



## **Workshop “Needs and Gaps on Standardisation for Renewable Energy: Actions to facilitate the best use of standardisation for renewables”**

**Date:** 24 October 2012  
**Venue:** German Federal Ministry for the Environment  
Robert Schuman Platz 3  
Bonn, Germany

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Standardisation plays a relevant role throughout the entire technology life cycle, from RD&D stages through to the commercialization and diffusion of technology. Sound standardisation processes may support innovation in renewable energy technologies by documenting and spreading information on state-of-the-art technologies, levelling the playing field for innovative products, allowing more focused R&D efforts built upon best technology and closing the gap between R&D and marketable products.

When well designed, standardisation additionally provides an effective framework for commercialisation and diffusion of technologies by harmonising information flow, understanding technical product design, manufacturing and service requirements as well as establishing common operational rules. For renewable energy markets, standardisation may provide a number of key benefits such as those witnessed in other economic sectors. The benefits include product's cost decreasing effects, reduction of transaction costs through simplified contractual agreements and use of standardised components, common language and understanding of what the product or service is and is not and an increased level of quality and safety for consumers. Together thus, resulting in higher consumer confidence in and acceptance of the technology and reduced liability for manufacturers and service providers. Nevertheless, when poorly designed, standardisation may inhibit innovative solutions, create administrative burdens, increase costs and inhibit trade.

The workshop, organised by IRENA in collaboration with UNIDO and ICTSD, will bring together a group of experts to discuss the priority needs and gaps concerning standardisation for renewable energy technologies. The aim of the workshop is to translate these insights into concrete action items relevant to different stakeholders. The outcome of this workshop will serve to define the role of the organisers as well as their respective action plans in this area of work for the following years.

The workshop will consist of five sessions:

1. An introduction to identified needs and gaps from a mapping of current international and regional standards on renewable energy
2. Keynote presentations on different aspects concerning standardisation for renewable energy, highlighting the main issues related to each aspect and possible actions to address them
3. A breakout groups session where participants will identify concrete actions to address priority needs in the area of standardisation for renewable energy
4. A plenary discussion between the keynote speakers and the workshop participants on the outputs of the break-out groups' session, including a discussion on how these can be translated into a concrete action plans for IRENA, UNIDO and ICTSD
5. Closing session and a wrap up of the next steps after the workshop

The outcome of the workshop will be compiled in the report that will be sent to the involved stakeholders, as well as a wider audience, for feedback and additional comments. Together with IRENA's background analysis on renewable energy standards, the workshop report will form the basis for the rolling action plan in this area of work for the next years.



## **WORKSHOP AGENDA (tentative)**

### **Needs and Gaps on Standardisation for Renewable Energy: Actions to facilitate the best use of standardisation for renewables**

<b>08.30-09.00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>09.00-09.25</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	
	Welcome	<i>Mr. Frank Wouters</i> - Deputy Director-General, IRENA
	Introduction to workshop	<i>Mr. Francisco Boshell</i> – Analyst, IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC)
<b>09.25-11.00</b>	<b>Panel presentations on issues related to standards for renewable energy</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Diego Masera</i> - Chief of the Renewable and Rural Energy Unit, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
	Introduction to mapping of international and regional standards on renewable energy: needs and gaps	<i>Mr. Gideon Richards</i> – CEO, Consulting with Purpose LTD, ISO SAG-E member
	Standards and trading of renewable energy technologies	<i>Mr. Joachim Monkelbaan</i> - Programme Officer Climate Change and Energy, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)
	Harmonisation of standards for renewable energy systems	<i>Mr. Geoff Stapleton</i> – Director, Global Sustainable Energy Solutions Pty Ltd, Chairman of the Standards, Training and Accreditation (STA) committee from the Australian Clean Energy Council
	Testing and certification for small wind turbines: challenges and actions to address them	<i>Mr. Luis Maria Arribas</i> – Researcher Wind Energy, Energy Research Centre of Spain (CIEMAT)
<b>11.00-11.20</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>11.20-13.00</b>	<b>Panel presentations on issues related to standards for renewable energy (continued)</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Diego Masera</i> - Chief of the Renewable and Rural Energy Unit, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
	How Standards Support Renewable Energy	<i>Mr. Kevin A. McKinley</i> – Deputy Secretary-General, International Organization for Standardisation (ISO)
	Helping project developers and policy-makers: standards and development	<i>Mr Gabriel Barta</i> - Head of technical coordination, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
	Incorporation of international standards into national regulatory frameworks	<i>Ms. Li Yan</i> – Researcher, China National Institute of Standardisation (CNIS)
	Capacity building and information platform for renewable energy standards	<i>Ms. Müge Dolun and Mr. Mark Draeck</i> - United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
<b>13.00-14.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>14.00-16.20</b>	<b>Prioritising needs and defining required actions</b>	
	Definition of concrete actions to address priority needs concerning standardisation for renewable energy technologies	Breakout group session
<b>16.20-16.40</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>16.40-18.15</b>	<b>Plenary discussion</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Dolf Gielen</i> – Director, IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC)
<b>18.15-18.30</b>	<b>Closing session and next steps</b>	