



How could national energy agencies support the European Commission in achieving Smart Sector Integration, a core element for the successful implementation of the European Green Deal

Session Outline

Session objective

Present EnR's analysis of past and ongoing smart sector integration initiatives, including core challenges and opportunities and lessons learnt, and demonstrate how concerted efforts by energy agencies can help bring European policy initiatives to implementation.

Facilitate a discussion of energy agencies & policy makers about implementation challenges, around three selected strategies, and reflections by policy makers about how policymaking could respond to implementation lessons.

Examples of EnR agency approaches

dena: stakeholder engagement across sectors

Building a sustainable energy system requires integration across sectoral borders. Germany has long realised that sustainable can only be achieved by finding integration in energy generation and usage, integration sectors and working with a wide range of stakeholders. Dena has pioneered stakeholder coalitions at the national level around techno-economical-social challenges and opportunities for energy transition and system integration and has learned many lessons about how to speed up the energy transition by working together. Germany has also implemented novel approaches such as making local energy transition coordinators available to municipalities, linking (nationally available) expertise to local opportunities and helping develop locally integrated energy systems.

Swedish Energy Agency: Strategy nodes to create sustainable energy systems

Sustainable energy systems are essential to fight climate change, and also to help build sustainable local economies and communities. Sweden has developed its strategic nodes approach, in which it combines and renewable energy, industrial energy efficiency, heat exchange and local economic development at many locations in Sweden. These strategic nodes green industry as well as building energy use (in the surrounding community) and provide much-needed jobs and economic perspective to communities. The Swedish Energy Agency has learnt that its role is essential in bringing these nodes to fruition, and that it has a variety of roles to play in that development process.

IDAE: Blending efficiency, renewables, storage and demand management for a sustainable energy system

Spain set out an ambitious national strategy to green its energy system, with a combination of efficiency, electrification, renewable electricity and gases, and energy storage. It focuses on an energy grid built around flexibility and is addressing the various technical, economic and social challenges in innovative ways. It mixes traditional instruments such as renovation subsidies with sustainable urban development grants and strategic investment projects. It also uses regulatory sandboxes to test new ways of regulating energy systems, focused on creating better conditions for self-consumption of renewable energy and rewarding flexibility in the energy system.

Questions for discussion and reflection

- 1) How to challenge new entrants to provide solutions for smart sector integration?
- 2) How to reward flexibility, consumption of renewables and energy storage in liberalised energy markets?
- 3) How can national energy agencies combine and adapt interventions to help deliver integrated sustainable energy systems?