

14th Renewable Energy Coordination Group meeting

*HYBRID: Energy Community Secretariat, Am Hof 4, 1010 Vienna & WEBEX online
Tuesday, 29 November 2022, 10:00 – 16:00*

Opening

Ms. Margalita Arabidze, Head of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Policy and Sustainable Development in the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and Chair of the Renewable Energy Coordination Group (RECG), provided opening remarks. Ms. Arabidze, greeted all members of the group and participants and introduced Mr. Rade Mrdak who replaced Ms. Natalija Lukovic as representative of Serbia.

All members of the RECG were present during the meeting (in person or online), besides representative from Ukraine, Ms. Olena Lenska. The agenda of the 14th meeting was adopted.

Mr. Adam Cwetsch, Head of the Green Deal Unit in the Energy Community Secretariat, provided opening remarks as well. Mr. Cwetsch emphasized importance of coordinated approach and role of the RECG in implementation of the Decarbonization Roadmap.

Mr. Mathieu Ballu, Policy Officer in the European Commission (DG ENER), spoke about REPowerEU with focus on renewable energy. Mr. Ballu explained how current energy and global crises made EU even more ambitious. Renewables 2030 target in the EU is increased from 32% to 40% and the Commission proposed to further increase it to 45%. EU will have to triple instalment of its annual RES capacities to achieve this ambitious target. Mr. Ballu also presented [Emergency Regulation](#) which focuses on speeding up permitting procedures for RES projects.

Mr. Cwetsch took the floor again to provide update on Governance Regulation and National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs). Mr. Cwetsch reminded about the importance of adopting 2030 targets in the Energy Community at the upcoming Ministerial Council. Policies and measures to achieve RES 2030 targets should be part of the NECPs and Contracting Parties (CPs) should submit integrated biannual reports (as of 2025).

Ms. Naida Taso, Renewable Energy Expert in the Energy Community Secretariat, provided presentation on implementation of the RECG Work Programme 2021/2022 and proposal for activities for Work Programme 2023/2024. Ms. Biljana Grbic and Ms. Aleksandra Bujaroska provided inputs for activities related to heating and cooling and permitting procedures for renewables. Ms. Petya Icheva provided input on activities from Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and Energy Community Secretariat signed in 2022. Implementation of MoU will contribute to implementation of the RECG WP 2023/2024.

Ms. Taso invited WG members to volunteer to organize next RECG meeting. Ms. Sanja Kapetina, from Bosnia and Hercegovina, offered to organize next meeting in spring in Sarajevo.

It is agreed that Ms. Taso will send an email after the meeting to RECG members with reminder on the following requirements:

- to submit Fifth Progress Report on Implementation of the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (for years 2020/2021) by 31 December 2022;
- to provide feedback on proposed activities for the Work Programme, by 31 January 2023;
- to provide feedback on proposal to have next RECG meeting in April/May 2023 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- to send proposals for next Chair of the RECG by 31 January 2023;
- to follow up with the designated issuing bodies for guarantees of origin on national registries developed during the regional project.

All presentations from the meeting will be published on the Energy Community [website](#).

1. Latest updates in the implementation of renewable energy acquis

The Contracting Parties' representatives in the meeting briefly presented a status of the implementation of Renewable Energy Directive.

Ms. Xhelilaj from Albania informed the group that amendments to the RES Law, transposing REDII, have passed public consultations and should be adopted beginning of 2023. Ms. Kapetina informed that Republika Srpska adopted new RES Law transposing REDII in March 2022, while amendments to RES Law in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are sent to the Parliament for adoption. Ms. Arabidze reported that Georgia is working, with the support of Energy Community and EU4Energy, on the amendments for RES Law to transpose REDII. Ms. Qorraj informed that Kosovo* is actively working on finalization of the first RES Law with support of the Energy Community Secretariat and USAID. Mr. Magdil informed that Moldova reached its RES 2020 and is currently working on law amendments to transpose REDII. Ms. Damjanovic informed that Montenegro has already overachieved its 2020 target and that with a support of the EBRD, preparation of the first RES law in Montenegro has started. According to the representative of North Macedonia, Ms. Daskalova, adopted amendments to the Energy Law, partially transpose REDII. Mr. Mrdak announced that Serbia adopted several secondary acts and decisions, and plans to have first renewables auction at the beginning of 2023.

2. Permit-granting procedures for renewables projects

Ms. Vera Kissler, Policy Officer in the European Commission, provided update on the [guidance](#) on good practices to speed up permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects and on facilitating Power Purchase Agreements which are now published and available in all EU languages.

Ms. Katarina Martonen, Renewable Energy Expert in the Contact Point Authority for Renewable Energy provided presentation on one stop shop concept in Finland. Ms. Martonen presented electronic tool through which all permits for renewables projects are available and which automatically counts and keeps track of the time limits. For full implementation to take place, integration of all required authorities is needed.

3. Renewables & Corporate Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)

Mr. Joop Hazenberg Policy and Impact Director of the RE-Source platform provided presentation on how to open markets, create demand and facilitate business opportunities through use of corporate PPAs. Already 5% of RES capacity in Europe is covered by a PPA and there is huge potential to increase this number and support EU MS in achieving ambitious targets. For PPA market to be functional, system for guarantees of origin needs to be in place.

4. Self-consumption: practical examples

Ms. Irena Głogowiec –Kapera, expert from the Ministry of Climate and Environment, explained how Poland boomed renewable self-consumption by choosing the right moment to switch from net-metering to net-billing scheme.

Mr. Aleksandar Popović and Ms. Aleksandra Pantić from GIZ informed group about the implementation of self-consumption scheme in Serbia, obstacles which prosumers are facing and potential solutions. They also presented online platform where all relevant information on self-consumption in Serbia are available – [Solar calculator](#).