

CONSULTATIONS QUESTIONS

Public consultation on the development of the Regional Energy Strategy of the Energy Community

Consultation period:	From 02/04/2011 to 23/04/2012
Details on the contributing stakeholder	
Representation	<input type="checkbox"/> public authorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry associations <input type="checkbox"/> consultancies <input type="checkbox"/> international financial institutions <input type="checkbox"/> donors <input type="checkbox"/> NGOs <input type="checkbox"/> trade unions <input type="checkbox"/> citizen
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Publication	Do you agree that we publish your contribution on the Energy Community website? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Consultations questions	
1. Question	What are the most important challenges, which the region as a whole is facing in terms of moving towards secure, sustainable and competitive energy?
Answer	<p>Energy security and sustainability are two of the most important challenges. Renewable energy is one of the best ways to hedge against the risks associated with reliance on imported fossil fuels as well as providing a more sustainable energy source into the future. With increasing levels of renewable penetration challenges arise around system operation and the management of electricity generation portfolio. It is essential that a holistic view is taken to electricity generation and that the correct generation portfolio is incentivized which facilitates increasing levels of renewable generation. It is also essential that any market changes are structured in such a way that increasing levels of renewable generation are catered for. The power generation sector has secured considerable investment over the past number of years, however the ability of this investment to continue to contribute to the region's sustainable and competitive future is dependent on the deployment of initiatives to electrify the transport, heat and business sectors.</p>

2. Question	What are the strengths and opportunities that make the region attractive to investors?
Answer	Resource availability Political and public support Commitment to innovation and growth through a low-carbon environment
3. Question	What concrete and measurable objectives would you include in the Strategy (max. 5 objectives with a description of not more than 200 words per objective)?
Answer	Targets for renewable energy integration post 2020. Efficient carbon pricing to promote sustainable energy. Decreased reliance on imported fossil fuels. Stable regulatory and legislative environment to provide certainty to investments
4. Question	What concrete actions would you see to achieve the drafted objectives (not more than 10 actions, with a description of not more than 100 words per action)?
Answer	Targets for renewable energy post 2020. Carbon pricing mechanisms. A clear and collaborative roadmap for renewable, energy efficiency and carbon targets such that there are no or minimal conflicting policy initiatives. This would also act to provide a more conducive environment for long-term investments.
5. Question	In order to achieve a sufficient level of market integration, security of supply and to improve the environmental situation in the Energy Community related to renewable energy and energy efficiency, significant investments are needed. In your view, what are the main barriers to necessary investments and how could they be removed in order to reach these goals?
Answer	There is a need for regulatory certainty. The 2020 targets provide this to a certain degree but there is now a need to know what will be required beyond 2020. The development of grid infrastructure is essential both within Member States, and interconnection between Member States. Robust mechanisms to ensure the timely delivery of infrastructure must be introduced. This will enable efficient generation where the best resources are available and enable export opportunities. A robust framework for exports should be developed. The requirements of the EU Target Model need to appropriately defined, with the integration of renewables playing a core role in its design. The interaction between directives needs to be clarified. In particular the constraints that the EU environment directives place on wind farm

	<p>development must be better understood both at a local level but also at an EU level. An appropriate balance between responsible development, climate change, protection of habitats, energy security, economic activity and costs to consumers must be struck. Guidelines that facilitate the efficient achievement of the EU's energy policy will be required.</p> <p>Education on the benefits of renewable energy has an important role to play in terms of public acceptance.</p>
6. Question	<p>In terms of investments, how should energy projects (infrastructure, renewables, energy efficiency, power generation etc.) be financed?</p> <p>▢ What should be the balance of public and private involvement and who should be involved (governments, municipalities, energy companies, financial investors, other private investors, donors, international organizations etc.)?</p> <p>▢ What should be the forms of financing (grants, loans, project bonds, tariffs etc.)?</p>
Answer	<p>An efficient carbon price should provide sufficient signals for private investment in the most cost efficient renewable projects. However, in the interest of diversity and supporting innovation and R&D across the region, public support in the form of subsidies and grants respectively should not be ruled out. Public finances should not “back a technology winner” but should support diversity which is streamlined with assets and resources that exist across the region and which through R&D will be realistically economic within the region in the long-term.</p>