



Are you a civil servant in the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA) region, or do you work for a semi-public organisation in that region? If so, please register for a professional development training course on

Energy Transition: From Renewables to Integrated Energy Systems

Who is the course for?

We invite professionals¹ who are ambitious about professionalising their public services in the energy transition, renewable energy, and energy systems design to register for this training course. This is a unique opportunity to share your knowledge and skills with other participants and be inspired by colleagues abroad.

This training course is for civil servants and employees of semi-public organisations in the target countries of Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Territories and Tunisia.



To register, you must have between 5 to 10 years of relevant work experience in energy policy and/or renewable energy development. Since this is a once in a lifetime experience, you can only participate in a Shiraka training once, and only if you have not previously participated in another Shiraka training programme.

We value diversity among our participants and encourage women to take part. This training programme is part of the 'Shiraka' training programme, an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Shiraka aims to strengthen and improve bilateral relations between the Netherlands and the MENA region in the public sector and offers an opportunity to improve public services through reciprocal inspiration. For more information on the Shiraka Training Programme please watch this [video](#).

¹ Civil servants are the main target group. However, a limited number of places are available for participants from semi-public organisations. We welcome participants from organisations that are closely linked with public actors in the relevant field, play a direct or active role in the value chain, or are directly affected by policy development and therefore have a good reason to be involved.

Training course goals

The Energy Transition training course will help you:

- Develop a systems-level understanding of the energy transitions – from renewable generation to grids, flexibility, storage and market design.
- Move beyond technology to integration, and understand how regulation, financing, institutions and multi-stakeholder cooperation shape successful energy ecosystems.
- Explore the Dutch experience with integrating renewables, phasing out fossil fuels, and accelerating innovation.
- Strengthen your strategic skills, including stakeholder engagement, negotiation and policy thinking, to navigate complex transitions.
- Learn how gender inclusion and community engagement contribute to effective energy transitions.
- Build a strong professional network across the MENA region and in the Netherlands.
- Design a concrete Back Home Action Plan (BHAP) tailored to your country's energy priorities.

Training course topics

The training course covers the following topics:

- Overview of global and regional energy transitions and trends;
- Renewables in context: from generation to integrated energy systems (solar, wind, hybrid systems, storage);
- Grid integration, flexibility and system stability;
- Energy markets, regulation, governance and institutional design;
- Hydrogen, sector coupling and future system architecture;
- Public-private cooperation for energy transition;
- Economics and investment frameworks;
- Inclusion and gender in the energy sector.

Training course details

- Since all the sessions are in English, we recommend an intermediate level of English.
- Live interpretation during meetings and sessions into Arabic and/or French is available.
- We can offer the training course to 25 people. We will allocate these places to the participating countries based on the quality of the applications.
- The entire training course will last for 2 weeks (10 working days). We expect you to attend all sessions.
- Study visits and social activities are part of the training course.
- You will receive a certificate of participation upon completing the course.

Training course itinerary

The training course will be in 2 parts, and held at 2 locations:

	Dates	City	Country
Part 1	29 June – 3 July 2026	The Hague	The Netherlands
Part 2	28 September – 3 October 2026	To be determined	To be determined*

*Pending final decision. We continue to monitor developments in the region to ensure the location aligns with the programme's objectives and strategic focus.

If international health, security and/or travel restrictions make it impossible to hold a training session on location, an alternative will be offered. This may be an online training. If the training is held online, we expect participants to have good computer skills, access to an adequate computer with a recent operating system and a good internet connection (participants must be able to use Zoom, Word, PowerPoint etc.).

For all participants



- You must organise and pay for your journey to the airport in your home country.
- You are responsible for organising your visa in your home country.

Costs for participants from countries on the [OECD-DAC list](#)



- The Dutch government will cover all relevant costs. This includes international travel, accommodation, meals during training days, visa and insurance and tuition fees.
- If you travel from an international airport outside your home country, you will need to cover local travel costs yourself. You will receive compensation for the international leg of your journey.

Costs for participants from countries not on the [OECD-DAC list](#)



- You must organise and pay for your own international travel and visa.
- The Dutch government will cover the cost of accommodation, insurance and tuition fees.

No-show or cancellation costs



- If you cannot attend or cancel your participation within 4 weeks prior to the training course, the organisation has the right to claim all the associated costs from your employer.

How to apply

- Applications should be made online before **12 April**.
- Visit our [Shiraka training courses overview](#) and select the course of your choice by clicking on 'apply'.
- [Log in](#) or create an account using the '[register](#)' button.

More information

shiraka@rvo.nl (for questions concerning your application and the database)

cwanders@clingendael.org and eportier@clingendael.org (for questions concerning the course)

The Shiraka Training Programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Department for International Entrepreneurship of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency implements the Shiraka Training Programme. The Energy Transition professional development course will be organised by Clingendael.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Rijnstraat 8
P.O. Box 20061 | 2500 EB
The Hague, the Netherlands

Information on the training course

Experts



Caspar Wanders has been a Fellow and Trainer with Clingendael since 2022, coordinating the Energy Transition-programmes for the past four years. Caspar trains on the topics of Economic Diplomacy and Sustainable Development. He has previously worked in Energy, Agriculture and Development in various capacities – incl. in private and public sectors.



Evie Michele Portier is a Project Fellow at Clingendael with expertise in capacity-building, resilience, and public-sector governance, drawing on experience training civil servants and working on international policy issues across the MENA region.

Study visits

During the training course the following study visits may be organised

The Green Village – TU Delft Campus

Living Lab The Green Village is a real-life testing ground for sustainable energy innovations, showcasing experimental solutions for smart grids, hydrogen use, and decentralised renewable systems.

Port of Rotterdam Authority – Energy Transition Department

The Port of Rotterdam is transitioning into a major hub for hydrogen and industrial decarbonisation, with large-scale projects on carbon capture, green fuels, and renewable infrastructure.

Municipality of Amsterdam – Climate & Energy Department

Amsterdam's energy team leads urban transition efforts, including building decarbonisation, district heating, renewable projects, and citizen-engagement strategies.

Back Home Action Plan

During your participation in the training course you will work on a Back Home Action Plan (BHAPs). Hereunder you find a few examples of the BHAPs participants worked on in the past.

Morocco–Egypt Exchange Programme

Aim: To strengthen bilateral capabilities in agriculture, solar energy, energy transition, and data collection by creating an exchange platform that enables both countries to share expertise, address refinery-related knowledge gaps, and jointly advance hydrogen and renewable-energy activities.

Solar-Powered Irrigation for Olive Production in Iraq

Aim: To assess and implement solar-powered irrigation systems that reduce energy costs, address water scarcity, and enhance olive production in Iraq, with the long-term goal of scaling the model to Jordan and the Palestinian Territories.

AgriTech MENA Digital Platform for Young Agripreneurs

Aim: To develop a digital education platform that equips young agripreneurs across the MENA region with practical knowledge on integrating renewable energy—such as solar and wind—into sustainable farming practices, thereby improving economic resilience and environmental sustainability.

“Alumni quote”

The training program was a thoroughly enriching experience in every aspect, from the expertise of the trainers to the engagement with visiting participants. Each component added depth and value, creating a dynamic learning environment that was both insightful and inspiring