

INFORSE - HELIO Side Event, COP18

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***Climate-proofing Affordable Energy Services: Local experiences
that support Sustainable Development***

***NGO Perspective on How the UNFCCC Mechanisms
and Process can better Support Local Successes
with Increased Energy Access***

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Proceedings at:

http://www.inforse.org/europe/conf12_COP18-side_event_INFORSE-HELIO.htm

More: http://www.inforse.org/europe/conf12_COP18.htm



Context

- *Renewable energies can or even must play a key role in UNFCCC process*
- *Why? Because renewable energies are fully or almost fully carbon-free*
- *Increasing energy demand as global driver for RE*
- *To limit global warming to 2 degrees, \$430 billion additional investment is needed in low-carbon tech and EE*
- *UNFCCC estimates that \$148 billion will need to be shifted into low-carbon tech*



KEY QUESTIONS

- *How UNFCCC mechanisms can better support the shift and successes on the ground?*
- *How to strengthen stakeholders and practitioners on the ground to continue their successful work?*
- *How to influence policy using evidence from the ground / proven approaches?*



Challenges and Barriers

- **Main Challenges/constraints and barriers:**
 - *High costs;*
 - *Risk aversion of financial institutions;*
 - *Trade barriers, such as tariffs;*
 - *Insufficient human and institutional capabilities;*
 - *Poor understanding of local needs;*
 - *Lack of adequate codes and standards for RETs;*
 - *Low conventional energy prices;*
 - *Absence of full costs pricing*
 - *Fossil fuel subsidies*
 - *Poor access to financing, specially for small firms/practitioners/stakeholders: **Poverty***



Opportunities for Mitigation in DCs

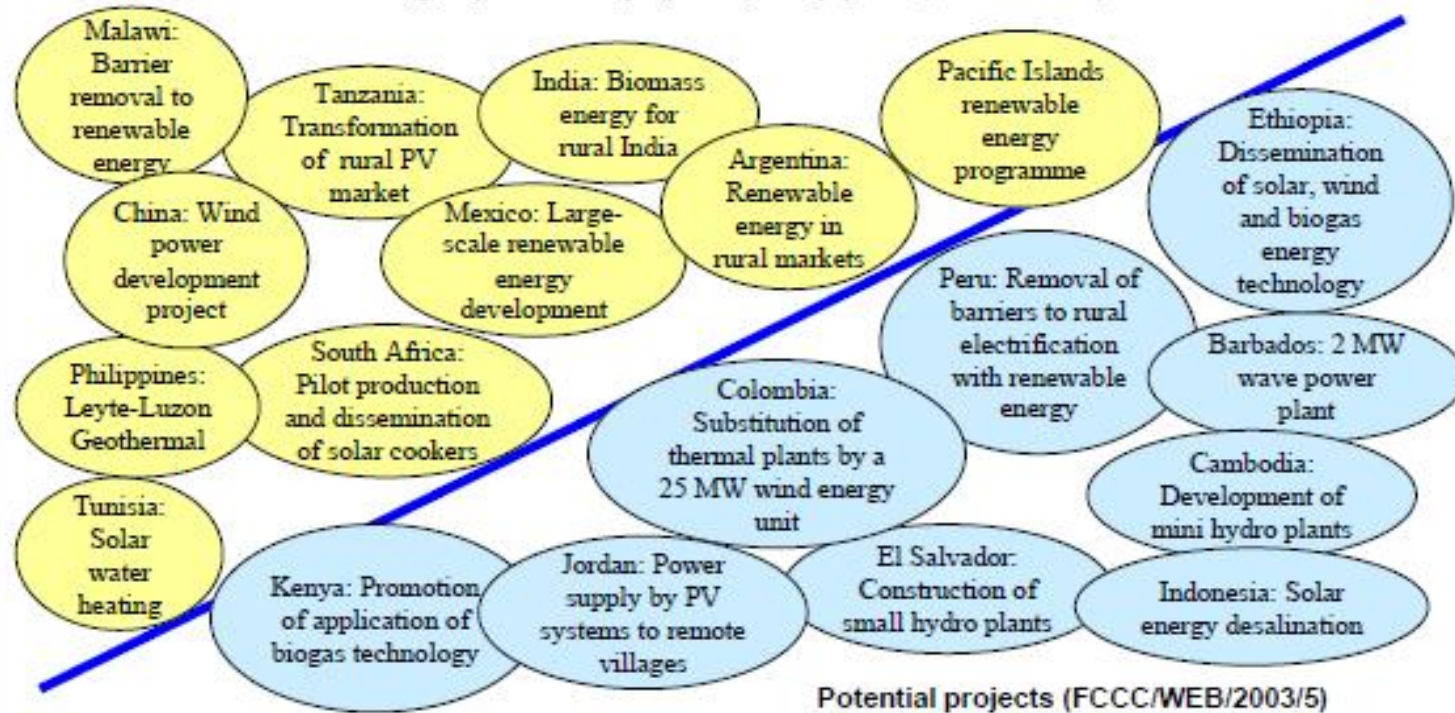
- *Price rationalization*
- *Increased access to data and information,*
- *Availability of advanced technologies*
- *Training and capacity building*



Renewable Energy Projects

Some renewable energy projects under the UNFCCC

Existing/implemented projects (GEF pipeline, 1991 – 2004)



Potential Areas of Action in context of current negotiations

- *NAMAs can be central in the deployment of RE Policies in DCs: Showcase successes and attract investment: Financing Mechanism*
- *GCF:*
 - *Facilitate access to DCs who did not benefit from CDM*
 - *Support RET programmes*
 - *Establish financial support mechanisms such as loss reserve funds*
 - *A global feed-in tariff fund/programme*
- *CDM: investment support programmes; support to regional institutions*



Concluding remarks

- *Need to create an enabling environment conducive to RE take-up and investments: tackle current energy policies*
- *Need to accelerate the necessary transition to sustainable energy and energy security*
- *Stop subsidizing fossil fuels*
- *Focus on local governments/municipalities*
- *Invest in RD&D on sustainable energy*
- *Learn experience from failures also*
- *Focus both on supply and demand: set up a technology value chain*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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