

Workshop: **Implementation of SDG7 at National Level and Regional Level: Lessons Learnt for the Way Forward**

Organizers: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in partnership with United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Target group: Stakeholders with an interest in SDG7, effective development cooperation and evidence-based policy.

Background: Sound energy policies can contribute to sustainable development and equitable economic growth. However, policies formulated without an evidence-based approach may not adequately guide the utilization of energy resources. This can lead to significant social, environmental and economic impacts that hinder the realization of national sustainable development ambitions, notably the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is supporting a number of governments across the Asia-Pacific region to assist in achieving their specific policy goals for SDG7. The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is launching the ‘Regional Observatory on Sustainable Energies’ (ROSE) an initiative to strengthen access to reliable data, reports, methodologies, and policies enabling evidence-based decision-making.

This session is focused on the different policy development approaches at national and regional levels to achieve sustainable energy development including the SDG7. Key stakeholders share their experiences to assess energy development trends and future scenarios using data, policy and analytical tools. ESCAP and ECLAC will share details of their efforts to support countries through the Asia-Pacific Energy Portal (www.asiapacificenergy.org) and ROSE. Solutions need to be tailored to different needs based on country context. International assistance and support must match national policy priorities and national information management systems must be able to provide the data needed for these activities.

Policy experts from governments, international and regional organizations, NGOs, the private sector and academia reflect on the importance of evidence-based policies for sustainable energy and identify lessons learnt who regional cooperation can support in the way forward. Comments from the audience will be encouraged.

Time	Content	Speaker/Panellists
16:00 – 16:05	Opening remarks	Mr. Hongpeng Liu, Director, Energy Division, ESCAP
16:05 – 16:10	Regional cooperation for evidence-based policy in the energy sector – groundwork for sustainable energy Findings from ESCAP’s project on “Evidence-based policies for the sustainable use of energy resources in Asia and the Pacific.	Mr. Fabian Kreuzer, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division, ESCAP

16:10 – 16:15	<p>Rethinking energy systems and tracking SDG7 as prerequisite for sustainable energy</p> <p>Value proposition of ECLAC’s “Regional Observatory on Sustainable Energies”</p>	Mr. Ruben Lisperger, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of Natural Resources and Energy, ECLAC
16:15 – 16:55	<p>Country insights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thailand - Kazakhstan - Argentina - Georgia <p>Short presentations (max. 10 minutes, up to 5 slides) structured around the questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the challenges and opportunities to develop sound policies in achieving SDG7? - How and what kind of evidence is used for the policy development process? - What are the hurdles and benefits to support national efforts in achieving SDG7 through regional cooperation and external agencies, such as multilateral development agencies? - Are all energy data gathering methodologies harmonized among the different international organizations or are countries receiving different requests for data? - What are the limitations of the current indicators and methodologies used to track SDG7? 	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Dr. Prasert Sinsukprasert, Inspector, Ministry of Energy, Thailand</p> <p>Mr. Bekbergen Kerey, Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation and Integration Processes, Ministry of Energy, Kazakhstan</p> <p>Mr. Tomás Barros, Director Legal, Contracts and Futures Market, Ministry of Energy and Mining, Argentina</p> <p>Ms. Tea Avazashvili, Consultant Energy Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>
16:55 – 17:10	<p>Panel intervention</p> <p>Short sharing of thoughts (5 minutes per panellist, up to 3 slides) structured around the questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What information and data would be useful to have in a national and regional knowledge repository to facilitate achieving SDG7 and working with external agencies? - What are the limitations of the current indicators and methodologies used to track SDG7? 	<p>Panellists:</p> <p>Mr. Behnam Zakeri, Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied System Analysis (IIASA)</p> <p>Ms. Alisa Freyre, Project Manager Atlas & Energy Observatory, Energy Transition Department, Services Industriels de Genève (SIG)</p> <p>Ms. Fernanda Hermosillo Gatica, International Affairs Advisor to CEO, Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)</p>
17:10 – 17:25	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Discussion around the previous questions and beyond among the panel members as well as with the audience.</p> <p>Audience is invited to take the free chair on a rotating basis to intervene on the panel.</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Mr. Ruben Lisperger, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of Natural Resources and Energy, ECLAC</p>
17:25 – 17:30	<p>Conclusions and reflections</p> <p>Capturing of the lessons from the session</p>	Mr. Hongpeng Liu, Director, Energy Division, ESCAP