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

Statement submitted by

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Request for inputs for CSTD 2017-18 Priority Theme The role of science, technology and innovation to increase substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030

The CSTD 20th annual session selected "The role of science, technology and innovation to increase substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030" as one of the priority themes for the 2017-18 period.

The CSTD secretariat is in the process of drafting an issues paper on the theme to be presented at the CSTD inter-sessional panel meeting. In this regard, the secretariat would like to hereby solicit inputs from the CSTD members on this theme. We would be grateful if you could kindly answer one or both of the following question(s) based on your experience from your country or region.

1. 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? Who are the main actors in the renewable energy sector and what are the linkages between them? Do you have any documentation, references, web addresses or reports on the cited policy measures? If yes, please share it with us.

Iran has the fourth-largest oil reserves and the second-largest natural gas reserves in the world. But apart from its rich hydrocarbon resources, Iran has a unique position for renewables. Its unique geographical position means 90% of the country has enough sun to generate solar power 300 days a year. It has the potential to generate half of the total energy consumption of the country through of wind energy. Also has the potential to become the 9th largest geothermal energy producer in the world. This huge potentials on renewable energy and its commitment to the 2015 Paris climate deal, **Convince** the country to pursuing projects to increase its reliance on renewable energy sources and diversifying its energy mix.

The sixth development plan of Iran requires the government to focus on clean energy to protect the environment. According to official figures, Iran's existing power generation capacity stands at 74,000 MW, of which nearly 200 MW is currently produced via renewable sources, mainly solar and wind. However, the renewable energy production capacity is predicted to reach 5,000 MW in the next five years, under Iran's sixth Five-Year Development Plan.

To help speed up renewable energy production and fulfill the set targets, the Iranian government has offered incentives to encourage both local and foreign investors to cooperate on the renewables sector.

Iran's Ministry of Energy typically signs deals guaranteeing to purchase the output of renewable energy plants for 20 years, via the Renewable Energy Organization of Iran (SATBA). The plants are also tax exempt for between five and 13 years.

As a result Iran's significant resources of renewable energy along with Government measures has appear to have been successful enough to attract foreign investors especially after Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) came into force . So far 48 projects for electricity generation through renewable energies approved which cause billions of dollars inflow to Iran economy and Iran become a regional electric hub that will significantly export electricity in the years to come.

However, development of the green industry involves various challenges, including aged or underdeveloped infrastructure and a lack of expertise in certain specialized renewable energy technologies. Besides the country wants to develop green energy but not just the importer of foreign technology so localization of the green technologies and increase the quality and quantity of the employment is another objective.

So Iran guaranteed purchase price will be raised by 30% for companies that use local technology and equipment. So the industrial and local content policy in renewable energy sector, is based on incentive system which target to improve local technological capabilities. This policy is more about **market shaping and market creating through direct and pervasive public** financing. the direct creation of markets through procurement policy and bold demand policies have allowed new localize technologies to diffuse.

The Iranian government also tries to Invest along the entire innovation chain, because technological advancement have always required publicly funded science, from basic research as well as for applied research, and for providing early-stage high-risk finance to innovative companies willing to invest.

Also I want to mention about some of the key public agencies in the Iran for development of green technology energy research center, council of energy in vice presidency for science and technology, innovation and prosperity fund and SATBA, these institutions along with knowledge based companies and universities try to create a mission-oriented framework that target the development of green technologies in line with state-defined goals

At the end one of success stories of renewable energy projects in Iran related to biofuel, In 2016, the Iranian Biofuel Society (IBS) in collaboration with the Vice Presidency for Science of Technology and Tehran and the Suburbs Bus Company executed the first urban pilot project for the consumption of waste cooking oil biodiesel The program was also supported by Grant Programm, Global Environmental Facility, United Nation Development Program (SGP/GEF/UNDP) Office in Iran.

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