

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

**Geneva, Switzerland
6-8 November 2017**

**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

United Kingdom

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

UK's intervention at CSTD: The role of science, technology and innovation to increase substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030

Thank chair and the panellists for a very insightful discussion and sharing their expertise on this subject.

In the UK there are several schemes that provide support for renewable energy. These schemes encourage technological development and wider adoption of renewables, which in turn lead to economies of scale and lower costs:

- The Renewable Obligation (RO) is intended to encourage renewable electricity generation for large scale installations. It requires suppliers to source an ever increasing amount of the electricity from renewable sources. The RO rewards renewable output over the lifetime of a project.
- The Feed-in Tariff (FiT) is designed to support small scale renewable installations up to 5MW. Through FiTs, generators are paid a tariff for every unit of electricity they produce. Any electricity not used on site can also be sold back into the Grid, and generators are paid extra to do this.

We are making progress. In the UK nearly a third of all UK electricity came from renewable sources in the second three months of this year, setting a new record for clean energy generation. But there is more to do.

The UK Government has committed to reducing UK greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050. Wind, marine, wave and hydroelectricity, solar and bioenergy all have important roles to play to achieve this commitment. We are also investing in smart meters and a more efficient and flexible energy system.

The UK continues to play an active role in international research efforts to reduce the costs of low carbon energy, working with other countries to strengthen collaboration and transparency in clean energy research, development, and demonstration.

At the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, the UK joined Mission Innovation, an international initiative, which aims to accelerate clean energy investment and innovation in order to provide reliable and affordable energy for all.

International cooperation and collaboration are very important and can make a real difference around the world. There are two UK programmes I would like to highlight:

- **Energy Catalyst** has awarded £93m to 250 projects involving 700 organisations, aimed to address the three main energy challenges of security of supply, affordability and emissions. It is jointly funded by the UK Department for Business and the Department for International Development. Projects include renewable energy, demand side technology, energy networks and enabling technologies.
- Secondly, I'd like to mention the **Newton Fund**, which helps UK researchers and businesses to work with their counterparts in 18 countries, including China, India, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia and Mexico.

The Newton Fund has a particularly interesting partnership model. There is partnership between governments, research institutions and businesses. And there is international partnership. The UK Government has provided £700m funding and this is matched by partner governments, usually at purchase parity. We have worked, for example:

- with India on moving away from high polluting energy sources
- with Malaysia on a project on energy consumption in data centres and
- with Brazil to develop innovative technology for a clean drying process for mate tea leaves using sustainable biofuels.

And there are many other projects bringing together international delivery partners to address energy challenges, each stakeholder bringing their own particular experience and expertise.

This kind of international collaboration is very important and will become even more so in the coming years. That's why we are so pleased that CSTD is addressing this important issue.

So we'd like to thank the panellists again and we look forward to further discussions this week and at CSTD next year.