

Concept note

Central Asia Consultation Meeting

20 October 2016 - Baku, Azerbaijan

Background

Countries of Central Asia possess large potential of renewable energy and have been increasingly involved in renewable energy dialogue over the past few years. These vast resource potential provides opportunities for increasing renewable energy uptake in the countries. Yet countries in the region are at different levels of readiness for the adoption of renewable energy solutions to their energy problems. Some countries have underlined the importance of developing renewables in their long-term strategies while some others have already adopted legislative frameworks on renewable energy along with the introduction of various support schemes. Nevertheless, further action is necessary to address the challenges hindering more accelerated renewables deployment in the region.

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) promotes the widespread and increased adoption and the sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, and acts as a facilitator and catalyst, providing experience for practical applications and policies, and offering support on all matters relating to renewable energy. IRENA supports countries in their transition towards a sustainable energy future, and serves as the principal platform for international cooperation, a centre of excellence, and a repository of policy, technology, resource and financial knowledge on renewable energy. In this regard, IRENA is prepared to support the ongoing efforts of the countries of Central Asia through a regional approach to strengthen their enabling policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks and improving institutional and human capacities to promote renewables deployment.

Objective, Format and Attendance

Within the framework of the 7th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, IRENA is organizing a Central Asia Consultation Meeting, which aims to enhance the dialogue in the renewables sphere among government experts, key national and regional stakeholders and the Agency. The meeting will analyse needs and priorities of the countries of Central Asia in the development of renewable energy resources and explore possible areas of priority action, taking into consideration the existing and planned initiatives to support renewables development. The meeting will be conducted in a roundtable format.

Agenda

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Central Asia Consultation Meeting	
14:00 – 14:20	<p><u>Welcoming Remarks</u></p> <p>Mr. Ulrich Benterbusch, GERE Chair</p> <p>Mr. Gurbuz Gonul, Senior Programme Officer, IRENA</p> <p>Mr. Jamil Malikov, Deputy Chairman, AREA</p>
14:20 – 15:30	<p><u>Opportunities and Challenges for the Development of Renewable Energy in Central Asia: Understanding the Needs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Vanessa Interiano, Senior Adviser, IRENA ○ <i>Scene setting</i> by Mr. Martin Hullin, Project Manager, REN21 ○ <i>Country speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Jamil Malikov, Deputy Chairman, AREA, Azerbaijan Mr. Shamil Dikambaev, Head of the Laboratory, Senior Research Worker, Kyrgyz Science Technical Centre “Energy”, Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Kosimbek Olimbekov, Adviser, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, Tajikistan Dr. Rakhimjan Babakhodjaev, Head Chair "Thermal power engineering", Tashkent State Technical University, Uzbekistan ○ Q&A
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:15	<p><u>An overview of IRENA Tools and Facilitation Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Presentation</i> by Mr. Gurbuz Gonul, IRENA ○ Q&A
16:15 – 17:45	<p><u>Unlocking Renewable Energy Potential in Central Asia: Identifying the Priority Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Katarina Uherova Hasbani, Revelle Group ○ <i>Introduction to the session</i> by Mr. Gurbuz Gonul, IRENA ○ <i>Panel Discussion:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. John O’Brien, Regional Technical Advisor, Climate Change, UNDP Dr. Ming Yang, Senior Climate Change Specialist, The Global Environmental Facility Mr. Martin Hullin, Project Manager, REN21 Ms. Stefanie Held, Chief Sustainable Energy Sections, UNECE Mr. Nazim Mammadov, UNDP Azerbaijan Mr. Rasim Mamedov, Azalternativenerji LLC Mr. Manas Puri, Consultant - Climate, Energy and Tenure Division (NRC), FAO
17:45 – 18:00	Closing remarks by IRENA and UNECE