## Renewable Energy Services: An Overview

Working Group on Environmental Goods and Services, TESSD 17 March 2023

## Outline

#### Definition of renewable energy services

- Definitional challenges for renewable energy services in the current services classifications
- A practical approach: Identify the services supporting renewable energy supply chain

#### Trade in renewable energy services

- How renewable energy services are traded?
- Limited data on renewable energy services trade flows
- Measures affecting trade in renewable energy services

# Services are usually defined by the classification of sectors/subsectors

For example, the Services Sectoral Classification List (W/120):

- 1. Business Services
- 2. Communication Services
- Construction and Related Engineering Services
- 4. Distribution Services
- 5. Education Services
- 6. Environmental Services

- 7. Financial Services
- 8. Health Related and Social Services
- 9. Tourism and Travel Related Services
- 10. Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Services
- 11. Transport Services
- 12. Other Services Not Included Elsewhere

# Inadequacy of the current classifications for defining renewable energy services

- No separate category for either energy services or renewable energy services;
- Too narrow definition of environmental services;
- Lack of visibility for energy efficiency and renewable energy related activities;
- Lack of flexibility to accommodate new activities using new technologies

# Check-list for energy services in DDA negotiations

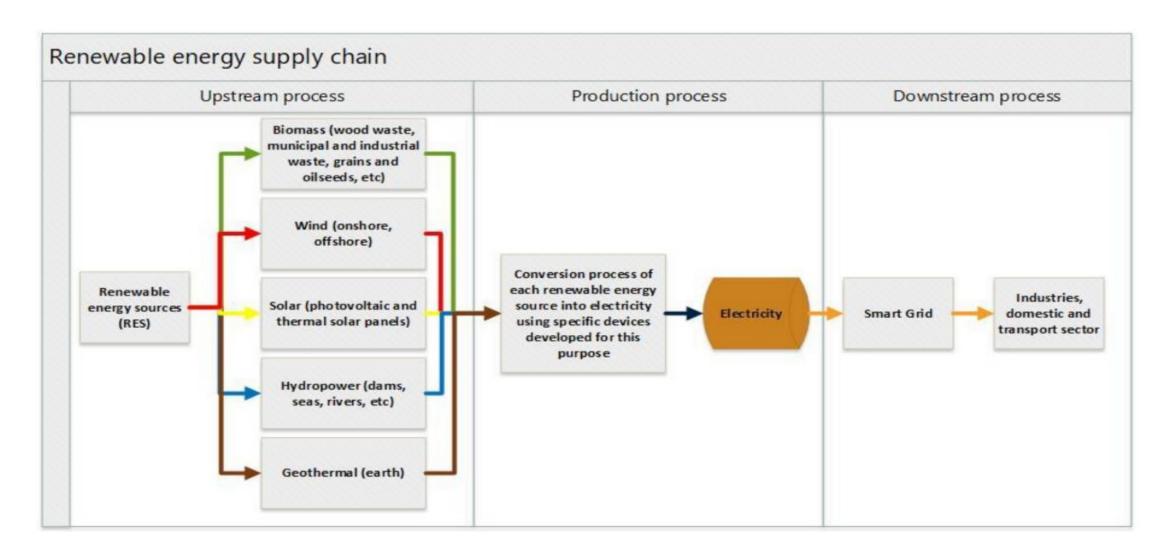
- Energy-related sub-sectors listed in W/120
  - 1.F (h) Services incidental to mining (services rendered at a fee or contract basis at oil and gas fields, e.g. drilling, repair and dismantling, etc.)
  - 1.F (j) Services incidental to energy distribution (transmission and distribution on a fee or contract basis of electricity, gaseous fuels, steam and hot water)
  - 11.G (a) Pipeline transport of fuels (transport of petroleum and petroleum products and natural gas)

#### • Plus other sectors:

- Business Services
  - ✓ Engineering Services (CPC 8672-8673),
  - ✓ Technical analysis and testing services (CPC 8676),
  - ✓ Services incidental to mining (CPC 883),
  - ✓ ... etc.
- Construction (CPC 513)
  - ✓ Construction of long distance pipelines and power lines,
  - ✓ Construction for mining,
  - ✓ ... etc.
- Distribution (CPC 62271 and 63297)
  - ✓ Wholesale trade services of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels,
  - ✓ Retail services of fuel oil, bottled gas, coal and wood, etc.
- Transport (CPC 7422)
  - Bulk storage and warehousing services of liquids or gases

This check-list does not distinguish on energy sources and may not be adequate for renewable energy services.

# An illustration of renewable energy supply chain



## Services supporting the entire renewable energy supply chain

#### Upstream process

- Research and development related to renewable energy;
- Renewable energy related scientific and technical consulting services;
- Renewable energy related technical testing and analysis services;
- Resource assessment;
- Evaluation, planning or siting of renewable energy projects or facilities;
- Environmental impact analysis;

• ...

#### Production process

- Design, construction, engineering, and installation services for renewable energy equipment and facilities;
- Operation, management, and monitoring of renewable energy projects or facilities;
- ...

#### Downstream process

- Transmission of electricity and heat produced through the use of renewable energy sources;
- Distribution of electricity and heat produced through the use of renewable energy sources;
- Sale and marketing;
- After-sale services, maintenance and repair, ...

Not included in the illustration are services as necessary inputs in the manufacturing of renewable energy equipment and facilities, such solar panels, wind turbines, etc.

### One-stop solar solutions for every stage of the project

## Development

## Financing arrangements

**EPC** 

Asset management, O&M

- Site surveys
- Economic feasibility studies
- Power purchase agreements
- Various regulatory approvals

- Capital raising
- Loans
- Project financing

- Design, engineering
- Equipment procurement
- Construction

- Maintenance
- Power generation monitoring
- Asset management

## Trade in renewable energy services

- Renewable energy services can be traded through four modes of supply:
  - Establishment of a commercial presence by foreign investment is the dominant mode of supply for renewable energy services.
  - Movement of natural persons is also an important mode of supply for renewable energy services, in particular in the construction, installation, maintenance and repair of renewable energy facilities.
  - With technological advances, cross-border trade is gaining importance in renewable energy services (e.g. remote monitoring and diagnosis services for wind turbines).
- Renewable energy services are usually traded together with the sale of renewable energy equipment and facilities.

## Limited data on renewable energy services trade

 In the renewable energy sector, data are usually about installed electricity generation capacity and electricity production from renewable energy;

• Data are rarely reported and collected specifically on renewable energy services. Some estimates might be made based on data regarding trade in construction and engineering services, or professional and other business services.

# Measures affecting renewable energy services

- Governments take various policies to encourage renewable energy, including: investment incentives, tax measures, incentive tariffs (e.g. guaranteed prices, feed-in tariffs, and bidding systems), legislation (e.g. environmental standards).
- While these policies typically target one participant in the renewable energy market (e.g. generator, electric utilities, or consumers), they commonly produce upstream or downstream effects and affect other, sometimes all, market participants, including services suppliers.
- There are few barriers that specifically impede trade in renewable energy services, but measures on investment, land use, professional licensing, movement of natural persons that apply to all sectors affect trade in renewable energy services as well.

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