Transforming the energy system for a climate neutral economy: the EU example

[Welcome coffee]

9:30 – 10.45 Opening session

Welcome address by European Commissioner for Energy, Kadri Simson

Interventions by:

- Juan Carlos Jobet, Energy Minister of Chile
- Andreas Feicht, State Secretary, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
- Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC
- Maria Spyra, member of the European Parliament, Committee for Industry Research and Energy
- Francesco La Camera, Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency

10:45 – 12:30 Towards an energy system based on 100% renewables

The European Union presented in 2018 pathways to implement its long-term decarbonisation strategy for 2050, in which renewable energy will be an important element. At the same time, some Member States, local actors and companies have adopted strategies to transition towards an energy supply system based on 100% renewable energy.

The aim of this session is to explore whether a 100% renewables system is or should be an attainable goal for regions or states, or for regional or local governments, and the key drivers and barriers to enable achievement of a reliable and efficient energy system based on 100% renewables.
Discussion moderated by: Paula Abreu Marques, DG Energy

Keynote speech by: Ditte Juul-Jørgensen, European Commission Director-General for Energy

Panelists:
- Ivan Pineda, WindEurope (confirmed)
- Walburga Hemetsberger, SolarPower Europe
- Remigijus Lapinskas, World Bioenergy Association
- Fernando Gonzalez, Cerro Dominador, hybrid PV+CSP
- Marit Brommer, International Geothermal Society
- Rémi Gruet, OceanEnergyEurope

Closing remarks by Dan Jørgensen, Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities

[Lunch break]

13:30 – 15:00 Thematic Session: Accelerating Innovation for the European Green Deal

The Paris Agreement will only be successful if as humanity we are able to develop new climate-neutral energy technologies and bring them to the market. Horizon 2020, the biggest Research and Innovation support programme in the world (80 billion Euros from 2014 to 2020), in combination with other mechanisms to support R&I in the energy sector ensures that the EU has a portfolio of instruments to ensure that the energy technologies needed to achieve climate-neutrality are researched, developed and brought to the market as quickly as possible.

This session will present a number of key technologies and innovations funded by different EU R&I support instruments. It will be an opportunity to demonstrate both the variety of financing tools fit for the different technologies and state of development as well as the potential of innovations to deliver on the European Green Deal to make Europe the world’s first climate-neutral continent.

Discussion moderated by: Mark van Stiphout, DG Energy

TED Talk: Peter Sweatman, CEO, Climate Partners and Strategy: “How to bring more clean energy innovation to the market at a faster rate? ”

Showcase of EU funded projects:
- José Miguel Pinheiro, Project Director, Wind Float Atlantic (InnovFind EDP project)
- Rémy Garaude-Verdier, Head of European Affairs, Enedis, IElectrix project (H2020)
- Rudolf Zauner, Project Coordinator, H2FUTURE, Hydrogen project FCH JU (H2020)
- Francisco Rodríguez Pérez-Curiel, Project Director, SmartEnCity (Lighthouse Project)
- Inno Energy project (tbc)

Panel debate with additional participation of:
- Bernard Salha or Carine de Boissezon, EDF Chief Sustainability Officer
- Peter Sweatman, CEO, Climate Partners and Strategy
Clean energy transition presents an opportunity for attracting private investments in the energy and industrial sectors and for stimulating new business development in areas such as eco-innovation and circular economy. The benefits of aiming towards climate neutrality by 2050 go beyond climate and environment as new jobs are expected to replace employment in traditional fossil fuel sectors. However, different countries and regions have different starting points. In order to ensure just transition which brings all regions and citizens on board and leaves no one behind targeted policy measures and enabling conditions are needed.

Cities, regions, national governments, international organisations and international financial institutions need to synchronise their actions to achieve lasting results. This session will explore how this multi-level governance can work in practice and how different actors are leading the way in ensuring Just Transition based on the experience of the European Commission Coal Regions in Transition Initiative, the Powering Past Coal Alliance and the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. It will also explore how different initiatives can work together in a coordinated manner to facilitate global efforts to deliver on the Paris Agreement objectives.

Keynote speech by: European Commissioner for Energy, Kadri Simson

Michal Kurtyka, President of COP24

Discussion moderated by: Secretariat of Coal Regions in Transition

Panellists:

- Kostis Hatzidakis, Minister of Energy, Greece
- Lord Duncan of Springbank, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Climate Change) at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), UK Government
- Katrien Rycken, Director of Leuven 2030, Leuven
- Bill Peduto, Mayor of Pittsburgh
- Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Coordinator, Green Jobs Programme, International Labour
- Carla Montesi, Director Planet and Prosperity, EU Commission, Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development

Questions from the audience
Concluding remarks on Just Transition: Carolina Schmidt, President of COP25

[Drinks/change-over]

17.00 – 18:30  Creating local conditions on the ground for making decarbonisation of buildings a reality

Buildings and their decarbonisation are central to the Long Term vision for a climate neutral economy by 2050. This requires citizens’ engagement, scaling up of technological solutions, replicating innovative finance approaches as well as creating the conditions for concerted and impactful action by different governance levels, from the local to the country level (and beyond).

The aim of this session is to explore how to create the local conditions for the transition to decarbonised buildings to happen. The session will look at the different angles for mobilising energy efficiency and renewable technologies, creating a more sustainable living environment for citizens, activating bottom up action by local and regional authorities, and mobilising the financial support that is needed, in the most effective way.

Discussion moderated by: Vicent Berruto, European Commission, EASME

Keynote speech by: Markku Markkula, VP of the Committee of Regions

Snapshot presentations/statements followed by panel discussion

- Chris Trott, Head of Sustainability, Foster and Partners
- Emilio Miguel Mitre, Green Building Council España
- Miriam Navarro Escudero, IVE - Valencia Institute of Building (Spanish partner of DRIVE0 project)
- Alvaro Beltran, CEO Onyx Company, Building Integrated PV and EU Mission Innovation Champion
- Nuri Palmada, board member of REScoop.eu, the European federation of citizen energy cooperatives
- Davide Cannarozzi, CEO & Founder of GNE Finance

19.00 – 20:00  Copernicus and reducing methane emissions in the energy sector

As part of the new Commission’s Green New Deal, reducing mineral methane emissions is one of the key elements that would allow Europe to move towards a more ambitious GHG reduction target from the current 40% to 55% by 2030.

Technological development in detection and quantification, as well as the availability of satellite data on methane and other emissions from the EU’s Copernicus programme, and other satellites, combined with information about the underlying energy infrastructure provides a great opportunity to better detect, identify, verify and effectively tackle these emissions on a global scale. The objective of the session is to showcase this capability through recent actual methane measurements as part of an ongoing study launched by DG ENER, matched up with satellite information in the form of maps from...
CAMS using Sentinel 5P and other satellite data and overlaying existing energy infrastructure to pinpoint to the source of emission.

Coupled with energy diplomacy action, the EU can promote further international effort to reduce methane emissions contributing to a successful and very much needed global action on climate change. Therefore, we will also approach potential international partners for this session, such as Japan (major gas importer) and Canada (producer with existing methane regulation). This session is a cooperation between DG ENER and DG GROW.

Panel discussion moderated by Brendan Devlin, Advisor, European Commission DG Energy

Opening interventions by Inger Andersen, Executive Director UNEP

Panel discussion:
- Mark Radka, UNEP Head of UN Environment’s Energy and Climate Division
- Myriam Hammami, Senior Carbon Relations Adviser, Shell
- Stijn Vermoote, ECMWF, representing Copernicus satellite program
- Mark Browsntein, Senior VP EDF, talking about their future MethaneSat satellite

[Cocktail Drinks]