

# The Gambia National Forum on Renewable Energy Regulation

## Panel Discussion



# Common Themes - Creating Policy

- Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement
  - While establishing program
  - Periodic review
- Program Tracking & Transparency
  - Informing market participants (RE developers)
  - Informing customers - consumer protection
- Program Modification
  - Build in ability & authority to modify the policy
  - Establish opportunity for future review
  - Address unintended consequences



# Common Themes - RE

- Investment Risk Management
  - Timelines for Government approvals
  - Coordination between Government agencies
  - Negotiations with Utility
    - Standard contracts, at least for small generators
  - Financing & other Government incentives
    - Doesn't matter without procedural frameworks to interconnect and sell power



# Common Themes - RE

- Designating areas for RE development
  - Preferred areas
  - Easier, faster approval process
  - Programmatic environmental assessment for an area, rather than assessments for individual projects
  - Make approval good for some reasonable period of time – if project doesn't go ahead, approval can be revoked or lapse (can extend if needed)



# Common Themes - RE

- Licensing process
  - Separate framework for distributing electricity to the public v. selling to the utility/grid
  - Selling to utility can be standardized
    - Uniform interconnection requirements to protect grid integrity
    - If requirements are met based on review by utility, utility must interconnect the project
      - PURA can handle disputes
    - Need timelines for utility review and approval process too



## Common Themes - RE

- RE purchases by the utility - how to set the price?
  - Auctions?
  - Other - market research?
- Can break up and tackle piece by piece
  - Different prices for small v. large generators
  - Different technologies need different prices



# Common Themes - EE

- Energy Efficiency - what do you want to do?
- Labeling standards
- Banning inefficient appliances
  - Incandescent lighting
  - Refrigerators
  - AC
- Future - demand-side management
  - Cycling AC units/large loads - compensate electric customers that are willing to participate?



# Policy Process

1. Set RE and EE goals
2. Establish standards, technical requirements
3. Facilitate open access to grid, reduce barriers to private investment
4. Auction solicitation?
5. Require the utility to conduct RE/EE measures?