Socio-economic footprint of energy transition in South East Europe

Thursday 20th of June, 11.00 to 12.30
EU Sustainability Week, Room to be confirmed

Background

South East Europe has substantial, largely untapped renewable energy potential. Some countries in the region have begun to exploit these resources, but, except for hydropower, the modern renewable energy sector is still in an early stage of development and the majority of the region’s energy systems is based on an energy source that is not compatible with the low carbon energy transition - coal.

One of the main challenges related to the deployment of modern renewable energy is the lack of awareness regarding the potential socio-economic benefits of such an energy transition in the region.

The objective of this session is to raise awareness about the direct and indirect costs of coal-fired electricity generation, scale-up of renewable energy, and the socio-economic impacts of the energy transition in South East Europe, including income, jobs and air quality and the related policy challenges.

Agenda

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| 11:00 – 11:15 | Welcome remarks  
IRENA’s Southeast Europe Renewable Energy Market Analysis – The socio-economic footprint  
Rabia Ferroukhi, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) |
| 11:15 – 12:00 | Panel session moderated by  
Colin Wolfe, European Commission  
Direct and Indirect Subsidies to Coal Electricity Production in South East Europe  
Janez Kopac, Energy Community Secretariat  
Health economic burden for Europe of status quo of coal power in the Western Balkans  
Vlatka Matkovic Puljic, Health and Energy, Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL)  
Scaling up financing the Renewable energy in South East Europe  
Tatyana Kramskaya, World Bank, Europe and Central Asia |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Q&A panel session and closing remarks  
Moderated by Colin Wolfe, European Commission |