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Contribution to the Stakeholder session on the Central and South-Eastern Energy Connectivity (CESEC) initiative

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Stakeholder discussions in 2 workshops

(held in November and December 2016)

Interviews & comments received from stakeholders

Based on

2 policy publications

[Channelling Progress in Central and South East European Energy Market Integration. Proposals for the Terms of Reference for the new CESEC Working Groups](#)

[CESEC 2.0: Opening the door to a new level of regional cooperation](#)

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder typology and engagement could be improved by having mechanisms to allow interested parties to engage in discussions in a transparent, timely and inclusive way.

Stakeholder involvement from case-by-case basis to new approach?

Role for civil-society and non-governmental actors?

National focal points could organize regular stakeholder consultations

National focal points

Could be appointed to enhance regional coordination and enable CESEC countries to streamline the functioning of the working groups along the various thematic areas.

Why?

- play the role of a national co-ordinator
- act as the main interlocutor for stakeholder interface
- all 4 CESEC areas (gas, electricity markets, renewables and energy efficiency) could have dedicated contact points in each country
- the host country of the CESEC High Level Group could hold a major public event associated with the formal meeting, to enhance visibility and stakeholder engagement

Repository of studies

A ‘repository of studies’ could be set up to simplify the reference to the vast available regional data and analysis, thus allowing for stocktaking, identification of gaps and avoidance of work duplication.

The repository could be structured around the CESEC working groups or alternatively, the 4 CESEC areas:

- gas connectivity
- electricity markets
- energy efficiency
- renewables

Capacity development and Fund management

CESEC can help to improve and develop the necessary **administrative capacity** and **good fund management** to efficiently raise and manage funds, especially the combination of EU grants, EIB financial instruments and other funding sources.

As a facilitating platform, CESEC is well placed to invite and encourage international financial institutions to invest in the region and tap into its potential.

CESEC region: low leverage of public finance in energy efficiency in buildings. Need for a platform to identify barriers, find matching instruments, provide advisory services and develop best practices. (E.g.: a buildings renovation platform)

Tapping into the local skills

- C&SEE region's large **technical and digital competences** in the new areas of the CESEC 2.0 mandate (electricity, renewables and energy efficiency)
- Countries from the region have a strong engineering culture with a wealth of technical talent (due to the area's solid math, sciences and engineering universities)
- To implement the new CESEC mandate, there is a need for a facilitating framework to yield the regional potential of R&D, technical and digital competences

Potential of CESEC 2.0

Can improve cooperation among member states in preventing, preparing for and managing electricity crises

The inclusion of electricity offers the opportunity to better integrate electricity and gas networks

Potential to harness additional funding, especially from private sources

Improve and develop the necessary administrative capacity and good fund management to efficiently raise and manage funds, especially the combination of EU grants, EIB financial instruments and other funding sources

Potential of CESEC 2.0

Build upon the region's large technical and digital competences in the new areas of the mandate (electricity, renewables and energy efficiency)

Become a success story of the Energy Union strategy, transcending the EU and Energy Community borders.

Regional cooperation is gaining relevance in the current context of Central and South East Europe. CESEC is an example of best practices in political collaboration in energy areas

Thank you!

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