

SUCCESS STORY

Milestone: Black Sea Energy Regulators and Transmission System Operators Adopt Value Proposition on Mutual Collaboration to Accelerate Clean Energy Development and Cross-Border Electricity Trade



June 12, 2014

Black Sea Regional Transmission Planning Project and Black Sea Regulatory Initiative Joint Meeting

“Black Sea transmission system operators and their utility regulators expressed strong support for continuing the dialogue established through joint meetings of their respective USAID projects, leading to deepened cooperation on emerging regional planning and related regulatory challenges.”

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With the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), members of the Black Sea Regional Transmission Planning Project (BSTP) and the Black Sea Regulatory Initiative (BSRI) met in Tbilisi, Georgia, on June 12, 2014. The BSTP and BSRI are developing common approaches to enhancing energy security and clean energy development and trade by adopting common planning principles and harmonizing regulatory practices in the Black Sea region. Regional optimization and harmonization – both in the regulatory sphere and the network performance – require market-based, cross border trade of electricity to take advantage of the region’s diverse generation resources and seasonal variations in supply and demand of electricity. Such arrangements necessitate advancements in supporting regulations and the development of common underlying technical parameters and investment conditions.

Guided by the best practice of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and the Organization of MISO States (OMS), the participants agreed on a milestone common value proposition statement, confirming a shared approach to utility and regulatory cooperation:

“The members of the Black Sea Regional Transmission Planning Project and the Black Sea Regulatory Initiative express strong support for continuing the dialogue established through the joint meetings of their projects. Consistent interaction among the Working Groups is resulting in synergies accelerated by their distinct and complementary skills. We seek to improve the understanding of our respective technical, policy and market analyses in support of our shared objective to enhance clean electricity trade for the welfare of our citizens. We find it necessary to communicate consistently to improve cooperation in developing common proposals. To further this objective, we will deepen our cooperation on emerging regional planning and related regulatory challenges.”