



Online Capacity-building Workshop on Sustainable Renewable Energy Investment and Deployment

Peer-learning dialogue on Water-Energy Nexus – Focus on the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South Eastern Europe

19 October 2020, afternoon, 14.00 to 16.00 CEST (Geneva time)

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Join us for the capacity-building workshop on Water-Energy Nexus in the UNECE region. The objective of the event is to present the UNECE toolkit¹ for sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment, and explore together with Government officials, experts and other stakeholders how this toolkit can be applied and adapted for UNECE subregions. Do not miss the opportunity to learn how you can use this toolkit for strategic policy planning and project development.

This workshop is a preparation for the meetings of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus (22-23 October 2020) and of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (25-27 November 2020).

Schedule

19 October

- 14:00 Introduction
- 14:15 Presentation: *Toolkit for integrated water and energy planning and project development*
- 14:30 Panel discussion
- 15:15 Q&A
- 15:45 Wrap-up & next steps

Please note that the annual meeting of the **Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus** (established under the Convention for the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and international Lakes) will take place on 22-23 October 2020. **Click [here](#) for more information and join us if interested.**

¹ Towards sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment: Trade-offs and opportunities with water resources and the environment (UNECE, 2020) available at: <http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/water/envwaterpublicationspub/water/envwaterpublicationspub74/2020/towards-sustainable-renewable-energy-investment-and-deployment-trade-offs-and-opportunities-with-water-resources-and-the-environment/doc.html>



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Objective

The objective of the workshop is to explore together with Government officials, experts and other stakeholders how the UNECE toolkit for sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment can be used and adapted across subregions. This event is a preparation for the meetings of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus (22-23 October 2020) and of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (25-27 November 2020). Findings from this workshop will contribute to the future activities of the UNECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) and the UNECE Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus contributing to nexus-related activities in the Water Convention's programme of work.

Context

There is an increasing recognition that energy-related objectives can be achieved more effectively through integrated and consultative planning, in synergy with environmental and other sectoral objectives, notably those of the water and agricultural sectors. As renewable energy becomes widely spread, the need to integrate sustainability objectives and multi-sectoral priorities into the renewable energy decision-making process becomes imperative. For energy policy-makers, "integration" involves action throughout the whole renewable energy development process, from strategic planning and policy design to project development, to ensure that the objectives and constraints of all sectors are properly considered.

The toolkit jointly developed by the UNECE Environment and Sustainable Energy Divisions, proposes a pragmatic approach to support policy-makers in: enhancing cooperation on renewable energy across sectors; exploring co-financing and partnership opportunities; maximizing and multiplying the benefits of renewables; and reducing their negative impact on the environment and local communities. It builds on existing methods and tools and on the experience of UNECE's networks of experts across the spectrum of relevant sectors: renewable energy development, sustainable management of land and water resources, environmental protection, agriculture, municipalities, and regional and transboundary cooperation.

Schedule

19 October

14:00 Introduction

14:15 Presentation: *Toolkit for integrated water and energy planning and project development*

14:30 Panel discussion on the value-added of the water-energy-nexus for inter-sectoral planning:

- What is the status of renewable energy (RE) deployment in your country? How can integrated planning support sustainable RE deployment?
- How are RE projects supporting rural development plans and vice-versa? How can RE projects be more sustainable at the regional level to optimize resource availability and take advantage of complementarities? How can basin-level planning support RE deployment?
- How can this toolkit be applied in your country / subregion?

15:15 Q&A

15:45 Wrap-up & next steps