





## Solar PV in ASEAN – Challenges and Opportunities

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**ESI Workshop on the value of PV in Singapore** 18 February 2016

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#### **Presentation outline**

- Background ASEAN context
- ASEAN Electricity Sector
- Key technology trends and renewables in ASEAN
- PV potential and progress in ASEAN
- Policies and measures to support PV deployment
- Barriers to PV deployment
- Overcoming the barriers
- Summary a way forward





#### **ASEAN** context



- Large population size 9% of world population
- Fast socioeconomic development
- One of the fastest developing regions in the world
- Play an increasing important role in the world energy demand
  - Rapid energy demand growth
  - 5% share of world energy demand compared with 2% in 1980
- Large investment in electricity supply infrastructure required to meet electricity demand growth.
- Five largest energy consumers in ASEAN are Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam





#### **ASEAN** context



- Fast electricity demand growth around 5% per year
- Low per capita electricity consumption one fifth of the OECD.
- Can be categorised into 3 subgroups in terms of development
  - Brunei and Singapore largest kWh consumption per capita
  - Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines
  - Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos





#### **ASEAN Electricity Sector**



- Significant reliance on fossil fuels (coal, gas, oil) for electricity generation.
- Minimal non-hydro renewables





#### **Environmental situation in ASEAN**



- CO<sub>2</sub> emission is increasing due to increased demand, large share of fossil fuel in electricity generation.
- CO<sub>2</sub> intensity (per kWh of electricity output) in ASEAN is high
  - High-emitting generation sources, inefficient power stations
- Share of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is 4% compared with 1% in 1980.





#### **Characteristics of ASEAN**







### Challenges for electricity sectors in ASEAN



- Satisfying electricity demand growth in a sustainable manner minimise costs, energy security, environmental impacts
- 134 million people in ASEAN have no electricity access 22%.
- Renewables can potentially address most of these challenges
  - Cheap to run, no emissions, high investment cost but reducing rapidly.
  - No energy security concerns due to reliance on fuel import or fossilfuel price fluctuation





## Key technology trends



#### Leading countries in Asia Pacific: Japan, Korea, Australia, Thailand, Taiwan

- PV is one of the fastest growing RE technologies worldwide
  - Rapid technological progress and cost reductions.
  - Potential to address energy security and climate change concerns.
  - Third most important RE sources in terms of installed capacity
- Largest growth has been in Europe but Asia is catching up





## **PV potential in ASEAN**



- Huge renewable energy potential in ASEAN
  - Hydro, solar, biomass
- PV deployment is still low economic and non-economic barriers
  - PV attractiveness i.e. cost competitiveness, irradiation.
  - Country's attractiveness

     i.e. political and business environment, policy framework







#### **PV potential in ASEAN – Global Context**







## Progress of PV in ASEAN

- Majority is solar farms but less for distributed or off-grid PV systems
- Thailand, Malaysia and Philippines are leading the development.
  - Incentivizing private sector to invest in RE technologies
- Potential to become a new manufacturing base of PV systems in the next ten years
- Thailand has the highest installed PV capacity
  - 1.6 GW already in operation (COD) and will increase to 2.5 GW (committed capacity)
  - Mainly solar farms grid connected and selling directly to Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) and Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA)
  - Expanding to residential rooftop PV and community ground-mounted PV systems





## Influence of energy and climate policies

- Policies have a key role to play to promote and ensure successful integration of RE technologies.
  - Increase the value of RE in relation to fossil-fuel technologies
  - increase confidences for investment and deployment in solar PV
- As with other new RE tech, PV remains a policy driven market
  - FiTs are the main policy for driving deployment of renewables in ASEAN.
  - New investment/installation is influenced by support schemes.
  - Asia and Pacific region has become a significant market for PV installation China, Korea, Japan, Australia, Thailand





### **Renewables supporting measures**

Regulatory policies and mandate	<ul> <li>RETs, carbon pricing, FiTs, RPS, RE Certificates (REC).</li> <li>RET schemes create demand for additional RE energy by placing a legal obligation on electricity utilities.</li> <li>FiTs is the most widely used scheme</li> </ul>
Fiscal incentives	<ul> <li>Address the cost and finance barriers that hinder investment in RE technologies</li> <li>Capital subsidies, rebates and tax reduction</li> <li>Providing social, economic, environmental benefits</li> </ul>
Public financing	<ul> <li>provided by governments in the forms of loans and grants to support innovation in RE technologies</li> </ul>





#### **Energy and climate policies**



- Countries with RE policies and targets have increased significantly
- Energy policies vary across ASEAN countries depends on political and economic situations, resource endowments
  - Common themes increase energy security, reduce costs, environmentally sustainable.





## Solar PV in Thailand

- Major leader in ASEAN due to strong policy support
- Driven by the Alternative Energy Development Plan (AEDP) and a range of incentives
  - Fiscal incentives: Imported duty exemption on machinery, corporate income tax exemption for 8 years
  - Public financing: Investment grants, equipment leasing
- Thailand has some of the largest solar farms in the world
  - Located in central and northern part of Thailand
  - ➤ The largest is 128 MW (contracted at 90 MW), Land size: 380 hectares









## Solar PV in Thailand (cont')

#### **Solar PV programs**

#### Solar Farm Program

- Targeting PV developers through VSPP and SPP schemes
- □ 2.6 GW committed
- □ FiT @ THB5.66/kWh (~ SGD 0.25) for 25 years

#### Solar PV rooftop

- Targeting residential & commercial sectors
- 200 MW quota
- □ Similar to VSPP scheme
- □ FiT @ THB6.85/kWh (~ SGD 0.3) for 25 years

#### Ground-mounted community PV systems

- Targeting Agricultural Cooperatives and Government Units
- 800 MW quota
- □ FiT @ THB5.66/kWh (~ SGD 0.25) for 25 years
- Different programs for different target groups
- Feed-in-Tariffs (FiTs) with long-term PPAs (25 years)
- Rapid growth in utility-scale PV but not distributed PV (e.g. rooftop)
- There's still policy uncertainties





# Key Energy Policies and RE Targets (1)

Country	Key Energy Policies	Renewable targets
Indonesia	<ul> <li>Increase electricity access to 99% by 2020</li> <li>26% GHG reduction targets by 2020</li> <li>Reduce the share of fossil fuel</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>26% renewable electricity by 2025</li> <li>160 MW of PV capacity or 1% share of generation by 2025</li> </ul>
Thailand	<ul> <li>Diversify fuel mix from natural gas</li> <li>Reduce energy intensity by 25% by 2030 compared with 2005 levels</li> </ul>	<ul><li>10% renewable electricity by 2021</li><li>6 GW of PV by 2036</li></ul>
Malaysia	<ul> <li>Reduce energy intensity by 10% by 2025 compared to BAU</li> <li>Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> intensity by up to 40% compared to 2005 levels by 2020.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2.1 GW of renewable electricity by 2030</li> <li>14% renewable electricity by 2030</li> </ul>
Vietnam	<ul> <li>100% electricity access by 2020</li> <li>Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> intensity by 10% by 2020 compared with 2010 levels</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5% renewable electricity by 2020</li> </ul>
Philippines	<ul> <li>Increase electricity access to 20% by 2017 (for small township)</li> <li>Expand the grid to interconnect major islands</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>40% renewable energy by 2020</li> <li>15 GW of renewables by 2030</li> <li>Additional 280 MW of PV</li> </ul>





# Key Energy Policies and RE Targets (2)

Country	Key Energy Policies	Renewable targets
Singapore	<ul> <li>Energy supply diversification</li> <li>Reduce energy intensity by 35% by 2030 compared with 2005 levels</li> <li>Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> intensity by 10% below the 2020 BAU levels</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5% share of renewables by 2020</li> <li>350 MW of PV by 2020 (~5% of projected peak demand)</li> </ul>
Brunei	<ul> <li>Improve energy efficiency</li> <li>Reduce energy intensity by 25% by 2030 from 2005 levels</li> </ul>	<ul><li>10 MW PV by 2030</li><li>10% RE by 2035</li></ul>
Myanmar	<ul> <li>Reduce primary energy consumption by 8% by 2030 compared to BAU</li> </ul>	• 15-20% RE by 2020
Cambodia	<ul><li>Develop hydropower</li><li>Increase electricity access through off-grid RE</li></ul>	• 15% RE by 2015
Lao PDR	<ul> <li>Increase electricity access to 90% by 2020</li> <li>Upgrade interconnectors to increase power exchange between Vietnam and Thailand</li> </ul>	<ul><li> 30% RE by 2025</li><li> 33 MW from solar</li></ul>

(OECD/IEA, 2013), (REN21, 2015)





## **Policy Measures for PV**

- In addition to RE targets, effective financial and non-financial measures must also be in place
- Policies related with solar are bundled with other RE technologies







### **Barriers to PV development in ASEAN**

Social	<ul> <li>Lack of public awareness on the impact of climate change and the benefits of RE technologies</li> </ul>
Economic	<ul> <li>Relatively high capital and financing cost at present.</li> </ul>
Technical	<ul> <li>Lack of knowledge in the technology, installation, maintenance</li> <li>Impact on the power grid due to its variability and partly unpredictability. Lack of data for grid impact studies.</li> <li>Inadequate transmission and distribution networks</li> </ul>
Environmental	<ul> <li>Land size for utility-scale solar PV – limited in some countries (e.g. Singapore)</li> </ul>
Institutional	<ul> <li>Lack of effective policies - uncoordinated and incoherent policies between government agencies, weak RE targets</li> <li>Regulatory arrangements - long process in obtaining licenses, settlement</li> </ul>





## **Overcoming the barriers**

Social	<ul> <li>Disseminating information and consumer awareness on the impact of climate change and the benefits of PV</li> <li>Transparency and public involvement in the electricity sector</li> </ul>
Economic	<ul> <li>Providing fiscal incentives and public financing</li> <li>Increase R&amp;D efforts to reduce costs and increase efficiency</li> <li>Internalising environmental externality costs</li> </ul>
Technical	<ul> <li>Encourage more research and studies on the grid impact of PV</li> <li>Need other grid technologies to complement PV – Storage options, smart grids</li> <li>Zoning of renewables to avoid congestion.</li> </ul>
Environmental	<ul> <li>Build solar farms in remote areas</li> <li>Promote residential and community-scaled PV (e.g. rooftops)</li> </ul>
Institutional	<ul> <li>Schemes with fair remuneration and predictable level of support</li> <li>FiTs, RPS, Net metering</li> <li>Coherent policies among different governmental agencies</li> <li>Streamlined procedures for providing permits/licences</li> </ul>





### **Regional collaboration is important**

- Collaborations among ASEAN countries are essential to achieve higher PV deployment (and other RE technologies)
  - R&D collaboration, transfer of knowledge, know-how.
  - Optimizing and sharing of solar resource through cross-border interconnection – non coincidence of peak demand.
  - Geographical diversifications improved matching of PV generation and demand across different countries
- Common regulatory frameworks need to be established to ensure benefits for every country in the region.
- ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016 2025 provides a good framework but needs commitment
  - Enhance energy cooperation and strengthening energy security through a more diversified power generation mix.
  - ASEAN Power Grid (APG)





## **Possible regional collaboration**

- APG, power sector integration, regional electricity markets
  - 11 existing cross-border interconnections (6 countries)
  - Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia
  - 27 interconnectors to be built by 2030



- Key challenges
  - ➤ Financing
  - different national policies, market structures
  - Different operational & regulatory framework
  - Implementing cross border multilateral trading





#### Summary and a way forward

- Huge potential for solar PV in ASEAN but needs support schemes
  - High solar irradiance in ASEAN but PV energy penetration level is still extremely low (less than 1%)
  - Need effective and coordinated policies and regulatory frameworks.
- Solar PV can help to address some of the main challenges facing ASEAN electricity sector
  - Electricity access in remote areas (Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia),
  - Energy security diversify fuel mix from fossil-fuel
  - Environment climate change and local air pollution
- Need to strengthen regional collaboration among ASEAN countries in a number of aspects





Thank you, and Questions? peerapat@unsw.edu.au

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