

## INVESTING IN RENEWABLES

THE GREEN FINANCE OPPORTUNITY 01 MAY 2024 | EDINBURGH

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## The latest market insights – what's out there?

Chaired by Claire Mack, Chief Executive, Scottish Renewables





### **Claire Mack**

Chief Executive, Scottish Renewables

### **Eddie McAvinchey**

Banking & Investments – Scotland, UK Infrastructure Bank

### **Fraser Dobbie**

Chief Financial Officer, North Star

### **Tim Purton**

Head of Finance for Investment, SSEN Transmission

### Lara McGrath

Export Finance Manager, UK Export Finance





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## How the market is changing – the current picture

Chaired by Sarah-Jane McArthur, Partner, Brodies





# Andrew Smith Partner Greenbackers





# lain Wintour Partner EY







### Introduction



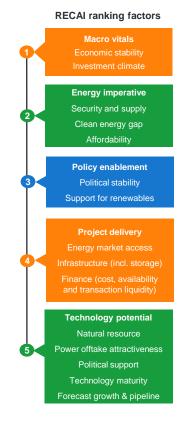
### **lain Wintour**

### **EY Tax Partner – Energy**

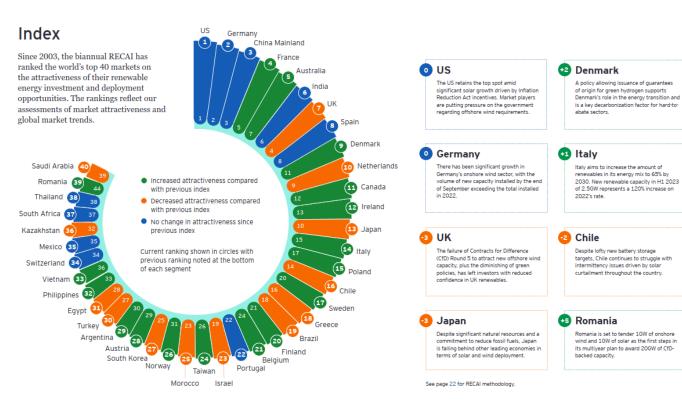
- ▶ Partner in EY Energy tax practice providing tax advice to power, utilities and renewable energy clients.
- ▶ 20 years of professional experience specialising in tax.
- ► Focus on the renewable energy sector and supports clients delivering large scale infrastructure projects, particularly in relation to new developments, transactions and tax structuring issues.
- ▶ Advise clients investing in or developing renewable energy assets including solar PV, onshore and offshore wind and battery storage in the UK and internationally.

### EY Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI)

- ► Ranks countries worldwide on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities
- Approximately 100 markets are analysed and scored, however, only the top
   40 countries are included in the published index
- Released 6-monthly, RECAI also provides leading market commentary and analysis on the global renewable energy sector. This includes insight on specific markets and key finance, transaction and policy trends
- Now in its 20th year, RECAI has established itself as an industry standard, and is frequently cited by governments and industry leaders
- ▶ It has become a key tool for developers, investors and corporate decision makers on market entry strategies and transactions. It is also used by governments and multilateral organisations to help inform policy decisions
- ► Each report reaches **c.750,000** energy stakeholders via press and social media. It is publicly available online at ey.com/recai.



### **RECAI Issue 62 (November 2023)**



The RECAI model's energy imperative pillar has been slightly adjusted to ensure that markets with a strong and demonstrable commitment to deploying green energy are scored positively.

### Overview of UK Attractiveness for Green Investment

### **UK RECAL Position**

November 2022

4th

June 2023

4th

November 2023

7th

- Green investment in the UK remains consistent and is still seen as attractive for overseas investment:
  - ▶ In the EY Attractiveness Survey, UK ranked second in the amount of new FDI projects in 2023
  - ▶ £14 billion in FDI for UK net-zero businesses in 2022-2023
  - ► Scotland had 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of FDI projects in 2022
- ▶ However, UK has fallen in the RECAl index in the last two years:
  - ► Failure of the fifth round of the Contract for Difference scheme to produce any new offshore wind capacity in 2023
  - Awards were instead won by onshore wind/solar projects, which meant many projects taken away from potential corporate PPAs (thinning liquidity in market and placing upward pressure on prices)
  - Inconsistent political messaging around net-zero targets decreasing investor confidence
  - ► General lack of new renewable energy policies
  - ▶ China overtaking UK in the amount of offshore wind capacity installed in 2022
- ▶ Offshore wind market internationally slowed in 2023
  - ▶ Rising costs and supply chain issues affecting developer interest
  - Particularly striking for the UK who has relied on offshore wind to remain internationally competitive
- ▶ In summary, investment in UK renewables has declined due to generally difficult economic environment and decrease in the international competitiveness of the UK for renewables

### International Competition - Global Developments

### **Top Ranked Countries**

Nov 2023 Ranking - 1st

US

- ▶ US was top of the RECAI index in 2022 and 2023.
- The Inflation Reduction Act ("IRA") has provided a substantial number of new grants, tax credits and low-cost loans.
- Large boost to the green hydrogen industry from tax credits of up to \$3/kg under the IRA
- Credits will also help make green steel cost competitive with that made from fossil fuels (which could strengthen demand for green steel, green cement and green glass)
- Significant growth in US solar industry with record production capacity expected in 2023.
- Increased investment in domestic manufacturing to support solar growth.

Nov 2023 Ranking - 2nd

### Germany

- 2022 Easter Package set high targets for future growth in onshore/offshore wind and solar generation.
- Modified the Constitution to include renewable energies as a "matter of public interest and security" demonstrating commitment to green investment.
- Addition of 36 new grid expansion and optimisation projects.
- Significant growth in onshore wind generation.
- Announced plans to subsidize decarbonisation of energyintensive industry.

### Nov 2023 Ranking - 3rd

### China

- Ambitious renewable energy targets:
  - ► 1/3 of electricity from green sources by 2025
  - increase % of non-fossil fuel energy in overall consumption by 1% p.a. from 2022 to 2030.
- Record growth in renewablecapacity installations, which is projected to continue.
- Supported by energy transition needs and decreasing project costs.
- Launched green power certificates, with projects granted a certificate by the government for each megawatt hour of renewable power produced.

### Nov 2023 Ranking – 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup>

### Other

### France

- 10GW Offshore wind tender proposed and CfD style auctions to be held for future offshore wind allocations
- Ambitious target of 40GW offshore wind by 2050 set.
- Updating energy and climate programming law to incorporate EU climate targets

### Australia

- Granted federal approval for one of world's largest batteries to be built (capacity to power over 1m households).
- Earmarked up to AU\$3bn from National Reconstruction Funding for renewables manufacturing to combat supply chain challengers in offshore wind.

### How can the UK move back up the rankings?

### **UK RECAI Position**

November 2022 4th

June 2023

4th

November 2023 7th

► How should the UK Government respond to international competition for investment, e.g. the US Inflation Reduction Act?

- ▶ Show the UK is 'open for business' for renewables investment
- ▶ Using tax as a carrot rather than a stick tax incentives vs windfall taxes
- ▶ Aligning tax policy with the policy for net zero
- ▶ What should the priorities be for the next UK and Scottish Governments to increase investor confidence in renewables?
  - ▶ Importance of clear political support and policy environment
- ▶ RECAI 63 is due for release in June 2024



# Alasdair Campbell Director InfraRed Capital Partners





### Sarah-Jane McArthur

Partner, Brodies

### **Andrew Smith**

Partner, Greenbackers

### **Iain Wintour**

Partner, EY

### **Alasdair Campbell**

Director, InfraRed Capital Partners





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## Strategic investment – how do we enable ahead-of-time investment?

Chaired by Iain Sinclair, Executive Director, Global Energy Group





### **Iain Sinclair**

Executive Director, Global Energy Group

### **Clare Foster**

Partner and Head of Clean Energy, Shepherd and Wedderburn

### **Jimmy Williamson**

Executive Director – Sustainable Investment, The Scottish National Investment Bank

### Vicky O'Connor

Senior Wind Development and Investment Professional, Independent

### **Andy McAllister**

Assistant Director - Advisory Corporate Finance,
Deloitte



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