

Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation : Session Plan

Organized as part of Technical Examination Process on Mitigation

Organizer : IRENA

Session V: Making Water-Energy-Food Integrated Policies Work for Food Security and the Climate

Date	Time	Venue
21 June 2019	12:30 – 14:00	The World Conference Center Bonn

This **session will focus on various solutions aimed at** policy frameworks that encourage/incentivize producing affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable energy for the agri-food and irrigation value chains.

The livelihood of most rural people relies on agriculture and irrigation for subsistence through household farming and for income and jobs. Globally, the agricultural sector sustains the livelihood of nearly 40% of the population, many of whom live in poverty. In rural areas, agriculture and related agri-food activities are at the heart of the economy, and a large percentage of households generate their income from employment in harvesting, agro-processing, transporting, and marketing produce. Irrigation is among the measures that can improve yields, reduce vulnerability to changing rainfall patterns, and enable multiple cropping practices.

Many rural communities struggle with a lack of access to and affordability of resources and are often limited to producing low-quality goods with little diversity and with low productivity. Granting rural areas access to affordable, secure, and environmentally sustainable energy along the different stages of the agri-food chain can support the development of communities through savings on fuel spending, job creation, poverty reduction, improved health, enhanced access to water and food, better livelihoods, and gender equality. Analysing the socio-economic benefits of the various applications can play a crucial role in guiding policy-making towards adopting energy access and efficiency approaches that support development in rural areas.

The feasibility, sustainability and scalability of decentralised renewable energy solutions in the agri-food sector highly depend on appropriate institutional and policy frameworks. Clear and targeted measures can support renewable energy markets by incentivizing local enterprises, stimulating demand, thereby promoting productive uses. Realisation of benefits relies on an enabling environment that includes entrepreneurship, skills, access to markets, access to financing and support through public sector planning.

This session will discuss policy solutions for producing affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable energy for the agri-food and irrigation value chains and the benefits that these solutions can bring, particularly improved livelihoods, increased social welfare, and reduced spending on fossil fuel subsidies and centralized infrastructure.

The session will also highlight barriers for conducive policy frameworks and how they can be overcome. The session will also discuss how these policies and enabling frameworks can harvest socio-economic benefits and thus lead to the realisation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular 2 (Zero Hunger), 5 (Gender Equality), 6 (Clean Water and

Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).

The 90-minute session will have two segments of expert interventions each followed by a moderated roundtable discussion, which shall be structured as follows:

05'	<p>Brief introduction of the topic and speakers by the moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Marion Canute, Communication Specialist
20'	<p>First round of the expert interventions on what have been done so far and lessons learnt</p> <p>To set the scene for the session, the experts will be asked to address the below questions related to learning from what works and where we are regarding policy solutions aimed at promoting renewable energy and smart water use in the agri-food chain and socio-economic benefits of such solutions by discussing case studies, examples and their work experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What policy solutions are available/used to help accelerate the scaling up of renewable energy and smart water use in the agri-food chain? • How these solutions benefit the agri-food chain, particularly in rural areas? • What can Parties and non-Party stakeholders learn from these policy options frameworks, including the enablers and challenges/barriers, to result in emission reductions and sustainable development co-benefits? <p>Expert Contributors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Prince Essel, Co-Founder and CEO, Maiseville Group (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will deliver expert contributions based on the concrete examples of renewable energy innovations/solutions available for the agri-food chain, particularly in rural areas. He will also talk about the conducive policy framework to promote these technologies. • Ms. Margaret Koli, Education Programme Assistant, UN University (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will deliver expert contributions by highlighting the experience and process of developing Water-Energy-Food Nexus alliance in Africa that aims to emphasize on multi-sectoral partnerships, participatory methodologies that define the challenges and implement locally-appropriate replicable and scalable solutions. • Ms. Sasmita Patnaik, Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will discuss the Council's work on solar pumps and highlight the challenges of access to energy for irrigation and insights on the sustainability and financing of solar pumps, including various deployment models.
15'	<p>Interventions from other participants round the table, building up on the expert interventions and focusing on above-mentioned key guiding questions.</p>
25'	<p>Second round of the expert interventions on what do we want and how do we get there</p> <p>The second round of the expert interventions will delve into discussing how conducive policy frameworks can help to achieve socio-economic benefits using innovations available to rural areas.</p> <p>The experts will be asked to address the below questions:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What different policy frameworks are needed for different markets and regions to result in emission reductions and sustainable development co-benefits? • What roles Parties and non-Party stakeholders can play to implement needed policy options to result in emission reductions and sustainable development co-benefits? How to promote enablers and overcome challenges/barriers? • How trade-offs and synergies in the Water-Energy-Food nexus can be implemented in policy frameworks? • How to promote a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs through Water-Energy-Food integrated policy frameworks? <p>Expert Contributors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sarah Alexander, Senior Advisor, SELCO Foundation (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will deliver the expert contributions drawing upon the Foundation's work and experience in representing practitioner's perspective and advocating for inclusive, holistic and sustainable initiatives at the policy level. • Mr. Chris Henderson, Senior Policy and Practice Advisor in Agriculture, Practical Action (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will deliver the expert contribution based on the organization's work and experience in promoting a transition to sustainable systems of agriculture and natural resource management that provides food security and livelihoods for the rural poor. • Dr. Petra Schmitter, Research Group Leader, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) (In-person participation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The representative will deliver expert contributions by highlighting the experience of implementing policies that promote the use of renewables within the agri-food chain in rural areas.
20'	Interventions from other participants round the table, building up on the expert interventions and focusing on above-mentioned key guiding questions.
5'	Final summary/wrap-up by the moderator.