PART III. NATIONAL REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR CSD-14/15 THEMATIC AREAS

B. ENERGY

Government focal point: Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation
Responding ministry: Ministry of energy and Industry

Decision-Making: Strategies, policies, programmes and plans, legislation, policy instruments and the regulatory framework; involvement of Major Groups

- Performance of the electricity sector and operation mode

Qatar electricity sector is developing based on the highest technology standards. Electricity growing demand is met through new generation and distribution projects throughout the country. The generation of electricity and its distribution are separated. The private sector is responsible of production of electrical energy while Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation (KAHRAMA) is responsible for distribution. The relationship between the production companies and KAHRAMA is based on PPA (Purchase Power Agreements).

Electricity generation in Qatar is among the most efficient in the world as it is essentially based on combined cycle gas fired technologies. The conversion factors from gas to electricity are among the highest (above 55%) while natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel used today in electricity generation at a global scale.

Regarding the demand side of electricity, there is a need to introduce energy efficiency and conservation programs. This activity is being designed and implemented in order to contribute to a more rational use of energy and to help fulfill the sustainable development goals in the country.

- Reform or restructuring of the energy sector within the last ten years to improve the functioning of energy markets.

Qatar relies on market economy mechanisms in all sectors. All the reforms in the electricity sector have been completed. As a result the investment is flowing as the opportunities come. Qatar Electricity & Water Company (QEWC) is quoted in the stock market as well as many other public or private companies. Besides, the energy market in Qatar is simple as there is a very little number of operators and as there is a single energy mix. For instance, natural gas and electricity are used in Industry and household while gasoline and diesel is used in the transport sector. KAHRAMA is the only supplier of electricity and WAQUD is the only supplier of gasoline and diesel and Qatar petroleum is the only supplier of natural gas to its customers for electricity generation or other industries.

- Legal and regulatory frameworks related to overall energy policies that have been adopted.

There are a number of laws and regulations in the country covering all developmental aspects of a modern economy and society. Among them Law number 4 of 1972 amended by Law number 30 of 2002 covers all aspects related to environmental protection and natural reserves preservation. The aspects linked to health, safety and environment are among the most important features of this law. For instance, all industrial sectors and new projects including electricity generation and distribution are subject to an environmental impact assessment study and they are also subject to auditing in order to maintain compliance with the law.