

AGENDA

RAA PHASE II – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



Cross-Border Sustainable Renewable Acceleration Areas in Ukraine – PHASE II

Degraded Agricultural Lands as a Priority Sites for Renewables Acceleration Areas

Stakeholder Discussion Session

Venue: Online on Zoom (pre-registration [link](#))

Date: 25 August 2026

Time: 15:00 – 17:00 EEST

CONCEPT

As nations rapidly scale up solar and wind capacity through Renewables Acceleration Areas (RAAs) – zones designed for fast-tracked permitting with lower environmental conflict – a critical land-use tension has emerged. Converting productive agricultural land into utility-scale energy parks risks threatening food security and local farming economies. Conversely, prioritizing heavily degraded, salinized, eroded, or marginal agricultural lands with poor farming yields offers a high-value compromise: deploying clean energy infrastructure without competing with food production.

The session will discuss the issues of defining “degraded” lands, legal regulation of the issue, access to databases of “degraded” lands, their potential efficiency for RAAs given the higher costs of grid connection in rural areas and the operational balance between clean energy production and dual-use models such as agrovoltatics. Through a joint dialogue, stakeholders will work to identify approaches to transform low-productivity agricultural lands into key assets for the energy transition.

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1. Welcoming Remarks

15:00 – 15:10

- Mr. Oleksii Orzhel, Senior Energy Expert, Energy Community Secretariat
- Ms. Oksana Aliieva, Senior Associate, European Climate Foundation
- Ministry representative (tbc)
- Silvia Martinez Romero, World Bank (tbc)

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2. Agricultural Lands RAAs Criteria Assessment in Ukraine

15:10 – 15:35

Approaches used for considering agricultural lands as a criterion in RAAs planning at the regional level

Viktor Putrenko, Director of the Geospatial Solutions Agency "AGEORA"

3. Degraded Lands Assessment

15:35 – 16:00

Assessment of degraded lands as a priority sites for Renewables Acceleration Areas

Erica Ruhl Zell, the World Bank

4. Renewable Energy Land Request

16:00 – 16:30

Spatial requirements for a sustainable energy transition in Europe

Cosimo Tansini, Policy Officer for Renewables, European Environmental Bureau

5. Discussion Panel

16:30 – 17:00

Moderated discussion related to the topic

Moderator – Sergii Gapon, coordinator of innovative solutions branch of the Geospatial Solutions Agency "AGEORA"