

FROM ROADMAPS TO IMPLEMENTATION

2–3 November 2009

International Energy Agency
9, rue de la Fédération
Paris 75015

Background

At the Major Economies Forum (MEF) on Energy and Climate in L'Aquila, Italy, on July 9, 2009, world leaders agreed:

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time a response should respect the priority of economic and social development of developing countries. Moving to a low-carbon economy is an opportunity to promote continued economic growth and sustainable development. The need for and deployment of transformational clean energy technologies at lowest possible cost are urgent.

We recognize the scientific view that the increase in global average temperature above pre-industrial levels ought not to exceed 2 degrees C. We will take steps nationally and internationally, including under the Convention, to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to enhance removals of greenhouse gas emissions by forests, including providing enhanced support to developing countries for such purposes.

We will work together to develop, disseminate, and transfer, as appropriate, technologies that advance adaptation efforts.

We are establishing a Global Partnership to drive transformational low-carbon, climate-friendly technologies. We will dramatically increase and coordinate public sector investments in research, development, and demonstration of these technologies, with a view to doubling such investments by 2015.

In the light of this declaration, and considering the COP 15 at Copenhagen in December 2009, the Experts' Group on R&D Priority Setting intends to accelerate deployment of energy technologies by focusing on best practice with existing roadmaps as well as the steps to roadmap implementation.

Energy technology roadmaps are important tools that enable industry, academic and research groups, civil society and governments identify strategic R&D and investments needed to achieve technology deployment. The current portfolio of IEA roadmaps has the potential to provide almost 90% of the reductions needed to halve global energy-related CO₂ emissions by 2050.

Though roadmaps are essential, they are not self-implementing. Cooperation between the public and private sector on low-carbon energy technologies will be vital to ensuring full implementation in major economies around the world.

Objectives

This workshop will examine the tools that roadmaps provide and explore the necessary steps to achieve implementation. It will build upon previous analysis of roadmaps, and approaches and strategies for enhancing international technology collaboration carried out by the Experts' Group.

Target Audience

This event is primarily designed for public or private sector R&D managers who are responsible for shaping strategy and planning, analysts and modellers. Knowledge of programmes, policies and measures will provide for robust discussions. Participation is by invitation only.

Discussion

The workshop will provide an opportunity to view the current situation with roadmaps, in-depth analysis of one roadmap (wind), and to discuss the crucial next steps. Participants will explore the remaining issues to be addressed for successful roadmap implementation and are invited to reflect on their specific role in the process. Discussions will focus on three themes:

Roadmaps: Status and Prospects

Which roadmaps already exist? Are there gaps in technologies? What are the common problems and challenges? How do roadmaps fit into critical R&D strategies, activities and milestones?

Detailed Roadmap Exploration: the Wind Example

What do roadmaps offer to R&D planners? What methodologies, experiences or approaches are the most effective? What role do roadmaps play in mapping R&D portfolios and capacities? What are the benefits for industrial and finance sectors? Is there a link between roadmaps and cost-reduction? Is there best practice that can be replicated? What lesson can be learned from roadmaps and how can they be incorporated into planning and policy?

Implementation: Issues, Challenges and Next Steps

What will be required to translate a roadmap into implementation? How can they be incorporated into national strategic technology objectives, barriers, timelines/milestones and critical R&D activities? How does this foster international collaboration? What are the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders (government, private sector, others)? How will these roles be carried out? Can roadmaps play a role in establishing a common framework to advance particular technologies? What gaps remain and how can they be addressed?

Outcome

The results and recommendations will focus on identifying opportunities for accelerating technology development and deployment. They are designed to feed directly into the MEF International Low-Carbon Energy Technology Platform, to serve as background information for COP15 and to support the ongoing work of the IEA Committee on Energy Research and Technology and the IEA Secretariat.

Contact

For further information please contact:

Carrie Pottinger
Program Manager Technology R&D Networks
Carrie.pottinger@iea.org
+33 1 40 57 67 61

The Experts' Group on R&D Priority Setting and Evaluation was established by the IEA Committee on Energy Research and Technology in 1994 to promote development and refinement of analytical approaches to energy technology analysis; to R&D priority setting; and to assessment of benefits from R&D activities. Senior experts engage in national and international R&D efforts collaborate on current issues through international workshops, information exchange, networking and outreach. Outcomes from previous workshops are available at www.iea.org/about/experts.asp.