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PROCUREMENT MECHANISM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES IN NAMIBIA

By

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

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6. SCENARIOS OF FUTURE RE EXPANSION IN
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1. BACKGROUND

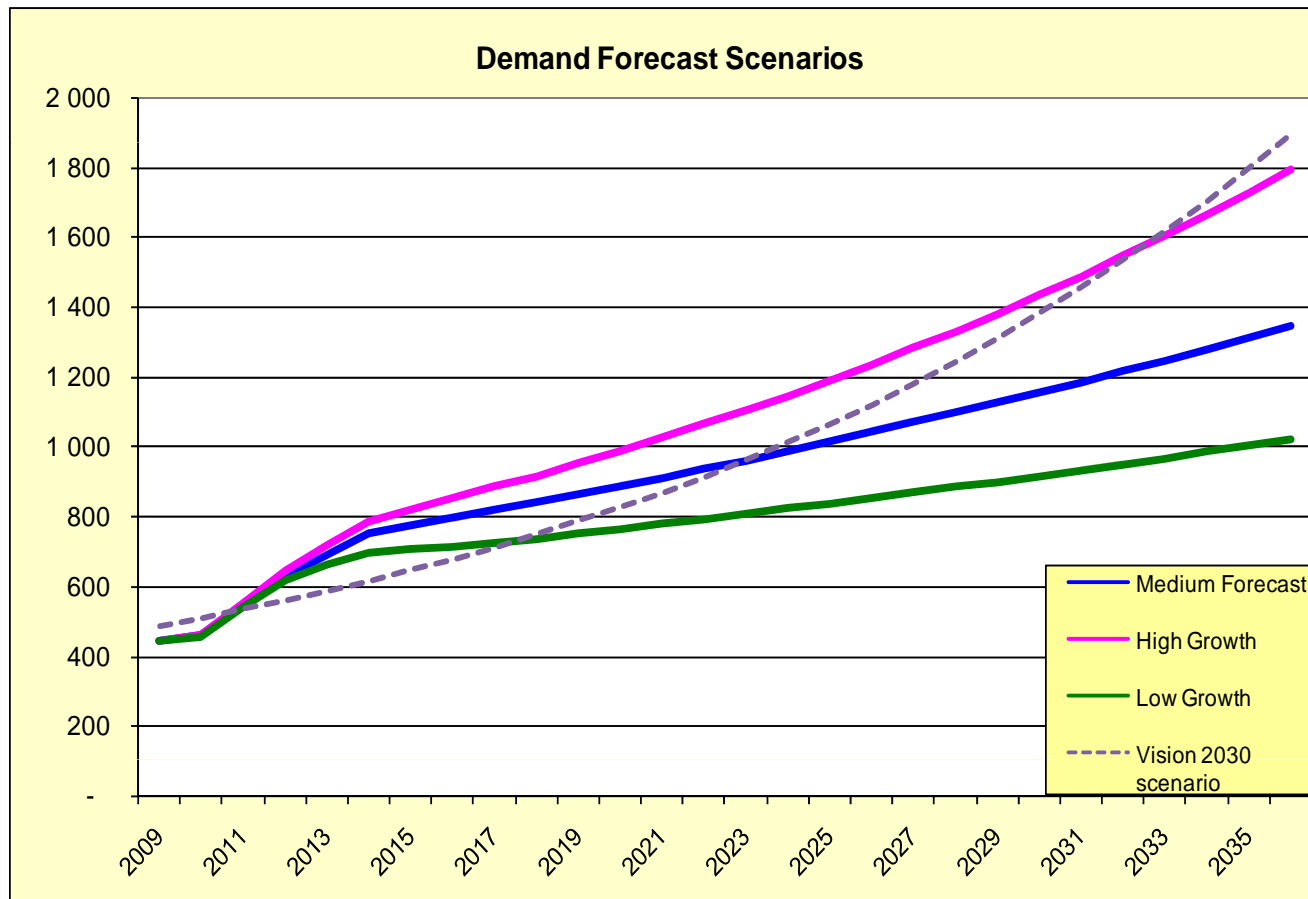
Objective: To develop a framework & procurement mechanism for renewable energy resources to ensure sustainable, transparent & fair compensation

- Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs) considered are; Solar (CSP & PV); Wind; Biomass including land fill gas & Small Hydro
- Methodology adopted:
 - Comparative analysis of different RET procurement instruments, REFIT calculator developed
 - Study tours
 - Interviews
 - Stakeholder workshops
 - Document being finalised- Study completion: April 2011.

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2. INTRODUCTION

Electricity demand is increasing with projections from various studies at 3-6% pa



2. INTRO- REA CHALLENGES

- Abundant RE resources in Namibia; wind, solar , biomass
- Only solar has gained some market access; limited to off-grid applications, domestic & institutional water heating.
- 3 license applications approved by ECB for wind & 1 for biomass (proof of concept)
- Pricing mechanism for RE resources is a major bottleneck to large-scale development of RE projects
- Generally, the optimum utilisation of RETs requires a combination of ***appropriate (deliberate) policies*** & a favourable ***investment framework***

5. PROGRAM COST CALCULATOR

To calculate the program cost, the following information is required:

1. the specific cost of the relevant RETs
2. the amount of electricity produced by each RET
(product of capacity, CF and the hours of full load)

NB: In a case like in Namibia where government has not defined a quantitative target for the expansion of RE in the power sector, assumptions have to be made.

7. TARIFF CALCULATOR

- REFIT = Cost covering tariff (tariff calculator is cost calculator)
- Designed in different ways
- 1. Constant tariff (constant over all years, e.g. Germany)
- 2. Variable tariff (considering price changes of variable cost, e.g. Spain, Italy)
- Variable Tariff has **3 advantages**:
 - initial tariff is lower
 - Better adaption to real cost dynamic (annual cost increases)
 - Risk level is reduced (positive impacts on project finance)
- The following calculator is designed to calculate a variable tariff (yellow boxes = assumptions, red boxes = outcomes)
- 2 parts: tariff calculator, program cost calculator

8. CONCLUSION

Considering the 3 scenarios :

- The absolute program cost depends on the size of the program (additional capacity); the same holds for the increase of the final consumer price
- The RET-mix matters. CSP & PV are high cost RETs. RETs with high hours of full load have significant impact on the program cost.
- The running cost play an important role for the future dynamic features of the specific cost & for the FIT development; they must be considered critically
- Even though the FIT is increasing, the price gap decreases with the conventional power price increase.
- A REFIT program should start with generous tariffs (that are adapted after a successful start); and **must be revised after some time** .
- Additional instruments like stand-by-guarantees can help to reduce financing cost and thus help to limit the program cost.

8. CONCLUSION

- The Total Program Cost affordability is dependent on several factors, including POLITICAL WILL
- RE projects depend on proper planning, e.g. Integrated Resource Plan
- The RE Procurement Study is;
 - a supportive function (to estimate the impacts of policy decisions)
 - no substitute for bold political decisions, e.g. grid rural electrification master plan
 - a learning procedure (the specific cost figures will

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9. RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROCUREMENT MECHANISM

The recommended 4 mechanisms & the applicable technologies are:

- Tendering for solar (CSP) & large wind based generation systems, i.e. for CSP & wind > 500kW in installed capacity;
- REFIT for small wind, small hydro & biomass including landfill gas, i.e. <500kW;
- Net-metering for photovoltaics; &
- Other support measures like soft loans, grants, tax breaks, etc to support all the above instruments & continue promoting rural and off-grid electrification.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROCUREMENT MECHANISM

- MME Minister advised to proclaim regulations to govern the RET procurement (as empowered by Section 43 of the Electricity Act of 2007)
- ECB to administer the regulations which must be simple, comprehensible & transparent.
- National Energy Fund be transformed through regulations to cover RETs as well.

THE END- THANK YOU