

IRENA-ENERGY COMMUNITY JOINT WORKSHOP
COST-EFFECTIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

3-4 March 2016

Energy Community Secretariat, Vienna, Austria

Background

The members of the Energy Community and European Union (EU) have committed to binding renewable energy targets and adopted National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs) to achieve their respective targets by 2020. In 2013, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) held a workshop on Renewable Energy in South East Europe, for which background reports were prepared on NREAPs, renewable power financing, transmission infrastructure priorities and regulatory barriers.

After the adoption of *Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources* by the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community in 2012, annual workshops were held to share knowledge, experience and best practices in the implementation of the Directive in both, the EU and Energy Community members. In 2015, the Energy Community Secretariat published the first progress report on renewable energy development, assessing the slow progress and indicating some countries are at risk of not meeting their targets in 2020 if some policies are not revised.

In this context, IRENA has recently launched a project to assess a technical potential for cost-effective renewable energy generation in South East Europe (SEE) by 2020 and beyond. It covers members of the Energy Community (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine) as well as the European Union member countries of the region (Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Slovenia).

The IRENA's project will assess potential to develop the full range of renewable energy technologies in the region, and in particular to develop solar PV systems, the costs of which have declined dramatically since the time that the National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs) of South East Europe were prepared. It will also analyse barriers to achieving region's renewable energy potential and ways to overcome these barriers, including innovative financing mechanisms for renewable power systems.

The aim of the IRENA's project is to identify priority actions that could contribute to the achievement of the region's renewable energy targets by 2020 and ensure an adequate role for renewables in the energy development strategies to 2030 and 2050. In this regard, it is envisaged that the outcomes of the project could provide useful input to the prospective review process of the NREAPs.

Objectives

The event aims to present and collect feedback from the region on the preliminary findings of the Phase-I implementation of the project. This covers part related to quantitative assessment of photovoltaic power potential for cost-effective renewable energy options in SEE and qualitative assessment of overall renewable power potential. It will also present innovative financing arrangements for renewable energy projects, such as cooperative financing and crowdfunding.

Expected outcomes

The following outcomes are expected:

- The factual information and preliminary findings of the report are verified and completed; additional case examples are provided as input to the report.
- Stakeholder consultative process enhances the engagement of countries in the project.
- Good coordination is established with the key regional energy players to cooperate in the next phases of the project implementation.
- Feedback is provided in the context of the possible review of the renewable energy technology mix in the members of the Energy Community to be on track to meet the 2020 renewable energy targets in the most cost-effective way

Format of the event

The workshop will be implemented in an interactive manner with the participants to ensure successful collection of their feedback on the preliminary findings of the project. The event will be implemented in the form of three panel discussions preceded by scene-setting presentation(s). The discussions will be enriched with the presentation of good practices across the region and Europe.

Targeted participants

Approximately 50 participants are envisaged from governments, electric utilities, transmission system operators, regulatory authorities, financial institutions and development partners, international and regional organizations, and other renewable energy stakeholders.



On behalf of:



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany

This project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

DAY 1: Thursday, 3 March 2016

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
08:45	Registration	
09:15	Welcome address	Dirk Buschle (ECS) Gurbuz Gonul (IRENA)
09:25	Progress in Promotion of Renewable Energy in the Energy Community and the way forward to 2020	Gabriela Cretu (ECS)
09:45	REN21 - UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report - presentation followed by Q&A	Gianluca Sambucini (UNECE)

Session 1: Enabling frameworks for renewable energy investments in SEE

10:05	Setting the scene: Overview of the key policy and regulatory barriers hindering accelerated renewable energy deployment in the region and ways to overcome them	Andreas Tuerk (Joanneum Research)
10:25	Case Study of Montenegro – financing wind projects	Milica Daković (E3 Consulting Ltd.)
10:40	Coffee Break	
10:55	Case Study of Kosovo – prospects for RE development	Visar Azemi (Kosovo Civil Society Consortium for Sustainable Development)
11:10	Barriers in financing renewable energy projects in South East Europe – experiences of EBRD	Louis Borgo (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development)
11:25	Panel discussion: Solutions to overcome barriers for renewable energy development in SEE Facilitator: Karina Veum (Energy research Centre of the Netherlands - ECN), Panelists: Julian Popov (European Climate Foundation), Gurbuz Gonul (IRENA), Gabriela Cretu (ECS), Dejan Stojadinovic (Energy consultant - Serbia), Ernesto Bonafé (Energy Charter).	
13.00	Networking Lunch	

Session 2 – Renewable energy potential in SEE- focus on solar PV

14:00	Setting the scene: Technical and economic potential for cost-effective renewable energy options in SEE, with emphasis on how declining photovoltaic power costs have enhanced the potential in recent years	Andrej Gubina (University of Ljubljana)
14:20	Cost trends in renewables generation investments	Michael Taylor (IRENA)
14:35	Case study of Croatia - Net metering as a viable approach for decentralized renewable energy sources	Mislav Kirac (Green Energy Coop.)
14:50	Case study of FYROM - solar PV uptake and solar thermal programme	Natasa Markovska (Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts)

15:05	Coffee Break	
15:20	Case Study of Bulgaria: PV market overview	Miroslav Toshkin (Solar Enterprise)
15:35	<p>Panel discussion: Are the members of the Energy Community prepared for a higher uptake of solar PV in the grids?</p> <p>Facilitator: Michael Taylor (IRENA)</p> <p>Panelists: Natasa Putak (Croatian Energy Market Operator), Gustav Resch (Vienna University of Technology), Joao Heredia (European Commission), Dalibor Muratovic (Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske), Denko Rafajlovski (MEPSO)</p>	
17:00	End of 1st day	

DAY 2: Friday, 4 March 2016

9:00 – 10:00 Breakfast Side Event:

Green Cities and Sustainable Transport – Smart City Wien (Herbert Ritter, City of Vienna)

Session 3 – Innovative Financing for RE Projects

10:00	<p>Setting the scene:</p> <p>Innovative financing and business models for RE</p>	Roberto Pasicko (UNDP Croatia)
10:20	Role of the energy cooperatives in the European Union	Mathieu Richard (European Federation for Renewable Energy Cooperatives – REScoop)
10:35	Case study of Croatia – energy cooperatives	Edo Jerkic (Green Energy Coop.)
10:50	Case study of Portugal – crowdfunding for PV systems	Nuño Brito Jorge (Boa Energia)
11:05	Coffee Break	
11:20	<p>Panel discussion: Innovative financing mechanisms for PV systems</p> <p>Facilitator: Julian Popov (European Climate Foundation)</p> <p>Panelists: Robert Pasicko (UNDP Croatia), Nihad Harbas (CETEOR d.o.o. Sarajevo), Mathieu Richard (European Federation for Renewable Energy Cooperatives), Nuño Brito Jorge (Boa Energia), Günter Bramböck (EVN).</p>	
12:45	Conclusions and way forward	