# Consumers leading the energy transition















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# 1 Introduction

# Consumers leading the energy transition

Energy attribute certificate markets are expanding around the world, and for good reason: these markets are being recognized for their important role in providing transparency, credibility and consumer choice. Whereas the Guarantee of Origin market in Europe matured only a few years ago, today this market is well developed and growing in terms of its importance and volumes. In North America the REC system continues to be a leading driver of growth in renewable energy production and around the world the International REC Standard is developing rapidly, offering national authorities and local stakeholders a reliable standard for procuring renewable electricity.

This growth is driven by various developments, the most visible lately being the growth of corporate sourcing of renewable electricity. This is an endeavour by major companies to take responsibility for their

impact on global greenhouse gas emissions. These companies recognize the importance of reliable market-based instruments and standardization. The work of RECS International, along with its members and partners, provides critical guidance and ensures that consumers are able to make informed decisions about their electricity purchases.

Building new renewable generation capacity is increasingly being led by demand and less by national support schemes. While it is expected that this trend will continue in the future, it is crucial to align policy developments with consumer demand. In Europe developments related to the new Renewable Energy Directive are influencing the policy landscape for renewable energy market developments, but this isn't happening in a bubble. Around the world, in almost every country, similar legislative and market-based initiatives are

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#### 1 Introduction

# Consumers leading the energy transition

taking place. RECS International continues to be an important source of information and support for both global and local actors working in this sector. We remain focused, now more than ever, on creating effective and reliable markets for trading renewable energy. This work is only possible because of the efforts and support of our members as well as the work of our secretariat.

## **Thomas Eccard**

Chairman, RECS International

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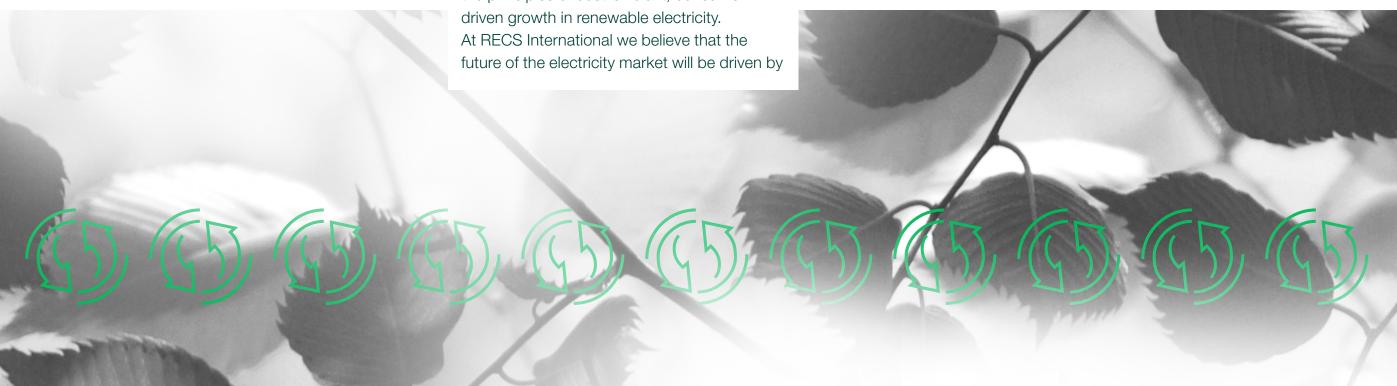
# 2 Our mission

RECS International is a non-profit members' organization with the mission to create transparent and reliable renewable energy markets, facilitated by commonly accepted energy attribute tracking systems.

Members of RECS International represent the whole chain of the electricity market – from producers to consumers – who all endorse the principles of cost-efficient, consumerdriven growth in renewable electricity.

At RECS International we believe that the

consumers and that energy attribute certificates (EACs), suitable policies and best practices must be in place to enable bottom-up growth in that market.

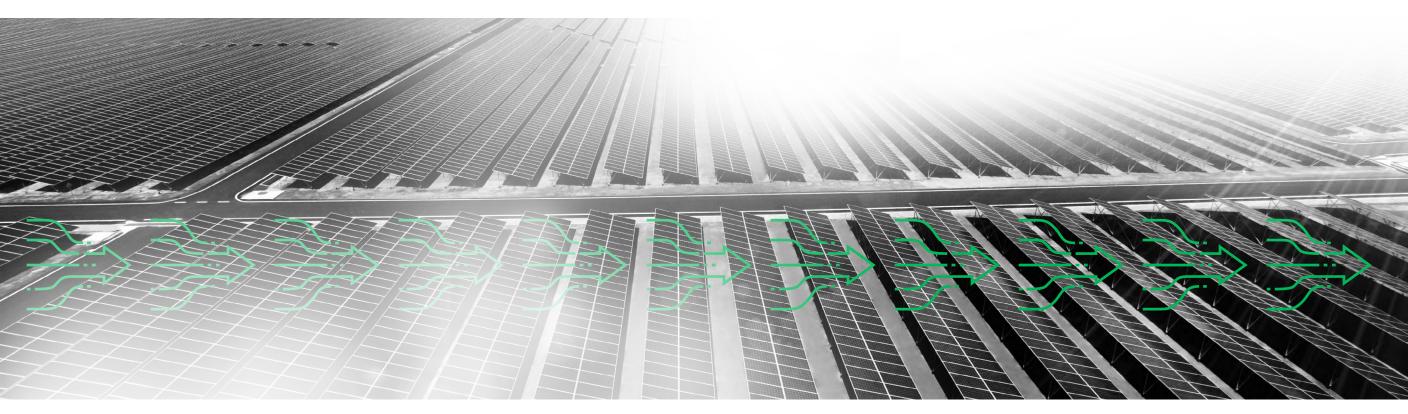


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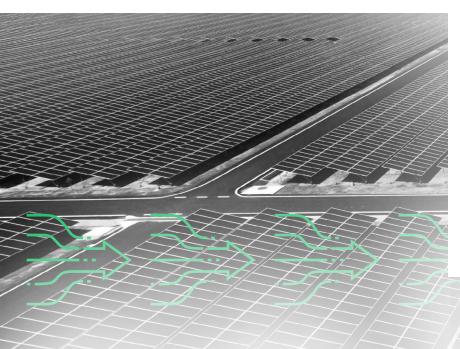
# 3 Market developments

#### **Overview**

- > Europe
- > USA
- > International REC Standard (I-REC Standard)



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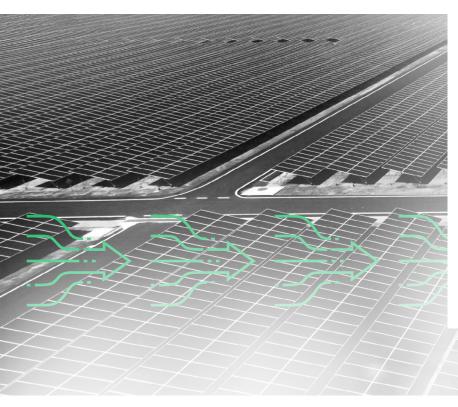
#### 3 Market developments

## Europe

Guarantee of Origin (GO) markets in Europe have grown consistently over the last decade. EU Member States, as well as some non-EU states, mandate that adequate disclosure regulation should be in place at the national level and that the GO (or a similar energy attribute certificate) should be used to reliably deliver renewable energy attributes. The figure below shows developments from 2009 to 2017. The vertical bars display RES production, part of which has been certified (Total issued GOs), some of which has not been certified due to production being coupled to a support scheme which does not allow the GOs to reach the market (Supported-not certified) and some of which has been available for certification but has not been certified. The line shows cancellation volumes of GOs (certified RES consumption).

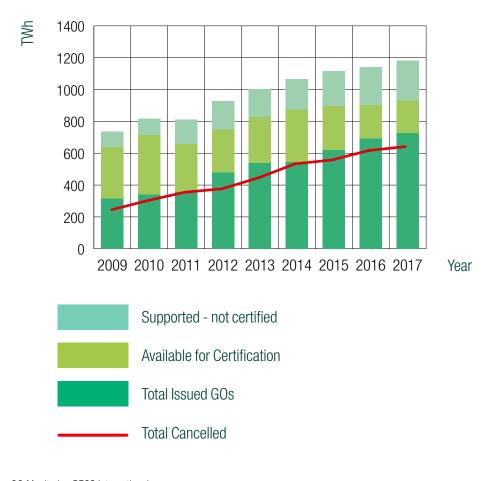
The issuance of Guarantees of Origin in 2017 has increased by 34 TWh compared to 2016. This represents growth of 5% (compared to 12% growth in 2016), but the share of RES tracked by the GO compared to total RES produced remains 54%. The graph shows that demand for renewable electricity (the red line) is increasing, with an average growth rate of 9.6% over the last five years. Total production is also increasing, in part due to state subsidies ("supported-not certified"). Supported-not certified volumes are created primarily in Germany and France (21% of the total produced RES in both 2016 and 2017), where GOs are not issued for renewable electricity which received support. The gap between total supply and demand is getting smaller as the volume of electricity available for certification is being reduced.

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# 3 Market developments / Europe

# RES consumption Europe $^{\ast}$



\*Source: GO Monitoring RECS International

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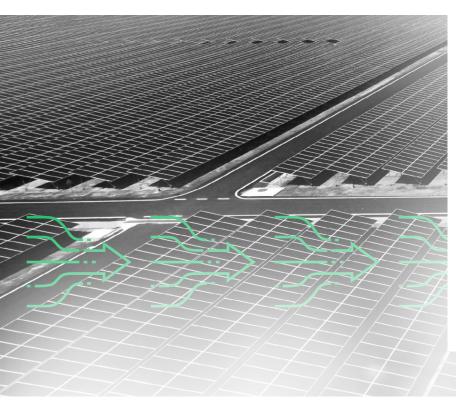
#### 3 Market developments

#### The US REC market

As in Europe, in the US a REC is issued for every MWh of electricity produced. The US has both a compliance REC market and a voluntary REC market. Most US states have adopted some form of Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), which forms the basis for the compliance market. An RPS requires electricity utilities and other retail electricity providers to deliver a specified percentage or amount of electricity with eligible renewable resources. Although the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) encourages the use of tracking systems to regulate generation and retirement, not all RECs are required to be transacted through an attribute tracking system, and these are therefore not included in the figure below.

energy are increasing, with the share of voluntary renewables in the total volume of generated electricity increasing from 26% in 2015 to 28% in 2016. Voluntary demand is increasing to the extent that, for the first time, it exceeds the volumes of existing renewables under the compliance schemes. Newly installed compliance volumes continue to account for most REC usage (42%), showing that RPS-driven markets continue to drive the growth of renewables on the grid. The section 'other renewables' refers to situations where regulated entities procure RE over and above their RPS requirements. This also captures distributed generation where no REC transaction has occurred, such as situations where rooftop PV owners retain their own RECs.

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# 3 Market developments / USA

# RES consumption USA $^{\ast}$



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3 Market developments

#### International REC Standard

(I-REC Standard)

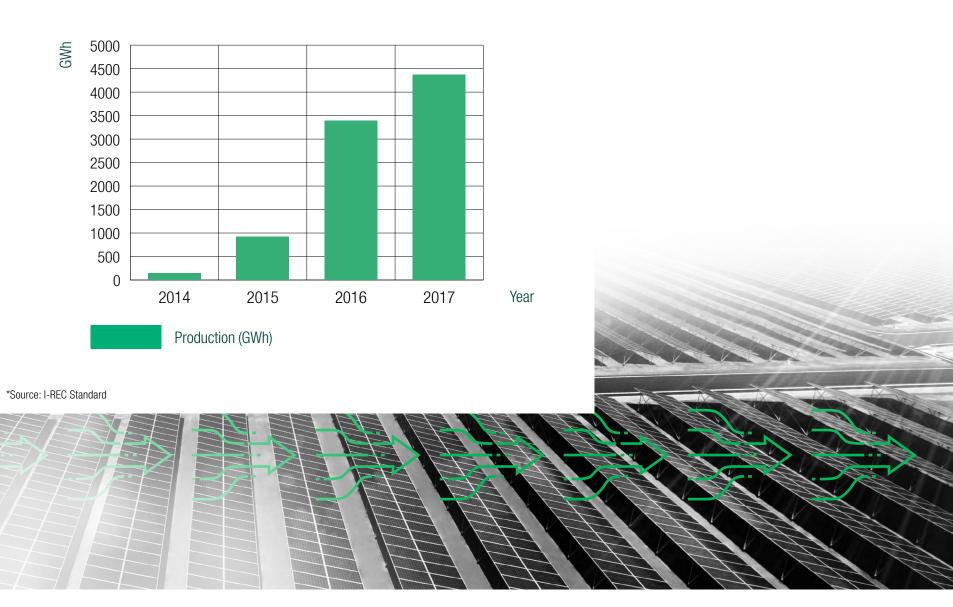
The International REC Standard (I-REC Standard) is the best known and most frequently used energy attribute certificate market outside of the US and Europe. The I-REC market has grown rapidly since its inception in late 2014. To date, 22 countries around the world have independent issuers, which are authorized to work in compliance with the I-REC Standard. The number of participant account holders since 2014 has

more than doubled to 38. The number of registered devices has also doubled to 117. In 2017 growth in the issuance of I-RECs was almost 30% compared to 2016 and it is expected that in 2018 issuance volumes will continue to grow, as more countries become active adopters of the International REC Standard and consumer demand for renewable attributes continues to grow internationally.

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# 3 Market developments / I-REC Standard

# RES issuance on I-REC Standard\*



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# Financial developments

#### **Overview**

- > Balance sheet
- > Profit and Loss statement



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4 Financial developments\*

# Balance sheet

**Assets** In Euros

|                     | 2017    | 2016    |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Assets              | 5,183   | 7,575   |
| Accounts receivable | 7,935   | 2,784   |
| Cash                | 178,126 | 185,945 |
| Other receivables   | 112,571 | 47,526  |
|                     |         |         |
| Total               | 303,815 | 243,830 |

**Liabilities** In Euros

|                    | 2017    | 2016    |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Cumulative results | 183,089 | 182,820 |
| Creditors          | 1,671   | 23,135  |
| Other creditors    | 119,055 | 37,875  |
|                    |         |         |
| Total              | 303,815 | 243,830 |

The full 2017 compilation report is available at the RECS secretariat.



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# 4 Financial developments\*

# Profit and Loss statement

Revenue In Euros

|              | 2017    | 2016    |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Member fees  | 168,008 | 166,790 |
| Meeting fees | 245,675 | 198,127 |
|              |         |         |
| Total        | 413,683 | 364,917 |

# Expenditure

**ure** In Euros

| Internal               | 2017    | 2016    |
|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Internal               | 044.700 | 404 700 |
| Secretariat            | 211,722 | 181,723 |
| Travel & accommodation | 12,881  | 16,681  |
| Financial & legal      | 4,420   | 2,330   |
| Operational costs      | 4,658   | 1,550   |
| Meetings               | 150,521 | 132,874 |
| PR & communication     | 12,313  | 11,068  |
| Special projects       | 16.900  | 14.910  |
| Result                 | 269     | 3,781   |
|                        |         |         |
| Total                  | 413,683 | 364,917 |

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{\star}}$  The full 2017 compilation report is available at the RECS secretariat.

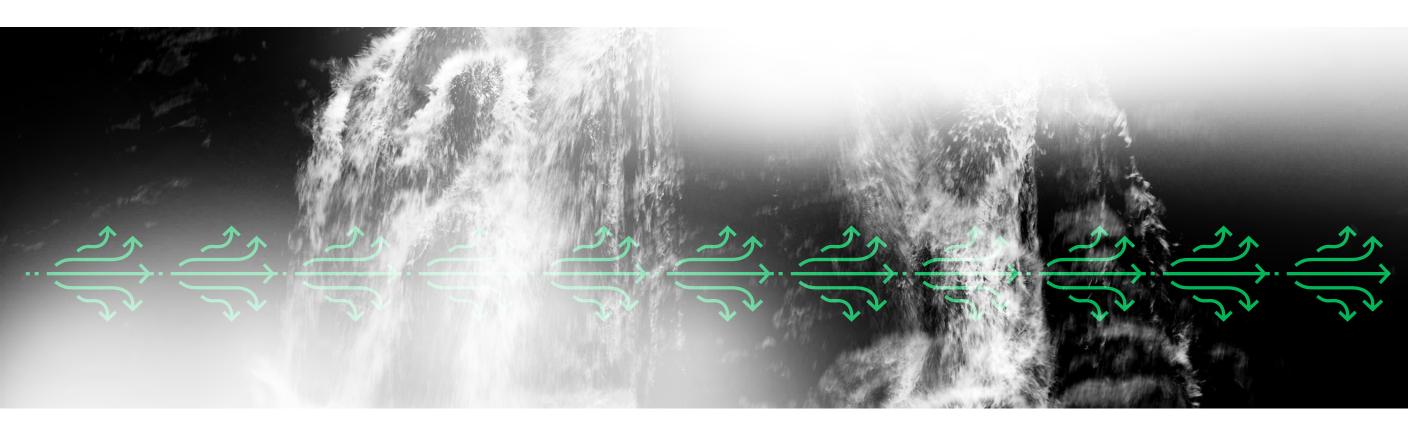


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# RECS International

#### **Overview**

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- > RECS International members



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#### 5 RECS International

# **Board members**

Thomas Eccard, Chairman/President

Agder Energi Sweden

#### Tom Lindberg

Ecohz Norway

#### **Louis von Moos**

Association ECS Switzerland Switzerland

#### Marie-Christine Bluett

South Pole Group the Netherlands

#### Saptarshi Pal

Statkraft Markets
United Kingdom

#### **Oliver Crouch**

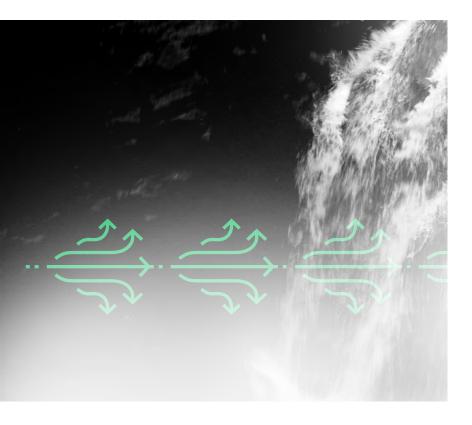
Natural Capital Partners
United Kingdom

#### Ivan Debay

Origo France



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#### 5 RECS International

# Members in 2017













































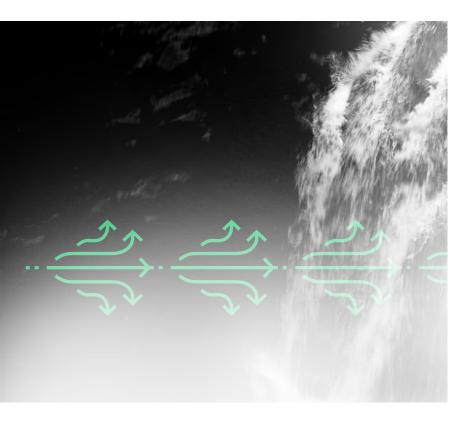








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#### 5 RECS International / Members













































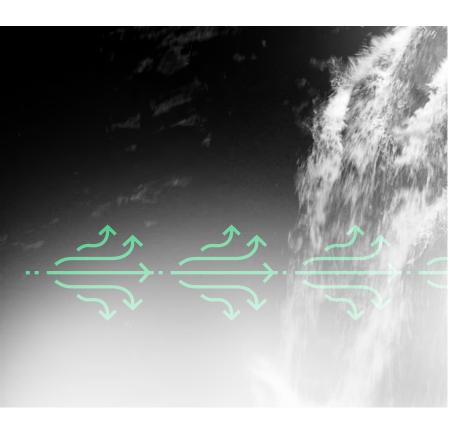








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#### 5 RECS International / Members













































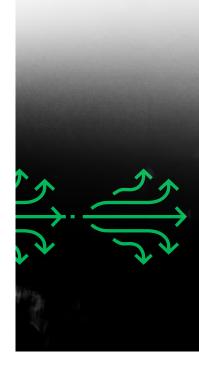












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#### Secretariat

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