



Republika e Kosovës

Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo

Qeveria-Vlada-Government

Ministria e Ekonomisë/ Ministarstvo Ekonomije/ Ministry of Economy

Kosovo Solar Forum 2021
Pristina, July 1, 2021
Meeting Minutes and Draft Recommendations from Participants

The Ministry of Economy, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), subsequent to working meetings related to the Just Energy Transition in Kosovo, hosted the Kosovo Solar Forum. The Forum was attended by key stakeholders in the field of renewable energy in Kosovo (businesses, NGOs, government, local and international institutions) to better organize and coordinate [the sector]. It aimed to promote the market of prosumers and producers for self-consumption under small-scale solar energy projects in Kosovo.

The Forum featured discussions in three roundtables and a Fair for solar development businesses to pitch their services and products.

Roundtable Discussion #1

The first roundtable discussion focused on the state of play and the potential for solar energy in Kosovo. Mr. **Miftar Nika** from MoE, Mr. **Lorik Haxhiu** from USAID/KESS and Ms. **Arijeta Pajaziti** from AWESK contributed to the discussion. Mr. Miftar Nika on behalf of MoE noted the importance of RES with a focus on solar energy. Mr. Nika shared an overview of the current situation in the energy market, research and legislative initiatives undertaken in the sector in recent years, as well as the capacities licensed by ERO. Additionally, Mr. Haxhiu highlighted the potential for the installation of up to 250 MW total prosumer capacity in Kosovo (8,000 installations in households, 2,000 in public buildings, and 1,000 in businesses) by 2030. The projected value of investments is estimated to be around EUR 300 million. According to the USAID study, Kosovo has the capacity to develop up to 500 MW of installed capacity from solar energy (auctions and prosumers) by 2030, while this produced energy would contribute 11% of final electricity consumption. Ms. Pajaziti presented the achievements of AWESK and its contribution to the empowerment of women in the Energy Sector.

** This session was moderated by Ms. Leonita Shabani Mullarama from MoE*

Questions / Recommendations by Participants in Session #1:

1. The Energy Strategy should be based on two scenarios of economic growth: Scenario #1 with 4% annual economic growth and Scenario #2 with 7-8% annual economic growth.
2. Consider all methods of energy production under the new Energy Strategy.
3. Operationalize the One Stop Shop approach to facilitate application procedures for renewable sources.
4. What is the expansion of generating capacities for RES expected to be? What is the expected target for 2030?
5. What percentage of the target will include capacity for self-consumption and what is the market sale share?
6. How many solar panels will be installed in households?
7. What will be the new competitive / support scheme for RES development?
8. What will be the Strategy for Human Resource Development in the Energy Sector to facilitate the energy transition?
9. Will the new strategy include gender equality policies in the Energy Sector?

Roundtable Discussion #2

The second roundtable discussion focused on the processes and projects for Solar Prosumers. Mr. Faruk Serdarevic and Anand Subbiah from USAID/ KESS, Ms. Besiana Qorraaj Berisha from MoE, and Gent Hajdari from USAID/ESA contributed to the discussion. Mr. Serdarevic presented on the obstacles and opportunities for Prosumers in the Kosovo market and Mr. Subbiah introduced the relevant financing models for such projects. Ms. Berisha presented the Concept Note on RES as an initiative on examining the legal options for Kosovo in advancing its energy market. Mr. Gent Hajdari presented the model developed by USAID/ESA on the comparison of RES projects and the benefits of switching from the FiT scheme to the competitive scheme.

** This session was moderated by Ms. Leonita Shabani Mullarama from MoE*

Questions / Recommendations by Participants in Session #2:

1. When is the Energy Strategy expected to be finalized?
2. When is the Law on Renewable Resources expected?
3. Difference between FiT and Premium?

Roundtable Discussion #3

The third roundtable discussion turned to experiences and opportunities for the development of small-scale solar projects in Kosovo. Participants in this roundtable included Mr. Trim Tërnavë from Jaha Solar, Lulzim Sylë from Elen, Faruk Serdarevic from USAID/ KESS, Fatos Hasani from ProCredit Bank, and Afrim Ajvazi from ERO.

** This session was moderated by Mr. Blin Berdoniqi from MoE*

Questions / Recommendations by Participants in Session #3:

1. Shorten procedures for obtaining Prosumer status in ERO, KEDS, and other institutions involved in the process.
2. Change of status from consumer to prosumer should not be conducted with the approval of the Board of ERO, rather with other simpler procedures.
3. Licensing of prosumers requires 18 documents, of which only 13 are necessary; others should be removed.
4. Remove limit at 0.4 kV voltage level as a requirement for prosumers because it is discriminatory.
5. Remove installation capacity limit of 100 kW as a requirement for prosumers. It is proposed that the installation capacity be allowed depending on applicant consumption rate (70-80%).
6. Establish support fund for Prosumers for direct support of investment costs in the annual value of about EUR 5.0 million for five years (this would bring around 100-200 MW investment in solar capacities).
7. It was noted that Procredit Bank will announce a call for 3 MW of energy from solar energy sourcee in its ongoing bid to support green projects and portfolio diversification.
8. Two main barriers to investors in Kosovo have been identified: technical and financial (according to the Procredit Bank representative).

Finally, Ms. Linda Gjokaj from KEDS presented their Prosumer Information Center web page and the goal of KEDS to accommodate solar generating capacities. Additionally, Ms. Arza Krasniqi presented the USAID/ESA Internship Program aimed to develop human capacities in support of the Just Energy Transition.