

Newsletter

June 2020



Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the second edition of the 2020 Clean Energy Ministerial RGEI Initiative quarterly newsletter. The RGEI Initiative was established in 2018 as a work stream under the Clean Energy Ministerial.

The objective of the RGEI Initiative, quite simply, is to “Accelerate RGEI Together”. Our membership encompasses key countries in the RGEI domain and we offer a platform for governments, industry and the financial sector to come together to jointly advance RGEI.

Our plan is to inform you regarding our activities in these brief email newsletters in September, December, March and June. This second newsletter features events that have taken place in the past months.

We have handpicked you to receive our information, based on earlier direct contacts, or because we know you are involved in RGEI and clean energy issues. Please feel free to forward this to your interested colleagues and contacts.

Best regards,

Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO)
Operating Agent of CEM RGEI Initiative
Beijing, China

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE INITIATIVE

THE THIRD OF A 2020 SERIES OF RGEI WEBINARS: ELECTRICITY TRADE IN THE GCC AND MIDDLE EAST POTENTIAL OF A PAN-ARAB ELECTRICITY MARKET

On 22 April 2020, RGEI Initiative hosted the third of a series of RGEI 2020 Webinars: Electricity Trade in the GCC and Middle East Potential of a Pan-Arab Electricity Market. The speaker was Mr. Phillip Cornell, the consultant from World Bank Group/Atlantic Council. Mr. Phillip Cornell is the consultant of World Bank Group and senior fellow of Atlantic Council. He is the lead author of World Bank Group study on political economy of MENA power and gas interconnection, trade, and cross-border infrastructure to support the Pan Arab Regional Energy Trade Platform (PA-RETP). He is also the director of the Global Energy Governance Reform Task Force, including project conception and leadership, the specialist on Middle East and global energy economics, oil market, and Saudi Arabian transformation. He once worked as the senior corporate planning advisor of Saudi Aramco, special advisor to the executive director in IEA, etc., has a major expertise in international grid integration study on power infrastructure and trade in MENA, South Asia, South East Asia.

More than 80 representatives from CEM Secretariat, RGEI member countries, international organizations, enterprises, research institute, etc. participated in this webinar. Particularly the big delegation from Saudi Arabia Company (SEC) attended this webinar and warmly discussed with the speaker on the power interconnection issues. The webinar has obtained widespread positive feedback on both the content and pattern.

THE FOURTH OF A 2020 SERIES OF RGEI WEBINARS: POWER GRID CONNECTION AND ITS TECHNICAL ISSUES

On 26 May 2020, RGEI Initiative hosted the fourth of a series of RGEI 2020 Webinars: Power Grid Connection and its Technical Issues. The speaker was Prof. Ryuichi Yokoyama, professor from Waseda University. Ryuichi Yokoyama is a Professor Emeritus of Waseda University, a Life Fellow of IEEE, a Senior Life Member of IEE of Japan, a member of CIGRE. He is also Chairman of Standardization Commissions of Electric Apparatus in METI Japan. He received the degrees of B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, in 1968, 1970, and 1974 respectively. After working in Mitsubishi Research Institute, from 1978 through 2007, he was a professor in the Faculty of Technology of Tokyo Metropolitan University. Since 2007, he had been a professor of the Graduate School of Environment and Energy Engineering in Waseda University. His fields of interests include planning, operation, control and optimization of large-scale environment and energy systems, and economic analysis and risk management of deregulated power markets.

More than 50 representatives from CEM Secretariat, RGEI member countries, international

organizations, enterprises, research institute, etc. participated in this webinar. Many participants expressed their appreciation and interest in the RGEI webinar, which obtained widespread positive feedback on both the content and pattern.

UPCOMING WEBINAR

THE FIFTH OF A 2020 SERIES OF RGEI WEBINARS: FIVE WAYS TO ACCELERATE POWER INTERCONNECTION IN ASIA

June 23, 2020 1200(GMT)/2000(GMT+8, Beijing Time)

Event Link: <https://meeting.tencent.com/s/YmHgX0laL6lK>(Conference ID:249 798 247)

Speaker: Dr. Yongping Zhai (Asian Development Bank)

Dr. Yongping Zhai, Chief of Energy Sector Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB), in charge of overall energy operations coordination, and knowledge partnership in Asia and the Pacific region. Prior to his current position, Dr. Yongping Zhai was Director, South Asia Energy Division (2010-2015), ADB, covering energy sector operations in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka. He served as ADB's Principal Energy Specialist (2000-2010) in charge of energy sector in Southeast Asia including Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). Prior to joining ADB in 2000, Dr. Zhai worked for African Development Bank from 1993 to 2000. Dr. Yongping Zhai graduated from the Thermal Energy Engineering Department, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China (1983) and received a Ph.D in Energy Economics from Institute of Energy Economics and Policy in Grenoble, France (1989), and worked as Assistant Professor on Energy Planning and Policy at Asian Institute of Technology based in Bangkok (1990-1993).

The webinar will elaborate:

- How to efficiently accelerate power interconnection in Asia?
- What is the implication for power interconnection under the post COV-19 circumstances?

Looking forward to your participation.

MORE WEBINARS WAITING FOR YOU

If you have any interest or would like to share your sparkling ideas with us in the following serious topics, please do not hesitate to contact Zheng Zhu, zheng-zhu@geidco.org. Some topics below are for your reference:

1. Financing Models for Cross-Border Infrastructure
2. Market Designs for Cross-Border Electricity Trade
3. Cross-Border Interconnection in Developing Countries: Opportunities and Challenges
4. Integrating Renewable Energy within Cross-Border Power Trade
5. Political Consensus in Cross-Border Power Trade
6. Technical Challenges in Cross-Border Interconnection

About the Regional and Global Energy Interconnection (RGEI) Initiative

The RGEI Initiative was established at the 9th Clean Energy Ministerial meeting in Copenhagen/Malmö in May 2018. RGEI's objectives are to:

- * Discuss conducive policy and regulatory framework regarding regional and global power system integration
- * Build consensus on facilitating energy transition via increased proportion of renewable energy in energy consumption and enhanced grid interconnection
- * Encourage CEM member countries to engage in the process of RGEI and seize collaborative opportunities

CEM Members: China, Chile, Finland, Korea, South Africa, United Arab Emirates. RGEI works with other regional and national technical organizations in the field of power system integration including State Grid Corporation of China, the Korea Electric Power Corporation, and others.

Operating Agent: Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO).

We also have a section on the Clean Energy Ministerial Secretariat website:

<https://www.cleanenergyministerial.org/initiatives-cleanenergyministerial>

Copyright © 2020 Regional and Global Energy Interconnection (RGEI) Initiative. All rights reserved. You are getting this e-mail because you are part of the RGEI community and friends. Our mailing address is: zheng-zhu@geidco.org.