

Reflecting on 30 years of gender advancement for an inclusive energy future

VIRTUAL CSW SIDE EVENT, 21 MARCH 2025

Setting the Context

Irene Giner-Reichl

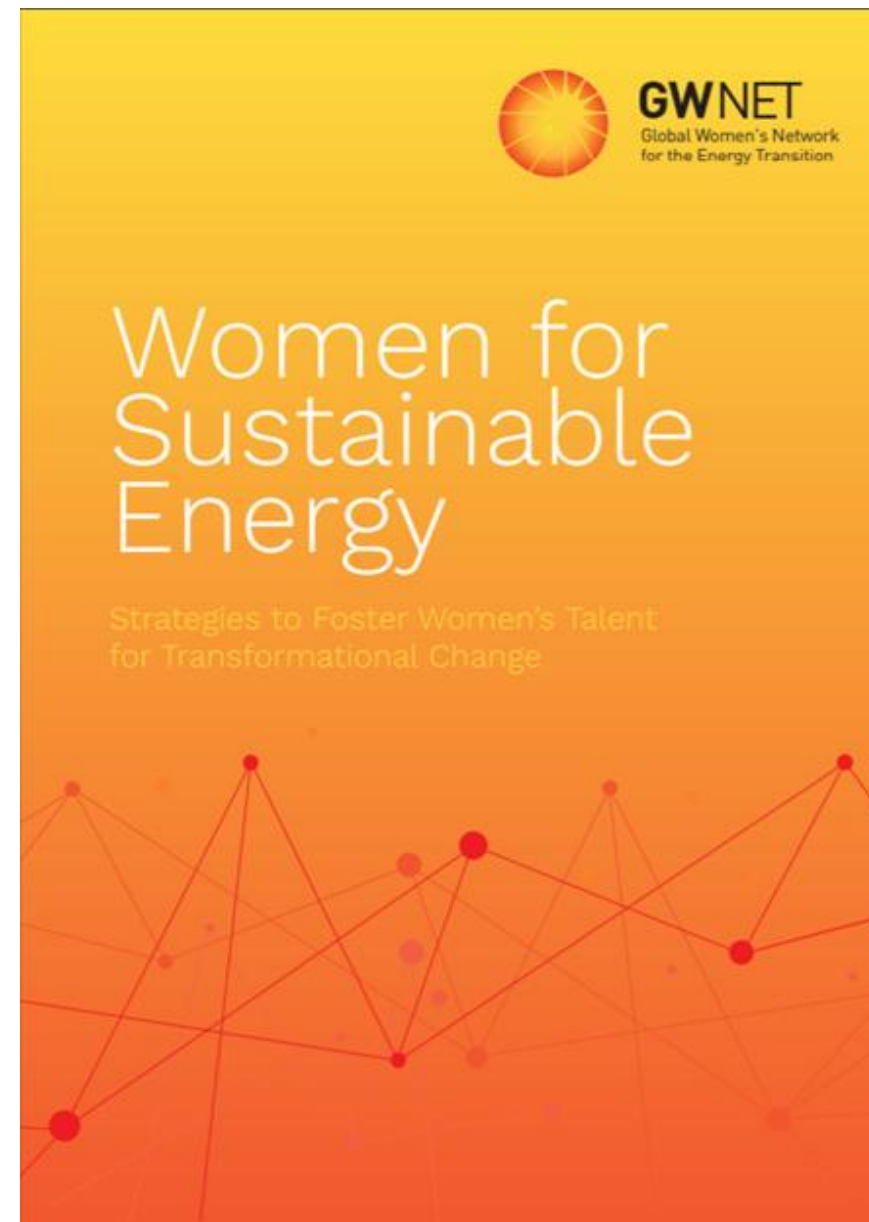
GWNET Co-Founder & Senior Adviser



GWNET

Global Women's Network
for the Energy Transition

GWNET aims to advance the global energy transition by empowering women in energy through interdisciplinary networking, advocacy, training, and mentoring.



GWNET in a nutshell

Advocacy

- 100+ Advocacy Webinars and Events
- Numerous Articles and Studies Published
- 5+ Working Groups Participated in
- 18,000+ Social Media Audience
- Quarterly Newsletters Disseminated

Mentoring programmes

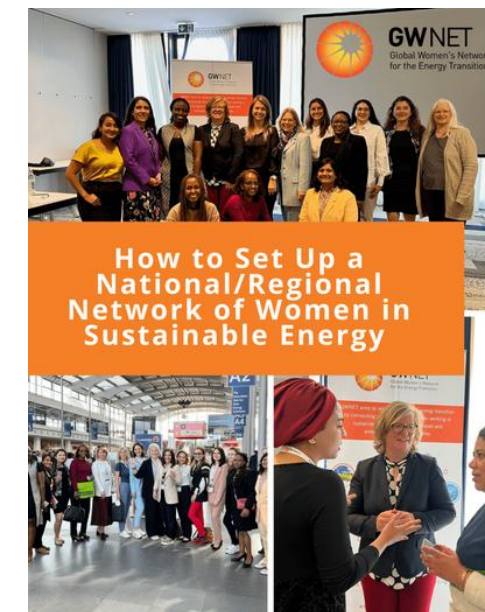
- 25+ Mentoring Programmes
- 900+ Women Mentored
- 1.000+ Mentors
- 90+ Countries Reached
- 6 Study Tours Organised
- An Active Online Storytelling Campaign

Networking

- 20+ National and Regional Women's Networks Collaborated with
- Women in Energy Expert Platform with 4.500+ Members from 150 countries
- Partnerships with various international organisations



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August 2022





The 12 areas of critical concern of the BPfA

- **Women and poverty:** The persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women
- **Education and training:** Inequalities and inadequacies in access to education and training
- **Women and health:** Inequalities and inadequacies in access to health care
- **Violence against women:** Physical and sexual violence against women and girls
- **Women and armed conflict:** The effects of armed conflict on women
- **Women and the economy:** Inequality in economic structures and policies
- **Women in power and decision-making:** Women's participation in politics and decision-making
- **Institutional mechanisms:** Mechanisms to promote women's advancement
- **Human rights of women:** Women's rights as human rights
- **Women and media:** The role of the media in promoting women's rights
- **Women and the environment:** The impact of climate change on women
- **The girl child:** Specific forms of violence and harmful practices that affect girls, including female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage



Gender Mainstreaming in BPfA & international consensus

- Beijing Platform for Action calls on governments and other actors to “**promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes, so that, before decisions are taken, an analysis is made of the effects on women and men, respectively.**”
- United Nations Economic and Social Council (1997/2) defined gender mainstreaming as: “**...the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality... Gender mainstreaming does not replace the need for targeted, women-specific policies and programmes or positive legislation, nor does it substitute for gender units or gender focal points.**”



Gender Mainstreaming in the EU

.....is a policy approach that **involves the integration of a gender perspective into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures and spending programmes, with a view to promoting equality between women and men, and combating** discrimination. It involves applying a gender equality perspective in each phase of the policy-making cycle as well as all areas within policies and processes such as procurement or budgeting. The EU has a two-pronged approach to gender mainstreaming, which involves the integration of the gender equality aspect in all areas and specific positive measures for women to eliminate, prevent or remedy inequalities”

European Commission. (n.d.). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the Committee of the Regions: A roadmap for women's rights. Retrieved from https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/0c3fe55d-9e4f-4377-9d14-93d03398b434_en?filename=Gender%20Equality%20Report%20Chapeau%20Communication.pdf



Five big wins ushered in by the BPfA

- Gaining ground on girls' rights.
- **Paying attention to gender perspectives in every policy and programme.**
- Advancing the agenda on ending violence against women.
- **Solidifying women's leadership in conservation and climate action**
- Improving gender balance of leadership positions within the UN system

UN Women. (2020, March). Five wins ushered in by the Beijing Platform for Action. Retrieved from <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/3/compilation-five-wins-ushered-in-by-beijing-platform-for-action>



Persistent challenges

- Gender discrimination is still embedded in most societies and economies
- Poverty still affects women disproportionately - this is also true for energy poverty
- Child marriage is still a problem
- Politics and societal decision-making is still male-dominated
- Energy Sector not structurally different from other male dominated sectors in terms of challenges

Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET). (n.d.). Women for sustainable energy – Strategies to foster women’s talent for transformational change. Retrieved from <https://www.globalwomennet.org/women-for-sustainable-energy/>



Necessary next steps

- Continue to advocate for gender equality and women's rights
- Use the Beijing Platform for Action as a guide to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- Engage the private sector to tackle systemic barriers to equality
- Create new alliances to achieve gender equality

The logo for 'Progress of the World's Women' features the title in white, bold, sans-serif font on a purple background. To the right, there is a decorative graphic of curved, overlapping lines in shades of blue, green, and yellow, creating a sense of movement and depth.

PROGRESS OF THE WORLD'S WOMEN

9th edition in 2026: focus on the rapidly accelerating heating of the planet and the stalled progress for the world's women and girls;

... including:

conceptual framework on feminist climate justice; evidence on effectiveness of cross-sectoral policies; financing needs; and social mobilization paths towards sustainable change.

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