overview of the importance of gender mainstreaming and identifies the link between gender mainstreaming and trade policies, especially in terms of benefits and important considerations for policymakers.

**Module 2 - Links between renewable energy sector, and gender and trade**
Module 2 provides a brief overview of the current trends and growth of the renewable energy sector, as well as the links between renewable energy and trade policy. It unpacks the links between the gender-poverty-energy nexus and examines how empowering women, and their participation in renewable energy industries, can serve as an important tool to develop rural and peri-urban communities. Drawing on case studies, this module identifies how such efforts have been undertaken in other countries across the world.

**Module 3 - Designing a gender mainstreaming toolkit for domestic renewable energy industries**
Drawing on case studies, this module provides an understanding of how gender mainstreaming has been undertaken in energy infrastructure projects thus far and examines useful resources (key toolkits and methodologies) that can assist policymakers in the design of their own gender mainstreaming policies.

**Module 4 - Furthering women’s participation in trade and renewable energy**
Module 4 is focused on how policymakers and the private sector can work together to alleviate the challenges facing women trying to enter the renewable energy industry. Drawing on case studies it identifies how support mechanisms can be designed and implemented to encourage their participation, and uses case studies to highlight how the private sector can support government’s efforts to further women’s participation in renewable energy industries.

**Module 5 - Conclusion and course learnings**
This concluding module provides a recap of the main lessons for furthering women’s inclusion in renewable energy industries, and highlights the main principles to remember when designing a gender mainstreaming toolkit for domestic use. It brings together the intersections between trade and renewable energy, and identifies important lessons learning for public and private sector for the purposes of supporting women’s economic participation in renewable energy industries, and designing policies that are gender-aware.

**METHODOLOGY**

In order to ensure the best possible outreach, the course will be delivered through e-learning. Through a multiple-instructional setting, the goal is to achieve the learning objectives by means of learning technologies that match personal learning styles and by the inclusion of non-linear learning that aims at the development of just-in-time skills of adult learners. At the same time, in order to allow participants maximum flexibility of scheduling, the learning will be conducted in an asynchronous manner.

Using a state-of-the-art training architecture, UNITAR will combine self-learning with assessments and online discussions. The pedagogy - adapted specifically to professionals in full-time work - will help train participants through various experiences: absorb (read); do (activity); interact (socialize); reflect (relate to one’s own reality).

**TARGETED AUDIENCE**

The course is expected to be of interest to people involved in the renewable energy sector, policymakers, as well as
industry leaders/private sector looking to enhance women's participation in renewable energy industries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A certificate of completion will be issued by UNITAR to all participants who complete the course-related assignments and assessments successfully. Course schedule is subject to change. **Course fee is non-refundable but transferrable to another course or participant and subject to change as per UNITAR's policy on pricing.**

Recommended hardware and software requirements for taking our e-learning courses:

- **Platform:** Windows XP sp3, Vista sp2, Windows 7 sp1, MacOS X.
- **Hardware:** 2 GB of RAM and higher for Vista and Windows 7.
- **Software:** Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Powerpoint and Adobe Acrobat Reader (downloadable for free at adobe.com).
- **Browser:** Internet Explorer 8 or higher; Mozilla Firefox 8 or higher.
- **Internet connection:** 128kbps and higher.
- **Note:** JavaScript, pop-ups & cookies must be enabled.