



CECCA Regional Meeting

Le Meridien Hotel Panama, 23 May 2018, Panama City, Panama

BACKGROUND

In conjunction with the development of the Panama RRA, IRENA has been advancing the Clean Energy Corridor of Central America (CECCA) in the pilot country of Panama. The initiative was established in 2015 to support the accelerated deployment of renewables at the regional level, and in the context of the SIEPAC line.

Based on stakeholder consultations and expert meetings that took place in Panama in 2016, two areas for support were identified, comprising a technical component and a regulatory component. Under the technical component, Panama's power system operators have been trained in modelling variable renewable energy integration and power system analysis software. With the regulatory project, a tool has been developed to assess design elements of power purchase agreements (PPAs) for solar and wind energy in Panama.

As the technical and regulatory pilot projects move toward finalization, key findings and lessons learned from Panama will be disseminated among CECCA stakeholders, in order to help guide further capacity building efforts and solidify future activities of the initiative across the region.

OBJECTIVES

Building on the outcomes of IRENA's work through the pilot projects of the CECCA initiative, this regional workshop will provide a platform for:

- A status overview of CECCA work to-date, and a dissemination of key findings, lessons learned and practices from Panama under the technical and regulatory components of the initiative;
- Thematic discussions on the emerging challenges related to renewable energy development in CECCA countries and cross-border electricity trade;
- Discussing key barriers to further renewable energy deployment in the regional market, and identifying specific activities under CECCA to provide solutions to these barriers;
- A training for local stakeholders on IRENA's solar and wind PPA assessment tool
- An introduction to IRENA's long-term energy / power sector planning tools for the region;



CECCA Regional Meeting

23 May 2018

Panama City, Panama

08:30 – 08:40

Introductory Remarks

- Gurbuz Gonul, Acting Director Country Support and Partnerships, IRENA
- Mr. Angel Cano, Executive Secretary, CNE, Dominican Republic
(President Pro Tempore – SICA)

08:40 – 09:00

Session I: Supporting the Renewables Scale-up in Central America

An overview of IRENA's work in the region including CECCA, geothermal energy development, the Renewables Readiness Assessment (RRA) and REmap.

- **Scene-setting presentation:** Vanessa Interiano, Senior Advisor, IRENA and Chris Marshall, Associate Programme Officer, IRENA
- **Q&A discussion**

09:00 – 10:10

Session II: Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)

A discussion on the design and implementation of renewable energy PPAs in Central America, with an introduction to IRENA's work under the regulatory component of the CECCA initiative and the solar and wind PPA assessment tool.

- **Scene-setting Presentation:** Hameed Safiullah, Programme Officer, IRENA
- **Moderator:** Gurbuz Gonul, IRENA
- **Panellists:** 1. Daniel Pereira, Manager of Business Planning, ETESA, Panama
2. Moises Cano, Head of Wholesale Electricity Market, ASEP, Panama
3. Merardo Cadena, Head of Energy Integration & Energy Security, OLADE
4. Percy Garrido, Commercial Director, ENEL Green Power Latin America
5. David Perla, Head of Energy Business, DELSUR, El Salvador

10:10 – 10:30

Coffee Break and Group Photo

10:30 – 11:40

Session III: Variable Renewable Energy Integration in Central America

A discussion on the main challenges for VRE grid integration in CECCA countries, and an overview of the technical component of the CECCA initiative.

- **Scene-setting Presentation:** Hameed Safiullah, IRENA
- **Moderator:** Hameed Safiullah, IRENA
- **Panellists:** 1. Elsie Corrioso, Engineer, CND, Panama
2. Rene Gonzalez, Executive Director, EOR
3. Fernando de Sisternes, Energy Specialist, World Bank
4. Rigoberto Salazar Grande, Coordinator, GIZ Energy Program for El Salvador and Guatemala
5. Angel Cano, Executive Secretary, CNE, Dominican Republic



11:40 – 12:40

Session IV: Accelerating Renewables Deployment in Regional Electricity Market

Individual country presentations on national renewable energy markets, and experiences with the regional energy market, followed by a panel discussion on the regional electricity market.

- **Presentations:** 1. Ryan Cobb, Energy Director, Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities, Belize
2. Say-Lheng Solera, Planning Secretariat, Energy Subsector, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica
3. David Perla, Head of Energy Business, DELSUR, El Salvador
4. Miguel Figueroa, Professor of Electrical Engineering, National Autonomous University of Honduras
5. Santiago Bermudez, Electricity Market Directorate, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Nicaragua
6. Fernando Diaz, Director of Electricity, National Energy Secretariat, Panama
- **Moderator:** Vanessa Interiano, IRENA

12:40 – 13:40

Lunch Break

13:40 – 15:00

Panel Discussion on Accelerating Renewables Deployment in the Regional Electricity Market

A discussion on the main barriers and potential solutions to scaling-up renewables in the regional electricity market.

- **Scene setting presentation:** Teofilo de la Torre, Vice President, CD-MER and Christian Munoz, System Planning Coordinator, EOR
- **Moderator:** Edgardo Sandoval, Director of International Cooperation, SICA
- **Panellists:** 1. Christian Munoz, System Planning Coordinator, EOR
2. Dennis Posadas, Technical Analyst, CRIE
3. Tanja Faller, Principal Advisor, GIZ Energy Programs for Central America

15:00 – 15:20

Coffee Break

15:20 – 16:50

Session V: Regional Roundtable on CECCA

A discussion among all CECCA countries, regional institutions and partners on the way forward and future activities for CECCA

- **Facilitator:** Gurbuz Gonul, IRENA

16:50 – 17:00

Closing Remarks

- Mr. Gurbuz Gonul, IRENA
- Mr. Oscar de la Maza, Director of Renewable Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Dominican Republic (President Pro Tempore – SICA)