

Chair's Conclusions

4th Working Group Meeting of the Multilateral Working Group on Solar and Wind Energy Technologies Berlin, 22nd November 2011

On the occasion of the fourth meeting of the Multilateral Working Group on Solar and Wind Energy Technologies (MWGSW) under the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) more than fifty representatives from member countries, international organizations and regional entities, business associations and scientific institutes gathered in Berlin. At the beginning of the meeting the chairs thanked all the contributing parties for their extraordinary effort in bringing forward the working group's common agenda and activities. The chairs stated that the objective of the meeting was to discuss the progress and outlook of the ongoing activities. Moreover a new field of activity of the Group considering economic value creation along the solar and wind energy value chain was raised. The US representative invited members to contribute to the topic of high renewable energy penetration for the CEM3-roundtable discussion. The UK representative gave an overview of the preparation towards CEM 3 in London in April 2012.

II. Progress and Outlook on the Global Atlas

Progress on implementing the first work packages of the Global Atlas was presented; Representatives of RCREEE, ECOWAS, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the technical experts of DLR, Risø DTU and CENER contributed with their views on the project. A first Prototype of the Global Atlas was presented that will be further elaborated towards CEM3. The group noted the progress and decided upon the following next steps and milestones.

- a. End User Needs and Expectations
 - Presentations of different end user groups gave valuable input for data needs to be provided in the Global Atlas
 - UNEP/REN21 reported on the design of the Online Survey, taking into account the experience from the SWERA project, and announced that the survey will be conducted in the next weeks
 - Results of the survey will be input for the end user workshop, taking place back to back with IRENA Assembly in January 2012
- b. Data, Tools and Methodology
 - The Group appreciated the current status of the technical specification and integration of data and tools that the experts from DLR, Risø DTU and CENER presented and welcomed the planned meeting of the technical experts in NREL's facilities in Colorado deciding on the integration of different tools and data sets.
 - At the IRENA Assembly and at CEM3 an even more consistent prototype of the Global Atlas will be presented

IRENA noted the importance of defining next steps for a data 'quality rating' and the integration of further existing studies and data, including mesolevel. It further suggested considering the increase of resolution as the ongoing end-user consultations have highlighted the importance of high resolution especially for wind. Participants suggested the elaboration of a Manual explaining scope and functions of the data and tools to technical and non-technical users of the Atlas. The chairs welcomed this suggestion and asked the experts to develop such a Manual together with the Prototype.

III. Capacity Building

The Group acknowledged the progress of all capacity building pilot projects.

- IRENA gave an update on the implementation of the IRENA RE Learning Partnership and announced that *IRELP* will present a prototype at the IRENA Assembly in January 2012 in Abu Dhabi.
- Noticing the Concept Paper that has been elaborated with inputs from a variety of stakeholders since the Copenhagen Workshop in May 2011, the working group welcomed the proposal of the Capacity Needs Assessment group to develop a toolbox and handbook on the conduction of *Capacity Needs Assessment*. It will be ready at the end of March 2012. IRENA indicated that it would make use of the handbook and toolbox and support the dissemination of it.
- RENAC presented the implementation of the *Train-the-Trainer (TtT) Concept* that has been developed within the working group by updating the group on on-going projects in Mexico and Costa Rica. IDAE updated the group on a scholarship program they launched, together with EOI, comprising seven scholarships for an Online Master's Program for public sector officials.
- IDAE introduced the current version of the CABIN website that has been launched and presented options on possible next steps to continue linking up CABIN with the capacity building activities and other CEM activities.

The Chairs invited participants to consider possibilities on how they could further contribute to TtT as well as to CABIN and how to link pilot projects with the initial objectives elaborated in the long-term strategy on joint capacity building.

IV. Economic Value Creation along the Solar and Wind Value Chain

The Working Group appreciated the new field of activity, dealing with the opportunities of economic value creation along the solar and wind value chain. It was stressed that local content is to be understood as the domestic development of industry without compromising WTO rules, thus in no way supporting protectionist policies. AEE and IDAE stressed that in Spain there are no protectionist policies, as suggested in the introductory presentation on "Local content", which should therefore be modified.

GWS presented its detailed methodology of measuring employment and country representatives from Tunisia and Spain elaborated on their experience regarding local content and how it can be reflected in renewable energy policies. The working group members indicated several interesting aspects that could add value to the future exchange.

All working group participants have been invited to provide comments to the Input Paper presented during the beginning of the session. The Chairs proposed to take up this topic and continue exchanging on the aspects raised during the discussion. It was agreed that due to the controversy surrounding the definition of local content the group may look for new name/title that will best explain and define value creation in economic terms. The chairs will come forward with a proposal in the upcoming review of the Input Paper.

V. Towards CEM 3

a. Integrating High Share of RE:

NREL presented a concept for preparing a roundtable discussion during CEM3 and lined out the possible role of the Working Group in contributing to this effort. The group will provide input for the further preparation of the hosts of CEM 3.

b. The Working Group acknowledged the update on the preparations by the CEM 3 host country UK. The chair expressed the willingness of the Group to add to a successful CEM3 in London. The UK representative requested a clear description of deliverables of the Working Group for CEM3.

VI. Next meeting of the Working Group

The Spanish chair offered to host the next meeting and invited the participants to Madrid in late spring 2012.