



## SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY

**Technological advancements continue to drive renewable energy prices down, often making electricity from solar and wind cheaper than fossil fuels. Renewables increase investment opportunities, generate revenue for landowners, provide low-cost electricity, and create jobs in rural and remote areas where industry and employment may be scarce.**

USAID's Scaling Up Renewable Energy (SURE) program helps partner countries meet bold international climate commitments by accelerating their transition to more widely accessible, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy that spurs economic growth, powers health systems, and reduces emissions. Through SURE, USAID provides renewable energy planning, procurement, and grid integration support services. Our trainings, tools, and resources help policymakers, utilities, and regulators modernize energy sectors and create policies that enable renewable energy markets to flourish. As more partner countries aim to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and reduce hazardous waste, we identify opportunities and build partnerships to promote a circular economy for renewable energy equipment.

SURE uses continuous learning to apply innovation and best practices to scale up renewable energy while empowering women, strengthening communities, and promoting self-reliance.

### SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY GOALS



Advancing strategic  
energy planning



Increasing  
competition and  
lowering costs



Accelerating grid  
integration



Cultivating a circular  
economy for  
renewable energy



Catalyzing innovation  
and technology

## Advancing Strategic Energy Planning

Poor resource planning can cause energy shortages and service interruptions (e.g., load shedding) or surpluses that raise electricity prices due to supply and demand imbalance. It also increases vulnerability to fossil fuel price fluctuations and emissions. SURE works with utilities, system planners, government ministries, and regulators to accurately forecast energy demand and identify shortfalls so each country can achieve an optimal energy mix.

## Increasing Competition and Lowering Costs

Regardless of market maturity, auctions help policymakers reduce costs sustainably while spurring private investment, creating local jobs, reducing corruption in the procurement process, and cutting emissions. Compared to negotiated procurements, auctions enable faster project execution and allow policymakers greater volume control and ease in scaling for multiple projects and rounds. SURE's experts provide a full range of services to prepare for, design, and implement auctions, making sure that our partners are supported in every step of the process. Since 2017, SURE has supported nine renewable energy auctions.

## Accelerating Grid Integration

Investing and upgrading prepares the grid for evolving needs while raising investor confidence and making renewable energy projects and large-scale transmission expansions with long lead times more bankable. We work to reduce costs and curtailment, prevent stagnation of large-scale renewable energy deployment, and enable new business models such as electric vehicles, aggregation, demand-side management, and distributed energy resources. We train partners on modeling, analysis, and implementation skills to drive energy sector transformation.

## Promoting a Circular Economy

For renewable energy to be a truly green power source, its equipment must be manufactured, deployed, and decommissioned in a responsible, safe, and sustainable way. We support policies and initiatives and build capacity to address waste challenges while creating economic value and jobs. We work with partners to develop new innovations, sustainable practices, business models, and secondary markets for renewable energy parts and materials, cultivating a circular economy that is gender-inclusive, reduces waste, makes the supply chain more resilient, and extends equipment life.

## Catalyzing Innovation and Partnership

SURE's Innovation Fund creates new partnerships with local, U.S., and international partners. It leverages private and public resources and taps into innovative solutions that accelerate partner countries' transition to a clean energy economy. SURE identifies opportunities to work with the private sector to advance high-impact private sector-led approaches.

## CONTACTS

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## SURE BY THE NUMBERS (2017-2020)



**2,278**

persons  
trained  
in clean  
energy



**491**

institutions with  
improved capacity  
to address clean  
energy issues



**9** clean  
energy  
auctions  
supported



**\$3B**  
of investment  
mobilized for  
clean energy



**3.8 GW**  
of clean energy  
generation  
capacity procured  
(an additional 5  
GW announced)



**36M** tCO<sub>2</sub>e  
of GHG emissions  
reduced or avoided  
through 2030