

## “Renewable Energy Policies Post-COP21”

**Invitation-only Workshop hosted by**

### **IEA Renewable Energy Working Party (REWP)**

**Monday 14 March 2016**

**UIC-P Espaces Congrès  
16 rue Jean Rey, 15<sup>th</sup> arrondissement Paris, France**

Implementing the ambitious Paris climate agreement will require a significant scaling-up of renewables deployment – notably in electricity and heat. This comes at a time when oil, coal and gas prices have reached new lows and there are lingering concerns in some countries about the costs of renewable support policies.

This workshop will explore how effective policy design can help renewable energy become increasingly competitive with fossil fuel technologies, even in a context of low fossil fuel prices. It will look at a variety of policy instruments and levels of governance.

The workshop will discuss:

- What does the Paris agreement mean for renewable energy policy? How can we scale-up renewable energy in the most cost-effective manner?
- With low oil, coal and gas prices, how can we incentivise heat consumers/industry to switch to renewables without excessive public subsidies?
- What role can carbon pricing play in increasing renewables deployment?
- What can we learn from auction design for large-scale electricity projects? Can auctions be applied elsewhere?

This workshop, organised by the IEA’s Renewable Energy Working Party and with the active participation of members of its Renewable Industry Advisory Board, will bring together senior decision-makers from the key players worldwide – governments, energy industry and investors - to discuss and review the challenges and opportunities facing renewables policy after the Paris climate agreement. The findings of the workshop will feed into the IEA’s forthcoming activities, including the World Energy Outlook 2016 which will have a special focus on renewable energy. Another dedicated WEO workshop on renewables will be held on 29 April at the IEA.

## Agenda

### Opening Session and Introductions

- 09:15 – 10:00 Registration and Welcome coffee
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**Martin Schöpe, REWP Chairman**  
**Paolo Frankl, IEA - Head of Renewable Energy Division**

### *Session 1 - Renewable Heat Policy*

Moderator: **Brian Motherway, IEA - Head of Energy Efficiency Division**

While renewable electricity generation has increased rapidly in recent years, the switch from fossil-fuelled to renewable heat has been much slower. With heat accounting for 1/3 of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, decarbonisation of the heat sector is of crucial importance. Key questions this session will address include:

- How, given low oil, coal and gas prices, can policy makers incentivise heat consumers to switch to renewables without excessive public subsidies?
- Can renewable heat be applied cost-effectively in industry?
- Is there a role for Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) in the renewable heat sector?
- How can we better integrate heat and energy efficiency policies?

10:15 - 10:45 *Presentations – Two different perspectives on renewable heat policy*

The EU's Heating and Cooling Strategy and the Role of Renewables

**Marie Donnelly, European Commission - Director Renewables, Research and Innovation, Energy Efficiency**

Industry – Opportunities for the Use of Renewable Heat in Industry & Policy Support needed

**Christian Ziemann, Viessmann Industrie - Regional Sales Manager**

10:45 - 12:15 *Facilitated Discussion with Speakers and Panellists*

**Monica Frassoni, European Alliance to Save Energy – President**

**Rémi Chabrilat, French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) - Director Sustainable Production and Energies**

**Werner Weiss, AEE - Institute for Sustainable Technologies - Managing Director**

12:15 – 13:30 Buffet Lunch

13:30 – 14:00 Keynote Address & Discussion: Renewables Outlook Post-COP21

**Fatih Birol, IEA Executive Director**

***Session 2 - Large-scale Renewable Power Projects: the Experience with Auctions***

Moderator: **Paolo Frankl, IEA - Head of Renewable Energy Division**

Renewable energy auctions are an increasingly popular tool for governments to procure renewable electricity at moderate cost. This session will provide perspectives from auction designers, bidders and investors and discuss the impact of auction design on the cost of renewable electricity. It will aim to address the following questions:

- To what extent have auctions proven to be a transformative tool for renewable energy deployment?
- Can auctions deliver community-scale, distributed renewables or do they need policy support through instruments such as Feed-in-Tariffs?
- Can auctions be applied in other sectors (e.g. renewable supplies for district heating, biofuels)?

14:00 – 14:30 *Presentations – Two Perspectives on Auctions*

An Overview of Competitive Auction Schemes

**Henning Wuester, IRENA - Director Knowledge, Policy and Finance**

Auctions from an Industry Perspective

**Francesco Venturini, ENEL Green Power - Chief Executive Officer**

14:30 – 15:45 *Facilitated Discussion with Moderator and Panellists*

**Oliver Schäfer, Solar Power Europe - President**

**Claude Turmes, European Parliament - MEP, Vice-President of the Green Group**

**Paddy Padmanathan, ACWA Power - President and Chief Executive Officer**

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee Break

***Session 3 – Scaling-up Renewables Post-COP21 – Integration with Climate Change Policy***

Moderator: **Cédric Philibert, IEA - Renewable Energy Division**

Implementing the Paris agreement will require a significant cross-sectoral policy effort. While renewable energies can make a major contribution to decarbonisation, climate change policy instruments such as carbon pricing and emissions trading have not necessarily been effective at promoting renewables. This session will discuss the following questions:

- How aligned are climate change and renewables policies post-COP21?
- Can carbon pricing/carbon markets be mobilised to accelerate renewables investment?
- Is the current low fossil-fuel price environment the right time to introduce or raise carbon prices?
- Can a market-based approach alone ever deliver the level of power and heat decarbonisation we need?

16:00 – 16:30 *Presentations*

EU ETS reform – Implications for Renewable Energy

**Jos Delbeke, European Commission – Director General for Climate Action**

On picking winners – the role of targeted support for renewables

**Robert Gross, Imperial College London - Director, Centre for Energy Policy and Technology**

16:30 – 17:30 *Facilitated Discussion with Speakers and Panellists*

**Richard Baron, OECD – Principal Advisor Roundtable for Sustainable Development**

**Steve Sawyer, Global Wind Energy Council - Secretary General**

**ZhongXiang Zhang, Tianjin University China - Professor, College of Management and Economics**

17:30-17:45 Concluding remarks **Martin Schöpe, Chair REWP**