

# INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY



## Consultative Meeting on the IRENA Innovation Landscape Report for the Power Sector

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**Abu Dhabi, UAE**

**1** Innovation driving the  
Power Sector  
Transformation

**2** IRENA Study - Innovation  
Landscape for the Power  
Sector Transformation

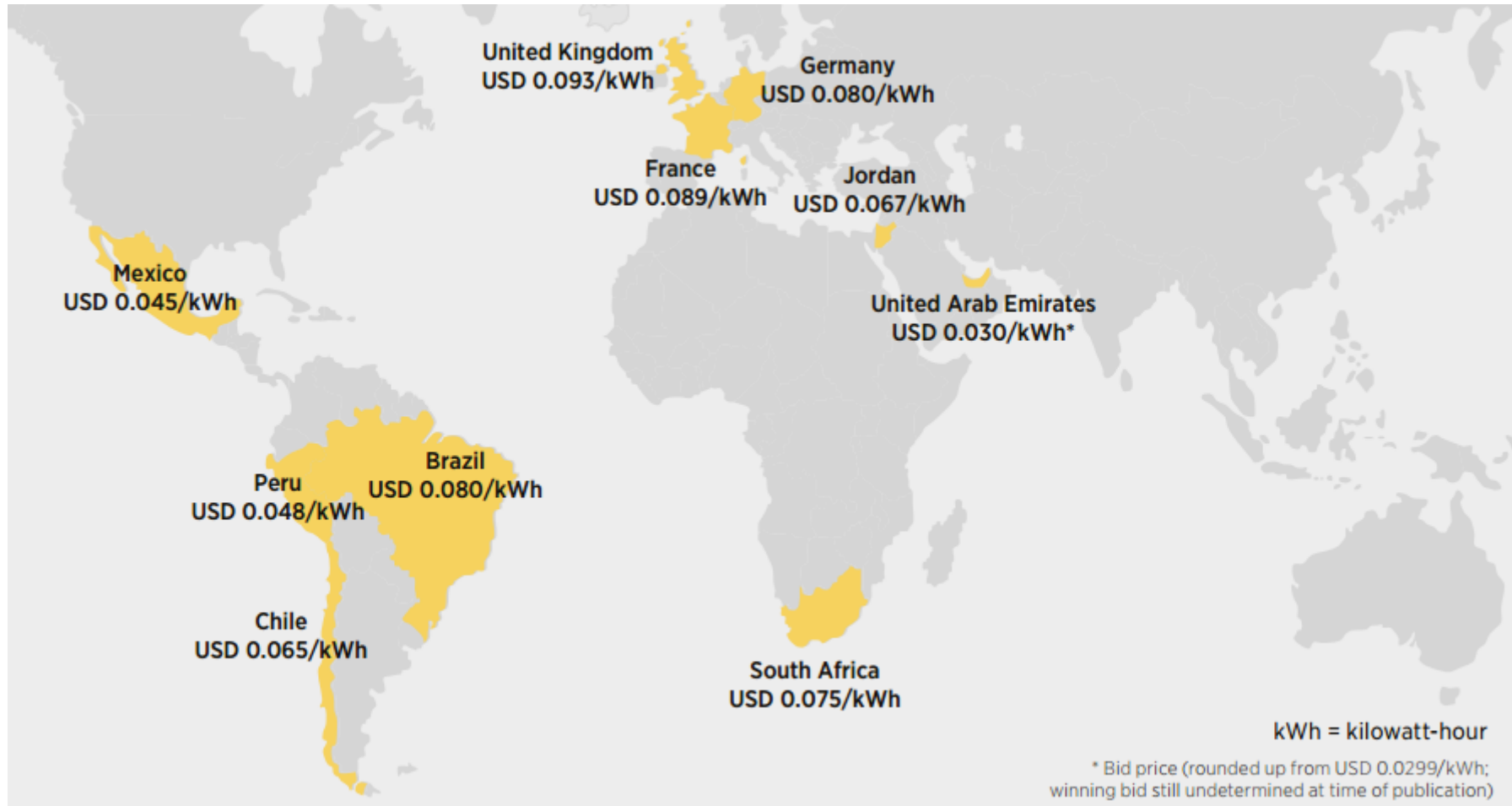
**3** Opportunities for  
Engagement with  
member countries

# 1

Innovation driving the  
Power Sector  
Transformation

- The world needs to **decarbonise its energy system** by 2050
- **Market signals alone will NOT suffice.** Innovation has a crucial role to play
- **Technical solutions** need to be in place by 2030 to allow a transition by 2050
- Innovation covers **more than technology**: Business models, operation, regulation and policy innovation
- The power sector is **advancing faster than others** in the transformation -> electrification of end-use sector is an option

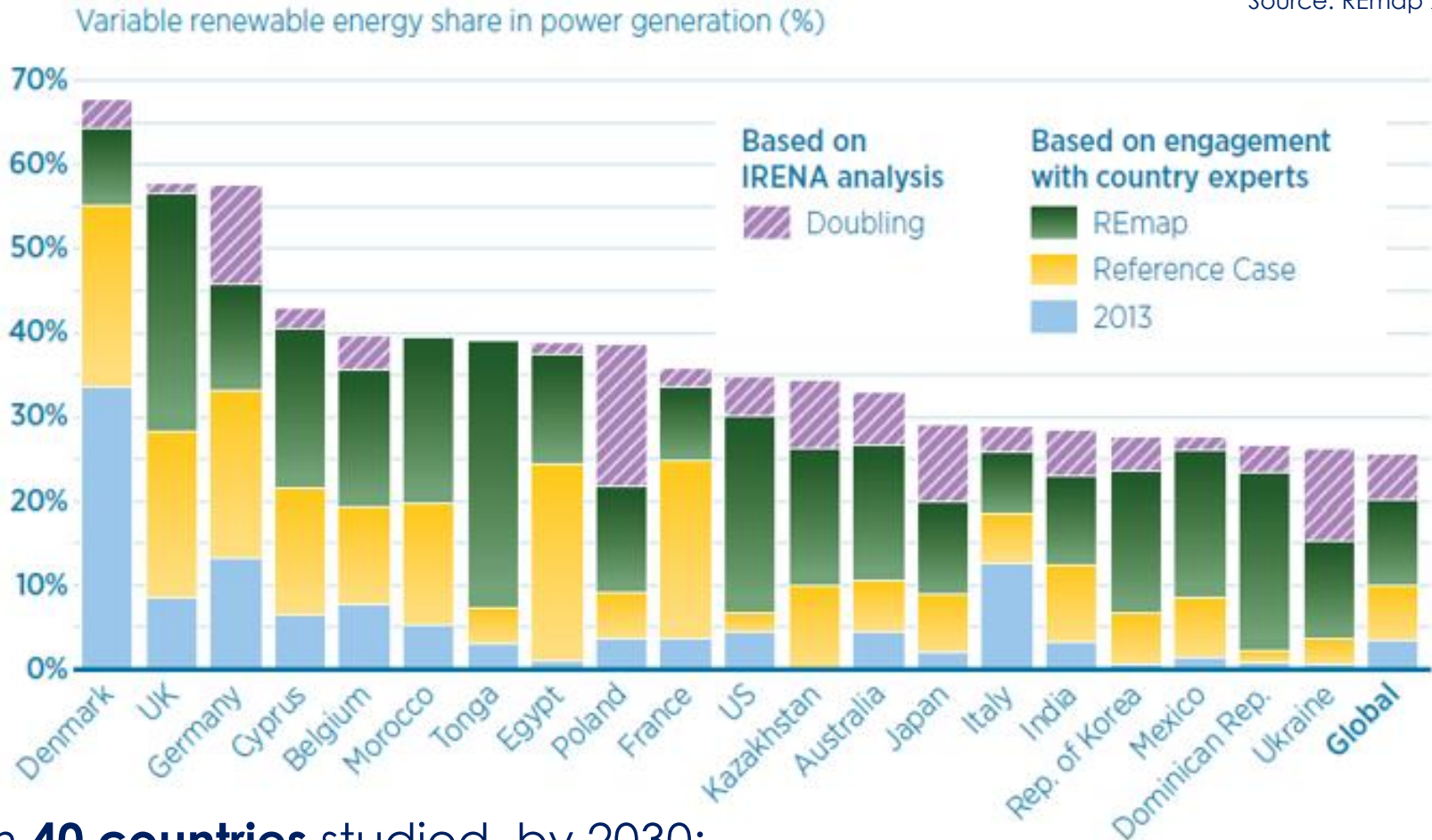
# RE power technology is available and rapidly becoming competitive





# Share of VRE has reached a two digits number in some countries and expanding

Source: REmap 2016



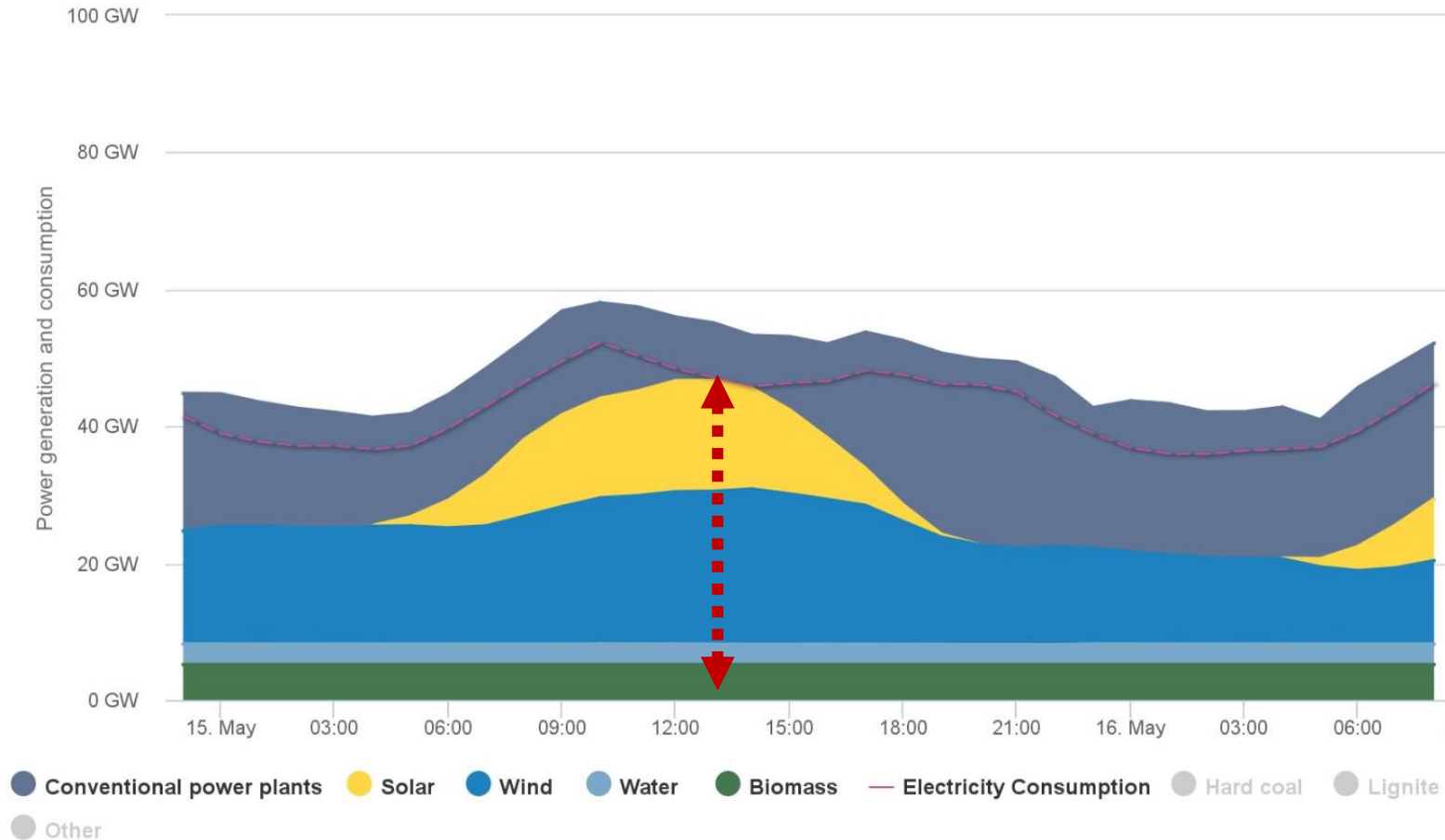
From **40 countries** studied, by 2030:

- In reference case, 15 countries **>10%** share
- REmap Options, 20 countries **>25%** share



# Front runner countries – VRE generation capacity already exceeding peak demand

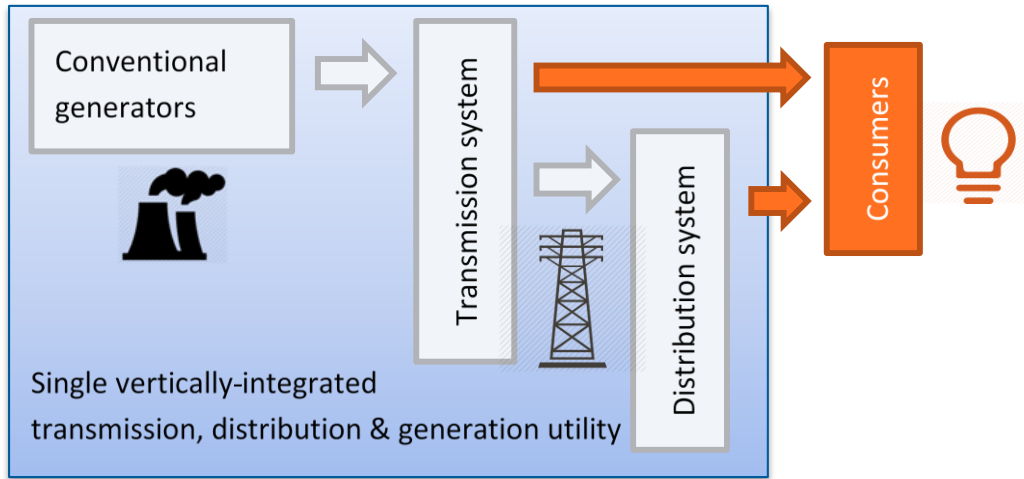
## Germany, 15 May 2016



- Also Denmark, Portugal, California in the USA

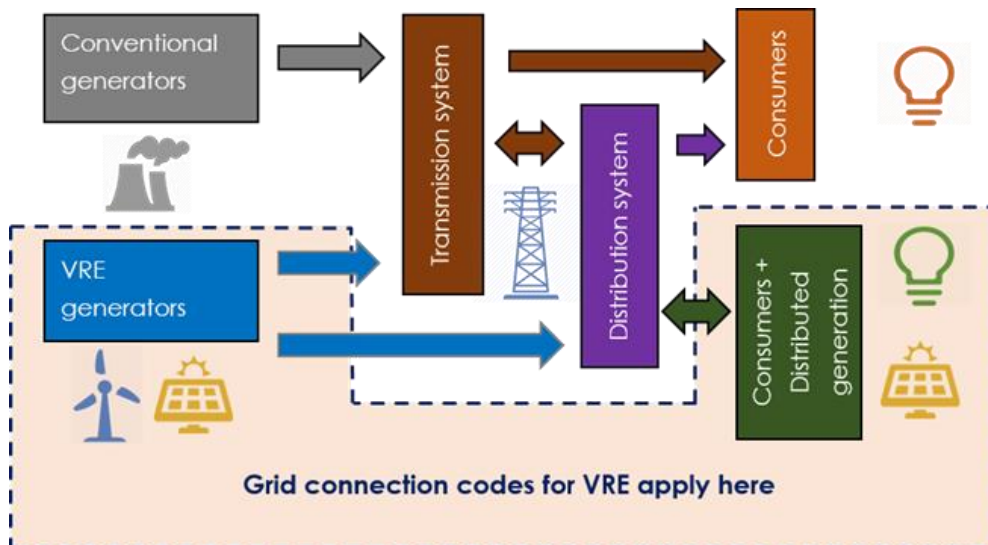


# Power sector – change of paradigm



## Traditional power system

- Centralized generation
- Utility owns grid and generators
- Internal rules and requirements

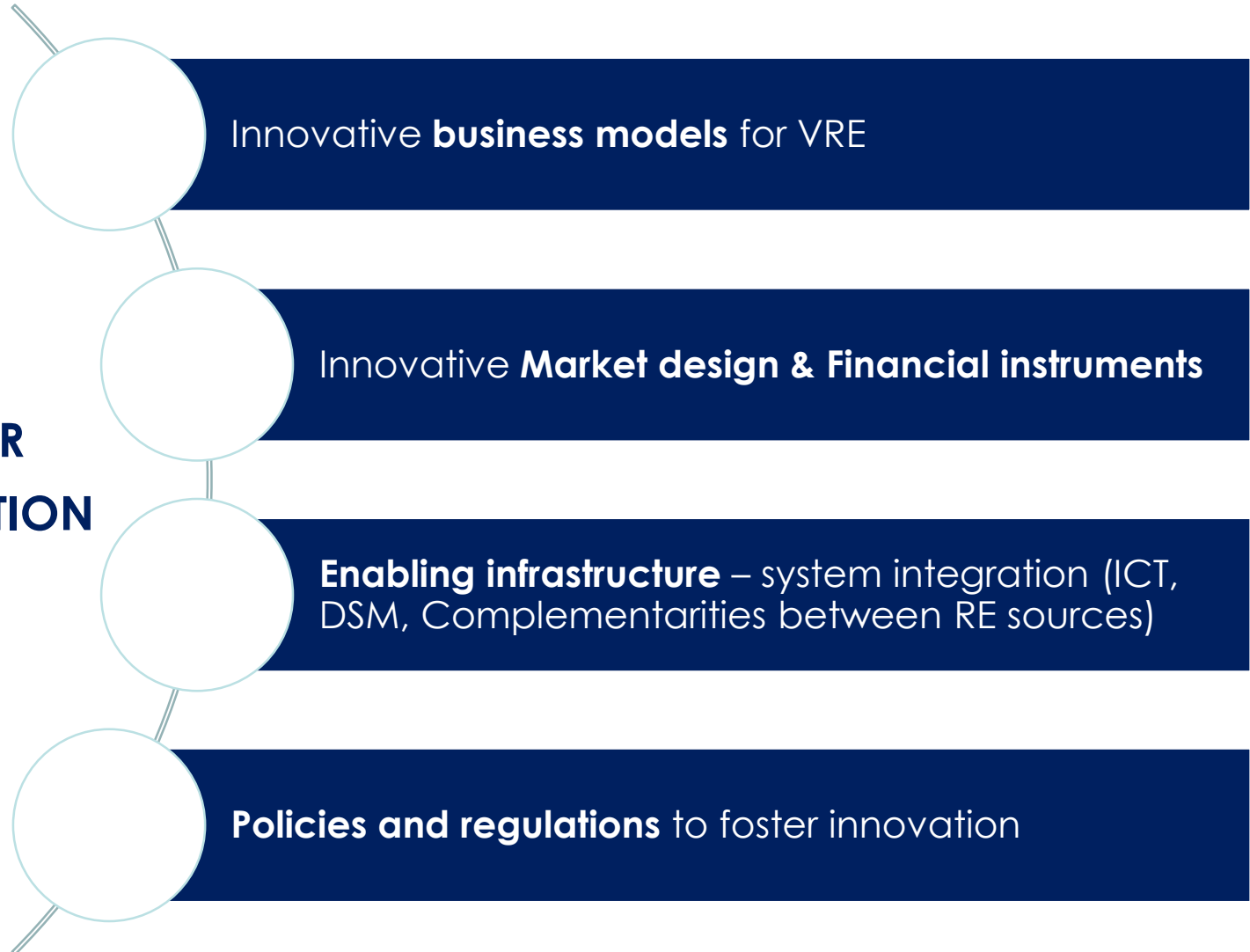


## Unbundled power system

- Decentralized generation
- Separated ownership
- Need for grid code governance
- Digitalisation of the power sector

# New regime calls for a holistic innovation approach

## POWER SECTOR TRANSFORMATION

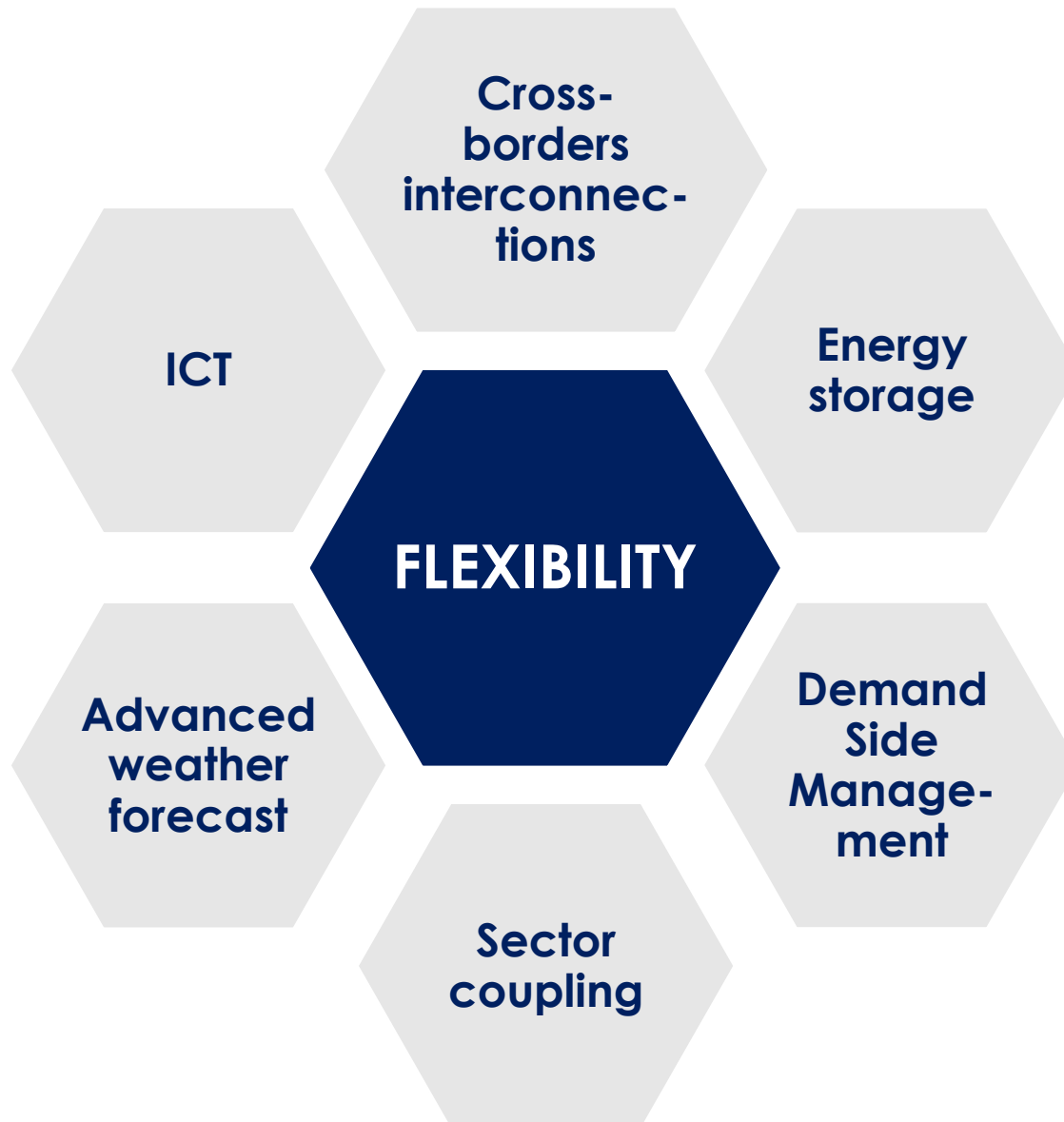


# I. Market evolution

- From feed-in-tariffs to premium prices, CfD and auctions
- Trading from large blocks and long periods of stable prices towards real-time prices.
- New market actors – aggregators, EV charging stations



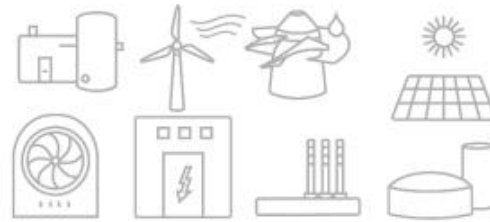
## II. Infrastructure – flexibility options



# III. Digitalisation of the power sector

E.g. Virtual power plants owned by millions

3,000 UNITS IN FIVE COUNTRIES, 2,000 MEGAWATTS



LINKED VIA THE REMOTE CONTROL UNIT NEXT BOX



CONTROLLED BY THE CENTRAL CONTROL SYSTEM



# IV. Developing economies incubating tailored made solutions

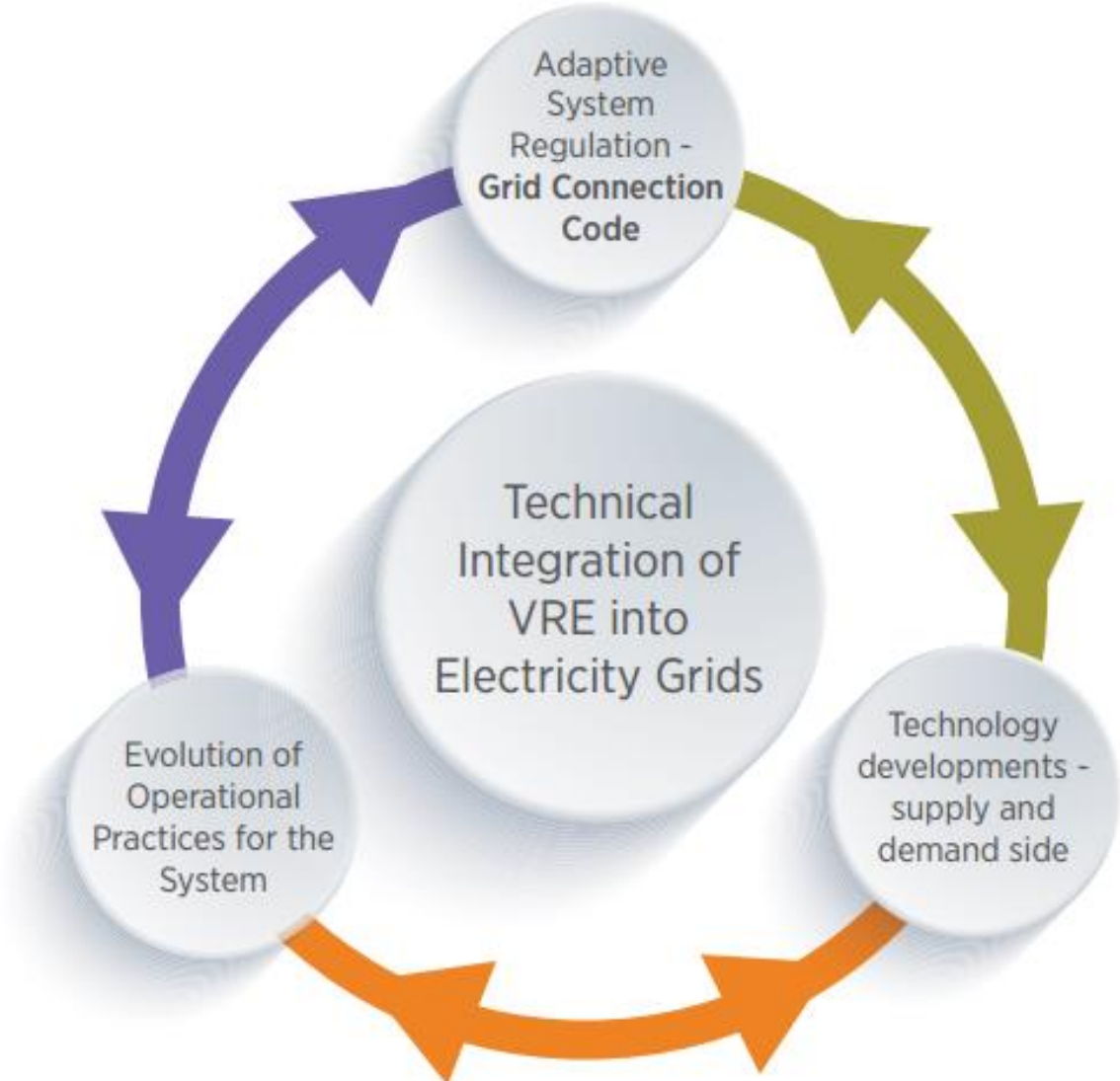
## Artificial intelligence for energy access

E.g. AZURI HomeSmart™: adaptive smart metering. Monitoring climatic conditions and automatically adjusting light brightness to meet the user's expected lighting duration





# V. Regulation stimulates technology innovation





# Renewable power sector is very dynamic and innovative

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Question:

From all these developments, what may work and what may not work in my country?



IRENA Study -  
Innovation Landscape  
for the Power Sector  
Transformation

Innovation gaps and priorities are different in the various energy sub-sectors: power, buildings, industry, transport

Information is scattered: scientific journals, reports, articles, roadmaps, conferences proceedings or just kept confidential

## Some of the challenges

All non-technology aspects need to be considered in-depth

Link technology and non-technology innovation into a coherent innovation strategy



## Concept

- Present coherent and **practical view** on implementable innovation strategies for different sub-sectors
- Report every other year with a focus on a **different sub-sector**
- **Platform for engagement** with member countries to learn from good and innovative approaches



## Objective

- **Provide information** to support countries in:
  - **Innovative approaches** to accelerate the transformation of the power sector, **replicable and implementable** in their country context
  - Implementing strategies that **do not overlook** any aspect for successful innovation
  - **Shift in technology focus**: from generation technologies to enabling technologies/system integration (e.g. storage, ICT)

# Scope of the Report – from Innovation Week and Innovation Day

## Innovation Week

- 200+ experts from public and private sector
- Discussions across the complete innovation life cycle, from R&D to commercialisation

## Innovation Day

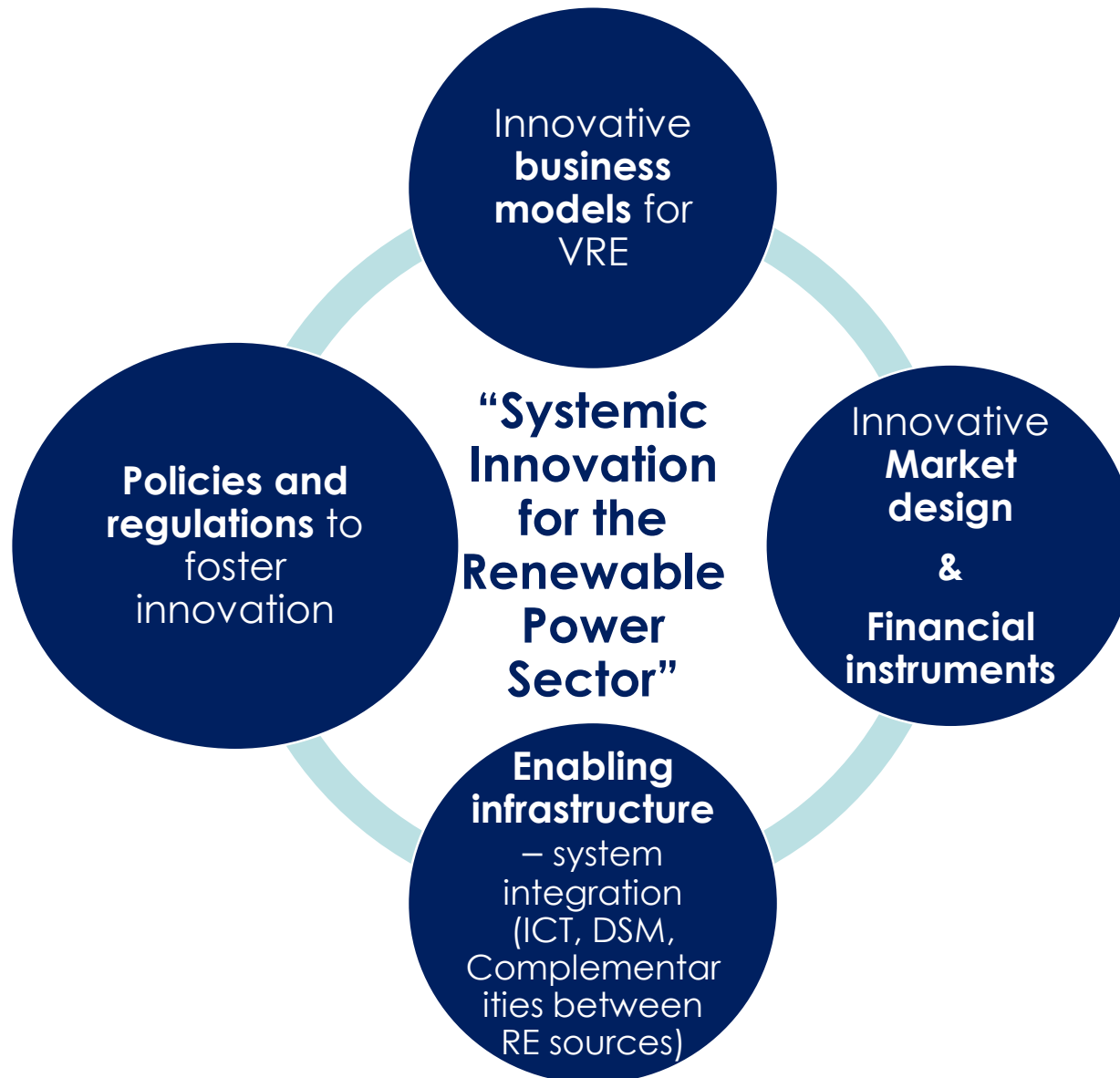
- Interaction with member countries after 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
- Main feedback: Theme PST, look at non-technical aspects, replicable case studies

## 7<sup>th</sup> Assembly

- Ministerial Roundtable and Plenary Discussion on innovation



# Theme for the first Innovation Landscape report



# Process for the development of the report

## Data collection and analysis

- Latest information on promising innovations (*systemic innovation*) and in integration of technologies into energy systems (*system innovation*)
- Identification of potential game changers

## Methodology

- Surveys with governments, private sector and academia
- Expert elicitation
- Literature
- IRENA's and other organisations information

## Synthesis

- What has worked and what has not worked?
- Under which conditions are these replicable and implementable?

## Documenting case studies

- What are the latest innovative developments from industry, academia, governments
- Focus on systemic and system innovation



## Status

- Scoping paper
- Feedback from member countries and other stakeholders
- Collection of case studies started

## Next steps - 2017

- Complete data collection
- Analysis of case studies
- Drafts circulated for discussion
- Final draft in Q4 2017



Engagement with  
countries and  
stakeholders

# 3

Opportunities for  
Engagement with  
member countries

# Opportunities for engagement with member countries

## Actively engage in this work

- Three experts workshops
  - Host expert workshops
- National experts to work with IRENA staff
- In-kind contributions from country expert organisations
- Bridge with country industry



- Are the priority areas defined for the Innovation Landscaper Report towards a zero-carbon power sector covering all the relevant aspects ?
- What are other opportunities for member countries to actively engage in this work?



# Thank you

Contact us with your suggestions

Contact us at [inspire@irena.org](mailto:inspire@irena.org) :

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- Francisco Boshell
- Alessandra Salgado