



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

**AFUR & AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK PRESENT
A VIRTUAL WEBINAR ON
THE ROLE OF THE REGULATOR IN ENERGY TRANSITION
15TH NOVEMBER 2023 @ 14:00 – 16:30 SAST**

15th November

14:00 to 14:10	Opening Remarks Dr Honore Tapamo, Chairman AFUR
14:10 to 14:15	Welcome Remarks AfDB
Presentations	
14:15 to 14:35	The Role of the Regulator in Energy Transition AfDB
14:35 to 14:55	A Egyptian Case Study EgyptERA
14:55 to 15:15	A Ghanan Case Study PURC, Ghana
15:15 to 16:00	Panel Discussion – The Role of the Regulator in Energy Transition Moderator: Mr James Manda, Technical Manager, AFUR
Panellists	AfDB; EgyptERA; ERA; PURC; NamPower; GET.tranform/ ESMAP
16:00 to 16:15	Questions and Discussion
16:15 to 16:20	Closing Remarks Debbie Roets, Executive Secretary, AFUR

ABOUT THE TOPIC

Energy is the key to development in Africa and the foundation for industrialisation. Like in Europe and other parts of the world, the expansion of renewables goes beyond the provision of reliable energy and climate protection. Economic development as a whole will benefit from a clean energy transition and new jobs and opportunities for entire industries will emerge. Reliable, sustainable energy is at the same time indispensable for ensuring that people are provided with important basic services such as education, health care and safe drinking water. Considering its unparalleled potential for renewables, Africa's starting point for the transformation of the energy sector is strong.

In order to encourage utilities to transition to clean energy, regulators can implement several measures, among them the following:

1. **Renewable Portfolio Standards. Set Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS):** Energy regulators can establish mandatory targets for utilities to produce a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable sources. This incentivizes utilities to invest in clean energy generation.

2. **Provision of financial incentives:** Regulators can propose and support several financial incentives to be offered to utilities such as tax credits, grants, or low-interest loans to utilities that invest in clean energy projects. These incentives can help offset the higher upfront costs of clean energy infrastructure. Since governments are responsible for tax administration, regulators can make suggestions to central governments for appropriate tax amendments to include the above measures in the administration of tax involving the transition to clean energy.

3. **Implement carbon pricing mechanisms:** Regulators can impose a price on carbon emissions, either through a carbon tax or a cap-and-trade system. This creates a financial disincentive for utilities to continue relying on fossil fuels and encourages the transition towards cleaner energy sources.

4. **Streamline regulatory processes:** Energy regulators can expedite the approval and permitting processes for clean energy projects. By reducing bureaucratic hurdles, utilities are more likely to invest in renewable energy infrastructure.

5. **Foster collaboration and information sharing Mechanisms:** It is within a regulators responsibility to facilitate knowledge-sharing and collaboration among utilities, clean energy developers, and other stakeholders. This can help utilities learn from successful clean energy projects and encourage them to adopt similar strategies.

In terms of investments needed for a clean energy transition, the following areas are crucial:

1. **Renewable energy generation:** Investments in wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, and biomass projects are required to increase clean energy generation capacity. This includes installation of solar panels, wind turbines, and other renewable energy technologies.

2. **Energy storage:** Investments in energy storage systems, such as batteries or pumped hydro storage, are essential to ensure a reliable supply of clean energy even when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing.

3. Grid modernization: Upgrading and expanding the electrical grid is necessary to accommodate the growing share of clean energy sources. This includes investments in smart grid technologies, grid interconnections, and transmission infrastructure.

5. Research and development: Investment in research and development is vital for advancing clean energy technologies, improving their efficiency, and reducing costs.

6. Energy efficiency: Investing in energy efficiency measures, such as building insulation, efficient appliances, and energy management systems, can reduce overall energy demand and complement the transition to clean energy.

To facilitate these investments, energy regulators can create favorable regulatory frameworks that would provide financial support and incentivize private sector involvement through mechanisms such as public-private partnerships.

For more information contact:

The African Forum for Utility Regulators at:

info@afurnet.org