

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

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Contribution of Portugal

to the CSTD 2017-18 priority theme on ‘The role of science, technology and innovation to
increase substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030’

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PORTUGAL

What are the policies (renewable energy strategies, regulations, standards, fiscal measures, financial incentives, etc.) in place in your country/region that encourage renewable energy projects or aim at increasing the share of renewable energy in your country's energy mix?

Portugal has a strong national policy in favour of replacing fossil fuels by renewable energy sources in all sectors. After an initial policy, a decade ago, of offering specific incentives and favourable feed-in electricity tariffs for various renewable energy sources, the current policy aims at introducing renewables without any incentives because they can already produce electricity at prices that are competitive. The relevant authorities open competitive bidding every year for suppliers of renewable energy sources to enter the grid, and demand is always larger than the available capacity.

Renewables, mostly hydro and wind, already represent more than 60% of the electricity mix in Portugal in an average year. Notably, as a clear demonstration of the success of these policies, there was a period of 6 consecutive full days in the first semester of 2017 when renewables supplied 100% of all the national electricity needs.

On the other hand, Portugal has set up demanding energy efficiency regulations that strongly favour renewable energy penetration in all sectors, namely in buildings and in industry, in line with the relevant EU Directives (Energy Efficiency Directive, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and Renewable Energy Directive).

The transport sector remains the largest problem in terms of use of fossil fuels. There are incentives for buyers of electrical and low-emissions hybrid vehicles, but the number of such vehicles in circulation is still quite negligible. Most such vehicles in operation belong to corporate fleets rather than to private citizens. Significant progress must still be made in this sector.

In terms of research, the Strategic Agenda for Energy Research for 2030, which is under preparation (a first summary was published in July 2017) is entitled "Sustainable Energy Systems – Towards a carbon-free energy system". It is focussed on 4 main vectors:

- 1) Reduction of Energy needs through energy efficiency;
- 2) Towards a 100% renewable electricity supply;
- 3) Reduction of 25% of CO₂ emissions in the transport sector;
- 4) Full elimination of fossil fuels for the production of heating and cooling needs.

This research agenda is fully aligned with official policies towards sustainability and replacement of fossil fuels by renewable energy sources. Development of smart grid technologies and storage solutions for the electricity grid, with connected electric vehicles, are high in the priorities of the research agenda.

Who are the main actors in the renewable energy sector and what are the linkages between them?

The energy sector is driven by Government policy. There are two large utilities (EDP – mostly electricity – and GALP – mostly fuels) and a large number of other smaller actors. The whole sector is supervised by independent regulators for the electricity/gas sector and for the fuel market.

Do you have any documentation, references, web addresses or reports on the cited policy measures? If yes, please share it with us.