

**TECHNICAL EXPERT MEETING FOLLOW-UP
DIALOGUE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPLY**

Thursday, 19 May 2016, 18:30–20:00

**Summary by the facilitator Ms. Angela Churie Kallhaug
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As part of the technical examination process on mitigation (M-TEP) organized by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, a technical expert meeting (TEM) follow-up dialogue on renewable energy supply was held in Bonn, Germany, on 19 May 2016. This dialogue served as a follow-up meeting to the TEM held in 2015,¹ at which participants discussed the most promising and feasible policies and options for renewable energy supply that could be implemented and scaled up to achieve high emission reductions in the pre-2020 period. The TEM follow-up dialogue provided a platform for relevant organizations and initiatives to demonstrate how they have assisted Parties in implementing policy options identified through the TEMs and/or supported relevant partnerships and initiatives. It also served as a space for Parties to discuss how they envision the continued engagement of these organizations and initiatives in the M-TEP, with a view to maximizing the added value of their ongoing efforts.

Accelerating the implementation of scalable, replicable and transformative actions

At the meeting, participants discussed options to bring action to fruition, mobilize finance, technology and capacity-building support and ways to overcome barriers in order to implement renewable energy on the ground. Participants highlighted the following activities as key to bringing action to fruition:

- (a) Learning from existing projects and applying the lessons learned and experience to inform policymakers;
- (b) Having the policy frameworks in place to speed up the process of implementing renewable energy on the ground. Private participation will require a clear legal and regulatory framework including a domestic enabling environment to drive ambition and action;
- (c) Working on capacity mobilization and capacity-building, as well as strategic partnership building. The formation and engagement of strategic partnerships is considered a crucial element for success in securing financing, policy and regulatory reform;
- (d) Securing financing and funding for implementation of renewable energy on the ground. The size and scalability of projects requires rethinking of current financing approaches to avoid a funding gap. The magnitude of investments and potential sources of financing need to be identified;
- (e) Providing project development and management support;
- (f) Involving a wide range of stakeholders through communication and outreach;

¹ <<http://unfccc.int/bodies/awg/items/8895.php>>.

- (g) Alleviating the impact of investment costs on public debt sustainability through higher private participation in the implementation of renewable energy on the ground.

Many countries still lack policies and standards for energy efficiency. When developing such standards and policies for the first time, these countries could benefit from the experience of other countries in this sector. Rapid implementation of policies and standards could create an enabling environment to attract new sources of financing.

Technology and innovation

The Technology Executive Committee presented its **policy brief on facilitating technology deployment in distributed renewable electricity generation** which included actions to reach a broad spectrum of renewable energy technology, such as: (1) work on the in-country capability; (2) developing and/or upgrading effective policies and regulatory frameworks; (3) stimulating robust private sector involvement and investment through effective business models; and (4) ensuring the broad participation of stakeholders.

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) presented the results of its **work in innovation in renewable energy**. As many Parties raise their renewable energy targets, innovation becomes very important in moving from setting the target to actual implementation and delivery. The definition of innovation needs to be expanded in order to include not only technology, but also operational innovation on policies, financing, business models and market design. Innovation in the implementation of renewable energy is happening globally, not only in mature electricity systems, but also in emerging electricity systems with very high electricity demand, as well as in decentralized power systems such as those of islands or rural electrification. Replication of experience is essential, as the operational experience of small island countries using power systems with a rapid increase of renewable energy mix could provide valuable information for the operation of power systems in other countries with relatively bigger power systems.

Finance

The **Green Climate Fund** (GCF) is now operational and ready to receive project proposals, with energy generation and access being one of the strategic impact areas for the fund. Within this area, the GCF has listed the three priority activities to achieve the transformation of energy generation and access: (1) shifting investment to large-scale deployment of low carbon electricity to avoid dependence on fossil fuels; (2) supporting the extension of access to sustainable energy services for poor and underserved communities; and (3) supporting small off-grid renewable energy projects in rural areas. In the post-Paris era, the GCF will work on, among other things, programme finance at scale and engaging in partnerships to leverage additional financial inputs.

Next steps

Participants in the meeting called for turning the TEMs into a platform for collaboration and moving from discussion to collaboration in such a way that they not only achieve further greenhouse gas emission reductions, but also ensure equitable access to sustainable development.

It was also highlighted that a range of non-climate policies are essential for successfully addressing climate change through the use of renewable energy, including governance, corruption and the investment landscape, which are also extremely important areas for discussion. These are the areas to which the TEMs can contribute with a view to taking a holistic approach in promoting renewable energy and climate policies.

Participants emphasized the role of the private sector in promoting renewable energy technologies and noted that its engagement in the M-TEP could be strengthened in the future.