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Topical Workshop

Strategic aspects of long-term RES policy design

Location: Résidence Palace – International Press Center the room Maelbeek, 155, rue de la Loi – Blok C, 1040 Brussels

Date: September 19th, 2012 from 14:00 until 18:00

-Summary of results and presentations-

Summary of the event

The Brussels workshop was designed to be an open discussion forum for a selected target audience – i.e. EU and national RES policy-makers and key stakeholders. This set up allowed interactive and focused discussions on design elements of harmonized instruments, which were input for the overall multi-criteria analysis and subsequent policy assessments in accordance with EU Law.

The core objective of the topical workshop was to undertake a critical reflection on the mid term results and recommendations of the beyond2020 project. The critical feedback was incorporated into the final work within this project, aiming to deliver a set of finely-tailored and practical policy recommendations on the way forward for RES. The session was dedicated to discuss the possible policy criteria and present possible harmonization pathways, followed by the introduction to the Multi-Criteria assessment. The various design elements for harmonization instruments were presented as a starting point for discussion.

Agenda:

14:00-14:10	Welcome and Overview of the beyond*2020* project Gustav Resch, EEG
14:10-14:50	Policy criteria and possible policy pathways for harmonization Pablo del Rio, CSIC
14:50-15:00	Q&A
15:00-15:15	MCDA Analysis – Introduction to PROMETHEE Simone Steinhilber, Fraunhofer ISI
15:15-15:45	Criteria weighting exercise
15:45-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-16:15	Design elements of main harmonised instruments Christian Panzer, EEG
16:15-16:45	Discussion
16:45-17:00	Socio-Political Acceptability of harmonisation policy pathways Simone Steinhilber, Mario Ragwitz, Fraunhofer ISI
17:00-17:30	Discussion
17:30-17:45	Wrap up and further proceedings (ISI or EEG)

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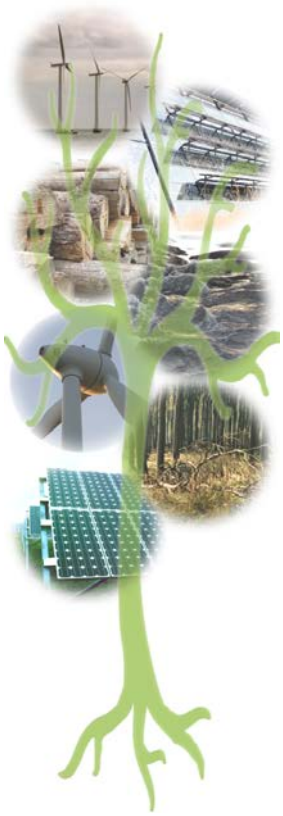

The beyond2020 project at a glance

With Directive 2009/28/EC, the European Parliament and Council have laid the grounds for the policy framework for renewable energies until 2020. The aim of this proposed action is to look more closely beyond 2020 by designing and evaluating feasible pathways of a harmonized European policy framework for supporting an enhanced exploitation of renewable electricity in particular, and RES in general. Strategic objectives are to contribute to the forming of a European vision of a joint future RES policy framework in the mid- to long-term and to provide guidance on improving policy design.

The final outcome will be a finely-tailored policy package, offering a concise representation of key outcomes, a detailed comparison of the pros and cons of each policy pathway and roadmaps for practical implementation. The project will be embedded in an intense and interactive dissemination framework consisting of regional and topical workshops, stakeholder consultation and a final conference.

Further information is available at: www.res-policy-beyond2020.eu.

Key content / statements of the beyond2020 team and external speakers:

Policy criteria and possible policy pathways for harmonization (Pablo del Rio, CSIC)

The aim is to provide a definition and elaboration of policy criteria and feasible policy pathways. Seven assessment criteria are elaborated: Effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, dynamic efficiency, environmental and economic effects, socio-political- and legal feasibility. A matrix of policy pathways including pathway components (policy instruments and framework conditions) and degrees of harmonization is provided and discussed with the audience.

MCDA Analysis – Introduction to PROMETHEE (Simone Steinhilber, Fraunhofer ISI)

Multi-criteria-decision analysis is introduces a tool to establish which alternatives (policy pathways) regarding the harmonisation of RES-E support schemes are acceptable for a broad range of political decision makers with differing preferences.

Design elements of main harmonised instruments (Christian Panzer, EEG)

Comparison of harmonized support options (FiT, FiP, QUO, ETS, TEN, Reference) beyond 2020 in full, medium and soft degree. Some questions that were discussed were:

1. Should some design element specifications change over time as RES mature?
2. How could burden sharing between EU consumers/taxpayers be designed?
3. What effects will an extension of geographical scope have on the support scheme?

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Socio-Political Acceptability of harmonisation of policy pathways
(Simone Steinhilber, Mario Ragwitz, Fraunhofer ISI)

Focus of this presentation is to define and evaluate socio-political acceptance of harmonization policy pathways. The sum of perceived benefits and perceived drawbacks are evaluated by national policy-makers (and experts) for a specific pathway.

A major key event for the beyond*2020* project was the *Topical Workshop "Electricity Markets and interactions with RES-Policies"*, which took place on **October 24th 2012 in Madrid, Spain**. The event organized by IREES and supported by all project partners within the dissemination framework, presented the deep analysis and interactive discussion around the *electricity markets and RES-policies in Europe.*

The discussion emphasized the successful past development of renewable energies in Spain and the need for some adjustments in policies and market regulation to ensure further progress. Among the many ideas mentioned, the ones that received more acceptance were: the need for a strong and predictable regulatory framework that reduces opportunistic behaviours and bubbles and helps secure finance and investment; a good management of capacity, given that in the future the major cost will be capital; the need for more market integration of RES; a change in the design of the electricity market, that was not designed for so many must-run technologies; giving the right price signals also to technologies that are not in the electricity market; and improving the contribution of RES to balancing and provision of firm power. An overview of the major outcomes include: