

Workshop 1

Objectives and Activities

The discussion concentrated
on three issues

- Objectives
- Scope
- Activities

There has been a general agreement
on the

- need of IRENA which was reconfirmed in the session
and
- on the discussion paper “Objectives and Activities” presented

Within the discussion we received very useful and constructive remarks by the participants regarding different issues.

Objectives

There was general support on the objectives presented in the paper

The remarks which should be taken up in the following process focused on:

- The fact that efficiency, energy saving and sustainability affects renewable energies as it effects other forms of energy

Objectives

- The inclusion of the social dimension
- The power supply for remote communities
- The transfer of know-how in addition to technology transfer
- IRENA should work in conjunction with existing institutions and organisations and should look for close cooperation and coordination
- It has to be assured that duplication of activities has to be avoided.

Scope

- There was general agreement that an inclusive approach that uses all forms of energy should be applied.
- There was general agreement that all renewable energies, as any other form of renewable energy, have to fulfil the criteria of sustainability.
- Attention should be paid to the grid integration as well as to infrastructure.

Activities

The following three activities proposed are especially important

- policy advice and assistance
- technology and know-how transfer
- capacity building

Activities

- As a centre of excellence IRENA should collect the best knowledge on renewable energies and should take an eminently practical approach.
- Policy advice should take into account conditions of the recipient’s countries.

Activities

- Capacity building has to be done inside the recipient countries.
- IRENA shall promote effective technology and know how transfer, as well as maintenance and post-sale service and long-term technical support.

Other activities

- IRENA should not be a financing institution or an investment fund, but should facilitate concessional and commercial financing and it should support the development of innovative financing mechanisms.
- IRENA should help to make best use of other mechanisms such as Kyoto Protocol CDM

Other activities

- IRENA should have a flagship publication and should organise an international renewable energy conference on a regular basis.
- IRENA shall stimulate and facilitate research on renewable energy, particularly on socio-economic issues.