

## Webinar on Renewable Energy Feed-in Policies

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Date: Wednesday November 1  
Time: 15:00 – 16:30  
Location: IRENA HQ

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### Abstract

Policies and measures that support the participation of private developers have been instrumental in driving the development of the renewable energy sector. Until a decade ago, administratively set feed-in tariffs and premiums were the most widely adopted instruments and they were successful in driving the technological development of renewables, contributing to their cost reduction and wide deployment.

In the last decade, the rate of adoption of competitively set tariffs – or auctions<sup>1</sup> - has increased, in line with developments in the sector such as the falling costs of technology. The number of countries that adopted renewable energy auctions increased from 6 in 2005 to more than 67 by early 2017. The increasing popularity of the auction scheme can be attributed to its potential to achieve deployment in a cost-efficient way and to its ability to bring out the real price of the product being auctioned by means of a structured, transparent and most importantly, competitive process. However, auctions are not always the best solution and they have weaknesses that should be considered for making an informed decision regarding the choice of support policy instrument. Auctions can limit participation to large players that can satisfy strict requirements, they can lead to underbidding in the absence of stringent compliance rules, and they may slow down investments in decentralised solutions.

The choice of adopting one policy instrument over another pertains to its strengths and weaknesses in a given context, taking into account the specific country conditions, the state of the energy market, the technology being deployed, the scale of the project and the specific objectives to achieve<sup>2</sup>.

IRENA's webinar on *Renewable Energy Feed-in Policies* will present the different feed-in policy options that can be considered for the deployment of renewables, namely the administratively set fixed tariff, the premium option, and the competitively set tariff, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of each. Experts in the field will discuss the factors that make one policy choice the most suitable solution for a given context. The discussion will be followed by questions from participants.

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<sup>1</sup> IRENA has extensively studied auctions since 2013, in response to policy makers' increasing interest in the scheme. IRENA has developed the studies [Renewable Energy Auctions in Developing Countries](#), [Renewable Energy Auctions: A Guide to Design](#) and [Renewable Energy Auctions: Analysing 2016](#).

<sup>2</sup> A deeper analysis on the topic features in the joint IRENA/IEA/REN21 forthcoming publication *Innovative Policy Design and Practice*.

## Agenda

<p><b>Welcome</b>  15:00 – 15:10</p>	<p><b>Introductory remarks</b> <i>IRENA's work on renewable energy policies</i> Rabia Ferroukhi, Head of Policy and Deputy Director of KPFC</p>
<p><b>Presentation</b>  15:10 – 15:30</p>	<p><b>Overview of policy instruments to support deployment</b> <i>Strengths and weaknesses of the most widely used feed-in policy instruments</i> Mr. Hans-Josef Fell, Member of German Parliament (1998 - 2013) Diala Hawila, Associate Programme Officer - Policy, IRENA</p>
<p><b>Panel discussion</b>  15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p><b>The choice of the most suitable feed-in policy instrument</b> <i>Moderated by Rabia Ferroukhi, Head of Policy and Deputy Director of KPFC</i> <i>Factors that contribute to the suitability of fixed feed-in tariffs</i> Mr. Hans-Josef Fell, President of the Energy Watch Group and Member of German Parliament (1998 - 2013) <i>Factors that contribute to the suitability of auctions</i> Mr. John Sitler, Manager - Business Development, Masdar</p>
<p><b>Questions</b> 16:00 – 16:30</p>	<p><b>Q&amp;A session with the participants</b></p>

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GST/ GMT/ CET

1. IRENA's webinar on *Renewable Energy Feed-in Policies* will present the different feed-in policy options that can be considered for the deployment of renewables, namely the administratively set fixed tariff, the premium option, and the competitively set tariff, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of each. Experts in the field will discuss the factors that make one policy choice the most suitable solution for a given context. The discussion will be followed by questions from participants.

- Rabia Ferroukhi, Head of Policy and Deputy Director of KPFC, IRENA
- Hans-Josef Fell, Member of German Parliament (1998 - 2013) and President of the Energy Watch Group
- John Sitler, Manager - Business Development, Masdar
- Diala Hawila, Associate Programme Officer - Policy, IRENA



Dr. Rabia Ferroukhi joined IRENA in 2011 where she is currently the Deputy Director of the Knowledge, Policy and Finance division. She also leads IRENA's Policy Unit, which is responsible for the work on a range of renewable energy policy issues including design, socio-economic benefits and integrated resource management. Dr. Ferroukhi brought to this position over 20 years of experience in the fields of energy, development and environment. She worked in both public and private sectors, including with governments in the Middle-East and North Africa, energy companies in the Mediterranean region and the GCC, and international institutions. Dr. Ferroukhi holds a Masters in Applied Economics and a Ph.D. in Economics from the American University in Washington DC.



Hans-Josef Fell, member of the German Parliament from 1998 – 2013 and spokesperson for energy policy of the Alliance 90/The Greens, is an internationally known political advocate for 100% Renewable Energy. He is President of the Energy Watch Group (EWG), Ambassador for 100% Renewable Energy and Senior Advisor at DWR eco GmbH. Hans-Josef Fell is the father of the German Renewable Energy legislation (EEG) which has been a model policy for almost 100 countries worldwide.



John has spent nearly a decade at Masdar, covering the full life cycle of renewable energy, from policy research to venture capital to utility-scale development. He currently manages the development of large-scale wind and solar projects, an area where Masdar has established itself as a leader in the MENA region, having set world-record PV bids in Dubai and Saudi Arabia in 2016 and 2017 respectively. John holds a BA in physics and economics from Cornell University and an MSc in engineering systems and management from Masdar Institute. Additionally, he holds certifications as a LEED Accredited Professional and a Chartered Financial Analyst®.



Diala Hawila has been working in the Policy Unit of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) since 2012, on topics related to policy assessment including the study on *Renewable Energy Auctions: Analysing 2016*, *Renewable Energy Auctions: A Guide to Design*, *Renewable Energy Auctions in Developing Countries*. Diala has obtained her Master's degree in Engineering Systems and Management from the Masdar Institute in Abu Dhabi, focusing on sustainability and renewable energy.