

Tenth session of the IRENA Assembly

Thematic meeting

**10 January 2019, 10:00 – 13:00, Sun-Energy room
IRENA Headquarters, Masdar City, Abu Dhabi**

International Dialogue on Global Best Practices for Strategic Long-Term Energy Planning

Background

The clean energy transition presents an unprecedented challenge for energy planners and policymakers, which differs substantially in scope and scale from past energy transitions. Long-term energy scenarios (LTES) can help trigger productive national and international policy debates, allowing governments to develop well-informed long-term visions and associated energy policies.

Many governments develop their own official energy scenarios that underpin a wide range of planning documents. Government officials and experts have a responsibility to ensure their development process and insights are of the highest quality. This is particularly important, as technically rigorous scenarios can provide a robust basis for developing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to be submitted in 2020 under the Paris Agreement.

How governments devise and use official scenarios differ substantially across countries. For example, some governments opt to build and maintain energy modelling capacity within energy ministries, energy agencies or other government institutions. Others choose to outsource all or part of their scenario development work to research institutions or consultancies. The choice often reflects national circumstances.

Through its broad membership and participation in various energy planning networks, IRENA is well positioned to identify and disseminate good practice on energy planning. Most notably, IRENA has been the operating agent for the LTES campaign under the umbrella of the Clean Energy Ministerial and recently extended the scope of the campaign by launching IRENA's own LTES Network, to include a wider range of scenario practitioners. The "[First-Year Campaign Findings](#)" report summarizes LTES campaign findings thus far.

IRENA also contributes to the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DfID) initiative "Strategic Energy Planning Roundtable" where leading international organisations and donor agencies work together to improve the effectiveness of support provided for strategic energy planning, through the implementation of "Energy Planning Principles" – a code of conduct for institutions supporting energy planning capacity building in developing countries. The event will benefit from the participation of key stakeholders in this initiative.

Objectives

This event will assist decision-makers to understand how global good-practices and ongoing international dialogues on energy planning can help to develop robust national planning processes.

Through the extended network of the LTES campaign, IRENA has identified the pros and cons of different approaches for scenario development, as well as national conditions that are required for these approaches to function effectively. In this context, the first segment of the event discusses different approaches from governments for devising official planning scenarios, building on IRENA's initial findings and highlighting elements of good practices.

The second segment of the event is a dialogue on how international communities can support the implementation of good practices in national energy planning. In this regard, the insights from this dialogue will help identify good practices and how these can be implemented.

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