**Capacity Building for Renewable Energy Auctions in Belarus**

**October 11-12 2021**

## Background

With the support of IRENA, the State Committee for Standardization of the Republic of Belarus has undertaken a Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA) for Belarus, published in July 2021. The Renewables Readiness Assessment (RRA) aims to support the country on its path towards the sustainable development of the energy sector, by highlighting the key challenges and giving 11 recommendations for actions in key areas of renewable energy policies.

Designing renewable energy auctions in Belarus was one of the key recommendations of the RRA report. As part of our commitment to support the country in the implementation of these recommendations in the post-RRA process, IRENA organizes a capacity building workshop for renewable energy auctions in Belarus. This follows an official request received from the State Committee for Standardization of the Republic of Belarus.

Renewable energy auctions are becoming an increasingly popular mechanism for the procurement of renewable electricity, notably due to their ability to reveal competitive prices and their flexible design which allows for their adaptation to country-specific contexts and objectives. IRENA has served as a global reference for renewable energy auctions since 2012, when the agency produced its first study on auctions, Renewable Energy Auctions in Developing Countries. In 2015, IRENA released Renewable Energy Auctions: A Guide to Design which has advised policy makers on various approaches to auction design and Renewable Energy Auctions: Analysing 2016 which analysed the factor impacting the prices resulting from auctions.

IRENA has also analysed auction design in African contexts in the report Renewable energy auctions: cases from sub-Saharan Africa (2018). Further, the report Renewable energy auctions: Status and trends beyond price (2019) focused on the latest global trends in auctions and how auctions can be designed to support objectives beyond procuring electricity at the lowest price – including to address broader socio-economic goals.

Building on this knowledge, IRENA supports countries with the design and implementation of renewable energy auctions, given their specific country circumstances and broader objectives.

## Objective of the workshop

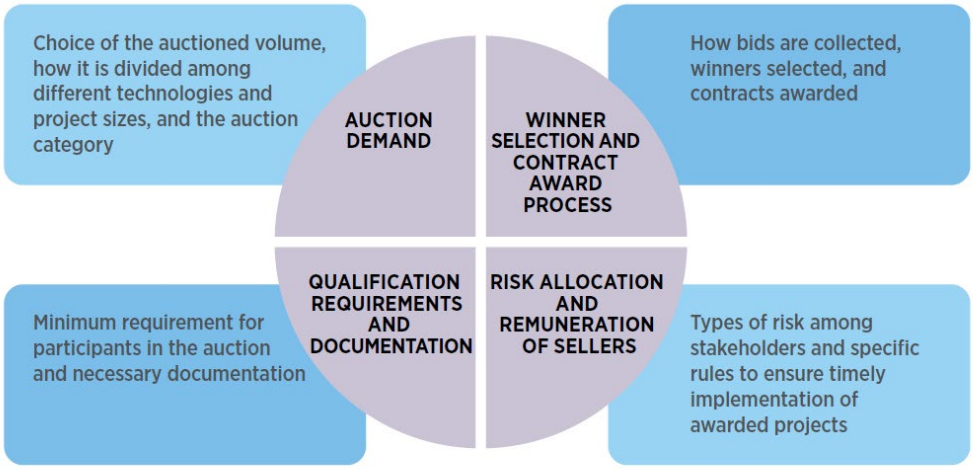
The objective of this workshop is to share IRENA's framework and insights regarding renewable energy auctions, and considerations, best practices, lessons learnt and specific case studies. Participants will go through the design elements and the trade offs that need to be considered while making each choice. The workshop will provide participants the opportunity to participate in interactive discussions with the presenters.

## Content Overview

The capacity building workshop will be realized as a two-day online workshop, on October 11th and 12th, with the agenda detailed below. The workshop will include a combination of informative presentations, case study analyses, interactive exercises and question and answer (Q&A) discussion sessions.

The first day will focus on the design elements of auctions following IRENA's framework. It starts by introducing auctions, their strengths and weaknesses, and the latest trends in technology and price.

The rest of the sessions for day 1 delve into the various design elements of auctions covering auction demand, qualification requirements and documentation, winner selection and contract award process and risk allocation and remuneration of sellers (figure below). The respective sessions will address the trade-offs to consider while designing the auction, in terms of the impact on price and broader objectives. Detailed considerations regarding each element will be presented, illustrated by country examples and experiences.




Source: Updated from IRENA and CEM, 2015.

The second day will focus on the design of auctions to achieve objectives beyond price– including on-time project delivery, variable renewable energy (VRE) integration, and a just and inclusive energy transition. These topics will be covered in detail in the following sessions.

- The first session will focus on auction design to ensure a just and inclusive energy transition. In particular, the session will analyse design elements intended to include small and new players, foster the development of local industries, create local jobs, contribute to subnational development and engage communities. IRENA's just and inclusive framework aims to promote renewables deployment as a catalyst of economic, inclusive and sustainable growth
- The second session will present key design elements to ensure project timely completion. The session will cover the different stages of an auction during which underperformance can occur, starting with the announcement of the auction and extending through the processes of bidding, awarding and contracting, constructing and operating the assets specified in the power purchase agreement.
- The third session will present key design elements to support the integration of increasing shares of variable renewable energy (solar and wind) through auctions.

Each of the sessions will present experiences and lessons learnt from countries with similar contexts that have adopted auctions. Their design approaches will be presented, along with an analysis of the outcomes and a summary of the insights that can be drawn, highlighting challenges and successes. After each session, time is dedicated to question and answer sessions in order to provide the opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of the topics presented.

**Agenda**

**Day 1 – Renewable energy auction design elements**

| Time | Session title and content |
|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:30 (GMT+3) | **Opening remarks and welcome**<br>• Mikhail Malashenko, Deputy Chairman of the State Standardization Committee – Director of the Department for Energy Efficiency, Belarus<br>• Gurbuz Gonul, Director, Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP), IRENA |
| 10:30 – 11:00 (GMT+3) | **Auctions in the context of renewable energy deployment policies**<br>Ute Collier, Head of Policy- Renewable Energy Markets, KPFC<br>**Q&A Session** |
| 11:00 – 12:00 (GMT+3) | **Auction demand**<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer Policy Advice, KPFC<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 12:00 – 13:00 (GMT+3) | **Lunch Break** |
| 13:00 – 14:00 (GMT+3) | **Qualification requirements and documentation**<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer Policy Advice, KPFC<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 14:00 – 14:45 (GMT+3) | **Winner selection and contract award process**<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer Policy Advice, KPFC<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 14:45 – 15:00 (GMT+3) | **Break** |
| 15:00 – 16:15 (GMT+3) | **Risk allocation and remuneration of sellers**<br>Mauro Soares, COO & Co-founder, GREENMAP<br>Ramiro Gomez Barinaga, Director of Finance, GREENMAP<br>Florencia Agatiello, Global Head of Research, GREENMAP<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer Policy Advice, KPFC<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 16:15 – 16:30 (GMT+3) | **Closing Remarks** |

**Day 2 – Renewable energy auction design for specific objectives**

| Time | Session title and content |
|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:30 (GMT+3) | **Opening remarks - Recap of Day 1**<br>Ute Collier, Head of Policy- Renewable Energy Markets, KPFC |
| 10:30 – 11:30 (GMT+3) | **Auction design to ensure project timely completion**<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer - Policy Advice<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 11:30 – 12:30 (GMT+3) | **Auction design to support the integration of variable renewable energy**<br>Emanuele Bianco, Programme Officer - Policy<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 12:30 – 14:00 (GMT+3) | **Lunch break** |
| 14:00 – 15:00 (GMT+3) | **Auction design to ensure a just and inclusive transition**<br>Carlos Guadarrama, Associate Programme Officer - Policy<br>**Q&A Session and interactive exercise** |
| 15:00 – 15:30 (GMT+3) | **Key takeaways and discussion and Closing**<br>Diala Hawila, Programme Officer - Policy Advice |