

Fourteenth session of the IRENA Assembly

IRENA/CEM - Progress & options for wider collaboration

16 April 2024, 11:00 – 12:30 GST St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi

Background

IRENA and the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) have a longstanding and fruitful collaboration, with the Long-Term Energy Scenarios (LTES) initiative, Clean Energy Marine Hubs, and more recently the Transforming Solar Supply Chains Initiative (TSSC). This successful collaboration is based on the fruitful engagement between IRENA and individual members of CEM Initiatives, its facilitation's role, as well as IRENA's analytical and knowledge strengths, and convening and organisational powers.

With the recent Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency Pledge, signed by around 130 countries at COP28 and the text of the First Global Stocktake, and their focus on clear goals for renewable power targets for 2030, this is an opportune time to convene together IRENA, the CEM secretariat, CEM initiative members and IRENA Member representatives to discuss achievements to date, but more importantly, opportunities for deeper engagement with existing CEM initiatives where synergies can be found between the work plans of the initiatives and IRENA, over the Agency's current biennium of work (2024/2025).

The CEM Initiative on LTES, in alignment with IRENA's LTES Network, has established a global platform for the exchange of knowledge and experiences between scenario practitioners from the government sector to facilitate their collaborative efforts to plan for the clean energy transition. Since 2018, this Initiative has operated with the objective of enhancing the quality and effectiveness of long-term energy scenarios to enable informed decision-making and enhanced energy policies. The Initiative has successfully engaged 29 country members and 13 technical partners. To date, it has organised over 70 dialogue activities and engaged hundreds of experts. It has also published 6 synthesis and analytical reports. These activities and reports cover a wide range of topics, such as enhancing institutional coordination and stakeholder engagement, aligning energy and climate strategies, improving scenario usage and communication, and fostering a sustainable national planning ecosystem.

The objective of the TSSC aims to support CEM member and non-member countries in developing supply chain capacities as well as expanding linkages between global trading partners. The solar PV manufacturing value chain which this initiative covers includes raw materials, polysilicon, ingots, wafers, cells and modules, and associated equipment (eg.. glass, frames, EVA). The CEM, through

support from Australia and Germany, has requested IRENA to develop a **supply chain cost model** and provide a **landscape of the standards/certifications/ESG services** respectively for the global solar PV chain.

The Clean Energy Marine Hubs (CEM-Hubs) is a cross-sectoral public-private platform intended to scale up the production of low- and zero-emission fuels to be used and transported by the maritime sector. IRENA is a partner of this relevant initiative and hosted a Ministerial Roundtable on this matter at its thirteenth session of the Assembly in 2023.

Objective

This event will convene representatives from Members and inform on the ongoing collaboration between IRENA and the CEM initiatives, presenting the progress of this collaboration and exploring opportunities for cooperation and synergies with other CEM Initiatives. These areas of collaboration include, inter alia, Long Term Energy Planning and Scenarios, Transforming Global Solar Supply Chains, and Development of Hubs to Decarbonise Maritime Transportation.

Guiding questions:

- 1. Where do you see opportunities for more international collaboration, considering the different IRENA and CEM workstreams, with IRENA?
- 2. Where do you see a greater role, if any, for IRENA's inputs or participation in existing CEM initiatives?
- 3. Do you see synergies between various IRENA and CEM workstreams and platforms to achieve greater impact? What would be needed to make this happen?
- 4. Is there an opportunity for greater collaboration between IRENA's broad Membership, given IRENA's mandate, and CEM's workstreams to bring greater benefits to Global South countries? How could we advance this together?
- 5. How can the CEM and IRENA leverage our unique capabilities to support countries in achieving the tripling renewable power capacity and doubling of the rate of energy efficiency by 2030 pledge?

Associated Publications

World Energy Transitions Outlook 2023: 1.5°C Pathway (2023)

Low-cost finance for the energy transition (2023)

A Pathway to Decarbonise the Shipping Sector by 2050 (2021)

Scenarios for the Energy Transition: Global experience and best practices (2020)

Long-term energy scenarios and low-emission development strategies: Stocktaking and alignment (2023)

Scenarios for the Energy Transition: Experience and Good Practices in Africa (2023)

Scenarios for the Energy Transition: Experience and Good Practices in Latin America and the Caribbean (2022)

Benchmarking Scenario Comparisons: Key indicators for the clean energy transition (2021) Boosting solar PV markets: The role of quality infrastructure (2017)

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