

SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

Friday, 22 June 2018 – Steigenberger Hotel, Vienna

 HEINRICH
BÖLL
STIFTUNG

 Balkan Green Foundation

 RES
RES Foundation
Partnerships
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AGENDA

9:00 - 9:30 Registration

9:30 - 9:50 Opening Ceremony

Welcome

Janez Kopač, Director, Energy Community Secretariat

Host Country Welcome

Jochen Penker, Director, Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Austria

Keynote speech

Elizabeth Press, Director, International Renewable Energy Agency

10:00 - 11:00 High-level panel: Energy and climate policy after 2020 in the Energy Community

The targets to increase the share of energy from renewable sources and improve energy efficiency by 2020 taken by the Energy Community Contracting Parties will soon expire and a new climate and energy framework till 2030 and beyond is required to provide certainty to investors and contribute to emission reduction in accordance with the Paris Agreement. As called for by the Ministerial Council in December 2017, the Energy Community Climate Action Group has launched an EU-convergent, viable and streamlined process to establish 2030 targets on energy efficiency, renewables and greenhouse gas emission reduction. This session will outline the process and timeline for the adoption of the new targets. What will be the main challenges in the future? What are the potential pitfalls in this process? Are there ways of avoiding them?

Chair: Dragana Mileusnic, Southeast Europe Programme Manager, The Nature Conservancy

Speakers:

- H.E. Kreshnik Bekteshi, Minister of Economy of former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- H.E. Albena Reshitaj, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning of Kosovo*
- Megan Richards, Director of Energy Policy, DG Energy, European Commission
- Mykola Kuzio, Deputy Minister for European Integration, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine
- Elizabeth Press, Director, International Renewable Energy Agency
- Giorgi Chikovani, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia



11:00 - 11:30 Coffee & Tea

11:30 - 13:00 Plenary 1: Accelerating the clean energy transition in the Energy Community:

The Energy Community Sustainability Charter 2.0 supports the Contracting Parties in the transition towards low-carbon and climate resilient energy sectors. This panel will assess the progress achieved with respect to the Contracting Parties implementation of the Charter in the lead up to the Western Balkan 6 Summit in London as well as present the overall picture with respect to the current state of play of the energy sectors in the Energy Community. The panellists will discuss the adequacy of the existing governance framework against the challenges of the transition to a low-carbon energy economy and explore how civil society can better contribute to accelerating the clean energy transition.

Chair: Visar Azemi, Executive Director, Balkan Green Foundation

Speakers:

- Eduard Shalsi, Chairman of Committee on Productive Activities, Trade and Environment, Parliament of Albania
- Vlatka Matkovic Puljic, Senior Policy Officer, Health and Energy, Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL)
- Jesús Laviña, Head of Sector, Center of Thematic Expertise for Connectivity, Environment and Climate Change, DG NEAR, European Commission
- Irina Lazzerini, Sustainable Energy Expert, Energy Community Secretariat
- Matthias Buck, Head of EU Energy Policy, Agora

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 - 15:30 Plenary 2: Tackling energy poverty in the clean energy transition

Energy poverty continues to be a major challenge in the Energy Community Contracting Parties and must be one of the key considerations in the transition towards low-carbon power systems. Energy efficiency should be the go to policy instrument for addressing energy poverty. Are the existing support schemes truly effective? Do we even have adequate definitions and monitoring criteria in place to be able to measure energy poverty? How can the Energy Community and the Energy Union contribute to tackling energy poverty in the Contracting Parties? What are the experiences of others who have tackled different aspects of the phenomena in a structured manner and for a sufficient time to allow for lessons learned? What can we learn from these lessons?

Chair: Damjan Bogunović, Climate Change Programme Coordinator, Heinrich Böll Foundation

Speakers

- Aleksandar Kovačević, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies
- Aleksandar Macura, Programme Director, RES Foundation
- Chad Briggs, Professor of Public Policy, RIT-Kosovo*, and Strategy Director, GlobalInt LLC
- Stephen Luckhurst, Senior Analyst, UK National Audit Office

15:30 - 15:45 Forum Statement and closing remarks

Dirk Buschle, Deputy Director, Energy Community Secretariat