AIDA Delegation Visit to Abu Dhabi - IRENA 16th Assembly and Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week

Delegation Visit: 10th Jan to 14th Jan – 12 Members

Name (S/Shri)	Designation	Name of Discom
Nitish Kumar, IAS	MD	DVVNL
Anil Kumar	MD	Uttrakhand Power Corporation Limited
Arup Sarkar	Member (Finance)	Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)
T.V. Surya Prakash	Director (Operations)	Eastern Power Distribution Co. of Andhra Pradesh Ltd. (APEPDCL)
Jitendra Nalwaya	Director (Technical)	PuVVNL
Ravi Kumar Agarwal	CE (Distribution)	MVVNL

Name (S/Shri)	Designation	Name of Discom
Sunder Latpapate	CE, Nashik Zone	MSEDCL
Ayush Kumar	CEO	Sai Computers Ltd.
Rajul Agarwal	Sr. VP/ Chief Business Officer	BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. (BRPL)
Rajeev Verma	Addl. CE (HQ)	Ajmer Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (AVVNL)
R.N. Bishnoi	Addl. CE (M&P-IT)	Jodhpur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (JVVNL)
Milap Doshi	SE	Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. (GUVNL)

Program

Sr No	Date	Program
1	10/01/2026	Pre Assembly Day and Associated Programes • From Planning to Power; Energy Communities for Energy Transitions • Towards the review at SDG7 of Tripling 2026 • Investment Regional ,Pathways and Approaches the for Partnerships Transition Energy
2	11/01/2026	IRENA Assembly and Ministerial Roundtables • Accelerating Electrification pathways for Renewable, Grid and Industry
3	12/01/2026	Ministerial Dialogues • Role of AI in accelerating Energy Transition
4	13/01/2026-14/01/2026	World Future Electricity Summit • Climate Data to Action: Enhancing Clean Energy Resilience and Mitigation with Climate Services • Advancing Progress on Energy Storage and Grids (IRENA – UNEZA) • Exhibitions

Program

SATURDAY, 10 JAN - Pre-Assembly Day

Room A1	Room A2	Room B1
09:00 - 10:30 Pathways for a Renewable Future across Latin America and Caribbean Subregions	**09:30 - 11:30** **Legislators & Regulators Forum** Rethinking the Framework	**09:00 - 10:30** From Planning to Power: Energy Communities for Energy Transitions
11:00 - 12:30 REPowering for Tripling: Advancing Wind Energy	**11:45 - 13:00** **High-level Consultation** Towards the Review of SDG7 at the HLPF 2026: Tripling Renewables	**10:45 - 12:15** **High-Level Roundtable** Global Coalition for Energy Planning (GCEP) From Planning to Investment
13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH		
12:45 - 14:00 Enabling Synergies between Solar PV Projects and the Local Environment		**12:30 - 14:00** Africa's Regional Energy Transition Outlooks: Preliminary Insights and Regional Pathways
14:30 - 16:00 **SIDS Ministerial** Investment Pathways, Regional Approaches and Partnerships for the Energy Transition	**14:30 - 16:00** Call to Action on Skilling for the Energy Transition	**14:30 - 16:00** Innovation Landscape for Sustainable Development Powered by Renewables
16:30 - 18:00 **High-level Public-Private Dialogue** Key Enablers for the Energy Transition: Grids and Storage	**16:30 - 18:00** **Youth Forum** Youth Innovation and Digital Solutions: From AI to Access in Renewable Energy	**16:30 - 18:00** Mobilising Finance for Clean Cooking
18:30 - 20:30 Renewables Talk and Women in Diplomacy *(by invitation)* Powering Island Futures: Women, Water & Energy at the Heart of Resilience		

SUNDAY, 11 JAN - 6th World Energy Transition Day

Plenary Hall		
Family Photo		
10:00 - 10:30 **Assembly Official Opening** Opening and Welcoming Statements Organisational Arrangements		
10:30 - 12:00 **High-level Dialogue** Reimagining Energy Futures: Bold Visions for Shared Prosperity		
12:00 - 13:00 Annual Report of the Director-General on the implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025 Medium-term Strategy 2023-2027 – Mid-term Evaluation Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2026-2027		
13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH		
13:00 - 14:30 **High-Level Dialogue** Accelerating Electrification: Pathways for Renewables, Grids, and Industry **Room A1**	**13:00 - 14:30** Renewable energy auctions for risk mitigation and allocation **Room A2**	**13:00 - 14:30** Energy Transitions Across the Mediterranean **Room B1**
14:30 - 18:00 General Member Statements and Interventions	**14:45 - 16:15** **Ministerial Roundtable** Geothermal Heat and Power: Building a Resilient Energy Backbone **Room A1**	
	16:30 - 18:00 **Ministerial Roundtable** Green Industrialisation **Room A1**	
18:30 - 20:30 Assembly Dinner Reception **Ballroom Terrace**		

MONDAY, 12 JAN - Assembly Day

Plenary Hall
10:00 - 11:30 **Ministerial Dialogue** The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Accelerating the Energy Transition
11:30 - 13:00 **Interministerial Dialogue** Renewable Energy for Agri-Food Systems
13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH
13:00 - 14:30 Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA) Annual Meeting **Room B1**
14:30 - 16:00 **High-level Panel** Advancing Sustainable Aviation Fuel through Partnerships and Finance
16:00 - 17:30 Administrative and Institutional Matters and other Mandates
17:30 - 18:00 Any other Business Closing of the Session

Program

Tuesday, 13 January 2026	Wednesday, 14 January 2026	Thursday, 17 January 2026
	08:30 - 10:00 Powering Inclusive Growth from Potential to Prosperity: Opportunities and Trade-offs in Green Hydrogen (UNDP)	
	10:00 - 11:30 Accelerating Egypt's Renewable Energy Transition – From Potential to Systemic Deployment	**10:00 - 11:30** Financing a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition (IRENA - UNDP)
12:00 - 13:30 Climate Data to Action: Enhancing Clean Energy Resilience and Mitigation with Climate Services	**12:00 - 13:30** Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Energy Access and the Energy Transition	**12:00 - 13:30** Data Governance to Intelligence: Designing AI-Ready Data Ecosystems for the Energy Transition
14:00 - 15:30 Advancing Progress on Energy Storage and Grids (IRENA - UNEZA)	**14:00 - 15:30** Financing Industrial Decarbonization across Global Supply Chains (IRENA - AFID)	**14:00 - 15:30** Global Landscape of Energy Transition Finance
16:00 - 17:30 Flexibility and Firming Costs	**16:00 - 17:30** IRENA NewGen Hackathons: Unlocking RE Solutions wordwide	**16:00 - 17:30** Aligning Investments and Policies: How Renewable Energy Delivers on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

IRENA Sessions

- The outgoing **President of the 15th Assembly, H.E. Mr. Bojan Kumer, Minister of the Environment, Climate and Energy of Slovenia**, reaffirmed that *"IRENA's core mission is to facilitate multilateral cooperation in advancing the clean energy transition"* and that the Agency remains "the right institution for the promotion of renewable energy worldwide”.

- **Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nation**, addressed the 16th Assembly through his video remarks stating, "The clean energy transition is unstoppable and irreversible, "*Solar and wind are smashing records. In 2025, clean energy investment soared to 2.2 trillion US dollars, double fossil fuel spending, "while technology races ahead, infrastructure lags far behind.”*

- *"The march to a renewable energy future has proven unstoppable*," said **H.E. Annalena Baerbock, President of the United Nations General Assembly**, calling on delegates to **recommit to scale up financing, foster partnerships, reform financial architecture, and build a skilled renewable workforce**.

IRENA Sessions

- RE Powering for Tripling: Advancing Wind Energy : On 10 January (Pre-Assembly), a specialised dialogue focused explicitly on how to scale wind energy — one of the central technologies in expanding renewable capacity:

Repowering Legacy Wind Farms	Regulatory Stability & Investment	Permitting & Grid Access
Strategies to upgrade older wind installations with modern turbines to quickly add capacity and improve performance.	Need for stable, transparent regulatory frameworks was underlined as essential to reducing investor risk and attracting long-term capital.	Streamlining permitting processes and guaranteeing grid access were highlighted as operational enablers for rapidly scaling wind energy

This session related directly to the broader “tripling” conversation by identifying practical, technology-specific pathways to increase renewable energy expansion rates. Emphasis on enabling policies, investment frameworks, grids, storage and technology upgrades to scale capacity faster.

IRENA Sessions

- **Enabling Synergies Between Solar PV Projects and the Local Environment**

- This session examines the interactions between solar photovoltaics (PV) projects and the local environment, exploring both potential negative impacts and positive co-benefits.

- The session is opened by **Ms. Gauri Singh, IRENA Deputy Director General**, who underscored the need for environmental consideration in the deployment of solar photovoltaics (PV): "Today, we are also launching the joint report with China Renewable Energy Engineering Institute and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, titled '*Local environmental effects and benefits of large-scale solar PV plants*',“

- The session concluded with a call for policymakers to adopt environmental assessment tools, offer financial incentives, and develop industrial guidelines to ensure local communities and nature benefit from a sustainable energy transition.

IRENA Sessions

- **High-Level Consultation Towards the Review of SDG7 at the HLPF 2026: Tripling Renewables in Support of the Agenda 2030 and Beyond**

- This high-level consultation gathers leadership from government, private sector, and civil society to discuss progress and challenges in increasing the share of renewables and realising Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7).

- SDG7, ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, is essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk**, **Special Envoy for Climate and Security, Norway, and Co-Facilitator of the SDG7 Technical Advisory Group** welcomed the participants, highlighting IRENA's global convening power. He brought up the SDG7 report and underlined that "When it comes to realising SDG7 and access, every person matters and every Gigawatt matters“

- *“Achieving SDG7 is indispensable to realizing 2030 agenda and fulfilling the Paris agreement.”* Accelerating progress requires focus on implementation, that needs more investment, coherent policies and fair approaches not to leave anyone behind. Resilient, inclusive energy future is needed way beyond 2030 and “the energy transition must be people-centred,”

High-Level Dialogue on Reimagining Energy Futures: Bold Visions for Shared Prosperity

- *"Equity means the energy transition is not just technology transfer, it is a change for the society, a change for the economy, and a change for a safe earth for the next generation,"* said **H.E. Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New and Renewable Energy of India**.
- He highlighted that India has achieved 260 gigawatts of installed renewable capacity five years ahead of schedule, with 2.6 million households connected to rooftop solar.
- He emphasised that the transition "should become a people's movement" and called for "affordable finance, blended finance, and multi development banks" to support the global south, concluding: "International cooperation for every state, especially for the global south, is most needed."

- "Through partnership, alliances, and political will, we have collectively changed and transformed the world," says **Mr. Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi, CEO of Masdar**, reflecting on private sector contribution to the energy transition.

India’s Milestone: 50% Non-Fossil Capacity Achieved Five Years Early

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi announced the achievement of the Paris Agreement NDC target well ahead of schedule.

Total Non-Fossil Capacity

>266 GW

2025 Addition

Nearly 50 GW added in a single year

Status

One of the world’s fastest-growing major energy markets

The Pivot to Energy Realism

THE SECURITY MANDATE

Energy is no longer just a climate issue; it is a national security asset. in a world of geopolitical tension and supply chain disruption, renewables are viewed as the most resilient pathway.

THE POLITICAL BATTLEGROUND

A definitive fossil fuel transition roadmap is being drafted for COP31 (Australia/Turkey presidency), despite explicit opposition from traditional petrostates.

THE EXECUTION GAP

While India achieves 50% non-fossil capacity five years early, a global financing gap threatens the ’tripling capacity’ goal. The focus has shifted from setting targets to to ’steel in the ground’.

“Fast-moving counties will gain lasting advantages over those that hesitate.”
Francesco La Camera, Director-General, IRENA

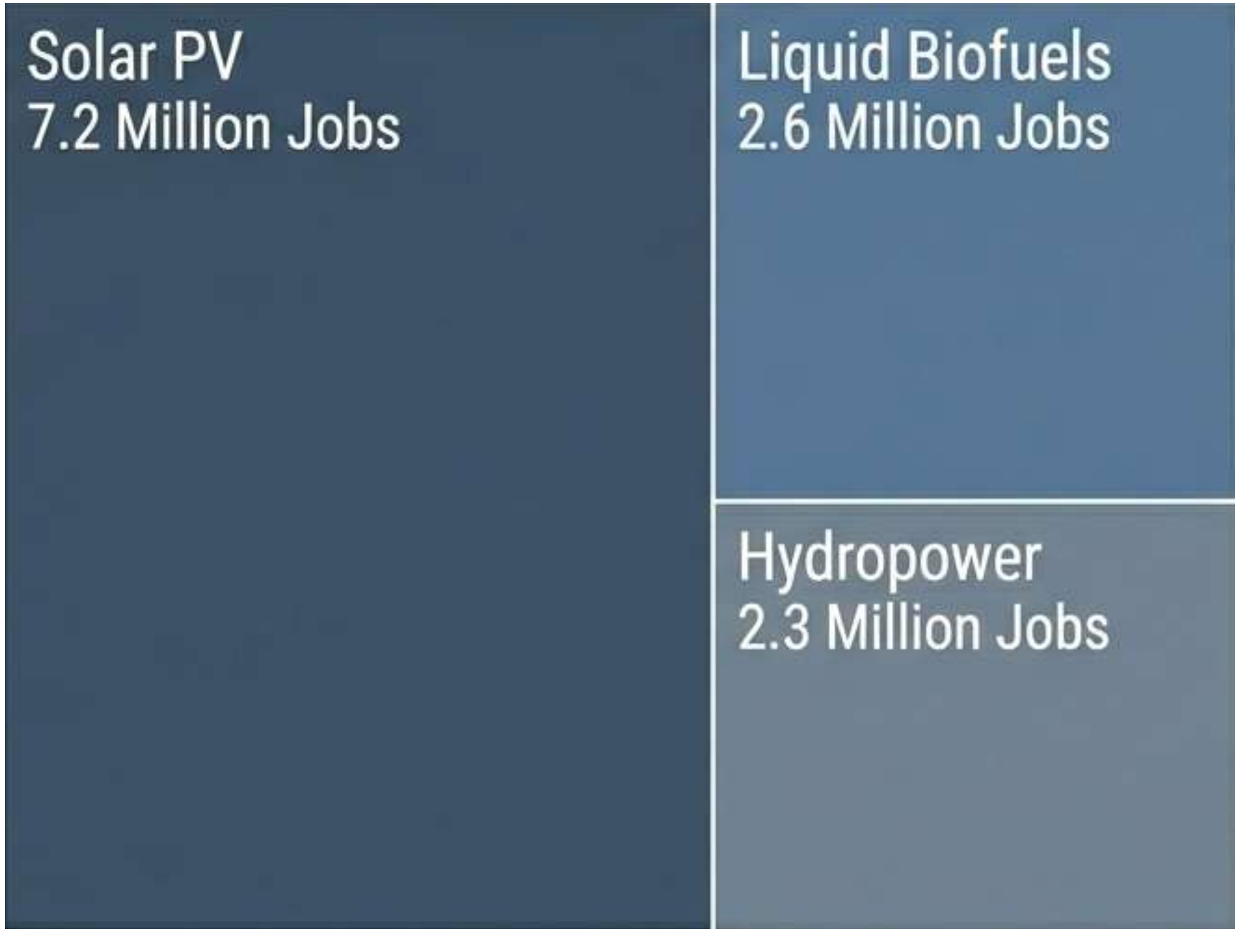
Strategic priorities for enabling sustainable development powered by Renewables

- Foster comprehensive **innovation ecosystems** for self-reliance
- **Transform financial architecture and investment paradigms** to drive sustainable socio-economic development
- Prioritise **local value creation** and renewable technology transfer
- Promote **integrated planning and cross-sector co-operation** for inclusive development
- Enable **joint strategies** via South-South co-operation and regional collaboration
- Reframe the energy transition through narratives that **centre people and planet**
- Strengthen and modernise electricity grids as matter of **social justice**
- Engage and empower **consumers and communities**

The Human Capital of the Energy Transition

Source: IRENA and ILO 'Renewable Energy and Jobs — Annual Review 2025'

Global Renewable Energy Jobs: 16.6 Million Total



Wind Energy 1.9 Million Jobs

GEOGRAPHIC DOMINANCE

China accounts for 44% of the global total (7.3 Million jobs).

CRITICAL INSIGHT

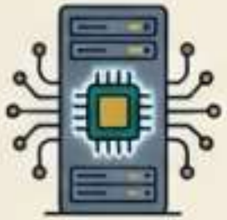
Growth has slowed to 2.3% due to automation. Urgent need for reskilling as the sector matures from construction to automated manufacturing.

Key Outcome

- **Roadmap and Strategic Direction:** Adoption of **IRENA’s Medium-Term Strategy (2023–2027) Evaluation** and **Work Programme & Budget (2026–27)**.
- **Irreversibility of Transition:** Emphasis on **irreversibility of clean energy transition** and early-mover advantage in economic competitiveness.
- **Custodian Role:** IRENA reaffirmed its role as the **official custodian for tracking the “UAE Consensus” goals adopted at COP28**, including tripling renewable capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

Actionable Intelligence for Indian DISCOMs

Translating Global Trends into Local Strategy



1. Invest in Digital Infrastructure

Prioritize Smart Inverters and Digital Substations to handle reverse power flows from PM Surya Ghar.

2. Deploy Distributed Storage

Utilize BESS at the substation level for DT unloading and voltage regulation, reducing physical upgrade costs.

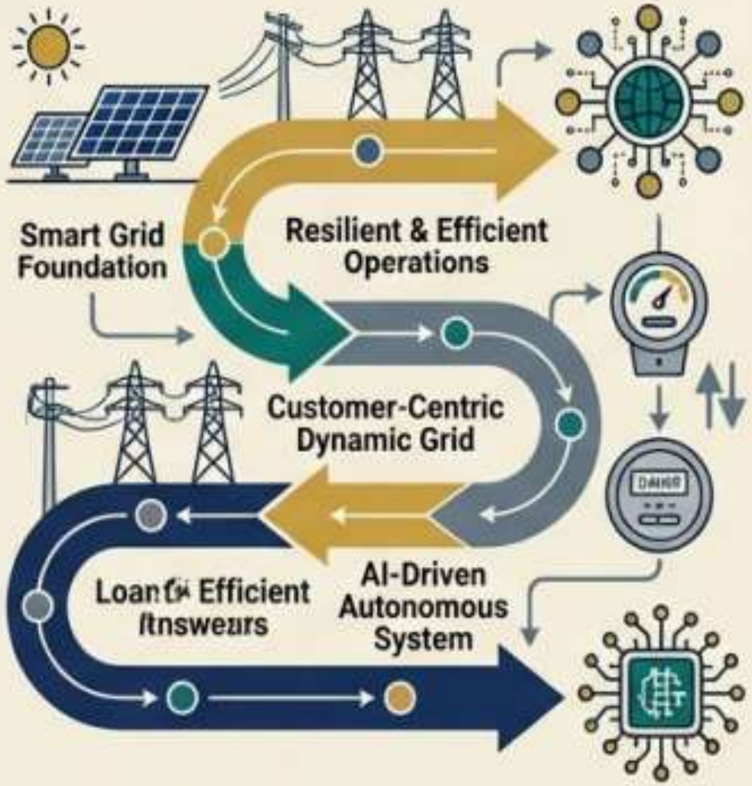
3. Implement Dynamic Pricing

Aggressively adopt Time-of-Day (ToD) tariff structures to align consumption with solar peaks.

4. Adopt 'Physical AI'

Integrate AI for hyper-local weather forecasting and predictive maintenance of aging assets.

Strategic Trajectory



DISCOM Roadmap

Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week “ The Nexus of Next” ; All Systems Go

All Systems Go: A Global Mandate for Integration

The 2026 Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW) challenged the world to rethink how global systems—energy, food, water, and nature—connect and scale. Under the theme "The Nexus of Next," the summit moved beyond isolated pilots to systemic transformation.

“The connections between climate and the global economy, health, and energy systems must now shape the way we govern and operate.”
— President of Nigeria Address, ADSW Summit.

60,000+ Attendees (20% increase YoY)	**15** Heads of State and Government
400+ Ministers and Officials	**515** Exhibiting Brands

Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week

- The Utilities for Net Zero Alliance (UNEZA) was established at COP28 with the adoption of the UAE Declaration of Action. This Alliance unites leading global utilities and power companies with the aim of spearheading the development of grids that are ready for renewable energy, promoting clean energy solutions, and advancing electrification efforts.

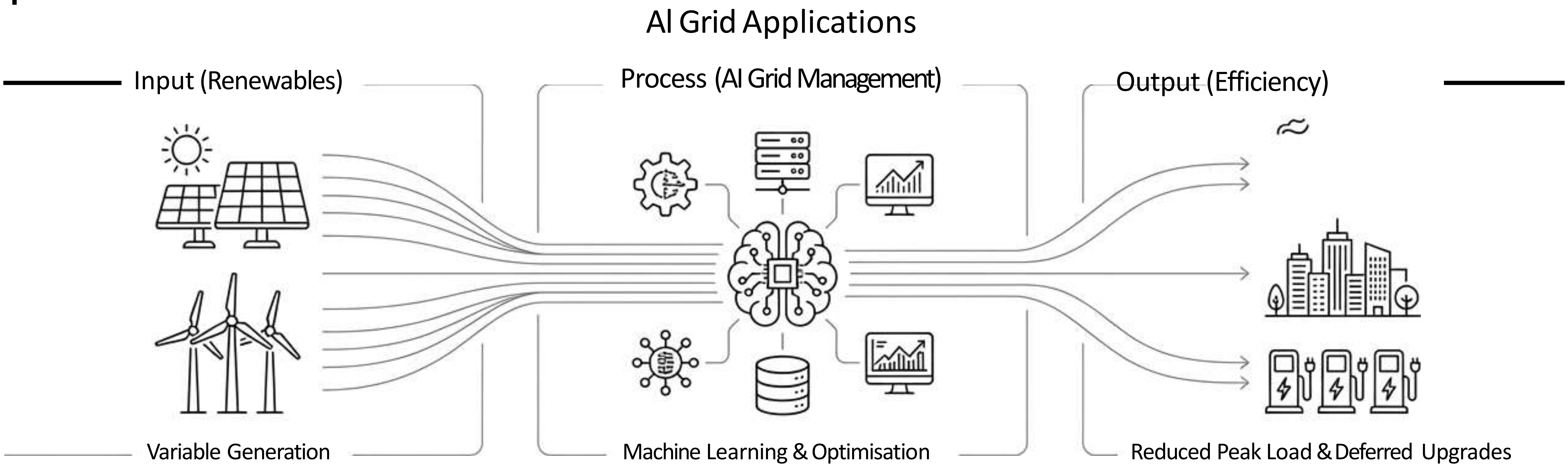
- The Assembly made it clear that the Utilities for Net Zero Alliance (UNEZA)—which includes several global utility leaders—is prioritizing Infrastructure over Energy.

- ADSW introduced new platforms including the inaugural Global South Utilities Forum, which convened policymakers, developers, financiers, and off-takers from the Global South and the UAE to discuss advancing investment, innovation, and the delivery of sustainable power and water infrastructure across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

- Major Focus was on Grid Integration and BTM BESS Technology Solutions.

Optimising the Grid: Managing Demand, Not Just Supply

AI allows utilities to defer costly infrastructure upgrades by maximising the utilisation of existing power lines.



Real-Time Balancing

Matching supply with demand instantaneously; essential for high renewable penetration.

Predictive Maintenance

Analytics anticipate failures in power plants and pipelines before they occur.

Intelligent Scheduling

Water pumps and treatment facilities run during midday solar peaks, acting as virtual energy storage.

Strategic Concept: 'Follow-the-sun' computing—shifting non-urgent data centre workloads across time zones to locations where solar or wind power is currently abundant.

Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week : The Rules of Progress are Changing

- **Follow the data, not the discussion. An integrated energy mix.**
- **Integration: AI is not a tool; it is the operating system.**
- **Collaboration: ‘Partnerships like Masdar x Envision set the template.**
- **The Rise of Physical AI :** Economic growth is now measured in computational power. With data centre power demand set to grow 500% by 2040, the convergence of AI and energy infrastructure is the new engine of growth.
- **From Prediction to Prescription :** The industry is shifting to ’Physical AI’ models like Envision's Dubhe and rule-based controllers that autonomously adjust plant operations for resilience. Masdar + Envision deploying AI across Green Hydrogen & Battery Storage.
- **Data Centre and EV load** will create unbalance in systems and loading conditions. **Beware……**
- **Follow Japan Model for BTM adoption of BESS** through collaborating with consumers.
- **Energy Transition is irreversible** but to make it smooth , it needs collaborations, new financial tools and innovations. Join Hands and follow/ share good practices

Masdar, in partnership with EWEC, is reimagining the potential of renewable energy, producing gigascale base load power at a globally competitive tariff for the first time. Combining a 5.2 gigawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) facility with a 19 gigawatt-hour (GWh) battery energy storage system, the project will deliver 1GW of stable 24/7 renewable power.


WORLD FUTURE ENERGY SUMMIT
Hall 1
AI & Technology
13:14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Thanks