



**IAMRECON Energy Agenda
20-21 April 2015
Mexico, DF**

Overview

Energy systems around the world are under pressure for change. Trade unions need to understand these pressures and the threats and opportunities for advancing the rights and interests of energy workers. This assessment informs union strategies and tactics. PSI work in the energy sector must be placed in the context of the global Quality Public Services Campaign, which will include themes of universal access; service quality and reliability, and environmental and ecosystem protection.

There are considerable differences in the energy systems among all of the countries in the Americas:

- Public or private ownership
- Regulated or deregulated
- Vertically integrated or unbundled; centralised vs local; interconnected vs standalone
- Different energy sources : hydro, thermal (coal, gas, nuclear), wind, solar
- Universal access vs lack of access; reliable vs blackouts and brownouts; affordable vs expensive
- Union strength and sector density/representativity

There are commonalities :

- Outsourcing
- Austerity
- Aging workforce
- Pressure of privatisation
- Climate change challenges
- Challenges to labour rights
- Lack of gender diversity in the workforce

PSI energy work is informed by the ambitious conclusions from our global energy meeting in September 2013 (attached). The influence of public policy and public finance and procurement decisions remain fundamental in the sector, even where the privateers have gained ground.

Objectives

- Fight outsourcing and supporting insourcing
- Fight privatisation
- Coordinate work in the energy multinational corporations
- Project the union voice into climate change policies
- Improve energy accessibility and advance the Right to Energy

The workshop will be structured as follows :

Agenda

Day 1 :	20 April
08h30	Registration
09h00	Opening, Introduction of participants
09h30	overview of privatisation : general features, including public-private partnerships; threats to jobs, wages and working conditions; threats to unions; threats to communities; privatisation instigators and funders (IFIs, MNCs, etc). Union campaigns to resist – successes and failures.
11h00	coffee
11h30	overview of outsourcing and insourcing : Prevalence of outsourcing; union strategies for blocking; experiences with insourcing.
13h00	lunch
14h30	Multinational corporations : PSI experience with Global Framework Agreements – setting and enforcing global standards to advance union and labour rights
15h30	Climate change : overview; challenges to energy sector
16h30	break
17h00	Access to Energy: which campaigns, introduction of Right to Energy
18h00	End of session
Day 2	
09h00	Working groups or unfinished business
11h00	Recommendations to regional and global executives
12h00	Closing