

2019 IEA Ministerial
Women in Energy - 'Advancing Equal Participation for a Clean Energy Future'
Chairs' summary

1. The 2019 Ministerial side-event of 2019 International Energy Agency (IEA) Ministerial Meeting was opened by Michał Kurtyka, Ministerial Chair and Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency. The event was chaired by H.E. Christyne Tremblay (Canada) and H.E. Megan Woods (New Zealand) in Paris on 5 December 2019 under the theme **“Women in Energy - 'Advancing Equal Participation for a Clean Energy Future.”**
2. The event brought together Ministers and high-level officials from African Union, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, who expressed enthusiastic support for advancing gender diversity across the energy sector. Notable announcements during the event included the United States’ launch of the C3E International Ambassador and Mentoring Programme and Canada’s initiation of the next C3E Awards nomination process.
3. Aiming to recognise and promote the value of an inclusive and diverse energy sector, participants shared their ambitions and plans to advance gender diversity and helped to provide guidance and identify priorities for 2020 and beyond to the IEA Technology Collaboration Programme Clean Energy Education and Empowerment (C3E TCP).
4. Recognising that the energy sector throughout history has lacked the participation of women and noting that women only make up 22 percent of the traditional energy sector labour force, participants highlighted that research shows that diversity is good for performance which provides a strong “business case” to act to attract more women to the energy sector and take steps to retain them.
5. Emphasizing the importance of integrating gender into energy policies and sharing best practices, participants welcomed the activities of C3E TCP and the Equal by 30 Campaign under the Clean Energy Ministerial as platforms to exchange best practices and strengthen collaboration in several areas, including knowledge and data collection, recognition of women leadership and raising ambition on implementation. Equal by 30, which now boasts over 125 public and private signatories across the energy sector globally, encouraged greater action on gender equality by 2030.
5. Commending the IEA’s elevated efforts to build up and share knowledge to help tackle issues related to future human capacity needs, including equal opportunities for women and men in the energy sector, participants welcomed the IEA as the Coordinator for the Workstream on Knowledge and Data collection for the C3E TCP, and encouraged strong support for IEA in that role.
6. Reiterating strong support for the IEA’s focus on promoting gender diversity, participants asked the Secretariat to report regularly to the IEA Governing board on progress, including C3E and related activities.