

## **IRENA LECTURE PROGRAMME**

# **Introduction to renewable energy policies, technology trends, and potentials**

**2011 - 2012**

---

**IRENA LECTURE PROGRAMME – Expert-level tuition on renewable energy**

As part of its Scholarship Programme, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) offers its students a dedicated Lecture Programme. The Lecture Programme will provide the students with access to first-hand information on renewable energy related topics, broadening their understanding and knowledge of renewable energies and presenting an overview of the current state of policies, technologies, potentials, debates, developments, to mention a few areas.

Participation in the lecture is mandatory for all students holding an IRENA Scholarship (more information here: [www.irena.org/scholarships](http://www.irena.org/scholarships)). For attendance of the lectures, IRENA will not grant right to any form of academic acknowledgement of participation. IRENA will however issue a confirmation that the student attended the lectures.

The start of fall semester 2011 is 4 September, 2011. Below schedule contains all IRENA Lectures, the exact date and time will be determined at a later stage:

<b>September 2011</b>	<b>Introductory Session during the Orientation Week at MASDAR Institute</b>  The Director-General of IRENA will introduce students to the history of IRENA, its goals and vision, and its working structures. Furthermore, the Scholars will be provided with an overview of the coming semester with regards to the IRENA lectures and be informed about IRENA activities and major projects currently on-going.
<b>October 2011</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Policies and Measures: Policy Frameworks for the Massive Deployment of Renewable Energy</b>  Relatively high up-front costs are in many cases still an impediment to the massive deployment of renewable energies. This circumstance is frequently exacerbated by the lack of a competitive energy market and the large subsidies provided to conventional energy systems. However, support schemes to overcome this barrier exist for the generation of electricity, heating and cooling and in the transport sectors. Some of these instruments are: feed-in-tariffs, quota obligations, production tax incentives etc. This lecture will give the scholars an overview on existing instruments and introduce them to selected ones in more detail.
<b>November 2011</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Policies and Measures: Socio-Economic Impacts of Renewable Energy</b>  A major challenge is to overcome the perception that renewable energy is uneconomical and unreliable. The current trend to quantify socio-economic benefits addresses this issue. There is evidence that renewable energies can contribute to

the creation of employment, industrial development, economic activity, and provision of greater energy security, protection of natural resources and conservation of the environment.

**December 2011** | **Innovation and Technology: The use of Renewable Energy Scenarios for Decision Making**

Scenario analysis is one method to deal with uncertainty and risk in decision making. This lecture will explain the approach and its application for energy policy planning purposes, with special emphasis on renewable energy.

**January 2012** | **Innovation and Technology: Technology Learning and Innovation Processes for Renewable Energy**

Innovation covers the full chain from invention to deployment. This lecture will explore the role of various actors in the innovation cycle and discuss successful cases in the area of renewable energy. The concept of technology learning and its use for planning purposes will be explored.

**February 2012** | **Knowledge Management: Access to Energy and the Role of Renewable Energies**

Energy access is a top priority. 2012 will be the UN year of global energy access. While access is an issue on which there are many initiatives but progress has been slow in parts of the world, others have virtually eliminated the problem. Various types or renewable solutions can help to solve access problems, but their development and application is fragmented. All too often development efforts do not reach the energy poor or efforts do not have sufficient critical mass to sustain a transition. The lecture will explain the efforts that are underway and the barriers thereof.

**March 2012** | **Knowledge Management: Renewable Energy Potentials and Mapping**

A good potential mapping is a pre-requisite for a policy framework which would attract investments by lowering the risks. The global mapping needs to be implemented in a way that the policy makers have the requisite tools for informed decision making. The lecture will focus on how the global mapping is being developed to help countries to assess the commercially viable potential of renewable energy and provide it as an input for policy decisions for making a road map for increasing the share of RE in the energy mix.

**April 2012** | **Final Session**

The final session will provide the students with the opportunity to give feedback, contain a questions & answers session, and give an outlook on next year's topics.