# PHOTOVOLTAIC MICRO GENERATION INCENTIVE POLICIES

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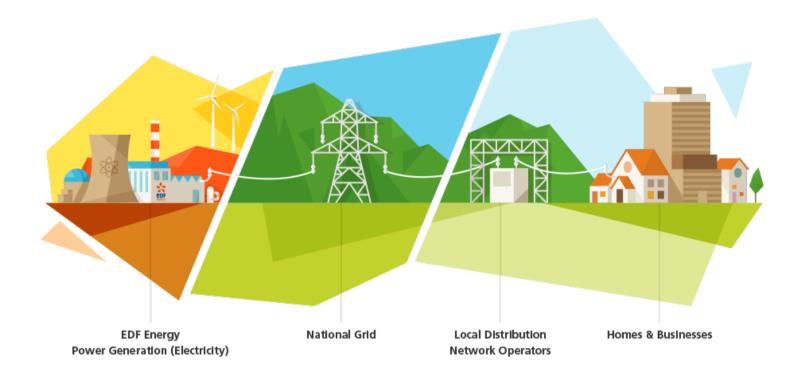




### **Outline of the Presentation**

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Photovoltaic Micro Generation Incentive Policies
- 3. Regulatory Challenges
- 4. International Experiences
- 5. Conclusions

Introduction Going from a unidirectional value chain....



Source: EDF

### Introduction

... to a smart grid based on Distributed Energy Resources



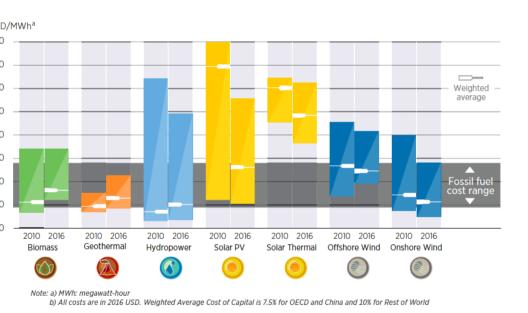


### Introduction

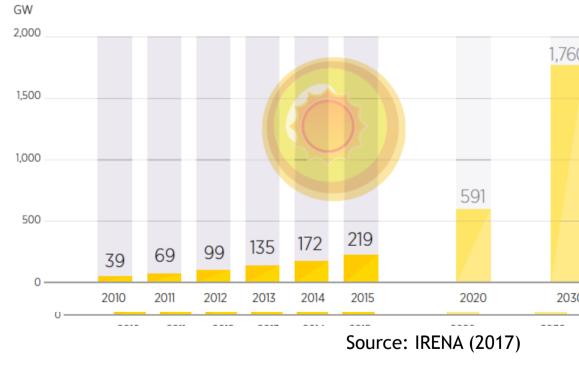
PV Solar: recent developments and trends

Economic profitability of solar PV is growing considerably:

LCOE are going down (and further reductions are expected – scale, scope and learning economies).



zed cost of electricity: utility-scale power (ranges & averages)



#### PV Solar global installed capacity (historical & projecti

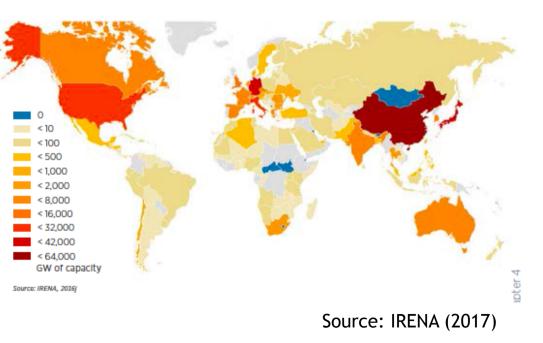
Source: IRENA (2017)

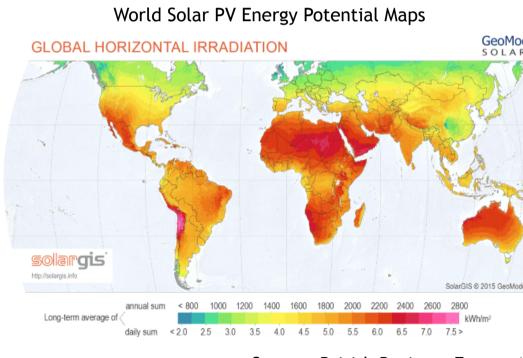
### Introduction

PV Solar: recent developments and trends

- Despite the PV solar considerable growth, there is a large asymmetry on the distribution of PV solar capacity, worldwide.
- Economic efficiency issues Countries with greater PV solar capacity are not necessarily the ones with more potential (e.g. Brazil and Portugal).

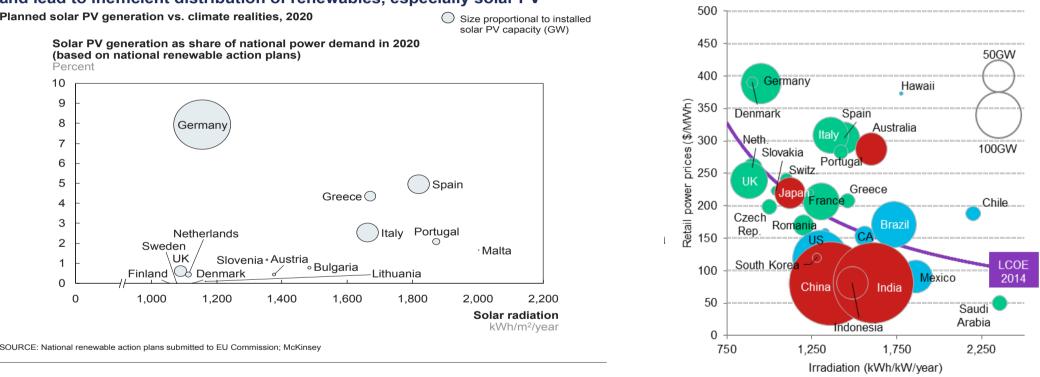
Cumulative installed PV solar capacity by country (2015)





Source: British Business Energy (

### Investment determinants Solar PV

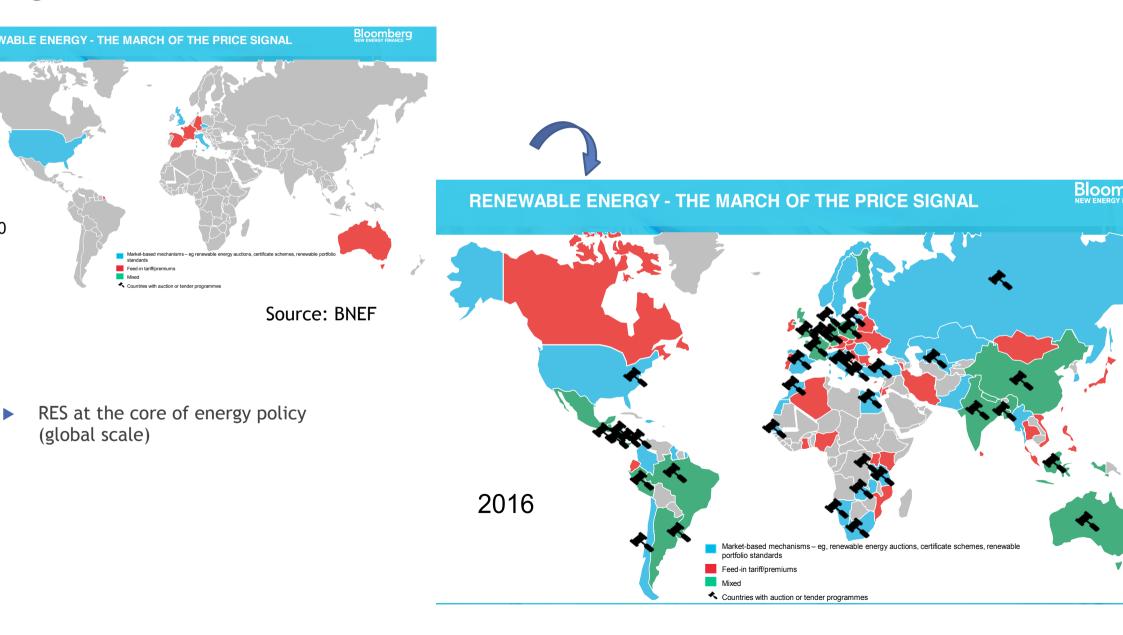


#### Current national renewable action plans neglect climate realities and lead to inefficient distribution of renewables, especially solar PV

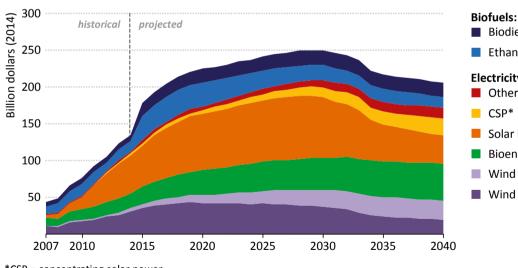
#### Source: McKinsey

Source: BNEF

Investment determinants: natural conditions, technical issues intermittency and DG integration), financial-economic considerations, environmental issues, policy and regulatory framework...



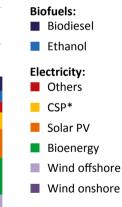
- Solar PV at the heart of RES Incentive Policies
- Most prominent players: EU; US (?); China; India;



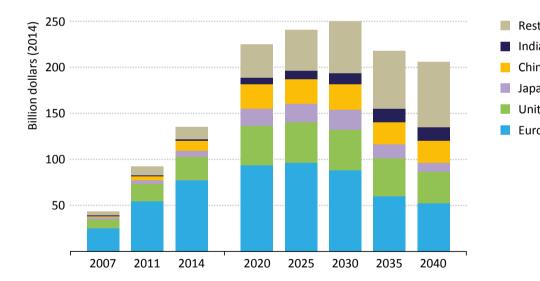
### Subsidies by technology (New Policies Scenario)

\*CSP = concentrating solar power.

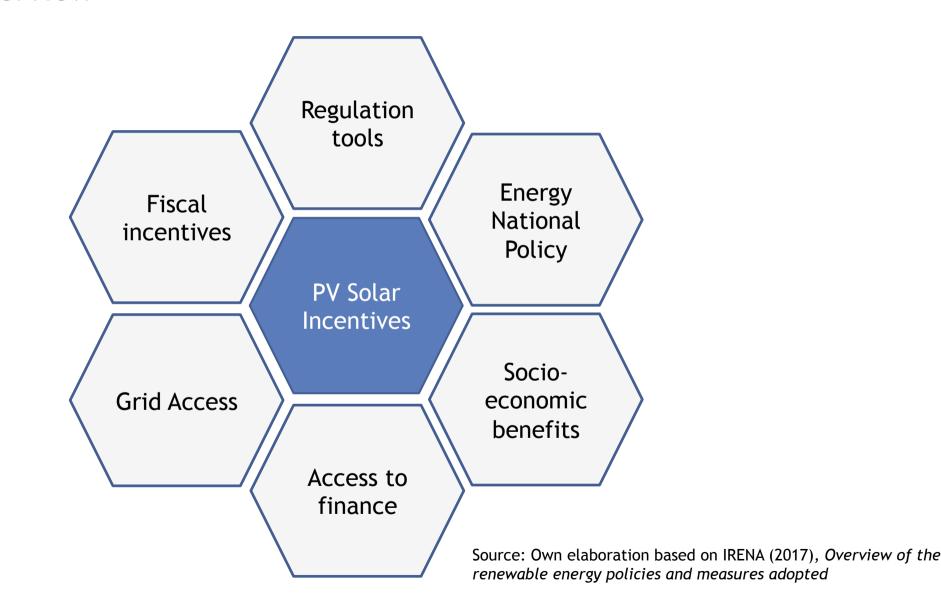
#### Source: WEO (2015), IEA

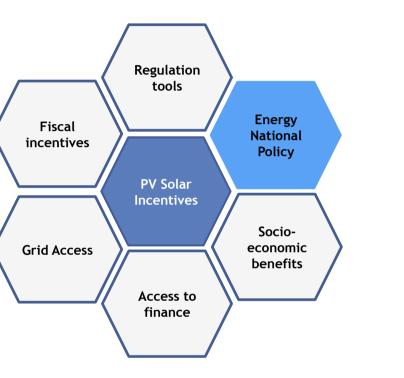


### Subsidies by region (New Policies Scenario)



#### Source: WEO (2015), IEA

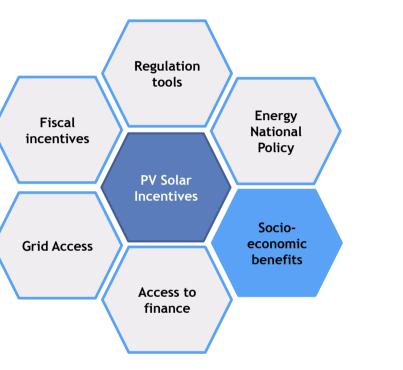




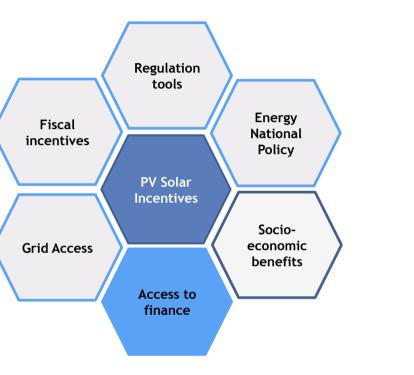
### National Policy

Macro-level incentives (supply-side)

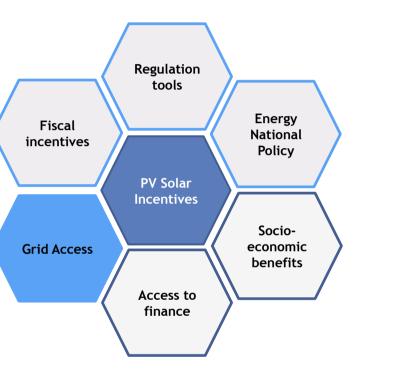
- Ex. 1: RES national targets (Energy Policy)
- Ex. 2: Solar PV national targets (Energy Policy)
- Ex. 3 Technology specific Programs (Energy & Industrial Policy)



- Socio-economic benefits
  - Local-content requirements
  - Human resources qualification programs
  - RES rural access programs/ energy poverty programs
  - Social requirements

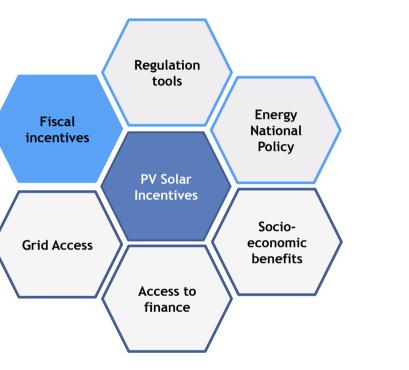


- Access to Finance
  - Dedicated funds
  - Eligible funds
  - ► Guarantees
  - Pre-investment support
  - Direct funding
  - Currency hedging



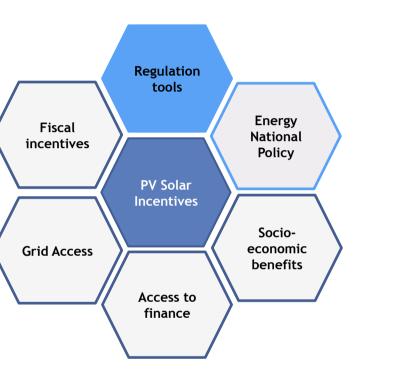
### Grid Access

- Transmission discount
- Priority/ Dedicated transmission
- Preferential dispatch...



### Fiscal Incentives

- Tax exemption (E.g. VAT/ income tax; local taxes)
- Carbon tax
- Accelerated depreciation
- Subsidies (e.g. Lump-sum subsidy or other tax benefits



Regulation Tools

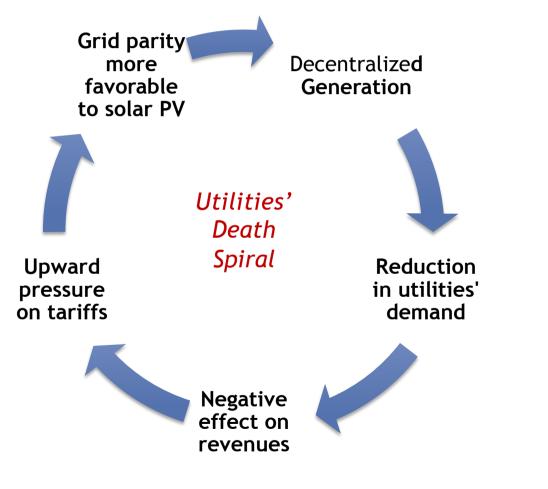
- Supply & Demand-side mechanisms
- Conventional and new tools (price mechanisms, mandate and licensing, certification systems)
  - Remuneration of energy surplus: Net metering; Net billing; Feed-in Tariffs; Feed-in Premium,...
  - Certificate system (QoS)
  - Licensing of new agents
  - Mandates to system operators...

### ► TRADE-OFF

Utilities' financial stability versus solar PV incentive

### Regulatory challenges Balancing Solar PV incentives & Utilities financial viability

Decentralized PV Solar may threaten the utilities' conventional business model - "Death spira

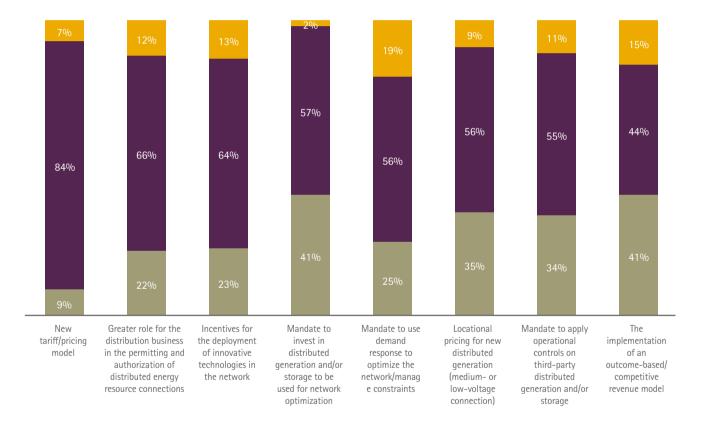


YET...

- Utilities' activity is increasingly challenging
  - Huge investment needs
  - Integration of DG production in the grid
  - Uncertain decentralized production & intermittent RES
  - Coordination among many heterogeneous age
  - ► Grids' reliability & resilience
  - Facilitate coordination among many new heterogeneous problems

### Regulatory challenges Balancing Solar PV incentives & Utilities financial viability

Necessary regulatory challenges in the next 10 years according to utilities' managers:



Utilities' major concern in the short-run - Tariff & pricing tools

- 1. Re-designing conventional tools
- 2. New PV solar specific remuneration mechanisms

No Yes Already in place

Base: All respondents.

Source: Accenture's Digitally Enabled Grid research program, 2016 executive survey.

#### Source: Accenture (2016)

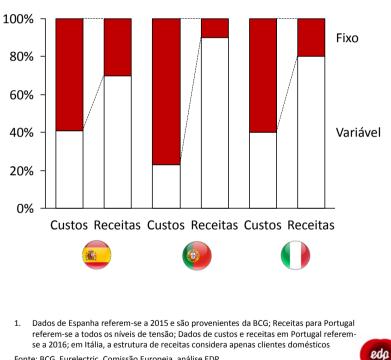
### **Regulatory challenges**

### Redesigning conventional tools: tariff structure

- 1. Tariff structure
  - Towards non-linear pricing schemes:
    - Change the current (mostly) volumetric system
    - Cost-reflective system (that accounts for the different costs imposed on the network by different profiles of users)

#### Cost and Revenue structure in the Power Sector

Estrutura de custos e receitas do setor<sup>1</sup> % dos M€



Fonte: BCG, Eurelectric, Comissão Europeia, análise EDP DPE - Direção de Planeamento Energético

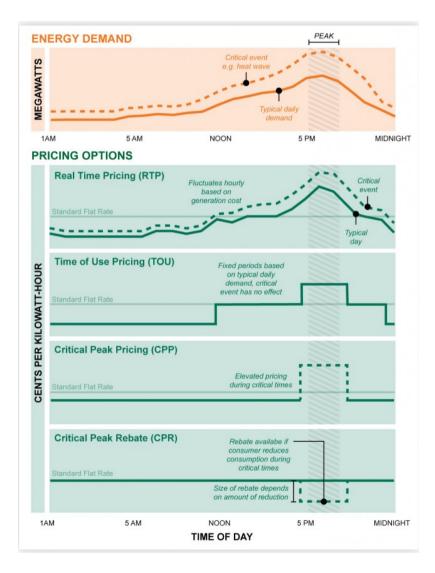
### **Regulatory challenges**

Redesigning conventional tools: tariff structure

- 1. Tariff structure
  - Dynamic tariffs
    - Critical peak pricing
    - Critical peak rebate
    - ▶ Real time pricing....



- Cost-effectiveness
- Complexity of the tariff design process
- Sophisticated metering/ communication systems
- Sophisticated and Tech-savvy consumers
- Social impact

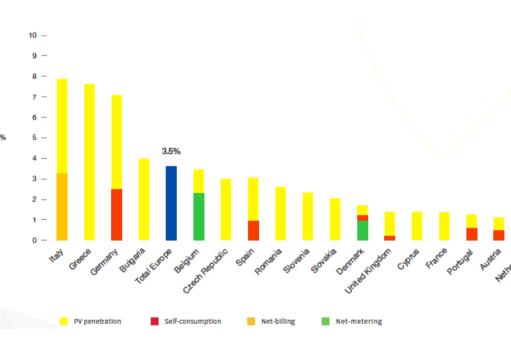


Source: Environmental Defense Fund (blog)

# **Regulatory challenges**

Solar PV remuneration mechanisms

- 2. Alternative mechanisms to incentivize PV solar investment
  - Feed-in tariffs/ Feed-in-Premium
    - High-remuneration scheme
    - No uncertainty low risk
    - Market signals? Investment rationale? Cost-effectiveness
  - Net metering (Brazilian & USA systems)
    - Grid acts as a cheap battery (very important for non-dispatchable energy sources)
    - Investment incentives coupled with consumption needs
    - No effective signals to reflect the grid congestion
  - Net-billing
    - Market -price coordination issues?
    - Administrative price Avoid cost price? How to compute?

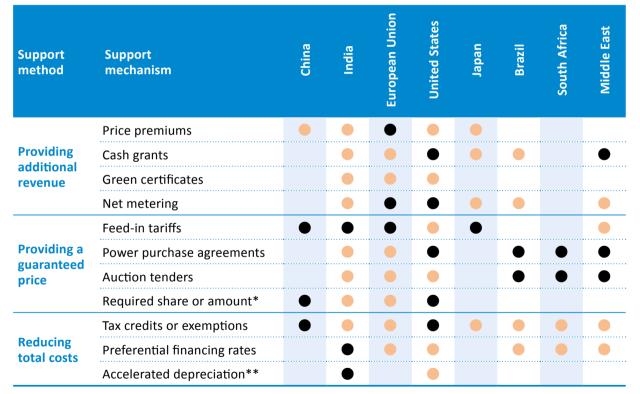


#### European PV Solar production and self-consumption in 20

Source: Solar Power Europe

# ternational Experiences comparative analysis

### Main support mechanisms for RES in the power sector



#### Solar PV:

- ► FIT
  - Net metering

\* Policies may specify a required share (e.g. renewables in total generation) or minimum amount of installed capacity or generation. \*\*Accelerated depreciation lowers total discounted costs by delaying the tax burden.

Note: ● = primary driver of renewables deployment; ● = secondary driver of renewables deployment.

Sources: IEA/IRENA Joint Policies and Measures database; IEA analysis.

#### Source: WEO (2015), IEA

### International Experiences A comparative analysis

| Country       | Policy /<br>Regulator<br>y Target | Supply Side<br>Drivers                    | Demand Side<br>Drivers   | Fiscal<br>Incentives                | Remarks  |                             | Country            | Policy /<br>Regulator<br>y Target             |                    | Demand Side<br>Drivers | Fiscal<br>Incentives                                     | R |                      |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| Germany       | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff;<br>Competitive<br>bidding | Mandatory Capital Grid parity<br>interconnection subsidy achieved,<br>capital<br>subsidy now<br>provided for |                                     | United Kingdom   | Yes                         | Feed-in tariff     | Net metering;<br>Renewable<br>Obligation (RO) | Capital<br>subsidy |                        |  |   |                      |
|               | storage.                          | _   | Australia  | Yes                                 | Feed-in tariff   | Net metering                | Capital<br>subsidy |   |                    |                        |  |   |                      |
| China         | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff;                           |  | Capital                             |  |                             |                    |   |                    | Subsidy                |  |   |                      |
|               |                                   | Competitive<br>bidding                    |  | subsidy                             |  |                             | India              | Yes   | Feed-in tariff;    | Renewable<br>Portfolio | Capital<br>subsidy;                                      | C |                      |
| Japan         | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff                            | Net metering   | Capital<br>subsidy                  | Shifted from<br>net to gross<br>metering in<br>2009.     | net to gross<br>metering in |                    |   |                    | Competitive<br>bidding | Obligation (RPO)<br>Renewable<br>Energy Credits<br>(REC) |   | ta<br>pi<br>in<br>ra |
| Italy         | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff                            |  |                                     |  | -                           |                    |   |                    |                        | Tax holidays;<br>Priority                                | F |                      |
| United States | Yes                               | Investment tax<br>credit (ITC)            | Renewable<br>Portfolio<br>Standards (RPS)<br>Net metering  | Capital<br>subsidy;<br>;Tax credits | A few states<br>have gross<br>metering in<br>place       | -                           |                    |   |                    |                        | Sector<br>Lending;<br>Concessional<br>Duties             |   |                      |
| France        | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff                            |  |                                     |  | -                           |                    |   |                    |                        |  |   |                      |
| Spain         | Yes                               | Feed-in tariff                            |  | Capital<br>subsidy                  | New<br>projects not<br>eligible for<br>FiT from<br>2012, | -                           |                    |   |                    |                        |  |   |                      |
|               |                                   |   |  |                                     |  |                             |                    | Source:                                       | World Energ        | gy Council (           | 2016)  |   |                      |

# International Experiences A comparative analysis

Self-consumption schemes

| Member State   | Remuneration for self-consumed or surplus electricity sold to the grid  | Grid and system cost contribution   |  |  |  |
|----------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Germany        | < 90% production: applicable FIT or FIP rate<br>> 90% production, either:<br>a) average spot market price for solar energy (4-5 €ct/kWh)<br>b) income from electricity sale (market or PPA) plus management<br>premium of 1.2 €ct/kWh (decreasing to 0.7 €ct /kWh by 2015)<br>PV system > 100 kWp (from 2016): market price | Before 01/08/2014 : exemptedAfter         01/08/2014 : exempted if < 10 kWp and < 10  |  |  |  |
| Italy          | <20 MWe: private purchase agreement (PPA)   | <ul> <li>&lt; 20kW, exempted from grid and system costs</li> <li>20-200kW partially exempted &gt;200kW exempted only from system costs</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
| Portugal       | Average Iberian electricity market price minus 10%  | If SC systems capacity <1% of total power<br>capacity (TPC): SC exempted >1% and <3%,<br>SC pays 30% grid fees, >3%, SC pays 50%<br>grid fees     |  |  |  |
| Spain          | Up to 100 kWp, regulation still to be adopted   |   |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom | PV and wind systems < 50 kWp: generation tariff + export premium of<br>4.77p £/kWh for up to 50% of excess power fed into the grid<br>> 50 kWp and < 5 MWp.: Feed-in-tariff<br>Source: European Commission (2015), Best prace   | Exempted<br>tices on Renewable Energy Self-consum   |  |  |  |

### Regulatory challenges Redesigning *old* tools and creating *new* ones

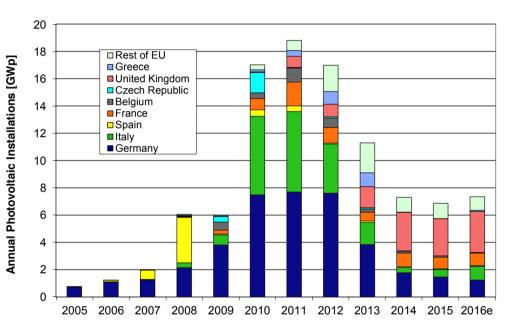
### Net Metering Systems

| Member State | Eligibility requirements  | Netting period Electricity compensation |  | Capacity cap   |
|--------------|---|---|--|--|
| Cyprus       | Household and municipal PV systems < 3 kW                             | Yearly                                  | <ul><li>Retail price</li><li>Subsidy of 900 Euro/kW for vulnerable consumers</li></ul>   | 10 MW per ye   |
| Denmark      | Non-commercial RES systems<br><6 kW                                   | Hourly                                  | Retail price   | N/A  |
| Greece       | PV systems <20 kWp  | Yearly                                  | Retail price   | N/A  |
| Italy        | RES systems:<br><200kW (after 31/12/2007)<br><500kW (after 1/01/2015) | Yearly                                  | Net-billing system: remuneration based on time-of-use price  | N/A  |
| Poland       | RES systems <40kW   | Half- yearly                            | <ul> <li>&lt; 10 kW : Feed-in tariffs (15 years): ~ €0.18 per kWh per below 3 kW; €0.11 per kWh for below 10 kW projects.</li> <li>&gt; 10 kW and &lt; 40 kW: 100% of the average sales price of electric energy on the competitive market in the preceding quarter</li> </ul> | $  \mathbf{N}   \mathbf{N}   \mathbf{N}   \mathbf{M}   \mathbf{T} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{r}$ |
| Sweden       | RES systems connection size <100A                                     | Yearly                                  | Tax reduction: 0,60 SEK (~6 €cent) per kWh of RES reduction, but at least an equal amount of electricity should be bought from the grid. Tax reduction for delivery up to 30 MWh/y   | For up to 3000<br>kWh, or 18000<br>SEK per year  |

Source: European Commission (2015), Best practices on Renewable Energy Self-consumption

A comparative analysis: the European Case

Annual installations in EU and candidate countries



Source: European Commission (2016)

- In 2011, there is a peak in new installations
- Support schemes not always appropriate:

"Some Member States had introduced support schemes where not designed to react fast enough to the very rapid growing market and this led to unsustainable local market growth rates. To counteract this, <u>unpredictable and freq</u> <u>changes in the support schemes</u>, as well as legal requirements, led to installation peaks before the announ deadlines and <u>high uncertainty for potential investors</u>. A number of retroactive changes have further decreased investment confidence."

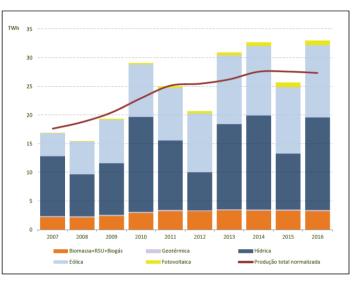
Source: European Commission (2016)

A comparative analysis: the European Case

- European Commission (2015) Recommendations:
  - Preference for self-consumption schemes over net-metering mechanisms
  - Limit net-metering to phase-in periods, allowing for regular revisions
  - Avoidance of retrospective changes in project's return and risks
  - > Phasing in of short-term market exposure by valuing surplus at wholesale electricity price
  - Monitor market developments in order to assure cost-effectiveness and avoid overcompensation (and cross subsidization)

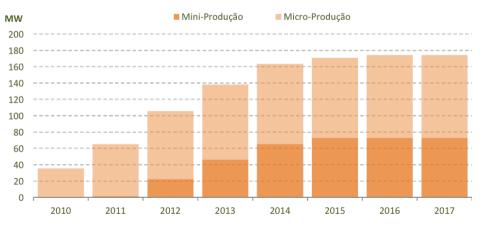
A comparative analysis: the Portuguese Case

#### enewable Energy Production in Portugal

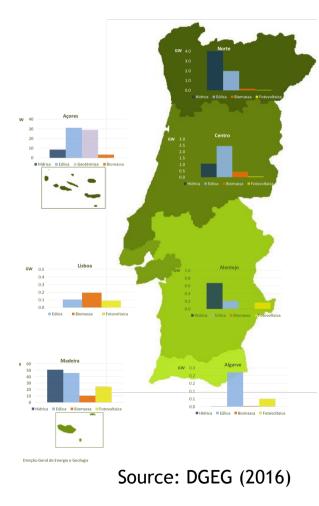


### Source: DGEG (2016)

#### Mini and Micro generation



#### Installed capacity (per RES)



Source: DGEG (2016)

A comparative analysis: the Portuguese Case

 Utility-scale projects (e.g Amareleja plant)



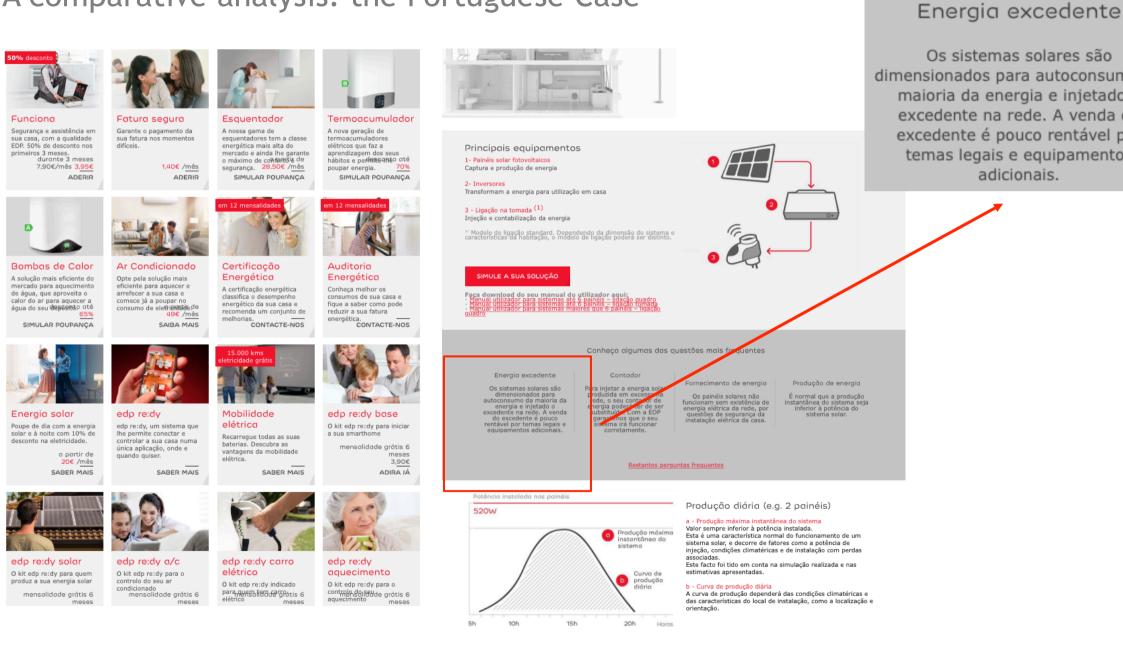
- 2015 Installation of approx. 3500 selfconsumption generation units
- 2016 Installation of 6.067 self-consumption generation units
- Cumulative capacity 50.393 kW

### "Portugal vai ter a maior central solar da Europa sem tarifa subsidiada

A nova central solar vai ficar localizada em Alcoutim, no Algarve."

in Jornal de Negócios, Feb. 2017 (200 million Euros investment (Chinese investment) - Installed capacity 221 MW

### A comparative analysis: the Portuguese Case



A comparative analysis: the Portuguese Case

|   | UPAC (Self consum   | nption)   | UPP (Small decentralized producers)  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Production<br>activity                          | instantaneous surplus m   | d for self-consumption. Energy<br>ay be injected to the grid and sold<br>(CUR) if power <1MW (otherwise   | All the energy is injected in the grid but product<br>indexed to the electricity consumption of the<br>associated consumption installation (annual<br>production <2x installation consumption)                                   |  |  |
| Remuneration<br>scheme & System<br>Compensation |   | Fórmula de remuneração do excedente<br>injetado na RESP:<br>R <sub>UPAC,m</sub> = E <sub>fornecida, m</sub> x OMIE <sub>m</sub> x 0,9<br>ated power> 1% and <3% of installe<br>"Custos de Interesse Económico | Auction system (bidders offer discounts wrt the<br>reference tariffs, administratively defined)- 15 yea<br>contracts<br>E.g catgory I the reference tariff is 95 Euros/MW<br>(100 Euros for category II and 105 Euros for Cargor |  |  |
| Registration &<br>Power limits                  | Power<200W – no register<br>communication only (sin<br>(licensing requirements)<br>Mandatory metering (ex | nplified registration); >1MW<br>;   | Power <min [contracted="" consumption<br="" of="" power="" the="">installation, 250 kW] - quota 20 MW; Registration 8<br/>Certification);<br/>Mandatory metering</min>   |  |  |

### Conclusions

Solar PV has extensively grown in recent years and it is expected to continue to grow in the future

- New electricity paradigm: more sustainable, more decentralized, storage, demand-side response, electric mobility, ...
- ▶ Utility-scale projects & Mini and Micro-generation projects growing side-by-side

Solar PV Micro-generation incentives are key to phase in DG

- In some countries (e.g. Portugal), investment incentives have slowed down in recent years, despite the natural potential...
- Business model innovation is needed in order improve the expected returns of investments in this field (both for new players and conventional utilities)
  - Multi-disciplinary approach to build new service-based products
  - Attractive financing schemes
  - Solar Community models
- Regulatory innovation is key to allow a smooth transition to the new electricity paradigm.

# PHOTOVOLTAIC MICRO GENERATION INCENTIVE POLICIES

# THANK YOU!!! OBRIGADA!!!!

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Centro de Economia e Finanças da UP Center for Economics and Finance at UP

