

## Why the „Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue“?

The world faces an abundance of challenges and new opportunities. International networking and innovation are giving people in more and more regions of the world a share in economic and social growth. A reliable and cost-effective energy supply is an essential component of this growth. Meanwhile, climate change and scarcity of resources make it unmistakably clear that new paths must be found to cover the growing demand for energy, and to do so in a sustainable way.

Against this background, the German Federal Government and the German industry associations are initiating an international dialogue to tackle these challenges and learn from best practices worldwide. While some solutions for the “Energiewende”, or energy transition, have already been put into practice, the path towards an energy transition stemming entirely from renewable energy sources is not without hurdles or resistance. While most of the world’s countries face this challenge, their motivation and their ways and means to go about it differ greatly: In many countries, merely meeting the growing need for energy to support a thriving economy and population is paramount. Other countries struggle with an aging or barely existent infrastructure, while still others seek more energy autonomy. Most have come to recognize that local renewable resources are economically viable and create jobs. Especially in fast-growing economies, the regional environmental impact of the conventional energy supply is one of the motivations to invest in renewable sources. Last but not least, a renewable energy supply can help tackle climate change.

Together with its partners, the German Government intends to act as a moderator in this international debate. It has invited experts on all aspects of energy, representatives of politics, industry and civil society from around the world. The German Energiewende might act as a base for discussion, reflected with various other international best practices. Together we hope to begin the process of developing solutions towards an international energy transition that is adaptable to different local circumstances. Together we can, over time, find ways to reconcile the ostensibly conflicting goals of climate protection, security of the energy supply and economic growth.

The Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue now is the first of its kind. It conveys the message that renewable energies are mature and ready for fighting climate change. But this won’t happen naturally at large scale. We need to exchange our experience and our best practices.

History is of interest only for the lessons learnt, but we have to move forward. Energiewende 2.0 is the future concept that combines responsible renewables with smart technology and economic benefits. When the two days are over, the consequences shall be seen. Best practices shall be quicker disseminated and new beneficial energy partnerships among states and between companies shall be initiated.

We hope to share those outcomes with you when moving “towards a global Energiewende”.

**Contact**

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