

# The Opportunity.

Countries across the Global South are bearing the brunt of the climate emergency — experiencing negative health and safety, economic, and environmental impacts.

According to the latest IPCC Report, limiting global warming to 1.5°C is impossible without immediate and deep emissions reductions across all sectors. At the same time, a 2022 IEA Report outlines the stark reality of the global clean energy workforce gap that threatens climate action — we need 30 million clean energy jobs this decade to achieve net zero by 2050.

RMI's Energy Transition Academy (ETA) responds to this challenge. We partner with local and global organizations to offer cutting-edge capacity development for energy practitioners throughout the Global South. The ETA's Global Fellowship Program empowers these leaders to advance renewable energy projects, increase energy access and resilience, and tackle climate change in their local communities.

### The Facts.



WOMEN MAKE UP
ONLY 32 PERCENT OF THE
RENEWABLE ENERGY
WORKFORCE



WE NEED 30 MILLION CLEAN ENERGY JOBS TO REACH NET-ZERO BY 2050



TRAINING IS REQUIRED
FOR 60 PERCENT OF THE
CLEAN ENERGY JOBS NEEDED
TO REACH NET-ZERO
BY 2050

## RMI's Solution.

Our Global Fellowship Program offers the tools, training, leadership development, and community building that energy leaders need to advance renewable energy projects at scale.

After launching in the Caribbean in early 2022, the program now includes 48 fellows from 15 Caribbean countries and recently expanded to sub-Saharan Africa, beginning in Nigeria. Participating fellows work for utilities and governments that are actively advancing renewable energy projects. The fellowship is offered at no cost, and fellows are directly engaged in program design to ensure that content is tailored. The program is driven by partnerships to deliver timely content, build engagement, and reach the widest possible audience to scale impact.

#### **FELLOWSHIP OVERVIEW**

The Fellowship Program fosters applied learning and builds community – essential ingredients in advancing the energy transition at scale. Participants gain experience and know-how in renewable energy project development during the six-month program, including:

- Online engagement sessions with bi-weekly technical training, networking, and leadership opportunities. Key topics include project development and management, de-risking, financing, procurement, grid integration, and battery storage systems.
- A capstone project developed by each fellow and designed to advance renewable energy in the fellow's organization.
- Energy Leadership Labs and a Fellows Summit: in-person convenings with in-depth learning, innovation, and problem-solving sessions; site visits to renewable energy facilities; and a peer learning exchange.

Throughout the program, fellows receive mentorship, coaching, and technical assistance to advance their project work.

#### **LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

The Fellowship Program amplifies fellows' leadership in renewable energy development, highlighting their contributions to the energy transition and providing opportunities to share lessons learned, best practices, and regional insights.

The learning and leadership opportunities continue after the program concludes. Fellows contribute to industry publications, mentor incoming fellowship cohorts, and speak at regional and international conferences. RMI spotlights fellows' renewable energy projects, and fellows continue to build their professional network and toolkit through the ETA's online platform, resources, and community of energy sector professionals.

## CLOSING THE GENDER GAP AND GROWING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Research shows climate change solutions are more likely to advance with gender-inclusive leadership in organizations, but the energy sector workforce has 76 percent fewer women than men. The fellowship intentionally focuses on gender and equity: more than 35 percent of program participants are female, and as the program grows, we aim to increase this number substantially. Similarly, with young professionals making up more than 25 percent of the global workforce, investing in young people is critical to ramping up the clean energy transition.

## Help Accelerate Our Impact.

WITH INCREASED PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT, THE GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM WILL EXPAND AROUND THE WORLD, WITH NEW OFFERINGS IN THE CARIBBEAN, SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

By supporting RMI's Global Fellowship Program, you will promote energy access, speed the global energy transition, and foster community resilience throughout the Global South.

### Why RMI?

RMI is an independent nonprofit founded in 1982 that transforms global energy systems through market-driven solutions to align with a 1.5°C future and secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all. We work in the world's most critical geographies and engage businesses, policymakers, communities, and NGOs to identify and scale energy system interventions that will cut greenhouse gas emissions at least 50 percent by 2030.

With a decade of experience helping leaders in North America and the Caribbean address barriers to clean energy adoption — and scaling this experience to countries in Southeast Asia and Africa — RMI is well positioned to partner with communities as they transition to clean energy. The ETA team is part of RMI's larger Global South Program, which is actively working on the ground to accelerate the energy transition in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Caribbean and Pacific regions, and beyond. RMI brings technical expertise and economic rigor to the problem at hand, and we include local people in solving it. By empowering, connecting, and elevating voices from the Global South, we will develop the labor and skills needed to deploy capital to align with a 1.5°C future, together.

With nearly 700 staff globally, RMI has offices in Basalt and Boulder, Colorado; New York City; Oakland, California; Washington, DC; and Beijing.

#### For more information or to make a gift, contact:

Jennifer Stokes | Managing Director, Development | jstokes@rmi.org

Raul Alfaro-Pelico | Senior Director, Energy Transition Academy | ralfaropelico@rmi.org

