

## Seventeenth Meeting of the Council – Thematic meeting

26 June 2019, 13.15 – 14.15  
Sheraton Hotel, Corniche, Abu Dhabi  
Oasis Room

### **Planning the Clean Energy Transition: How long-term energy scenarios can support decision makers**

Long-term energy scenarios (LTES) have emerged as a vital planning tool for the world's shift to a clean, sustainable and increasingly renewable-based energy system. A campaign was initiated in May 2018 under the Clean Energy Ministerial to promote the improved use and development of LTES for the clean energy transition, drawing on practical experience from 11 participating countries and 7 technical institutions. During the last 12 months, IRENA organised 14 workshops engaging 640 experts. It also organised 20 webinars with over 500 registrants, which featured the development and use of national LTES for decision-makers in the countries that joined LTES campaign.

The campaign's events and discussions showcased many examples of the valuable and effective use of scenarios in governments' long-term energy planning processes. Many examples of good practice that can inform the work of others were identified. Discussions also made clear that, in the context of the broad and complex challenges a clean energy transition presents, much more must be done to encourage the enhanced and wide-spread use of long-term energy scenarios.

In parallel, IRENA launched Energy Transition Scenarios network to engage a wider network of IRENA member governments beyond CEM members to exchange best practices on LTES.

During this event, the main findings and recommendations from the first year of the campaign will be presented. They include:

- The clean energy transition will require broad participation and stronger co-ordination across different government institutions.
- What is included in energy models determines the results. New technologies, business models, and disruptive innovations for the clean energy transition need to be reflected in models and scenarios.
- Scenarios can be used for different purposes, depending on the context and the goals being pursued. Such distinctions should be clear to avoid misinterpretation of clean energy transition scenarios.
- Transparency ensures the quality of scenarios and builds trust. Scenario assumptions and results need to be clearly communicated in the context of more complex clean energy transitions, and innovative communication methods are emerging.
- Governments need some in-house knowledge to be able to use scenarios to guide their clean energy transition. This can be created through involvement in developing scenarios with modelling tools, but that is not the only route.

IRENA seeks feedback from the participants on how IRENA should expand this work on LTES to include IRENA Members beyond CEM through ETS-Net and other programmatic activities.

#### **Associated Publications**

[Long-Term Energy Scenarios for the clean energy transition](#), May 2019

#### **For more information, please contact:**

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