

PAVING THE WAY FOR 2020

POLICY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

from the National Renewable Energy Action Plans



REPAP
2020

Renewable Energy Policy Action Paving
the Way towards 2020

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Imprint

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Welcome by EUFORES Board of Presidents

The devastating incident in Fukushima has once again proven that Europe's decision to embark on a transition to a more sustainable, secure and independent energy system has been right. The Renewable Energy Directive (RES-Directive) – as part of the EU climate package with the 2020 targets for more renewable energy, more energy savings and less greenhouse gas emissions - has been a very important step to reach this goal. The Member States have committed to these targets, but it will be of utmost importance to monitor and support the actions that follow in order to assure a timely implementation of the goals.

The REPAP2020 project has made an outstanding contribution to this process. The in-depth evaluation of the National Renewable Energy Action Plans and the concluding policy recommendations are reliable indicators for Member States and stakeholders and a crucial benchmarking tool for the European Commission in its follow-up.

The necessary steps for Europe's sustainable energy future will have to be made today at a national and European level. The right political framework has been set by the RES-Directive and complemented by a strong long-term vision for Europe's energy mix beyond 2020 with a strong renewable energy base. Now, this promise has to be accomplished and translated into reality. We will make sure Europe stays on track!



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REPAP2020: Renewable Energy Policy Action Paving the Way towards 2020



The REPAP2020 project started in April 2009 with the aim of facilitating the implementation process of the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the *promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources* (hereafter: RES-Directive), on a national level.

The main focus of the project has been on the National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs) which Member States had to notify to the European Commission by June 2010. As one main objective of the project has been the submission of ambitious plans to ensure that the EU will meet the 20-20-20 targets for 2020, the project in a first phase offered advice to the relevant authorities on the design of the NREAPs.

EUFORES held two policy workshops for the authors of the NREAPs in Brussels. Furthermore, workshops with national stakeholders took place in almost all Member States. The national industry associations, in collaboration with the scientific partners Fraunhofer ISI and EEG Vienna, have drafted industry roadmaps which have proven to be efficient tools for influencing the drafting phase of the NREAPs. The European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) compiled these individual plans into an **EU Industry Roadmap**. It highlights what can be achieved in terms of renewable developments if appropriate policies are in place, and a short preliminary analysis of the NREAPs based on the feedback from national RES associations.

In the second phase of the project, after the submission of the NREAPs, the all-encompassing aim has been to highlight the strengths and weaknesses in the NREAPs in order to facilitate learning in national administrations and assist the European Commission in their endeavours to ensure a sound implementation of the RES-Directive. To achieve this, the scientific partners have evaluated the NREAPs and presented the results in a comprehensive **NREAP Evaluation Report** in order to enable a mutual learning process among Member States and accompanying exchange between stakeholders. In a second step, the evaluation findings were compiled and digested by the project partner and law firm Becker Büttner Held, which then synthesised its findings in a special **Policy Recommendations Report**.

Legislative Background: The Renewable Energy Directive and the National Action Plans

With the 2009 RES-Directive, a stable legislative framework for the promotion of renewable energy sources was established in the European Union. It prescribes the objective of drawing at least 20% of the EU's final energy consumption from renewable energy sources in 2020 (as compared to 8.5% in 2005). The directive sets out binding national targets of RES shares for each Member State's gross final energy consumption as well as a share of 10% RES in the transport sector.

Among the central tools to achieve the targets are the National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs), which, according to Article 4 of the directive, Member States had to submit by 30 June 2010. In the NREAPs, national administrations had to declare how they aim to achieve the respective national targets in the electricity, heating and cooling and transport sectors. To facilitate the process of drafting the plans and in order to ensure completeness, coherence and comparability of the plans, the European Commission designed a template for the NREAPs.

In early 2011, all NREAPs had finally reached the European Commission in English on the Transparency Platform which started an analysis of the plans according to specific criteria and has launched infringement procedures against Member States in cases of:

Failure to produce a credible national action plan due to:

- Incomplete implementation of the Directive
- Significant deviation from plan or trajectory
- Valid complaints from any EU citizens regarding incorrect implementation or enforcement by Member States¹

The 27 Action Plans can be found in their original languages and in English on the Transparency Platform online at:
http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/action_plan_en.htm

This policy recommendations brochure is supposed to convey the most important findings of the analysis done by the project consortium. It seeks to highlight some shortcomings of the submitted NREAPs and some good examples from various Member States.

¹ Hans van Steen, Head of Unit, DG ENER, European Commission, presentation given at EREC2011

Please find all related publications online at:
www.repap2020.eu

General Overview and Old Bottlenecks

According to the submitted NREAPs, nine countries will meet their binding targets with domestic means: Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal, Romania and the UK. 16 countries predict to even exceed their minimum target: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden.

In contrast, Italy and Luxembourg intend to make use of the cooperation mechanisms, foreseen in the directive. In total, the 20% target is projected to be exceeded by 0.7%.

	National Target as defined by the RES Directive	Target as defined by the NREAP
AT	34%	34.2%
BE	13%	13%
BG	16%	18.8%
CY	13%	13%
CZ	13%	13.5%
DK	30%	30.5%
DE	18%	19.6%
EE	25%	25%
EL	18%	20.2%
ES	20%	22.7%
FI	38%	38%
FR	23%	23,26%
HU	13%	14.7%
IE	16%	16%
IT	17%	16.2%
LT	23%	24.2%
LU	11%	8.8%
LV	40%	40%
MT	10%	10.2%
NL	14%	14.5%
PL	15%	15.5%
PT	31%	31%
RO	24%	24%
SL	25%	25.2%
SK	14%	15.3%
SE	49%	50.2%
UK	15%	15%
Total EU	20%	20.7%

Source: EREC EU Industry Roadmap

According to the evaluation of the NREAPs by Fraunhofer ISI and EEG Vienna, the submitted NREAPs are of very different quality and completeness. While some countries submitted complete and comprehensive roadmaps to 2020 outlining the status quo and the remaining issues to be tackled, other countries focus on the policies in place which do not always match reality. In some cases, the NREAP template was even insufficiently filled in.

The scientific evaluation was conducted in five categories: administrative procedures and spatial planning, infrastructure development and electricity network operations and support schemes for heating and cooling, electricity and transport.

As a conclusion, it was found that the most room for improvement was detected in the field of administration and spatial planning, and adequate support measures in the heating and cooling sector.

From the evaluation of the NREAPs as well as from the feedback received from national stakeholders under the REPAP2020 project, the general picture is that many well-known bottlenecks in the further deployment of RES also prevail in the NREAPs, as has been specifically outlined in the Policy Recommendation Report by Becker Büttner Held (BBH):

- Proposed trajectories and planned measures are not aligned;
- Member State lack of ambition and/or commitment through action;
- Lack of administrative knowledge and trust in RES as a viable, reliable set of energy solutions in each sector;
- Administrative barriers such as burdensome and complex permitting procedures;
- Discrimination under various tax regimes;
- Grid constraints in the form of poor operations, lack of guaranteed and priority access and dispatch, and/or lengthy grid connection times;
- Low support levels in some of the Member States, especially in the RES-Heating & Cooling sector;
- Emphasis on maintaining status quo growth or, at best, incremental change rather than concrete measures targeted at significant, large gains, e.g. as few as nine Member States plan RES building obligations or comparable measures;
- Support that does exist, does not target the full-spectrum of different RE technologies in each of the sectors; Lack of public information and knowledge;
- Access to data is weak and unreliable;
- “Stop-and-go” nature of many national policies are detrimental to the industry/ investors on all levels; and
- Some economies have been hit especially hard by the financial crisis which has resulted in banks decreasing financing/lending for projects, including RES.

Source: Becker Büttner Held, Policy Recommendation Report

Policy Recommendations

A. Ensuring Constant Growth Rates

In order to meet the national targets, continuous efforts of Member States are needed. Hence, it is of utmost importance that the statements of Member States regarding growth rates and capacities of renewable energy sources are carefully monitored over the next nine years. For this reason, the RES Directive laid out indicative trajectories for the period leading up to 2020, which are supposed to ensure constant progress. Some issues that should be addressed in the three sectors in order to not compromise growth are listed below.

Electricity

In 2020, 34.3% of Europe's electricity will come from renewable sources, according to the NREAPs, which means the previous growth rate will have to almost double over the next decade. Meanwhile, the RES industry projects that even a share of 42.3% could be reached. Simultaneously, the trend that emerges from the plans is that the increase of the RES share will decline in the second half of the decade.

The Danish plan serves as a prominent example here. With regard to onshore wind, the plan outlines a slight increase between 2010 and 2015 (from 2,923 MW to 2,929 MW), but then a decline of capacity installed to 2,621 MW in 2020.

The tendency found in many NREAPs has manifold explanations. For instance, the period after 2016 is beyond the planning horizon of many ministries as elections will take place until then, so plans remain vague.

To counteract this phenomenon, the European Commission, in its guidelines, should specifically address the period 2015 – 2020 and should encourage Member States to show continued growth.

Heating and Cooling

In order to meet the 2020 target, the growth rate for renewable heat needs to increase by 1.2 percentage points. In total, 21.3% of our heating and cooling will come from RES in 2020 according to the NREAPs, while the RES-industry suggested that 23.5% is feasible.

In the Heating and Cooling Sector however, often declared as the sleeping giant, a vast potential for RES remains untapped, because particular barriers for growth of renewable technologies persist, according to an IEA study²:

- Distance of renewable heat production from heat demand (limited transportability, no grid for surplus, limited storage)
- Heat demand can be variable over time (space heating is seasonal)
- Heat is a heterogeneous commodity: differing temperatures in both demand and renewable heat supply

A good policy example to reach the national goal in the sector is in place in Lithuania: The Renewable Heat Law obliges the State to procure and thereby promote RES-heat systems.

Transport

The overall target for the transport sector, 10% RES by 2020, is predicted to be exceeded by 1.27% in the NREAPs. However, industry believes the level could reach 12.2%. A prominent barrier remains the lacking EU criteria for the sustainability of biofuels. Due to the prevailing insecurity as to what criteria the fuels need to fulfill, the trend detected in some NREAPs (e.g. France and the Netherlands) are decreasing shares of biofuels in the transport sector. France, for example, had only 3.4% in 2005 and then moved to 13.9% in 2010 before returning to 11.7% in 2015 and 11.2% in 2020. For many other countries, the ramp up comes in 2015 or even, rather abruptly, in 2020 to meet the targets. The countries in this latter category include: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Ireland, and Slovenia.

Criteria for the sustainability of biofuels need to be defined at European level and carefully monitored by the European Commission in order to achieve the targets in this sector.

² Renewables for Heating & Cooling: Untapped Potential, OECD/IEA, October 2007. http://www.iea-ret.d.org/files/Heating_Cooling_Final_WEB.pdf

B. Stable RES Support Schemes

In order to make the RES industries competitive, many of which are still infant industries, support schemes are needed. The overall assessment of the support schemes in place reveals quite some weaknesses for many Member States and in all three sectors.

Electricity

The vast majority of Member States build on Feed-in Mechanisms. Germany's Feed-In Tariff (Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz, EEG) remains the "Gold Standard" in terms of Member State renewable energy framework policy in the electricity sector. The principle elements that have served as a model for other Member States, and countries around the globe, include: guaranteed grid access, priority dispatch, long-term support guarantees (usually 15 years), differentiated support to target a spectrum of technologies, burden sharing and regular scientific and parliamentary review.

A prominent challenge is to set the right price for feed-in-tariffs for electricity. While the price needs to be high enough to trigger investments, it should not lead to an overheating of the market.

Recent cuts in feed-in-tariffs (FIT) for PV in countries such as Germany, France and Spain in reaction to a much faster than anticipated market developments have shown that alterations of support have ripple effects:

- they reduce investor confidence in the technology and in RES;
- as Member States tend to rely more heavily on one or some technologies rather than others, this can debase the entire market for RES;
- policies are "catching" and similar cuts, that threaten stability and momentum gained, are being proposed in other markets, such as Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Italy and the United Kingdom.

In Germany, policy makers and the PV industry have, since the extraordinary cuts of last year, come to a fair understanding and the current policy development in Germany seems to be one of going back to constructive and positive growth policies.

Categorical and especially retrospective changes to support schemes and e.g. under FITs are to be avoided as experience has shown they can have negative impacts on the entire European RES market, jeopardise the reaching of the 2020 targets and reduce Europe's competitive advantage in RES technologies.

Best practice example:

A good example of support schemes for electricity - apart from the known frontrunner countries in this field - comes from Slovenia: Two measures, feed-in tariffs and feed-in premiums are guaranteed for 15 years. RES producers with a greater capacity than 5 MW are free to choose. Payment for both schemes is restricted to power plants with a capacity lower than 125 MW and to biomass plants with efficiency over 70%. Every electricity customer provides financing of the scheme through a special surcharge. Conditions are set for the next 5 years, with a subsequent revision and optimisation process. Hence, the conditions will be adjusted in accordance with the price developments of reference fuels.

Heating and Cooling

Support schemes are largely absent from this sector in many countries (e.g. Bulgaria, Greece, Ireland, Malta, Romania) or are dependent on government budgets, which in times of economic crises, constitutes insecurities for investors (e.g. Austria, Belgium, Germany, France, Portugal).

Support for Heating and Cooling should be provided through government budget-neutral initiatives e.g. building regulations especially for the existing stock.

Best practice example:

A new instrument was launched in the UK after the submission of the NREAPs: the government recently introduced a Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). The government scheme of £860 will trigger investments and stimulate a new market in renewable heat and increase installations seven-fold. The RHI is a first example where a gap between the projection of targets and the lack of support measures has been partly filled.

Transport

Little or no support instruments have been introduced for the transport sector. Several Member States fail to outline a continuous uptake of biofuels. There are a few positive examples following the analysis of the NREAPs but it is overall too vague to pick a "best practice example".

More support, especially for electro-mobility in public transport, is needed and a double bonus for 2nd generation biofuels should be introduced.

C. Exploiting a Wide Range of Technologies

Unfortunately, most Member States also fail to sufficiently support a spectrum of RES technologies for every sector in their NREAPs. Even the most mature RES technologies, such as onshore wind in the electricity sector, do not necessarily have the policy or funding support they require in all of the Member States. Experience with RES price support has shown that technology-specific support is required in each sector to see investment and long-term goals met. Without technology-specific support, technologies that are cheaper in the short-term, but not necessarily optimal in the long-term, based on price, resource or other factors, are developed (first-mover advantage).

Electricity

A wide spectrum of RES-E technologies is needed in order to meet the electricity demand, which surely can be delivered by the industry. Several NREAPs fail to provide the right support for the critical technologies in the RES-E sector, such as, for example, onshore wind. Besides, some countries with technology-neutral support schemes ignore innovative but in the short-term more expensive technologies. Geothermal electricity and ocean, tidal and wave energy are only mentioned in very few plans.

The future energy system will benefit from a wide variety of characteristics to be found in a spectrum of RES technologies; hence all RES-E technologies should be represented in the energy mix.

Special attention should be paid to the development of small hydropower, a crucial technology due to its storage capacity. According to the NREAPs the share of hydropower in the EU's electricity mix will decline from 11.6% in 2009 to 10.5% in 2020. A common barrier to the further deployment of small hydropower is the Water Framework Directive, whose implementation in some Member States hampers the expansion of the technology.

Therefore, the European Commission should encourage a better coordination of the Water Framework Directive and the RES Directive.

Heating and Cooling

With heating and cooling traditionally being the sector with most unused potential, the NREAPs constitute no exception. Some technologies have been insufficiently or not at all addressed in certain countries. Solar thermal energy for example, has not been mentioned at all in the NREAPs of Romania and Estonia. In at least 15 countries, the technology will not have any penetration at all until 2020.

A means to stimulate the deployment of several technologies to achieve a sectoral target is the set-up of technology-specific targets and the assignment of an administrative body monitoring this target closely.

Transport

One example for negligence of a technology in the transport sector comes from the Swedish NREAP, in which biogas is not well supported and the planned biogas stations are too rare.

Big discrepancies exist between Member States with regard to electricity in the transport sector. While Germany envisages the highest share of 23%, France, Italy and Spain around 13-14%, Cyprus and Bulgaria have very small shares.

In view of the energy system change, it may well be necessary to trigger and encourage further the use of renewable electricity in the transport sector, be it for the purpose of balancing assistance for the grid with increasing share of variable RES sources or for new urban mobility schemes, based on electricity which can reduce drastically greenhouse gas emission in urban areas.

D. Reliable Statistics

Many of the above-mentioned problems in calculating resources and potentials result from incorrect, unreliable and incoherent statistics about renewable energy potentials and installed capacity. Until 2020, Member States will have to report biennially on their indicative trajectories, thus progress in meeting the national target in 2020. For this exercise, but also to increase the credibility of the RES industry, reliable statistics are indispensable. Factors that often account for statistical problems in Member States are: The division of data gathering among several administrative bodies and a lack of human resources, and training and resources.

As a recommendation, guidelines for a harmonised and coordinated accurate renewable energy statistical reporting should be established on European level. A first step in the right direction has been made with the set up of a renewable energy statistics working group, initiated by the European Commission. To improve the results, this working group, currently consisting of Member States, EFTA and candidate countries, the International Energy Agency and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), is encouraged to coordinate with stakeholders online and in person, for instance through an online portal and workshops.

Best practice example:

In Germany, a multi-ministry (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection) working group on renewable energy statistics deals with scientific and methodological questions in the gathering of data and provides publicly available statistics on renewable energy (AGEE-Stat).

E. Efficient Administrative Procedures and Spatial Planning

With the high diversity of RES technologies and the increasingly versatile relationship between producers, distributors and consumers of energy, the administrative apparatus in Member States need to become more efficient and flexible at the same time. Therefore, decision-makers for RES-projects, be they local planning committees or national administrators in permitting ministries, must have access to reliable and up-to-date information on resources, technologies, mandates and best practices. Simultaneously, red tape needs to be reduced, and administrative and permitting procedures must be streamlined and made as efficient as possible.

For the moment, some of the old bottlenecks are still prevail in the Member States' permitting procedures:

- Environmental licensing procedures that lack transparency
- Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) that in some cases are being used as a deterrent to RES project development
- Complex and/or drawn-out granting and licensing procedures
- Municipal sector involvement without clear rules
- Lack of awareness and knowledge at the local level that could be overcome through best practices and lessons-learned exchanges
- Lack of "quality One Stop Shopping" in many Member States
- Lack of acceleration tools, specifically at low voltage grid level

When it comes to the concrete issue of planning, local and regional authorities sometimes have direct impact on European projects, due to insufficient information and coordination. The ineffective decision-making leads to longer lead-times for projects and eventually to insecure investment environments.

Clear guidance for permission and planning procedures is therefore needed. The creation of “fora of exchange”, such as workshops between national, regional and local authorities of Member States should be encouraged.

The European Commission should encourage the timely implementation of concentrated authorisation procedures and engaging with Member States that have particularly burdensome and complicated procedures will hasten realisation of the RES Directive. One suggestion is a public benchmarking exercise (RE Permit Barometer) for specific key areas (i.e. quality one-stop-shopping)

Best practice example:

Austria and Denmark, two front-runners when it comes to the development of RES, lead by example when it comes to effective permitting procedures. In Austria, small-scale installations are exempted from permitting processes altogether and in Denmark; the lead-times of projects in most cases do not exceed 50 weeks.

F. Effective Electricity Infrastructure Development and Operation

A non-discriminatory integration of RES into the grid system remains a crucial task ahead for Member States. It cannot be stressed enough that ensuring priority access and priority dispatch in all countries is key to meeting the 2020 targets. Nevertheless, in many countries examples persist of lack of instruments, lack of ambition, high charges and long waiting times for grid connection of RES installations.

Grid access

The RES Directive stipulated priority for electricity coming from RES. This requires clarity on the side of Member States to establish clearly defined roles and rules for rapid grid connection and grid operation & enforcement specifically at the distribution level. In some countries that positively have clearly established guaranteed access, there may still be no strict connection time.

Member States should lay out clear timelines for grid connection and penalise grid operators that do not comply.

Grid development & operation

Interconnections between the grids of single countries will facilitate the transfer of electricity across border while they increase grid stability, efficient use of resources and flexibility, characteristics that are favourable to energy supply from renewable sources. The interconnections need to be accompanied by the set-up of storage capacities and intelligent management system, in order to accomplish a safe and reliable supply.

The European Commission and stakeholders from industry should show full support for interconnectors in the EU.

Efficient Bottom-Up Grid Management and Operation has to be taken as a leading objective in all EU and national infrastructure programming. While much focus is placed on the transmission level, key planning and operational decisions are, and should be, made at the Distribution System Operator (DSO) level, where the bulk of decentralised RES is welcomed. For the full benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy to be realised, and costs minimised, enabling DSOs to have the regulatory authority to efficiently plan and manage will benefit the entire system.

Member States should develop national legislation as to trigger investment in grid enforcement at both the TSO and the DSO level. A good example can be seen in the German ordinance on incentive regulation for energy networks (“Anreizregulierungsverordnung”). Commission and Council should install the position of a “European Coordinator for distributed and decentralised RES” as an important link and guardian of the interests for the RE industry and the communal and DSO level within the overall discussion on infrastructure, grid planning, financing etc.

Grid connection and reinforcement

Since the establishment of the internal market for energy and improved unbundling, it is clearer than ever that the responsibility for the grid lies with the grid operator. These might ask for increased grid tariffs but RES suppliers cannot be put at a disadvantage vis-à-vis traditional suppliers.

RES-suppliers should only pay the cost of equipment needed for the physical connection to the grid, no contribution to upstream network reinforcement costs.

Conclusions

The manifold benefits of the deployment of renewable energy are undeniable. The increasing generation of energy from renewable sources will not only help the EU to meet its greenhouse gas emission targets but also reinforce the transformation into a sustainable economy. Meanwhile, it has positive impacts on the security of energy supply and the overcoming of the dependence on energy imports.

The binding renewable energy target for 2020 serves as an accelerator for the promotion of renewable energy and the National Renewable Energy Action Plans are crucial instruments helping Member States to reach their targets. Nevertheless, the over-arching conclusion of the in-depth analysis of the NREAPs can only be that - despite the outlook that the overall target will be met - old bottlenecks persist and more vigilance and guidance is needed.

Individual assessments and recommendations for each Member State can be found in the three previously-mentioned REPAP publication. However, some general points, which have been addressed in this short overview of the existing problems and resulting recommendations for actions shall be summarised here:

Constant Growth Rates

Since many NREAPs, especially with regard to the electricity sector, tend to lose steam towards the end of the decade, the European Commission should strictly monitor the developments in Member States and whether they are on track with their indicative trajectories.

Support Schemes

The European Commission needs to further take the lead to stop negative behavior of Member States. The security and robustness of support mechanisms in the EU Member States should be monitored in a continuous screening process. Support schemes in general reflect and are embedded in a specific national approach and experience. In view of the regional and decentralised character of RES technologies there is no urgent need for harmonisation but for good cooperation and exchange of experience between the various administrative bodies of Member States and on various levels.

Variety of Technologies

In the analysis of the NREAPs, the European Commission should consult with the national RES industry associations, which, in some countries strongly criticise the underestimation of certain technologies.

Efficient Administrative Procedures

A lot of red tape remains to be cut in the Member States and more guidance from the European Commission and consultation with stakeholders is needed. For instance, the European Commission could initiate a roundtable for exchange with the RES industry and representatives from the Member States. This roundtable could meet on a biannual basis in order to tackle and overcome planning and grid and demand-side management problems.

Grid Issues

There is still a considerable lack of guaranteed access for RES priority dispatch, market design, grid upgrade & optimisation. Further incentives for the reinforcement of distribution grids, interconnectors between Member States, clear long term policy rules and goals for grid optimisation and enforcement with a strong cooperation between TSOs/DSOs and the RES industry are needed.

Binding 2030 RES-Target

Europe has embarked on the right pathway to a sustainable energy future with a binding RES-target for 2020. In order to ensure the Member States' strong commitment to RES beyond 2020, a binding 2030 target should also be introduced. This would moreover add more credibility to the current discussion about Europe's Energy Roadmap to 2050. The renewable energy industry suggests a binding target of minimum 45 % by 2030 in overall energy use.

Binding Energy Savings Target

While two of the 2020 targets have been made legally binding (20% RES and 20% GHG emission target), the 20% Energy Efficiency target for 2020 is not compulsory. Unsurprisingly, current studies show that the EU is not on track to meet this non-binding target. Therefore, given the inter-relations between energy savings, greenhouse gas emission reduction and renewable energy a binding target for energy saving is indispensable for a sustainable energy future. Also, the implementation of energy savings has to be on track in order to support the timely fulfillment of the compulsory RES targets.

Who is EUFORES?



EUFORES - European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources

*European Parliamentarians
for a Sustainable Energy Future*

EUFORES is a European parliamentary network with Members from all major political groups in the European Parliament as well as in the national EU Member States Parliaments.

EUFORES' core objective is the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency in Europe.

EUFORES is an independent, non-profit organisation founded 1995 by Members of Parliament and other key actors and is today a leading promoter of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

As part of its efforts, it organises events and conferences like its annual Inter-Parliamentary Meeting on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, advises on policy, disseminates up to date information to its members and promotes beneficial legislation in the fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

More information at: www.eufores.org



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