



TERMS OF REFERENCE

OSCE Regional Task Force on Education for Just and Inclusive Energy Transition (RTEET) in Central Asia

Background

Central Asia (CA) possesses significant potential for renewable energy (RES) development, and the countries have set ambitious targets to drive their energy transitions. An analysis by the OSCE has highlighted the significant job-creation potential of RES in Central Asia, projecting that nearly 100,000 new jobs could be created by 2050.

A successful energy transition requires a skilled labour force and an appropriate educational infrastructure. However, few universities and institutions of higher technical and vocational education offer education programmes for the renewable energy sector. An assessment of skilled labour needs in the renewable energy sector, currently underway in five countries in the region, reveals a growing skills gap, which hinders the ability to harness the potential of renewable energy and stimulate economic growth. Involvement of women in the energy sector and identification of specialities attractive to women will further strengthen the opportunities and labour force for accelerated transition to green energy.

To support CA countries in training the human resources needed to design, build and operate renewable energy systems, the OSCE, with the support of the Regional Environmental Centre in Central Asia (CAREC), is proposing to establish a Regional Task Force on Education for Just and Inclusive Energy Transition in Central Asia (RTEET).

Full details of the initiative, participants and materials are available [here](#).

General mandate of the RTEET

RTEET will serve as a regional platform for co-operation between educational institutions, ministries of energy and education, and energy enterprises in Central Asia to develop and strengthen renewable energy education programmes in technical universities in Central Asia, in order to create a future-oriented and gender-inclusive workforce in support of an inclusive energy transition in the region.

Information about RTEET activities, participants, events, news, materials are available online on the [CAREC](#) and [OSCE](#) web pages.

Tasks of the RTEET

1. Promote collaboration between stakeholders representing Ministries of Energy and Education, educational institutions, energy sector companies, and expert community from the five Central Asian countries

2. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of skilled labour needs in the RES sector and training of the necessary specialists, identifying skills gaps, institutional capacities and areas for curricula development in the RES sector
3. Develop pilot educational curricula on RES for technical institutes and universities in Central Asia, aligned with national standards and labor market requirements
4. Facilitate the process of harmonisation, testing, implementation and dissemination of the RES programme in technical universities in CA;
5. Conceptualise new initiatives to strengthen inclusive and sustainable energy education programmes;
6. Communicating information and knowledge about the RTEET group and its activities to relevant government bodies and stakeholders to stimulate their interest and involvement.

RTEET members

The Task Force (RTEET) will be composed of 3 tiers of membership:

1. **Regional Steering Group (RSG):** Representatives of Ministries of Energy, Education, and other relevant government institutions
2. **Regional Working Group (RWG):** Representatives of educational institutions specialized in Renewable Energy (RE)
3. **Other stakeholders:** Representatives of energy enterprises, development partners supporting RES projects, and other representatives of the expert community in Central Asia

Roles of Regional Steering Group (RSG) members

RSG members consist of government officials, typically representing Ministries responsible for the energy and education sectors. Their roles are:

1. Endorse the mandate (Terms of Reference) and Action Plan of the OSCE Regional Task Force on Education for Just and Inclusive Energy Transition in Central Asia (RTEET initiative)
2. Review periodically the initiative, plans, activities, deliverables, and results
3. Provide policy guidance to Regional Working Group members on the development of educational curricula on Renewable Energy Sources for CA technical universities

Roles of Regional Working Group (RWG) members

RWG members consist of RES educational sector specialists, typically representing educational institutions. Their roles are:

1. Conduct assessments in respective countries to determine skills needs in the renewable energy sector and educational gaps.
2. Propose to RSG the necessary actions to introduce the RES curricula into educational programmes

3. Develop and update technical curricula in renewable energy to support pilot universities across Central Asia in educating students for careers in renewable energy, based on Needs Assessment findings and Action Plan

RTEET operating format

1. RTEET is chaired by the OSCE and managed by CAREC;
2. The RTEET Task Force has a core group of policymakers nominated to the Steering Group (RSG) and experts contributing to the Working Group (RWG) from each country in Central Asia.
3. The overall composition of the RSG and RWG includes 20 to 25 officially appointed representatives from the Ministries of Energy and Education, educational institutions and energy companies of the five Central Asian countries - 4-5 people from each country, one representative from a nominee organisation.
4. The composition of RTEET includes a wider range of stakeholders. Interested stakeholders from Central Asian countries can be considered for inclusion in the Task Force in observer or contributing role, and should fill in the registration form ([link to the registration form](#)).
5. The Steering Group (RSG) will meet twice a year to review plans, assess the progress of the initiative and provide policy recommendations. The first meeting is scheduled for 22-23 May 2025.
6. RTEET members will receive the materials necessary for their active participation in advance: Meeting Programme, list of participants, expert reports, work plan, etc.).
7. Following the meetings, Minutes will be prepared summarising the agreements and recommendations of the RTEET members. The Minutes will be made available to RTEET members for comments and then sent by official mail to the institutions that nominated their representatives. Key deliverables will be channelled through diplomatic channels.
8. The Working Group (RWG) will meet at least monthly to coordinate curricula development, report to the OSCE and to Steering Group members as needed
9. Regular remote liaison will be maintained with all RTEET members in order to inform, engage and harmonise project actions, documents and deliverables.

Work plan for the period (March 2025 - June 2026)

- RTEET kick-off meeting - 22-23 May 2025
- Distribution of the Needs Assessment Expert Report via [RTEET webpage](#) - August 2025
- Draft RES curricula- December 2025
- Second RTEET meeting to present results - March 2026
- Final version of the RES curricula and submission for piloting - May 2026

Resources and funding

The costs associated with the participation of the RTEET Steering Group members will be supported by the OSCE, pending availability of funds;

Participation of other stakeholders is subject to the availability of funding or is self-funded.

Collaboration with other development partners and cost-sharing arrangements will also be considered