



Get Involved with NARUC's International Programs

April 30, 2024



About NARUC's International Programs

NARUC works around the world to help improve the quality and effectiveness of energy regulation and build sustainable environments for investment and growth. In collaboration with U.S. and foreign partners, our work spans five continents and dozens of countries.

Our Vision

A world where effective regulation enriches livelihoods, grows economies, ensures sustainable and secure energy and provides universal access to high quality public services.

Our Mission

Empower the global community of regulatory decision makers to drive meaningful change through dialogue, collaboration and engagement with U.S. and international partners.





Our Donors



Our Partners

NARUC engages internationally primarily through the generous support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (1999-present), the United States Department of State (2013-present), and other federal government and international donors such as the Asian Development Bank (2020-2023), the World Bank Group (2021), and the Millennium Development Authority (MiDA) of Ghana (2019-2021).

While NARUC closely partners with the federal government and international regulators on these programs, the countries we work in and the issues in focus are driven by our federal partners and are not in the sole control of NARUC. The majority of USG funding is under energy and infrastructure bureaus, so programming is oriented primarily around electricity regulation with some natural gas regulation.



Where We Work



Africa/Middle East

- Angola
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- DRC
- Guinea
- Kenya
- Morocco
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- South Africa Regional
- Southern Africa Regional
- Support for Power Africa
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- West Africa Regional
- Zambia

Asia & the Pacific

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Central Asia
 - Kazakhstan
 - Kyrgyz Republic
 - Tajikistan
 - Uzbekistan
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Mekong Regional
- Mongolia
- Papua New Guinea
- Pacific Islands Regional
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Vietnam

Europe and Eurasia

- Armenia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Kosovo
- Moldova
- North Macedonia
- Ukraine
- Cybersecurity
- Market Performance

The Americas

- Andean Region
- Argentina
- Barbados
- Caribbean Regional
- Central America Regional
- Dominica

Global Initiatives

- Cost-Reflective Tariff Toolkit
- Gender
- Mini-Grids



Our Panelists



Hon. Jennifer Nicholson



Chair Dan Scripps



Jennifer Nicholson

Jennifer Nicholson was appointed as a Member (Commissioner) of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board in April 2018. The Board is an independent body with legal or court-like powers assigned to it by various statutes in Canada.

Jennifer is a graduate of Saint Mary's University and in 1997 qualified with EY as a Chartered Accountant. Following that she has held many positions including leading Investor Relations and Strategy for large and small public companies in energy and gold mining, working as Chief Financial Officer for a container shipping company and prior to being appointed to the Board was a partner in Executive Finance Partners which provided executive education on many topics including Ethical Intelligence, Board Governance and Executive Presence.

Jennifer is passionate about teaching and has taught various accounting and leadership topics for almost 30 years, most recently at the CAMPUT Energy Regulation Course and in NARUC International/USAID programs in Rwanda and Morocco.

Jennifer is the current Chair of CAMPUT (Canada's Energy Regulator), past Board Chair of the Blue Nose International Marathon Society, past member of the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors, and past Council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. She is also the mother of four daughters aged 18-24.





Dan Scripps

Dan Scripps was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Public Service Commission in February 2019 and named Chair in July 2020. His term expires July 2, 2029. As a Commissioner, Mr. Scripps has been an active participant in multiple state energy advisory groups, including the Michigan Council on Climate Solutions, the Upper Peninsula Energy Task Force, the Michigan Dam Safety Task Force, and an Interdepartmental Workgroup on Propane Security.

Chair Scripps is the immediate past president of the Organization of MISO States and the Mid-America Regulatory Conference. He previously chaired the Regional Expansion Criteria and Benefits Working Group for the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), helping to develop consensus around cost allocation for the largest-ever portfolio of electric transmission projects in U.S. history.

Mr. Scripps is a member of the Board of Directors of NARUC and serves on the Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission; the Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency; and the Gas-Electric Alignment for Reliability. He is a member of NARUC's Committees on Critical Infrastructure, Gas, and International Relations, and the Washington Action Program. He's also been an active participant with NARUC's international programs, participating in regulatory engagements on four continents.





USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ENERGY BRIDGE



Examples of our Work Around the World: North Macedonia

With support from the USAID Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, NARUC has worked with the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission (ERC) of North Macedonia since 2018 to strengthen and improve its cyber preparedness capabilities. Following participation in USAID and NARUC activities, the ERC developed a regulator-level cybersecurity strategy and associated action plan, for which NARUC volunteer experts reviewed and provided comments.

In 2022, NARUC also provided support to develop the ERC's Cybersecurity Rules.



Regulatory impacts

- In June 2023, the ERC adopted the Cybersecurity Rules, which will aid it in:
 - Implementing cybersecurity standards in the energy sector of North Macedonia
 - Setting reporting requirements agreed upon with energy sector stakeholders to ensure cyber preparedness
 - Strengthening energy sector resiliency



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ENERGY BRIDGE



Examples of our Work Around the World: Reducing Energy Sector Gender Gaps in Europe and Eurasia



The USAID and NARUC Advancing Women Leaders in Energy (AWLE) initiative takes many different avenues to increase gender equality in the energy sector, including supporting internships for young women in the energy sector, holding Human Resources Working Group meetings, and providing leadership training for mid-career women. In September 2023, NARUC held a mid-career leadership training in Podgorica, Montenegro for 14 women from eight regulators. The women built a comprehensive skillset consisting of public speaking, career planning, negotiation, leadership, developing professional networks, and financial management strategies. These will contribute to their overall leadership capability and strengthen their ability to advocate for their own career advancement.

In the past three years, the AWLE initiative has achieved the following across its programming:

89



81

People trained to empower women and advance gender equality and social inclusion

8

14



Interns supported, with 6 interns having already participated and 8 slotted to start their internships in 2024

11



Commissions committed to improving their Human Resources policies and procedures to become more equitable and inclusive



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Examples of our Work Around the World: Bangladesh

While there are initiatives and action plans that implement certain aspects of energy efficiency, Bangladesh has been looking to better integrate it into policy. To assist the Bangladesh regulator (BERC) with this goal, in December 2020, NARUC experts peer reviewed BERC's Draft Regulation on Energy Audit of Generation Facilities. As of June 2023, BERC finalized and submitted the Power Plant Energy Audit Regulations 2023 to the Ministry of Law, which is conducting a final review. As of October 2023, NARUC is waiting for BERC to confirm the status of the Regulations. Additionally, to fulfill BERC's mandate to perform the energy audit of generation facilities, in 2022 NARUC developed an *Energy Audit Manual for Thermal Power Plants*, which will aid BERC with conducting an energy audit of types of generation facilities under its purview.

Resulting reference documents:

- *Energy Audit Manual for Thermal Power Plants*

Regulatory impacts

- Increasing efficiency and transparent audit processes for increased power generation
- Identifying inefficiencies, promoting cost savings, mitigating environmental impacts, and ensuring compliance with regulations and standards
- Furthering BERC's goals of ensuring reliability, promoting competition and fairness, addressing environmental concerns, and maintaining energy security





USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Examples of our Work Around the World: Central Asia

With support from USAID under the Central Asia Energy Regulatory Partnership, in 2022-2023 NARUC staff and volunteer experts trained energy sector stakeholders from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic on how to ensure greater cost recovery for their countries' power sectors through reviewing and approving tariffs based on cost of service principles. The training sessions also covered how to allocate costs among customer classes, determine rates, and protect vulnerable customers.

Resulting reference documents:

- *Report on Customer Classes and the Protection of Vulnerable Customers in Kazakhstan*
- *Customer Classes and the Protection of Vulnerable Customers in Uzbekistan*
- *Analysis of International Experience with Electricity Tariff Design; Designing Social Tariffs for Low-Income Consumers in the Kyrgyz Republic*
- *Guidelines on Regulatory Accounting for the Central Asian Context*

Regulatory impacts

- Advancing efforts to transition to a new tariff policy in Kazakhstan
- Progressing toward developing regulations for the establishment of an independent regulator in the electric power industry in Uzbekistan
- Identifying action items and forming strategies on how to implement regulatory recommendations in the Kyrgyz Republic





USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Examples of our Work Around the World: West Africa

With USAID and Power Africa funding, NARUC contributed to the enhancement of the regulatory framework for the regional power market in West Africa through the development of two reference documents that complement each other to aid energy regulators in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region in achieving harmonized energy markets.

Resulting reference documents:

- *Functional Model on System Reliability and Electricity Market Design*
- *Gap Analysis Report*

Regulatory impacts

- By removing any confusion about the roles and responsibilities of different entities for each task within the regional energy market, the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority ERERA can use the *Functional Model* and accompanying *Gap Analysis Report* to set market operation standards that are conducive to reducing trade barriers and promoting reliable markets.
- In the long-term, the *Functional Model* will provide a consistent set of functions and related tasks for all ECOWAS member states, allowing for significant interstate electricity trading at competitive prices.





Cost-Reflective Tariff Training: Regulatory Accounting

Rwanda, June 2023



Peer-to-Peer Forum on Regulatory Accounting and Auditing

Morocco, December 2023



Peer Review on Distributed Energy Resources and Demand Side Management

Honduras, February 2020



Regional Regulatory Forum on Renewable Energy Integration, Reserve Requirements, and Resiliency Regulation

Jamaica, March 2024



Volunteers are an important part of NARUC's International Programs



NARUC Volunteers are current and former U.S. and/or international Commissioners and commission staff; representatives from utilities, market monitors, and research institutes; and other practitioners with energy regulatory topical expertise.



Volunteer opportunities

In-country trainings

- Travel with NARUC staff to the partner country for roughly one week (including travel to and from the U.S.)
- Serve as an expert as you lead discussions, provide recommendations, share lessons learned, and problem solve with foreign regulators
- Responsibilities include preparing PowerPoint presentations, working with NARUC staff to develop the activity agenda, identifying recommendations and action items with the foreign partner regulator, and actively engaging in the activity





Power Sector Program
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State



Volunteer opportunity: Peer Review of Competitive Wholesale Electricity Market Establishment Strategies

Location: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Dates: May 28-30, 2024

Objective: With support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources Power Sector Program, NARUC is seeking three experienced commission staff members and/or transmission system operator representatives, such as PJM and Midcontinent Independent System Operator volunteers, to support a peer review of competitive wholesale electricity market establishment strategies and efforts for the Energy Regulatory Commission of Mongolia.

During the peer review, volunteers will provide presentations, comments, and recommendations pertaining to the topic based on lessons learned throughout their regulatory experiences. In addition, they will facilitate discussion sessions and discuss real-world takeaways and applicability in the context of the Mongolian energy sector.

More information: <https://mailchi.mp/naruc/mongolia-competitive-wholesale-electricity-market>

NARUC contact: Emiliya Bagirova, ebagirova@naruc.org





Power Sector Program
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State



Volunteer opportunity: Peer Review on Ancillary Services, Stranded Costs, and Utility Green Tariffs

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Dates: July 30 - August 1, 2024

Objective: In support of the Japan-U.S.-Mekong Power Partnership, and with support from the Bureau of Energy Resources at the U.S. Department of State, NARUC is engaged in a partnership with the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) of Thailand. NARUC's work with the ERC aims to provide insight into regulatory approaches to ensure the reliable and efficient deployment of energy resources, including renewable energy integration, as well as provide tools to support cross-border power trade, robust procurement policies, and cost reflectivity of electricity tariffs.

Thailand's electricity market structure is transitioning in a direction that enables flexibility and accessibility for disruptive technologies, new business models, new market design, and new context on system operation operability. This peer review aims to assist the ERC in developing tools and frameworks to support the electricity market transition from an enhanced single buyer model to a third-party access market, as well as work to achieve national goals of 30% greenhouse gas reduction by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050, while maintaining the system's energy security and reliability.

More information: <https://mailchi.mp/naruc/thailand-peer-review-ancillary-services>

NARUC contact: Bailey Obrock, bbearss@naruc.org





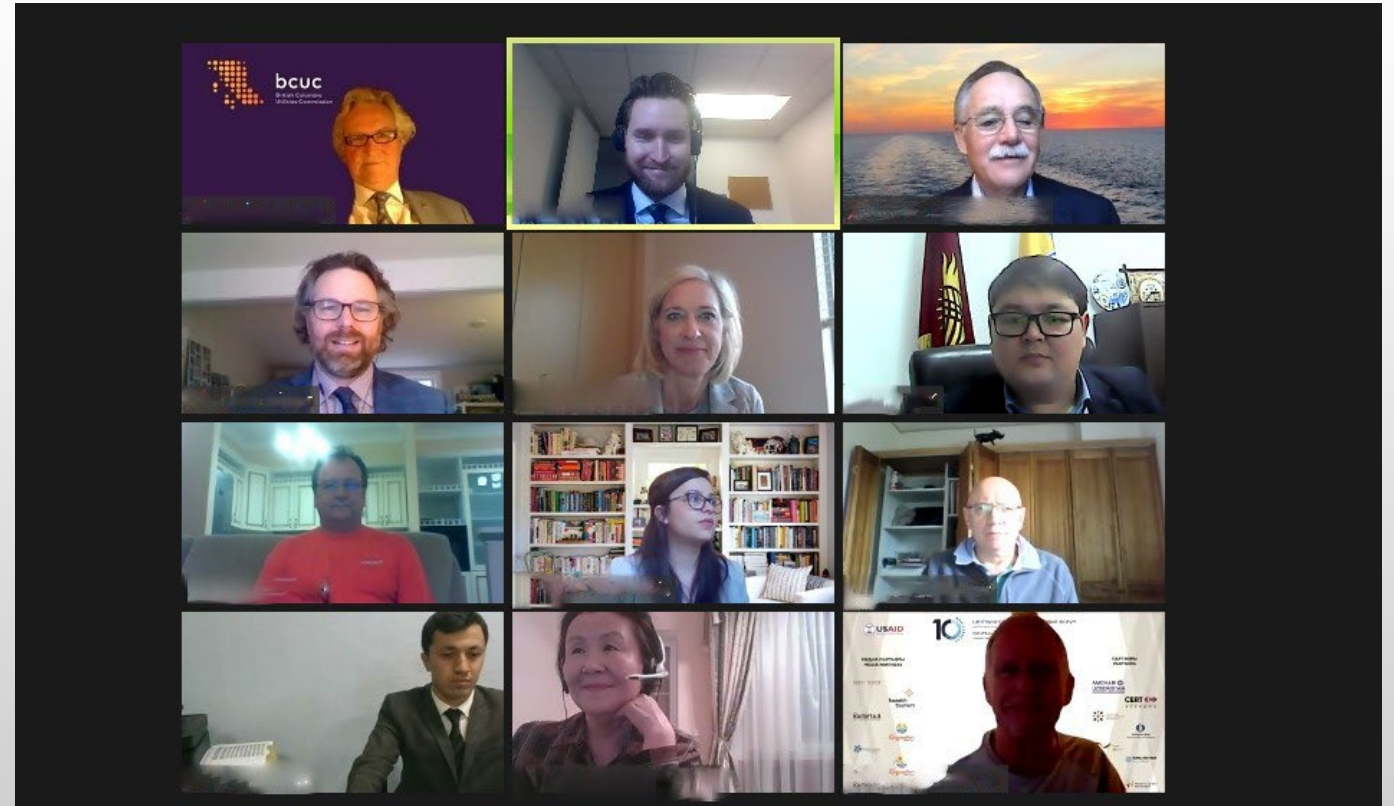
Volunteer opportunities

Remote work

- Peer review documents and provide recommendations through virtual meetings

U.S.-based job shadows and study tours

- Host foreign regulators to your commission through job shadows or meetings during U.S.-based study tours





Power Sector Program
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State



Volunteer opportunity: Virtual Peer Reviews on Enabling Power Purchase Agreements

Dates: ASAP (May 1-8, 2024)

Objective: With the support of the Bureau of Energy Resources at the U.S. Department of State, NARUC is engaged in a partnership with the Electricity Regulatory Authority of Vietnam (ERAV). This initiative aims to bolster ERAV's capabilities in developing stable, efficient, transparent, and competitive power sectors, as well as improving its capacity in clean energy project development and integration. Furthermore, the collaboration seeks to strengthen regulatory frameworks to attract private capital into emerging power sectors and markets.

NARUC will facilitate two remote peer reviews aimed at providing targeted technical recommendations and lessons learned from the implementation of power purchase agreement (PPA) programs to assist ERAV in developing and implementing a formal full-scale PPA program.

More information: <https://mailchi.mp/naruc/vietnam-ppa-peer-reviews>

NARUC contact: Emiliya Bagirova, ebagirova@naruc.org





USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ENERGY BRIDGE



Volunteer opportunity: Technical Training on Ancillary Services for Distribution Networks

Dates: July (TBC) for first virtual activity, September (TBC) for following in-person activity

Objective: With support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), NARUC is assisting the regulatory commissions of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH) in their development as strong, independent institutions promoting and effectively regulating the BIH energy sector, as well as in facilitating the country's transition to a more European Union-oriented, competitive, and transparent energy sector.

These activities are intended to achieve the following objectives: 1) introduce international best practices in developing procurement rules for ancillary services in distribution to BIH regulators and key industry stakeholders, and 2) establish how to best customize and adapt procurement rules for the BIH energy sector to begin drafting baseline rules for the three energy regulatory commissions to implement.

NARUC contact: Beryl Taylor, btaylor@naruc.org





Benefits to NARUC Members: Taking Public Service to a Global Level!

- Activities are fully paid for by USAID, State Dept. or other donors – there are no net costs for commissions or staff
- Professional development/staff retention opportunity
- Whereas paid work comes with an expectation to please the client and deliver what is requested, NARUC's peer-to-peer activities are genuine opportunities to share knowledge, exchange perspectives, and generate goodwill
- Opportunities to learn not only about other parts of the world, but about your own work, and the work and expertise of your peers
- Collaboration with fellow U.S. commissioners/staff offers new insights on common challenges





Benefits to NARUC Members

- Volunteers build networks of commissioners and staff working with NARUC
- Interactions with foreign regulators offer opportunity for out-of-the-box thinking and problem solving
- Exchange in open dialogue on regulatory issues, which contributes to forming and strengthening relationships
- Opportunity for U.S. and participating country regulators to discuss issues, ask questions, work through problems, and examine the pros and cons of different solutions, including ways to avoid the problems and learn from the mistakes that volunteer experts have experienced in the U.S. context





Bring your knowledge and time. We'll do the rest.

For volunteers on activities, NARUC covers/reimburses for...

- Economy class air travel
- Western-style hotels in partner country
- Meals while on travel
- Ground transportation
- Vaccinations (if necessary)
- Medical/emergency insurance while on travel

NARUC's experienced staff handles all logistics, including...

- Coordinating with you in advance of the activity
- Making all arrangements: flight, hotel, ground transportation, visas, etc.
- Travelling with you in partner countries and coordinating activity logistics every step of the way





Seeking skills and experience in a range of fields



- Utility and regulatory accounting
- Uniform Systems of Accounts
- Power purchase agreements
- Renewable energy
- Connection standards
- Information technology
- Market monitoring
- Auditing
- Rate design
- External & intergovernmental affairs
- Transmission/distribution planning
- Complaints handling
- Service quality
- Reliability
- Public education
- Organizational management
- Emergency planning
- Stakeholder outreach
- Mini-grids
- Demand response
- Energy efficiency
- Financial data collection
- Natural gas issues
- Public hearings



How to get involved

Sign up for our email list

- Volunteer solicitations are sent regularly to our mailing list, along with news about how NARUC members are solving problems and making a difference
- Email Erin Hammel (ehammel@naruc.org) and Sarah Stiles (sstiles@naruc.org) to sign up. Personal or work email addresses are acceptable

Apply

- The application is straightforward – relevant expertise, approach to the topic for foreign partners, any relevant overseas experience, etc.
- Please make sure you have commission/state approval before applying

Call for Volunteers

NARUC INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS





Q&A



Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

Erin B. Hammel
Senior Director, International Programs
NARUC

ehammel@naruc.org
www.naruc.org/international