

CONNECTING LOCAL ENERGIES OPTIMIZE THE SYNERGIES

18 October 2015, 9:00-17:30h
EU Thon Hotel, Brussels



High-level opening session:

Connecting local resources with ambitious EU climate targets

This session will gather high-level speakers from the European Parliament, the European Commission, along with representatives of cities and local energy companies. The EU will cut its CO² emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and the targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency are under revision in order to reach ambitious climate scenarios for our future. As a crucial companion of the binding targets, the trend towards decentralization will accompany the energy transition, in which many local and regional authorities and actors in Europe are engaged. The session will illustrate the key role of local players, strongly aware of the local circumstances and bearer of profitable synergies across sectors.

The missing link of Flexibility (demand response & energy storage) :

silver bullets or gilded promises ?

The needs for flexibility instruments embracing the rising share of renewable energy and accommodating the active consumers is evident and demanding. Specific rules are still missing for market players and network operators to extend their involvement in flexibility, with storage facilities and demand response engagement from end customers. Will the new regulatory framework on market design clarify those topics and form the last piece of this complex puzzle enabling the energy transition? Or will we rather face “lighter” solutions that will address just partially the flexibility issues?

The session will bring together the European Commission, the International Energy Agency, the consumers at EU level and involved industry stakeholders. They will discuss how demand response and energy storage can bring flexibility into the energy system, allowing at the same time the faster deployment of renewable energy.



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BREAK – OUT SESSION

Efficiently linking local energy resources

Different resources are available and ready to contribute to the EU's energy and climate agenda. A real interconnection of existing local energy resources is key for an energy-efficient and profitable development of a sustainable energy market. Exploiting technology variety is a must and the infrastructure should be used as economically and efficiently as possible.

In this workshop, experts will discuss the best ways to create integrated systems and synergies across various sectors, and how to provide the most efficient use of existing infrastructures like for electricity, district heating, gas and local transport.

BREAK – OUT SESSION

Creating added value for the customer

The citizens are at the core of the European Energy Union and the debates about how to engage them with the energy market have intensively started. The "New Deal" for energy consumers has to be delivered: citizens empowerment in the energy field is the goal.

In this workshop, experts will discuss about the concrete measures that will create additional value for the customers, and make them benefitting of their core position: more information, a market-facilitating framework, smart appliances and innovative services. Which are the real advantages for the costumers?

No time to waste (BIG) data

The European Commission has recently published its reform of EU data protection rules, which will have a major impact in different sectors.

Sure enough, in the last years we have assisted to an explosive growth in the large amount of data flowing into any kind of enterprises, and to the emergence of new data technologies that allow data to be exploitable. The energy sector has not been excluded from this trend, and is now facing the issue and opportunity of managing a big amount of data, especially those created by smart technologies. Sufficient data protection and privacy for consumers also must be ensured.

The session will bring together the EU and national key players involved in data regulation and data management, and will outline how to make an optimal use of this paramount resource, at the same time respecting the will and the privacy of the data subjects.

