6th International Forum on Long-Term Energy Scenarios (LTES) for the Clean Energy Transition

**Session 1. Long-term energy scenarios frameworks and NDC alignment in practice: coordination, decision cycles and national budget integration.**

Co-hosted with: UNFCCC

*Wednesday, 29 October 2025. Bonn, Germany. 09:30-11:15 (CET)*

1. **Context**

As countries prepare their third round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs 3.0) in 2025, effective coordination between energy, climate, and finance ministries has become essential. Long-term energy scenarios (LTES) provide the analytical foundation for climate strategies, but their impact depends on whether results are taken up in national decision-making processes.

Alignment ensures consistency in assumptions (GDP growth, population, fuel prices), highlights synergies (energy access and emission reductions), and reveals trade-offs (e.g. fiscal impacts of fossil fuel subsidy reform). Importantly, LTES can quantify investment needs and provide indicative fiscal envelopes, creating entry points for finance ministries to integrate transition costs into annual and medium-term budgets.

This session will examine institutional approaches for aligning LTES with NDCs, LT-LEDS, and financial planning. Presentations will set the scene with insights from Brazil (COP30 host), UNFCCC, and IRENA’s new report on aligning LTES and LT-LEDS. Two panels will follow: one with countries sharing how they engage finance and environment ministries in scenario-driven planning, and one with international organizations reflecting on how to support countries in addressing bottlenecks and preparing NDC 3.0.

1. **Objective**

To identify practical mechanisms that ensure LTES outputs are systematically aligned with NDCs, LT-LEDS, and budget processes, and to highlight lessons on cross-ministerial coordination that strengthen planning ecosystems and credibility of climate commitments.

1. **Expected outcomes**

* Examples of mechanisms used by countries to integrate LTES into NDCs and LT-LEDS (e.g. inter-ministerial review, planning committees, budget hooks).
* Lessons on how finance ministries can be engaged through scenario-based investment signals and fiscal envelopes.
* Identification of common institutional barriers to alignment and how international partners can help address them.
* Recommendations for how LTES can directly inform NDC 3.0 preparation in 2025.

1. **Proposed Agenda (90 min)**

**Moderator:** IRENA (TBC)

**Start:** 09:30 (CET)

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| **Duration** | **Details** |
| 03 min | **Welcome and introduction by moderator.**  *Overview of the session and context of the topic.* |
| 15 min | **Scene-setting presentation.**  *UNFCCC perspective*  *Speaker: (TBC) suggested angle: insights from the NDC clinics*  *Aligning LTES and LT-LEDS.*  *Speaker: Juan Jose Garcia. IRENA*  *Speaker: Stelios Grafakos, GGGI (5 min)* |
| 30 min | **Panel discussion 1: Partner perspective: Aligning scenarios, climate commitments, and finance in practice.**  *This session will bring together international partners and technical organizations to share good practices and lessons from their work supporting countries. Panelists will discuss how LTES outputs are being connected to NDCs, LT-LEDS, and budget processes, highlighting institutional mechanisms, common barriers, and approaches for engaging finance ministries. Their insights will showcase emerging solutions and examples that can inform NDC 3.0 preparation.*  *Moderator: Simon Benmarraze, IRENA*  *Panelist:*   * *Marcela Jaramillo. Executive Director. 2050 Pathways.* * *Mohammad Amin Tahavori. R&D Energy Modeling. VITO.* * *Sebastian Sterl. Directorate-General for Energy. European Commission [Virtual].* |
| 10 min | **Floor Interventions / Q&A** |
| 5 min | Country presentation: Spain |
| 30 min | **Panel discussion 2: Country perspective: Aligning scenarios, climate commitments, and finance in practice.**  *This session will feature government representatives sharing their on-the-ground experience in linking LTES outputs with NDCs, LT-LEDS, and budget planning. Speakers will describe the practical realities of institutional coordination, overcoming barriers, and working with finance ministries, offering concrete lessons for peers preparing their next round of NDCs.*  *Moderator: Marcela Jaramillo, 2050 Pathways Platform (TBC)*  *Panelist:*   * *Aurora Recio Gonzalez. Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain.* * *Gabriel Armando Velasquez. Ministry of Energy and Mineas, Guatemala.* * *Eswatini (tbc)* |
| 10 min | **Floor Interventions / Q&A** |
| 02 min | **Wrap-up of the session** |

1. **Proposed guiding questions**

*For countries:*

* At what point in your planning calendar do LTES outputs feed into NDC updates or LT-LEDS?
* What mechanism links updated scenario results to annual or medium-term budgets?
* Which policy or regulatory signal from your plan (e.g. auction calendar, tariff design, interconnection commitment) has given investors the most certainty?
* What was the most binding barrier in applying scenarios to policy decisions, and how was it overcome?

*For organizations:*

* What is the most frequent institutional barrier you observe when countries try to align LTES with NDCs/LT-LEDS?
* What specific type of support can you offer in 2025–26 to help countries overcome this barrier?
* What single prerequisite must a planning team have in place for your support to take hold effectively?