



Energy Day Report

10 November 2017

From the content group to the Climate Champions

Short term (2018) and mid-term (2020) priority actions from the energycontent group perspective that could have significant impact and deliver concrete results aligned with the long-term aims of the Paris Agreement and feed into the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue are:

Steady progress has been made in the energy sector, but to realise the changes necessary to meet the ambitions of the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goal 7, significant acceleration is needed. Technology advancements open new opportunities for access to modern energy services, and early adoption of strategies to deploy them will reap multiple benefits, including financial savings, poverty reduction, economic development, education, air quality improvements and climate benefits.

Accelerated decarbonisation of the energy sector is possible and necessary, but it requires immediate and concerted efforts to continue to decarbonize power, heat and transportation, considering the lifetime of energy and related infrastructure. Hence, the decisions made before 2020 will be critical to decarbonize energy systems in line with the Paris Agreement.

*In spite of the overwhelming evidence of the importance of energy efficiency, policy and regulatory frameworks driving energy productivity are still weak, and investment lags behind. **Accelerating energy efficiency through policies, financial support, and capacity-building** need to be prioritised and incentivised.*

*The **transformation of the energy sector requires significant investment**, which needs to be unlocked in the right places and forms. Energy policies must ensure that prices reflect the urgent need to decarbonize. Harmful subsidies should be phased out urgently and an effective price on carbon applied as one part of necessary policy measures. Affordable energy services, especially for low income people, should be assured, and integrated energy planning offers the opportunity to close access gaps with modern energy, quickly and affordably, with the right policy environment.*

*Targeted support for **all stages of clean energy technology innovation** – from research and development to deployment - is needed to unlock clean technology investment. For market-ready*



technologies, notably renewable energy, actions are needed to remove the existing barriers to deployment at scale.

Long-term energy plans in line with climate and broader national objectives have to be developed as a matter of priority to guide the resulting policy, regulation and infrastructure investment decisions.

In spite of the growing understanding of the cost effectiveness of energy efficiency and renewable energy production, **national policy and regulatory frameworks** require further adjustments **to foster an enabling environment that incentivizes greater investment, including from the private sector**. Some of the biggest challenges are in countries with significant energy access gaps, including Sub-Saharan African countries.

In the **short term, it is important to feed into the Facilitative Dialogue the good practice strategies of countries, companies, cities, communities and others who are driving energy sector transitions, to boost the confidence of policy makers to be increasingly ambitious and bold.**

Setting long-term objectives and putting in place supporting enabling frameworks can open opportunities for faster and larger scale action from all stakeholders. In many cases, NDCs currently lag behind not only what is actually contained in national energy plans, but also behind fast-moving, positive market trends. Changing this would also facilitate the enlargement of the climate action space with stakeholders who are yet to join the effort..

New initiatives or commitments on climate action announced at COP 23.

- The Climate Group announced a number of new members to its recently launched **EV100 campaign**, a major new global electric transport initiative designed to make electric vehicles “the new normal.”
- The IEA announced on November 7 the launch of the **“IEA Clean Energy Transitions Programme,”** a new multi-year, EUR 30 million plan to support clean energy transitions around the world, particularly in major emerging economies
- SEforALL announced the **“Cooling for All”** global initiative, launched to find pathways for fast action and investment for a growing and urgent need to providing cooling solutions for people, medicines and food that are super-efficient and HFC free in order to meet the Paris Agreement, SDG7 and the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.
- IRENA-supported **Africa Clean Energy Corridor** (Eastern and Southern Africa power pools) announced at the COP21 has been *extended* to the West Africa, with the initial focus to exploit solar potential in the region.
- The India-led **International Solar Alliance** (ISA) announced that *44 countries signed up to the Alliance in one year, 15 countries ratified its Statute.*
- The AOSIS-led **Island Renewable Energy Initiative** (IREI) focused on attracting finance for renewable energy projects in SIDS has been formally launched. It joins forces with the SIDS



Marrakech Partnership



Lighthouses Initiative to benefit from its technical focus, and facilitate alignment of energy plans with NDCs.

- The World Bank Group and SEforALL issued ***RISE: Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy report*** that benchmarks sustainable energy policies in 111 countries. It helps countries identify policy gaps and steps that are needed to inspire investor confidence.
- IRENA announced a dedicated ***NDC renewable energy facility*** to provide planning and technical assistance to countries in preparation for 2020.