

# Market reform fundamentals

*Criteria e implementación de cambios estructurales en  
mercados energéticos*

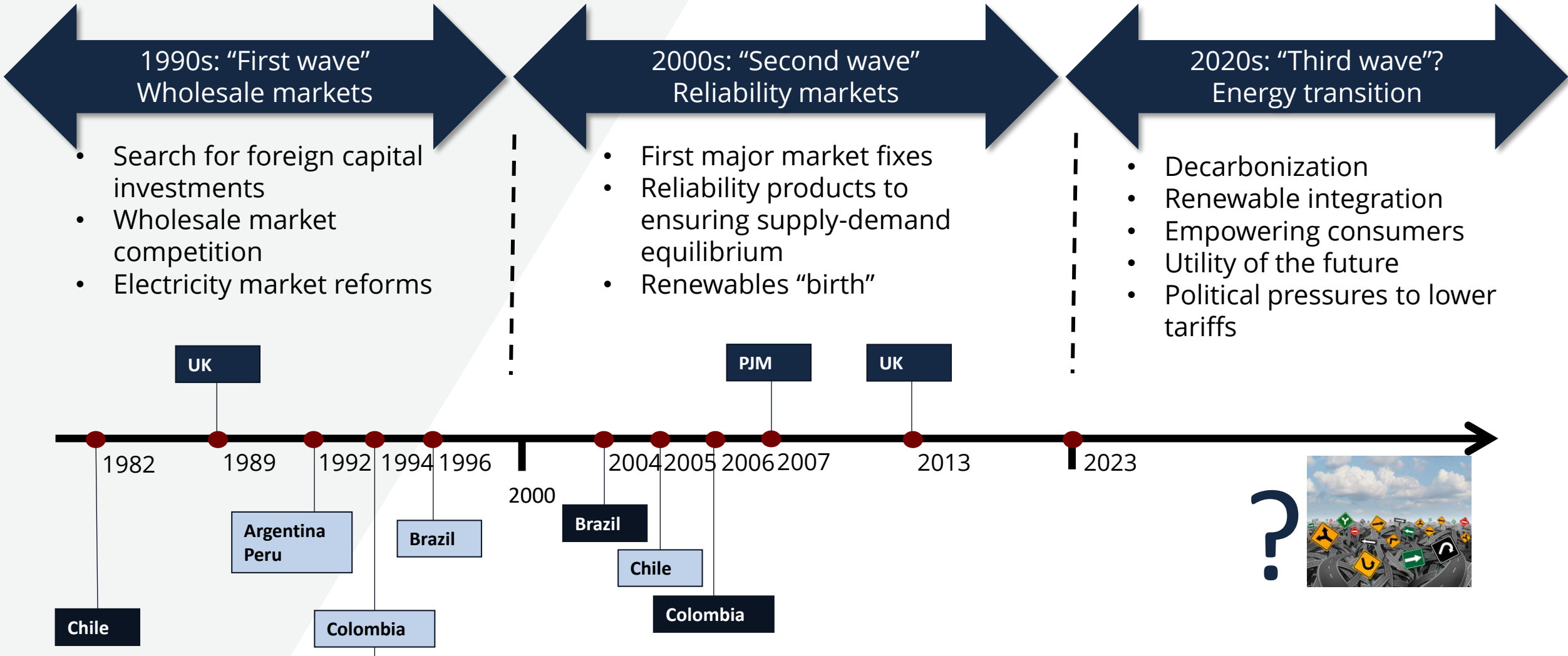
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August 2023



# We are under a new wave of reform needs

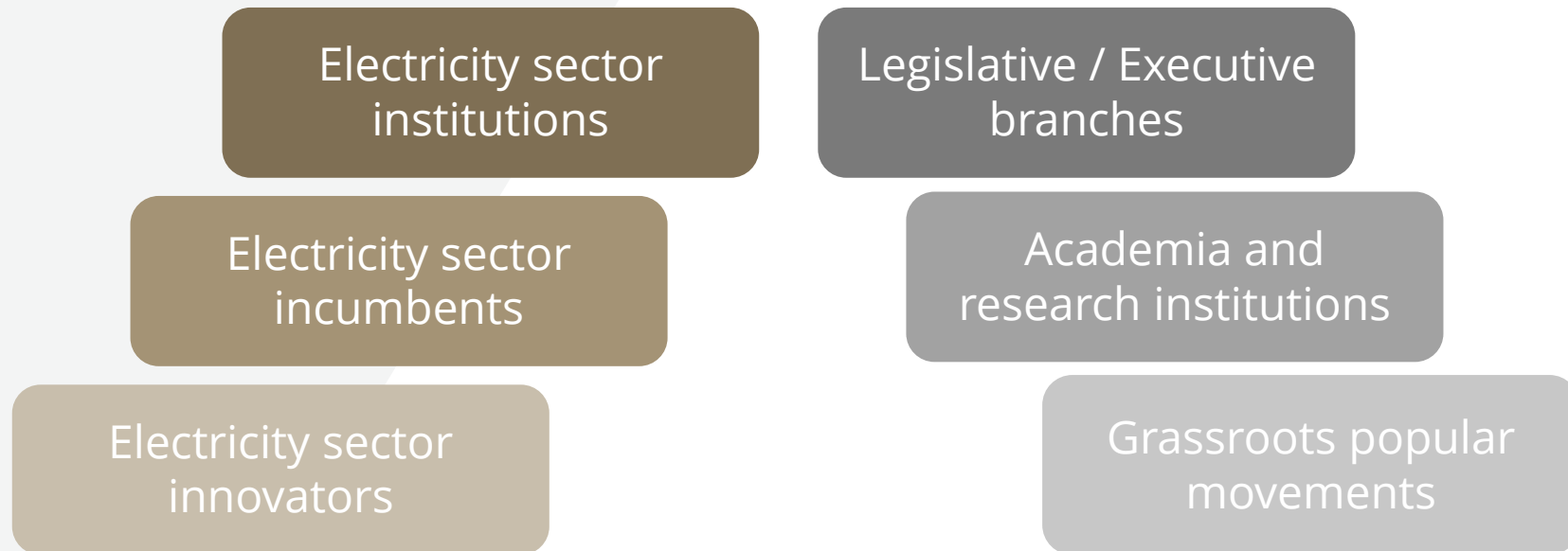
Large transformations underway: new reforms will be very important!



# So, let's reform!

## Reforms can start from different groups in society...

- More “top-down” vs more “bottom-up”, and “from inside” vs “from outside” the sector



## Regardless of how it begins:

- Every reform **can** (potentially) be successful
- Every reform **will** involve negotiation and compromises



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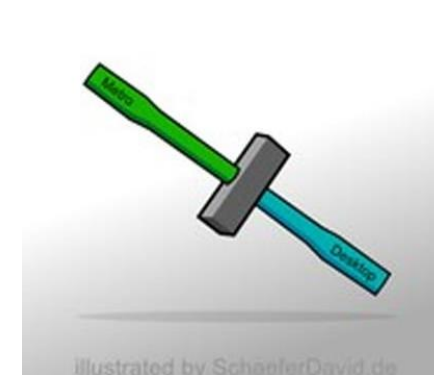
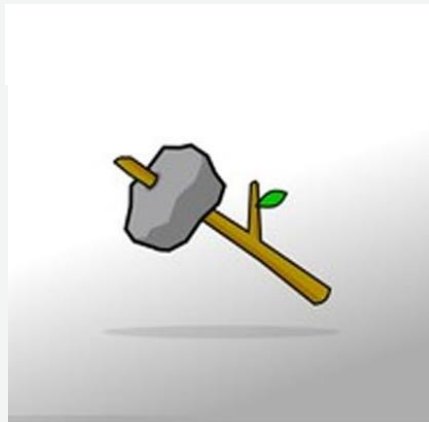
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- 02** Market-oriented principles
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**01**

# Avoiding pitfalls

# Why some reforms fail?

- Reform objectives are (usually) not controversial – everybody wants:
  - **Maximization of social welfare:** cheaper electricity, efficient use of country's resources
  - **More efficient decision making:** in long-term expansion and in short-term dispatch
  - A **fair assess** energy of the **energy transition complexities:** new products and services
  - **Fair and efficient risk allocation:** risks should be assigned to those that can best handle them
- **However... Most reforms fail to achieve (or achieve poorly) those objectives**



illustrated by SchaeferDavid.de

# Reason #1: Bias and lack of information

## Bias and lack of information effects

Often results from **lack of dialogue** and **cooperation** (sometimes hostility) between different groups

Sometimes, one group succeeds in implementing an **isolated solution** which **creates collateral problems** and costs all over the sector

Top-down

“how we do things today” bias

Ignorance of physical and technical limitations – (e.g. build a lot, it will become very cheap)

Bottom-up

“what is economically attractive today” bias

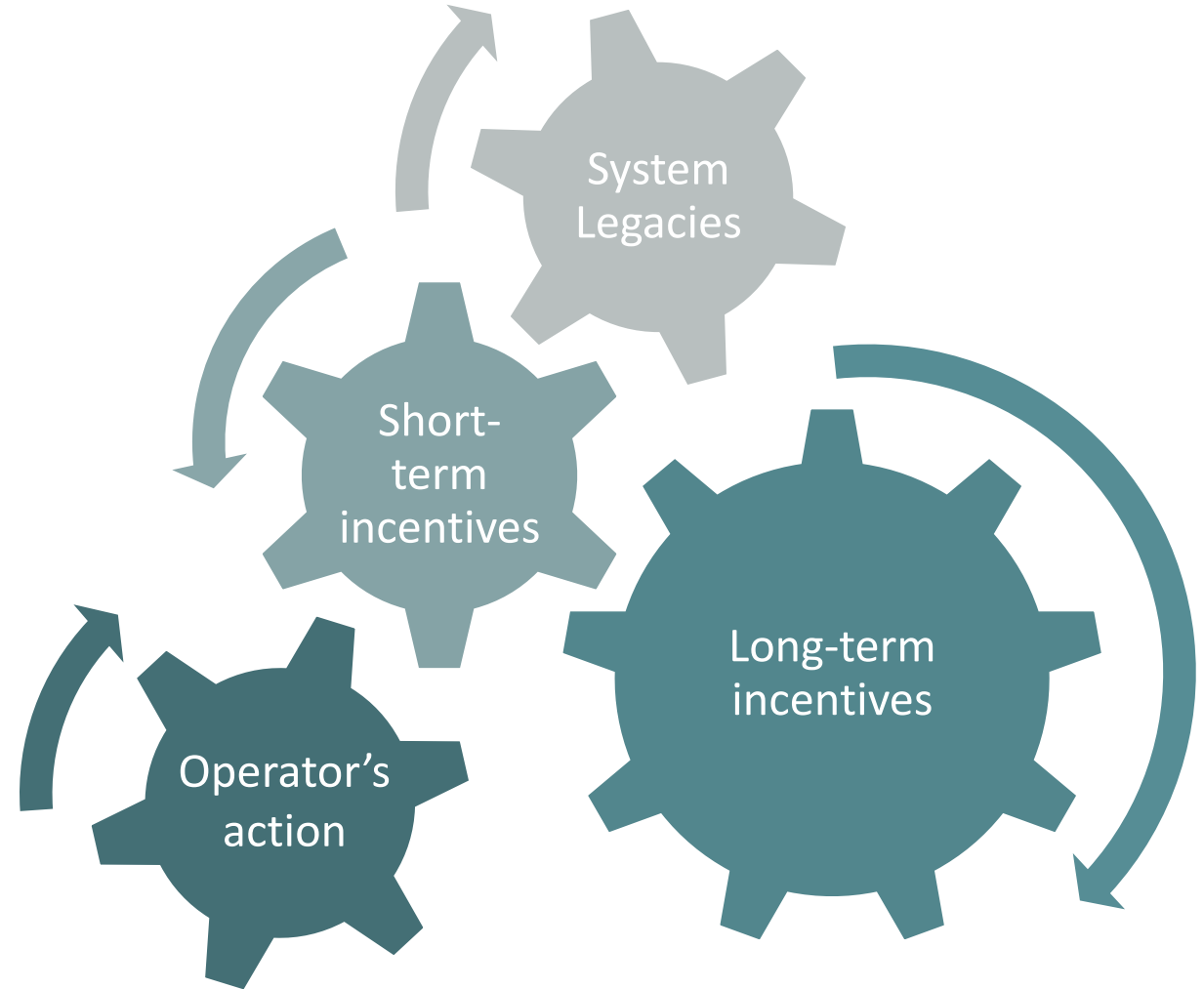
“Shiny new toys” (e.g. new technologies)



# Reason #2: Disjointed market design

The electricity market has several **interdependent** (or interlocked) pieces. If you change one, for example, creating a new service or incentive, you should consider the effect on the others. Otherwise, the overall result may be negative

This **interdependence** is especially **relevant** when reaching consensus and compromises (e.g. It is easy for groups to agree when the people who will actually pay are **not** there)





# How to get there...

In general, there are **many different ways** to reach policy goals – one pair of extreme alternatives is exemplified below



- Liberalized “energy-only” market
- “Trust the market”
- Incentives and price signals
- Adequacy concerns (“too much trust in markets”?)
- Other market failures

- Monopolistic state-owned control
- “Trust the government”
- Case-by-case decisions
- Inefficiency concerns (“too much trust in central planning”?)
- Other information failures

# Aiming for a “best of both worlds” strategy

A **reliability mechanism** could be the third leg that stabilizes the stool



- Centralized definition of quantities (demand for reliability)
- Decentralized bids sets the prices and technology mix
- Reliability providers receive to provide reliability services

# However...

Assume that a **new** additional “safety net” is introduced as shown below



## Reliability + government intervention

- Centralized definition of quantities (demand for reliability)
- Decentralized bids sets the prices and technology mix
- ...And in addition, the government can act ad hoc to expand capacity

# What happened?

The new “government + reliability” leg may **conflict** with the incentives in the decentralized leg

## Downsides

- Agents can no longer trust that the “core” reliability mechanism will drive system expansion
- Agents are incentivized to “wait and see” rather than actively seek opportunities
- Non isonomic incentives
- Additional burden on state-owned companies (or consumers)



# In summary...

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It is important to consider **how design elements fit into one another**

A well-designed market is **better** than the sum of its parts – strengths are **magnified** and weaknesses are **mitigated**

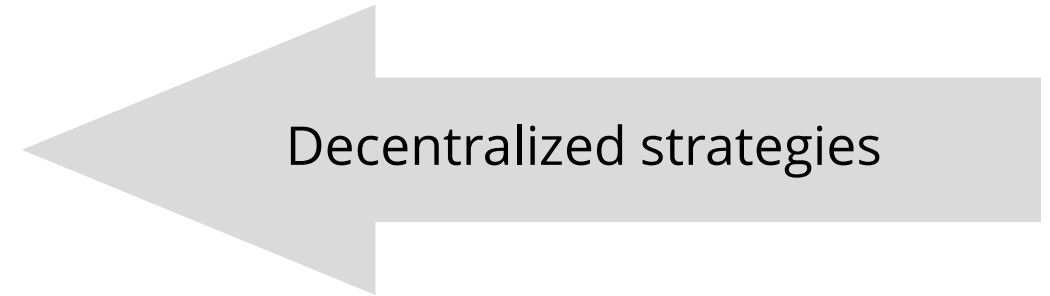
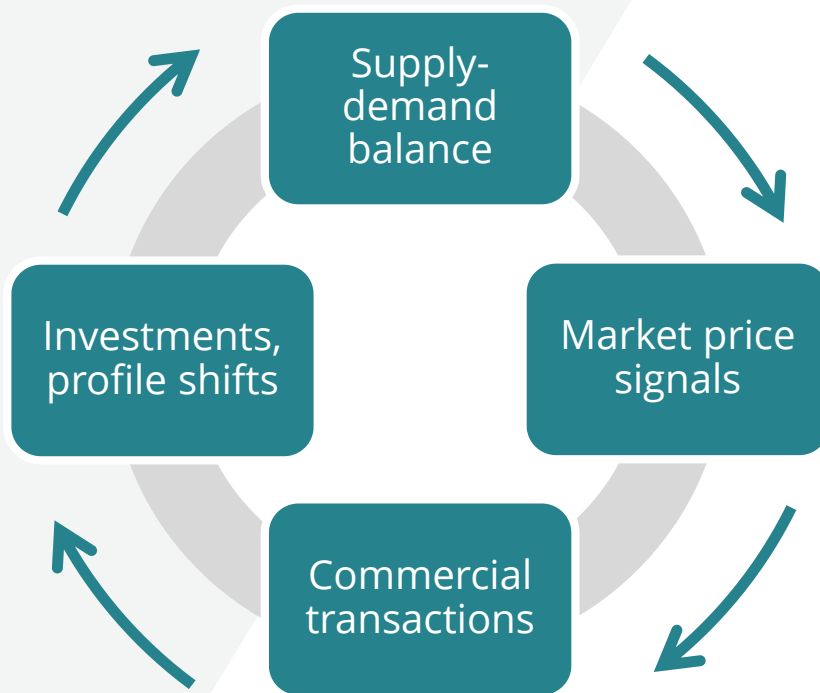
**The devil is in the details** – solutions could seem fine in isolation but integrate badly

**02**

# Market-driven design principles

# Market-driven designs

**A marketplace is created**, and beyond that **decentralized choices** by market players will be the chief driver of decisions



## Benefits of decentralized strategies:

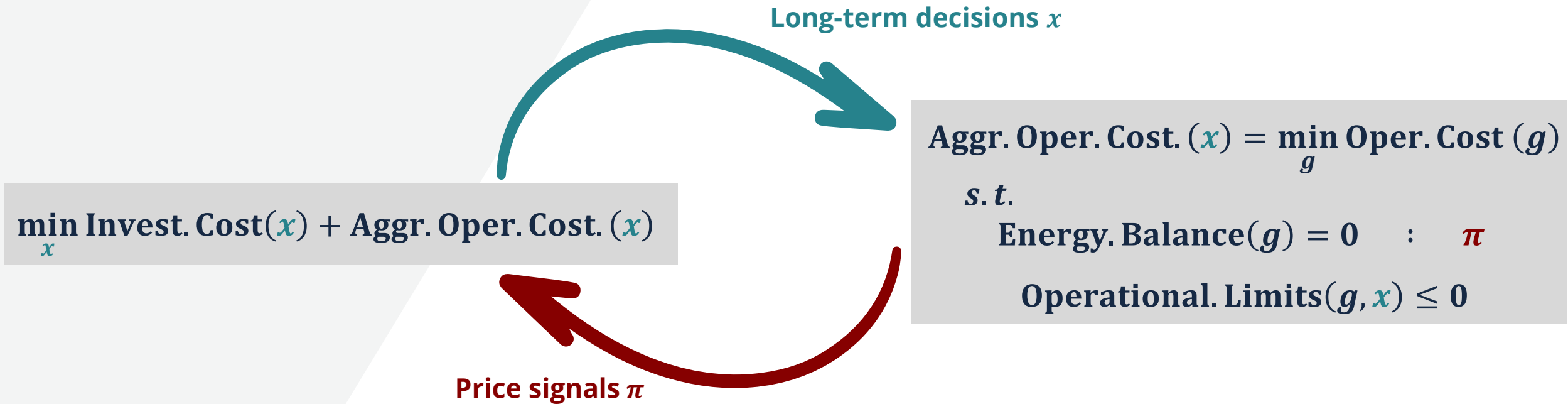
- Incentives for agents to innovate and provide the desired services
- Potential for newcomers and disruptors (contestability of incumbents, reduction of market power)
- Transparency in the rules of the game



# The details (1/5): market frictions

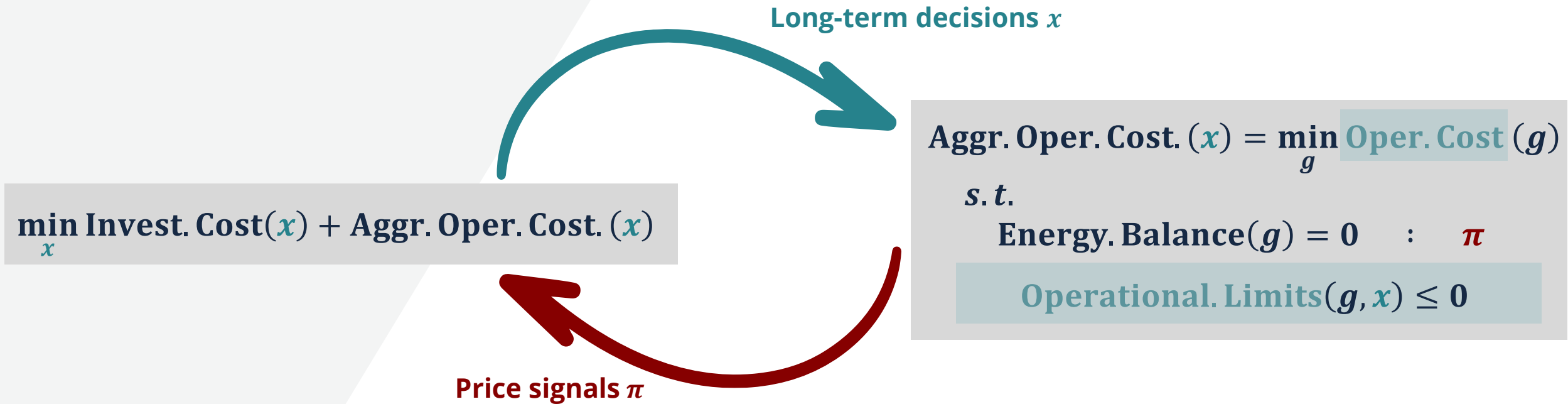
At least in principle, an **energy-only market** could meet the promises of the virtuous circle, provided there are no **market frictions**

It is possible to innovate / improve on this basic design to combat such frictions



# The details (2/5): accurate price signals

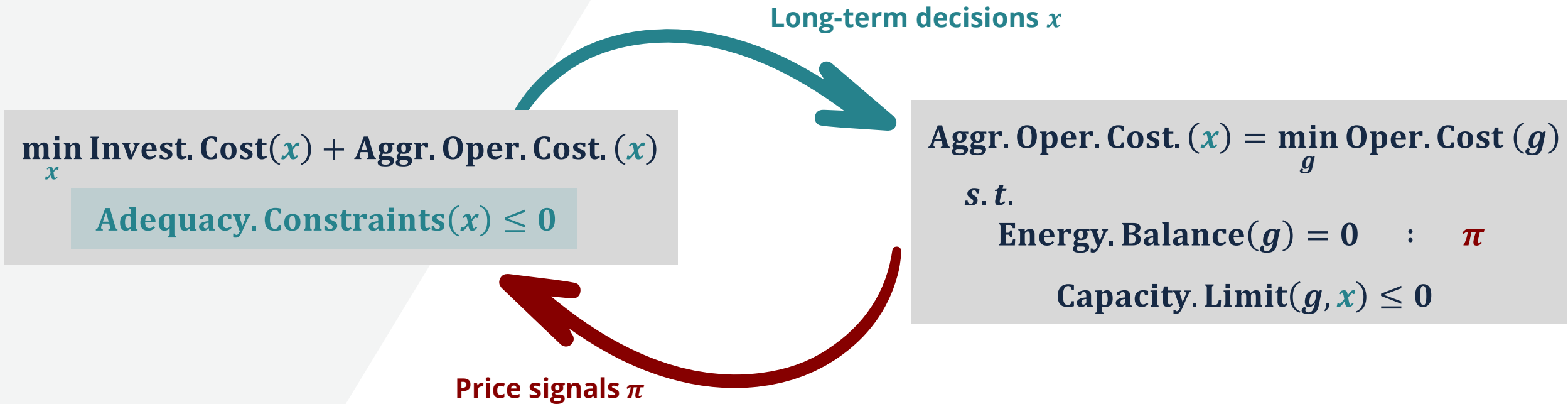
It is also possible / desirable to improve the **accuracy** of the problem representation and, therefore, of the underlying price signals



# The details (3/5): Long-term markets

New products can be introduced in a **long-term market**

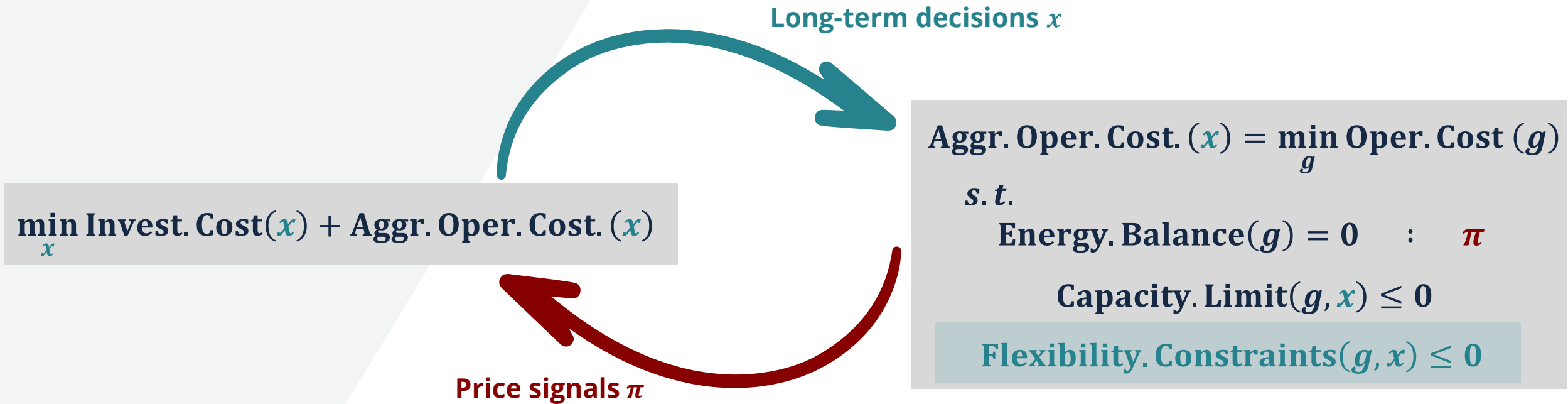
**Reliability** is an example of a product suitable for the long-term market



# The details (4/5): Short-term markets

Other products can be introduced into a **short-term market**

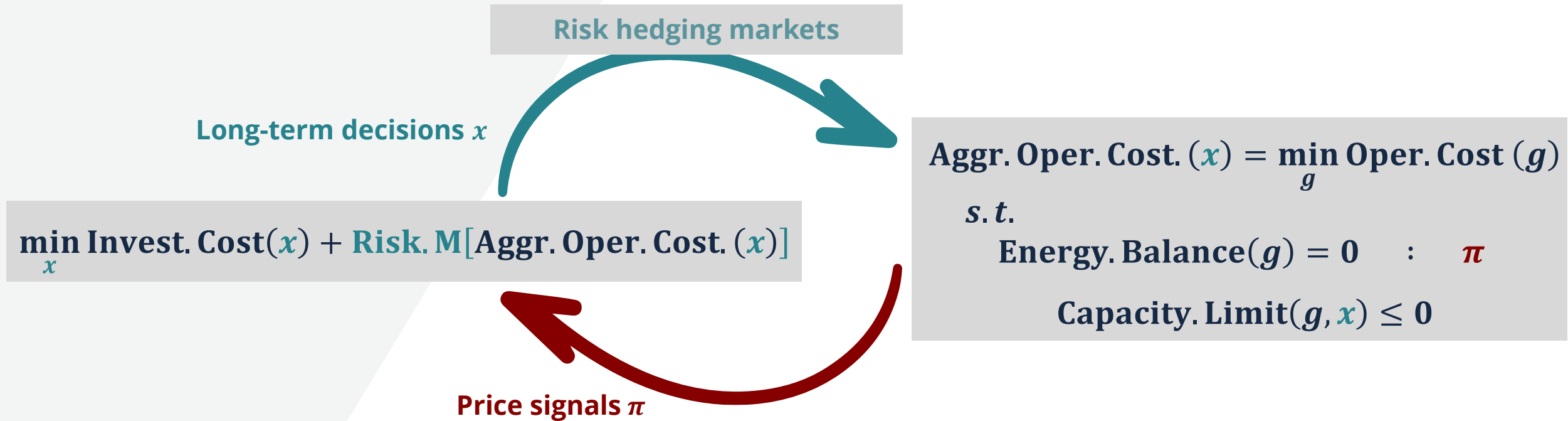
**Reserve** is an example of a product suitable for a short-term market



# The details (5/5): Risk hedging markets

These markets are usually based on **financial instruments** (forward contracts, options etc.) and allow agents to better manage their risks

**Two-sided auctions** are an example of a product facilitator market



# In summary...

## Accuracy

- Bid-based VS cost-based
- Temporal and spatial granularity
- Ramping constraints (adding or refining)
- Commitment constraints
- Demand-side features

## Long-term markets

- Firm capacity market
- Reliability options market
- Green certificates
- Ancillary services

## Short-term markets

- Operating reserves (primary and secondary) with short-term price
- Sloped demand for reserves
- CO2 pricing schemes

## Hedging markets

- Two-sided auctions
- Energy exchanges
- Contract marketplaces
- Multi-settlement schemes

**03**

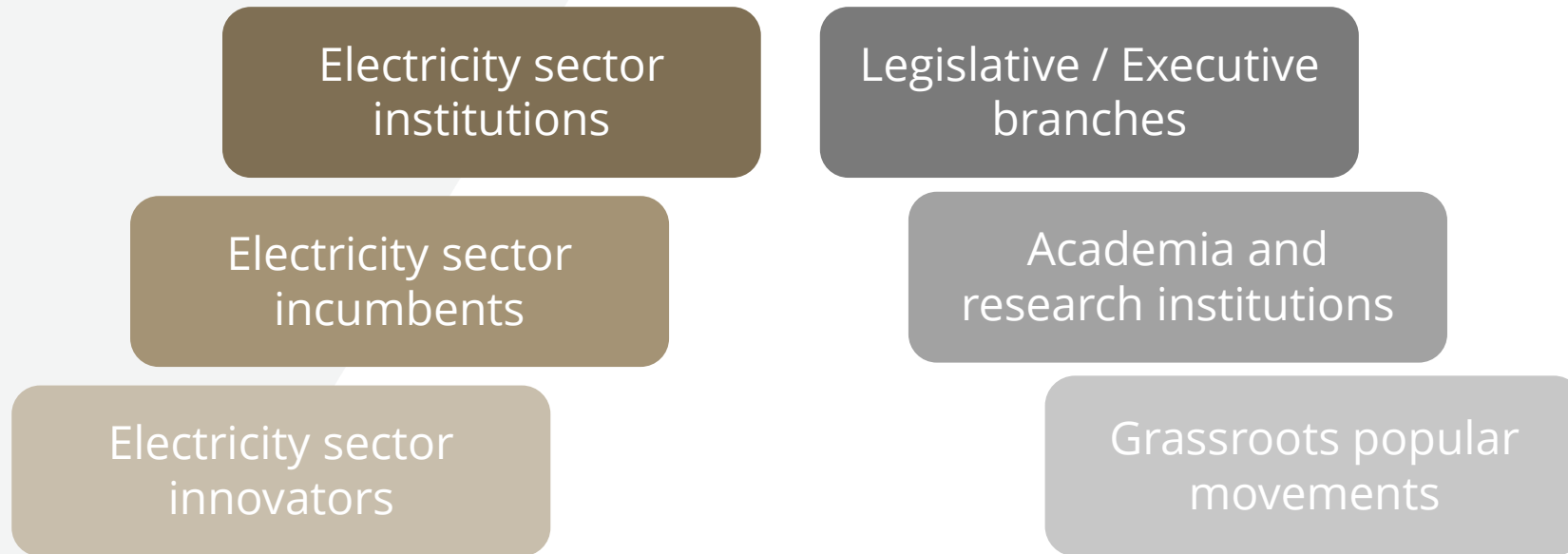
# Making it happen



# Making sure that the result is a good reform

**Dialogue with society is very important!**

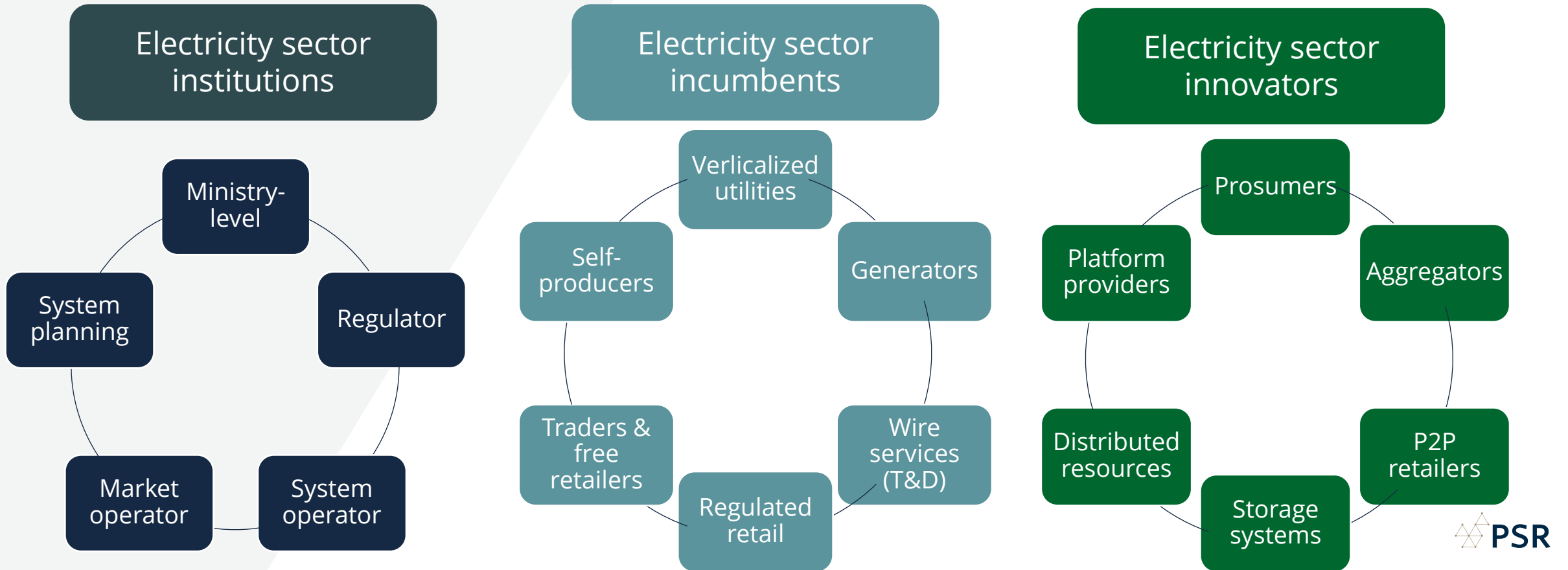
Always be aware of the various groups involved – in the “**macro**” level...



# Making sure that the result is a good reform

**Dialogue with society is very important!**

...and in the “**micro**” level!



# Trying to make it happen: the Brazilian 2017/18 experience

## Motivation:

- Cost-based dispatch challenged, spot prices not credible
- Centralization of risk management decisions in government hands has been challenged
- Products offered often have a too long duration
- Technology-specific products fragmented the procurement process
- Consumer empowerment on the way
- Distribution companies need a (proper) future
- And others

## Definitions of **principles** for the **government rulemaking**:

The screenshot shows a webpage from the Brazilian government portal (gov.br) under the Ministry of Mines and Energy. The page title is 'Princípios para Atuação Governamental no Setor Elétrico'. A grey box highlights the title with the text 'Principle-based reform process'. The page content includes a publication date of 14/03/2018 and a list of 10 principles. A red box highlights the list of principles.

**Principle-based reform process**

### Princípios para Atuação Governamental no Setor Elétrico

Publicado em 14/03/2018 22h48 | Atualizado em 14/03/2018 22h50

Compartilhe: [f](#) [X](#) [in](#) [@](#)

O Ministro de Minas e Energia, Fernando Coelho Filho, assinou ontem, 13 de março de 2018, a Portaria Nº 86/GM, que divulga os Princípios para Atuação Governamental no Setor Elétrico. O documento foi elaborado a partir das contribuições recebidas da sociedade na Consulta Pública nº 32, de 2017, analisadas na Nota Técnica nº 3/2018/SE.

Os dez princípios, calcados na eficiência, na equidade e na sustentabilidade das ações governamentais, são:

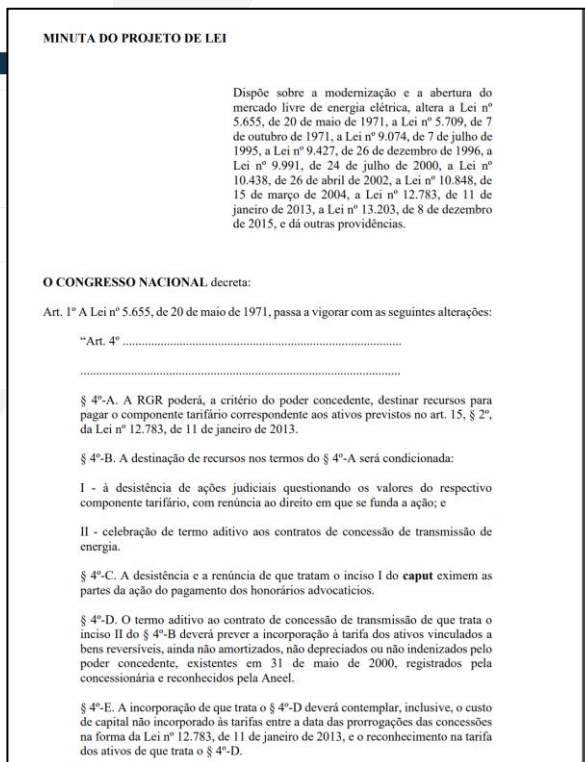
1. respeito aos direitos de propriedade, respeito a contratos e intervenção mínima;
2. meritocracia, economicidade, inovação e eficiência (produtiva e alocativa, do curto ao longo prazo) e responsabilidade socioambiental;
3. transparência e participação da sociedade nos atos praticados;
4. isonomia;
5. priorização de soluções de mercado frente a modelos decisórios centralizados;
6. adaptabilidade e flexibilidade;
7. coerência;
8. simplicidade;
9. previsibilidade e conformidade dos atos praticados; e
10. definição clara de competências e respeito ao papel das instituições.

A divulgação de princípios claros para a atuação governamental no setor elétrico é mais um avanço na governança e na transparência do setor. A medida facilita o diálogo entre a sociedade e o Ministério, pois orienta as expectativas dos agentes econômicos atuantes no setor, sejam eles consumidores,

# Trying to make it happen: the Brazilian 2017/18 experience

▶ Government bill proposal via a public consultation :

▶ Defined through a long-term view:



*preservação de posições de diversas classes de agentes no lugar da busca de eficiência empresarial e produtiva como estratégia de melhora de posições competitivas. Este resultado, por sua vez, resulta em novos obstáculos à inovação no setor.*

As fricções acima descritas apontam para um possível esgotamento do modelo regulatório e comercial vigente no Brasil. Faz-se mister, portanto, construir uma visão de futuro, contemplando elementos básicos que levem a um modelo adaptado às pressões externas às quais o Setor Elétrico Brasileiro é exposto e que garanta sua sustentabilidade no longo prazo.

Em resposta aos desafios identificados anteriormente, pode-se apontar os seguintes elementos básicos desta visão de futuro, que **indicam onde queremos chegar:**

a) *incentivos à eficiência nas decisões empresariais de agentes individuais como vetor de modicidade tarifária, segurança de suprimento e sustentabilidade socioambiental: deve-se reconhecer que a eficiência nas decisões individuais de agentes atuantes no mercado representa um vetor importante de promoção de eficiência sistêmica e, portanto, de modicidade tarifária, segurança de suprimento e sustentabilidade socioambiental. O quadro regulatório e comercial deve fornecer incentivos para que as decisões individuais de agentes atuantes no mercado, quanto a investimentos e a gestão comercial e operacional de ativos, sejam condutivas a resultados ótimos para o sistema elétrico como um todo. A estratégia de incentivar decisões ótimas individuais de agentes que sejam alinhadas com o interesse sistêmico tem a vantagem de extrair a informação e inteligência dos agentes de mercado e incitar a inovação como estratégia de competição;*

b)  *sinalização econômica como vetor de alinhamento entre interesses individuais e sistêmicos: sempre que possível, as instituições governamentais e paragovernamentais devem utilizar sinalização econômica adequada, em ambiente competitivo, para garantir que as decisões de agentes de mercado que buscam a otimização de suas posições individuais sejam as mesmas que conduzem a benefícios sistêmicos sobre a economicidade, segurança e sustentabilidade*

**Tenths of contributions, and final bill project still being discussed (in 2023!)**

04

How not to make  
it happen

# How not to make it happen: interventionism

- “**Godzilla-style**” policy decisions in 2012 have undermined the credibility of the Brazilian power market after a provisional measure (“**MP 579**”) was issued:
  - **Interference** in the of State-owned companies towards actions to lower tariffs
  - **Treasury funds used** achieve the politically-made tariff reductions
  - **Consumers paid the bill:** tariff increases more than made up for the promised reduction
  - **Interference in the sector decreased value of assets and increased cost of debt**



## ▶ A worldwide example of **how not to do things**:

- **No** discussion with Society
- **No** discussion with Stakeholders
- **No** quantitative impact assessment

veja Mercado RADAR ECONÔMICO VEJA MERCADO EM VÍDEO MAÍLSON DA NÓBREGA VEJA INSIGHTS AGENDA VERDE VEJA

Economia

## Governo federal perdeu R\$ 105 bi com crise do setor elétrico

Rombo se deve, principalmente, à Medida Provisória 579, que reduziu as tarifas de energia via renovação antecipada de concessões

Por Da Redação  
4 nov 2014, 11h39

**05**

# Conclusions

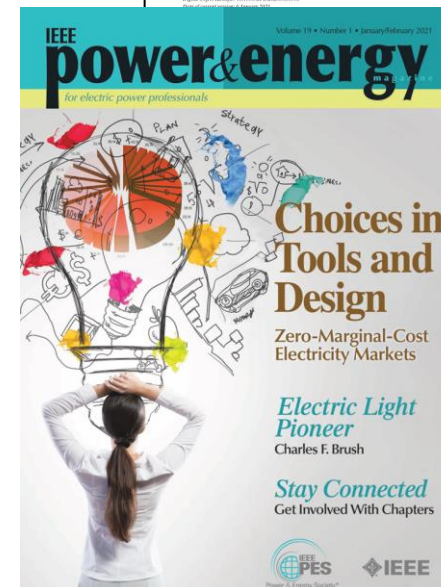
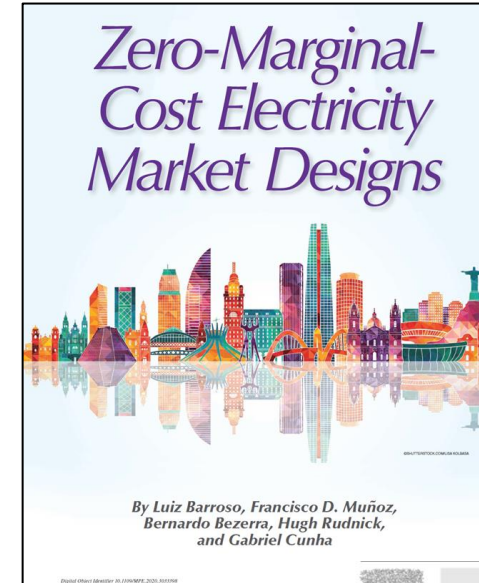


# How to get there: Key takeaways

- ▶ Two steps: choosing **what to do** and **how to do it**
- ▶ For an effective market reform (**what to do**):
  - Have a clear goal and long-term vision
  - Obtain key information from different groups (even external to the electricity sector)
  - Focus on positive-sum initiatives that will benefit everyone
  - Maintain a birds' eye view of the reform elements and how they fit into the big picture
- ▶ For the reform to actually happen (**how to do it**):
  - Understand your audience, including subdivisions/factions and individual agents
  - Ample use of public hearings and similar mechanisms
  - Understand what went wrong in past reforms and what can be improved – avoid “just do better this time”

# The future-proof electricity market design

- ▶ Centralized management of reliability (reliability options are the global reference)
- ▶ Climate-resilient reliability metrics (energy, capacity and flexibility): system planning will be everything
- ▶ Hybrid markets: connection between long- and short-term signals
- ▶ Pricing of services delivered by the different technologies
- ▶ More liquidity in contract markets (marketplaces and retail aggregators)
- ▶ Market monitoring & market power mitigation
- ▶ Transmission as flexible assets, distribution as platforms
- ▶ Less subsidies



### Adjusting the aim of capacity mechanisms: Future-proof reliability metrics and firm supply calculations

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#### ARTICLE INFO

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 Firm supply  
 Firm capacity  
 Firm energy  
 De-rating  
 Security of supply  
 Extreme weather events  
 Flexibility

#### ABSTRACT

Capacity mechanisms are now deemed a regulatory necessity in liberalized power systems decarbonization. These instruments aim to ensure sufficient resource adequacy with a mix able to meet the reliability target set by the regulator. Reimbursement in capacity mechanisms depends on so-called firm supply (calculated from de-rating factors or capacity credits), taken as a proxy for each resource's expected long-term contribution to system adequacy. Most adequacy assessment and de-rating methods used to calculate security of supply were developed for power systems very different from today's and tomorrow's, in which renewables account for a higher share of the mix and demand is more elastic. Regulators the world over are already revising these methods, although this seldom involves an overall rethink of their general approach. Drawing from theoretical considerations and international best practice, this article defines an updated theoretical framework for the resource adequacy problem against the backdrop of the challenges ahead for the power sector. The conclusions include recommendations for resilient reliability metrics and de-rating calculation methods.

#### 1. Introduction

Capacity remuneration or resource adequacy mechanisms are introduced to reinforce the energy market and attract the power system investments needed to guarantee long-term security of supply (O'Connell and De Vries, 2004; Jankov, 2005; Cramton et al., 2013; Peitler et al., 2017). The ultimate objective is to maximise social welfare (Orzhalski and

interdependent elements: i) The first is long-term adequacy assessment able to identify the security-of-supply problem such mechanisms are intended to solve; it is commonly based on the reliability metric (such as loss of load probability) regulators also use to define a target. ii) The second is a de-rating method able to quantify each resource's expected long-term contribution to system adequacy. That parameter, usually denominated firm supply,<sup>1</sup> is a key element for investors, as it represents





# Thank you!

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