

Dr. Birgit Wetzel, Reform Group Meeting, Salzburg, October 14-18, 2019

### Potential for Renewable Energy

in Central Asia

#### What is ahead

- \* The region
- \* The countries, geography and politics
- Energy potential



# The BRI leads through Central Asia



#### **Countries in Central Asia**

- Uzbekistan "the population giant"
- Kazakhstan " the land giant"
- Turkmenistan "the gas giant"
- Kirgistan
- Tadjikistan
- (Afghanistan)

## Central Asia is rich with energy resources

- \* ... is rich with energy resources:
- \* Oil, gas and uranium!
- Sun and Wind!
- \* Water! ... in two countries

#### Central Asia exports Carbohydrates



## Renewable Energy offers great Chances for C.A.

- Central Asia has an enormous potential for renewable energy
- Also, and therefore, it has a good potential for an independent economic and political development
- The question is how to develop its potential!



## Uzbekistan has great potential for growth

#### Kazakhstan needs connectivity

# Turkmenistan has vast amounts of gas

### Kirgistan has plenty of water

### Tajikistan has plenty of water, but a difficult neighbor

## Energy transition meets multiple barriers

- There is a large potential, but not much has been done in the past years
- \* The slow progress is a result of multiple barriers:

#### Obstacles for Energy Transformation:

- Inherited old monopolistic and centralized structures, a Soviet legacy.
- Maybe close ties between government officials and energy business structures
- Subsidies for fossil fuels and nuclear energy
- ....creating artificial low prices
- Lack of technical equipment (open the window in winter.....)
- Lack of awareness!



#### Forecast: Prices for Renewable Technology

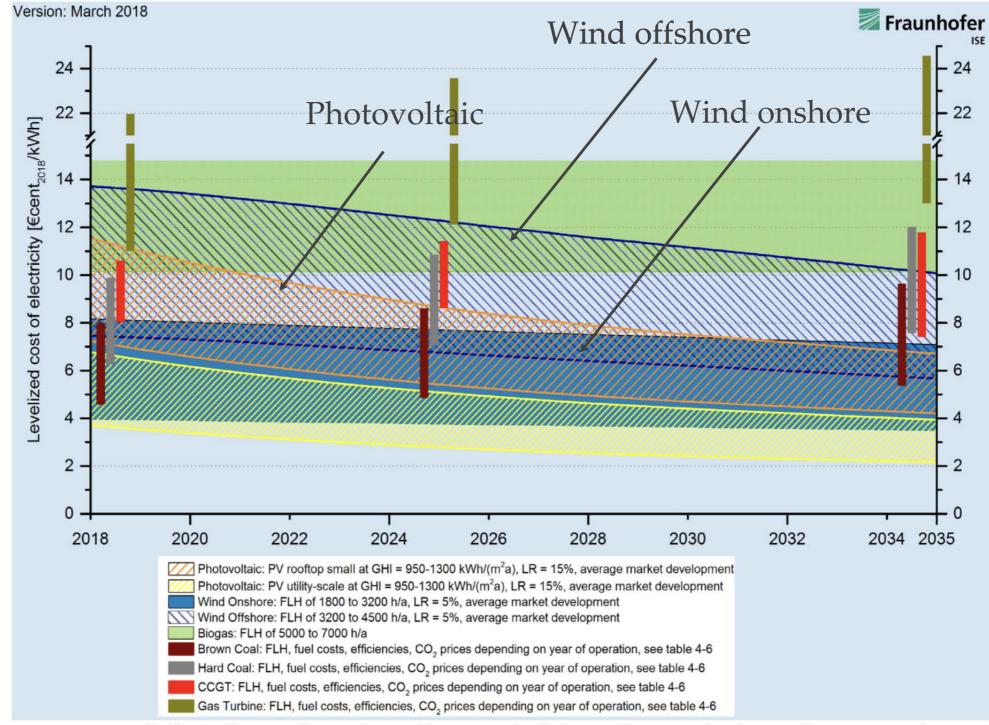


Figure 16: Forecast for the development of LCOE of renewable energy technologies as well as conventional power plants in Germany by 2035.

### Renewable Energy is highly relevant for Central Asia

- Renewable Energy is highly relevant for Central Asia
- \* Energy is a top priority for the emerging economies
- Energy security and energy independence must be a top priority

### Recent developments open up new opportunities

- Regional cooperation started November 12, 2017 at the conference of Samarkand
- EU as consultant

#### What are the best moves now?



#### Thank you!

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