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Title- Regulation and Sustainability – A set of tasks and responses for power system decision makers – varying by structure and stage.

Sound regulatory frameworks are an important cornerstone of any activity in power systems. Many of the 140 IRENA member states have communicated ambitious aspirations for enhancing the share of renewable resources in their national and regional energy and power systems.

At the same time there is growing experience in various countries with the deployment of new renewable power generation technologies. IRENA is an important global player as its global knowledge on good regulatory practices contributes to identifying and closing existing governance gaps which can ensure the development and integration of renewable resources across the globe.

The tasks are diverse in nature and regulatory responses can differ significantly. In mature power systems with liberalised market structures and higher shares of renewables, governance decision makers and regulators getting more frequently tasked to manage the often systemic impacts of renewables deployment without distorting competitive investment decisions for reliable service provision. At the same time, the efficiency and effectiveness of support schemes will remain subject to substantial debates and development, as decision makers have to provide with frameworks which continue to ensure reliable and affordable power system development and operations.

Various power system governance experience can be transferred to economies with rapidly growing power systems which are often, but not always, more centrally managed and with lower experience with new renewable generation resources. This knowledge transfer can allow to leapfrog some developments, however, the sometimes incomparable structure and stage of the market may require a tailor-made approach on power system governance at the various stages of renewables development and integration.

The IRENA Regulatory Empowerment Project is a needs-based and tailor-made set of advisory services, aiming to support power system governance decision makers to advance their green agenda in a reliable and affordable manner.