

UNECE Renewable Energy Uptake

Concept Note: UNECE Hard Talks

The “Hard Talk” is a discussion format on current topics of renewable energy held with relevant stakeholders of the participating member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and organized by the UNECE secretariat and partner organizations.

The goal of the Hard Talk is to identify the best methods for realizing the potential of renewable energy by identifying key barriers that block private sector investment, as well as creating a well-functioning and stable system for the development of renewable energy.

The multi-stakeholder dialogues are organized by the UNECE in collaboration with host countries, local partners and international organizations such as the European Union, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), REN21 (Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century), and dena (German Energy Agency).

Hard Talks involve all interested government agencies, parliament, private investors, energy producers and consumers, financial and research institutions, NGOs, and international organizations. Key players in the field of energy discuss key issues, determine priorities and offer concrete policy recommendations to overcome political, legal, regulatory, and technical barriers and to tap the untapped potential of renewable energy.

Hard Talk Format:

- The Hard Talk may be held over 1-2 days and have a duration of 3-4 hours (incl. breaks) each day. A web-conference platform (Zoom) may be used to facilitate the Hard Talks.
- The Hard Talks will be primarily hosted and moderated by the main UNECE Re-Uptake Project organisations (REN21, UNECE, dena), together with country representatives where appropriate.
- Simultaneous interpretation services will be provided where necessary, from the host language to English and vice versa. The documentation language will be English, for: correspondence, agenda, presentations, recommendations, and reports, etc.
- The use of Q&A sessions and possibly ‘breakout rooms’ may be used in order to facilitate open and flowing discussion from and between a wide range of relevant stakeholders.
- After the Hard Talk, a report with key issues and recommendations will be produced and distributed to all participants and further relevant stakeholders. The results of the Hard Talk will also be incorporated into further reports and studies.

UNECE Renewable Energy Hard Talk with Moldova

Date: late June 2022 (tentative)

Introduction:

The energy system of the republic of Moldova features low levels of indigenous, natural resources and production and thus has a heavy reliance on energy imports; more than 70% of primary energy supply, including natural gas, petroleum and electricity is imported, mainly from the Russian Federation via Ukraine. The share of electricity in final energy consumption is also low at approximately 15% as of 2019, illustrating the low level of electrification and heavy reliance on gas imports and generation. Electricity is predominantly generated by the large gas-fired power plant in the breakaway region of Transnistria or imported from the Ukraine. Domestic electricity production includes the Cotesti hydro power plant, two large cogeneration plants in Chisinau and Balti and a negligible number of small renewable energy systems.

Albeit largely untapped, the Republic of Moldova features great potential for renewable energy, including wind and solar resources. In addition to the clear benefit of increased energy security and diversification of supply, the expansion and use of renewable energy sources offers a range of benefits including increased employment and improved health, and reduced emissions and negative climate impacts from the use of fossil fuels.

Given the recent global developments, it is however clear that greater energy independence and diversification of supply, especially in the immediate region, should be of primary concern for the Republic of Moldova and its neighbours.

The Renewable energy Hard Talk will discuss known and potential upcoming challenges to increasing the uptake of renewables in Moldova, with the immediate diversification of energy supply and expansion of domestic renewable energy production in focus.

Main Focus Areas and Discussion Topics:

- **Diversification of supply: Expansion of domestic renewable energy production**
 - o **Electricity (solar, wind)**
 - o **Heat (biogas, heat pumps)**

General Proceedings:

- An **introductory presentation of the challenge / discussion topic** will be given by an industry/market expert to introduce and provide context of the discussion topic
- **Presentations of different perspectives** from multiple national and international stakeholders will be given to provide further context and aspects which are to be considered and discussed
- **Discussion with all participants** and stakeholders to determine potential solutions and next steps will take place (with an initial, open discussion round followed by a second open discussion round to further refine solutions and recommendations)
- **Formulation of solutions and recommendations** will be carried out, agreed upon and documented
- A **summary** of possible solutions, recommendations and next steps will conclude the Hard Talk



For further information please contact:

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Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy

In cooperation with

UNECE: The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is one of the five regional commissions under the jurisdiction of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. All activities relating to the Hard Talks are implemented in close cooperation with the UNECE Secretariat.



UNECE

REN21: REN21 is the global community of renewable energy stakeholders from science, academia, governments, NGOs and industry. They provide up-to-date facts, figures and peer-reviewed analysis on global developments in technology, policy and markets, to inform decision makers.



REN21
RENEWABLES NOW

MoIRD: The Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development