



POLICY BRIEFS IN SUPPORT OF THE UN HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2023

Advancing SDG7 in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region



Sustainable Energy

- UNECE's work on sustainable energy is designed to improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.
- It promotes international policy dialogue and cooperation among governments, energy industries and other stakeholders.
- The focus is on energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, gas, classification of energy and mineral reserves and resources, and energy security.

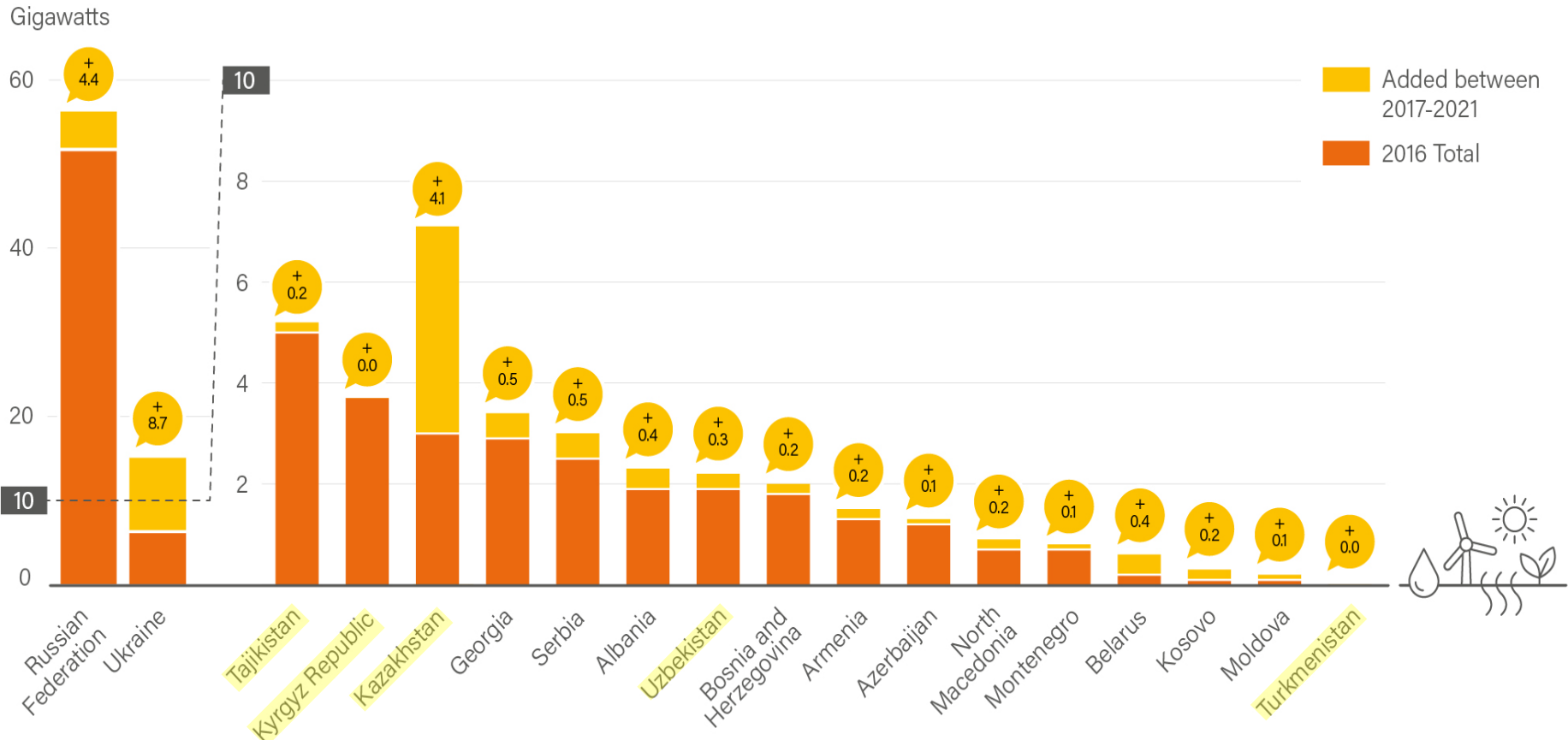


Breakthrough growth in Renewable Power

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Renewable Power Capacity in 2016 and Additions During 2017-2021 in the Focus Countries, GW



20.7 GW of capacity added in the last 5 years – total installed capacity was **106 GW in 2021**.
Kazakhstan = + 4.1,
Uzbekistan + 0.3,
Tajikistan + 0.2.
Kyrgyzstan = no increase
Turkmenistan = no increase.



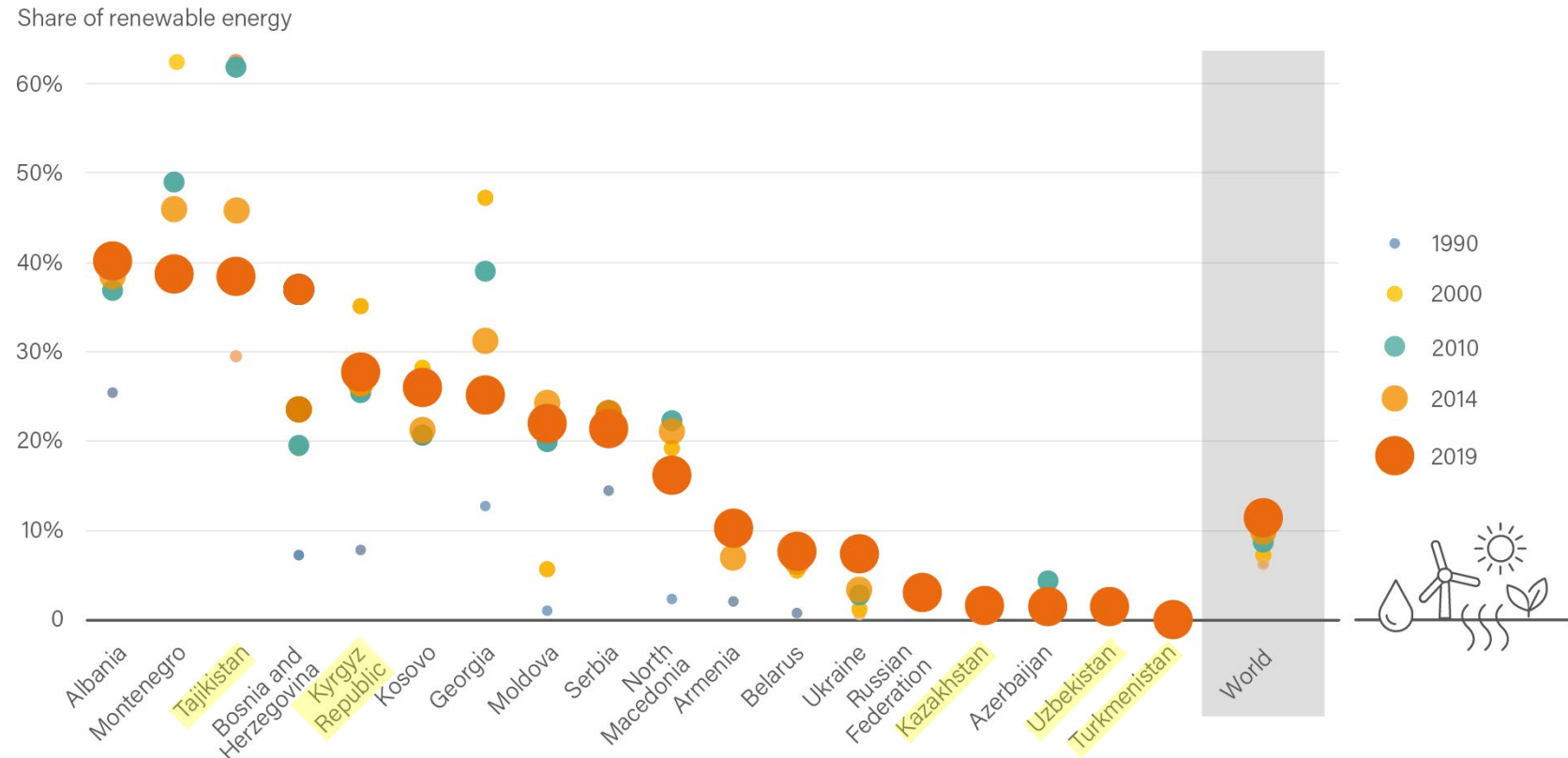
Share of renewables in total final energy - Unchanged since 2014



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- 18.2% in 2019 and 2014
- Low share or insufficient increase in Central Asia: negative trend in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan;
- Visible decline due to:
 - Slowdown in hydropower
 - Increase in motorisation
 - Minimal change in TFEFC

 Share of Renewables in Total Final Energy Consumption in the Focus Countries and World, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2014 and 2019



RE and EE Multi-Dimensional Indicators in Focus Countries

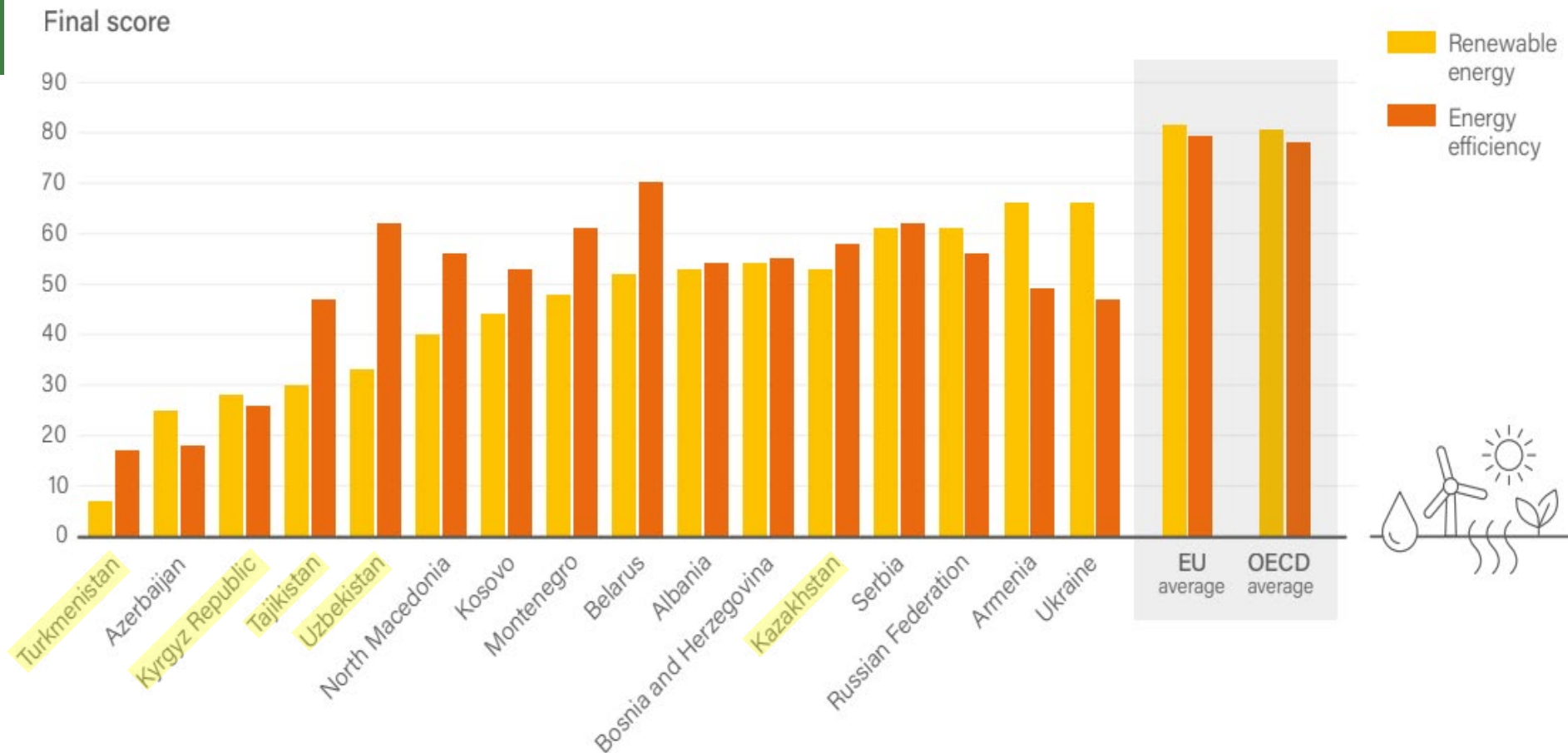
2019

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FIGURE 5.

RISE Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Multi-Dimensional Indicators in the Focus Countries, 2019



Despite great progress in both RE and EE, many energy challenges remain.

Need to build:

- sustainable and resilient energy systems;
- well-functioning energy markets; and
- stable and secure energy supplies.

Fluctuating investment levels

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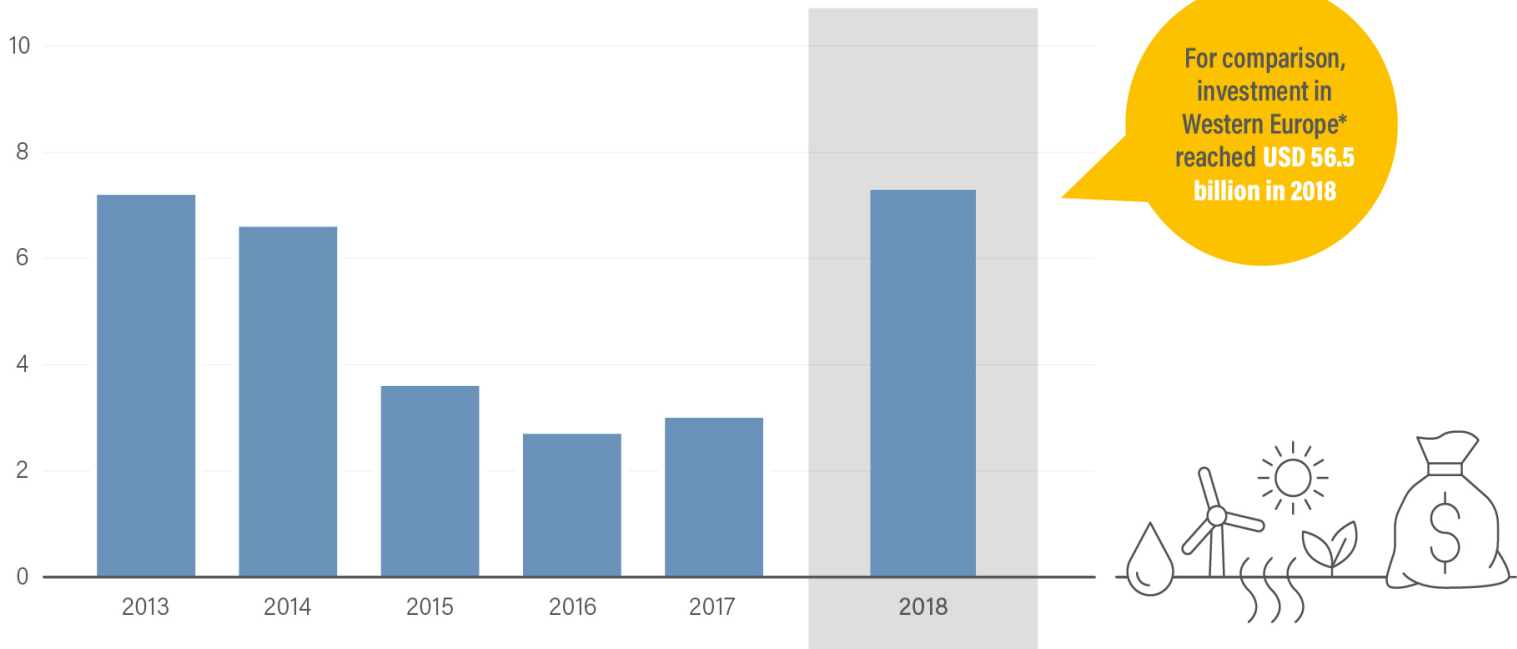


Investment data for the region is a huge challenge



Renewable Energy Investment in the Focus Countries and in Four Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, 2013-2018

USD Billion



USD 7.2 billion in the region
vs.
USD 56.6 billion in Western Europe
vs.
USD 284 billion globally in 2018

Foreign Aid received by focus countries for RE Projects

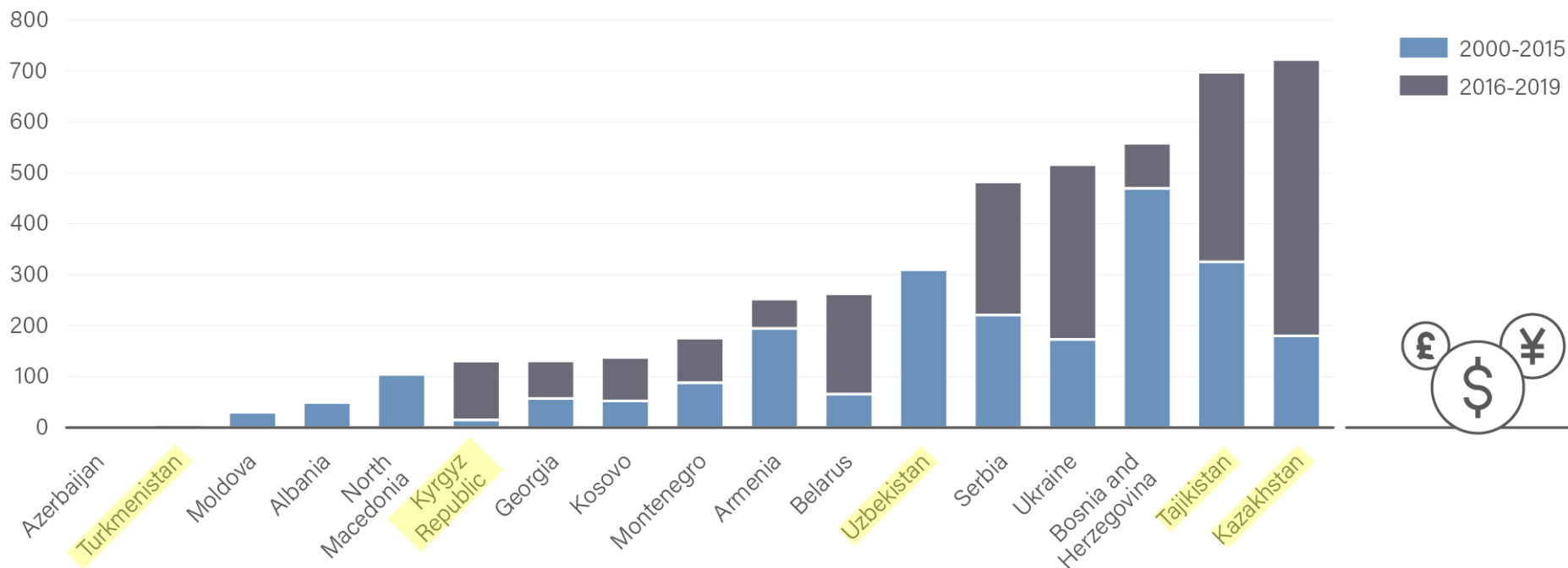
2016-2019

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Foreign Aid Committed for Renewable Energy Projects in the Focus Countries, 2016-2019 versus 2000-2015

Current USD million



Largest aid amount committed went to projects addressing **multiple renewable energy technologies** (USD 1.3 billion), followed by financing for **hydropower plants** (USD 507 million). Financing for **biofuels** attracted USD 229 million, for **wind power** USD 234 million, and for **solar PV capacity** USD 149 million.

EBRD, World Bank and ADB financial aid for RE projects

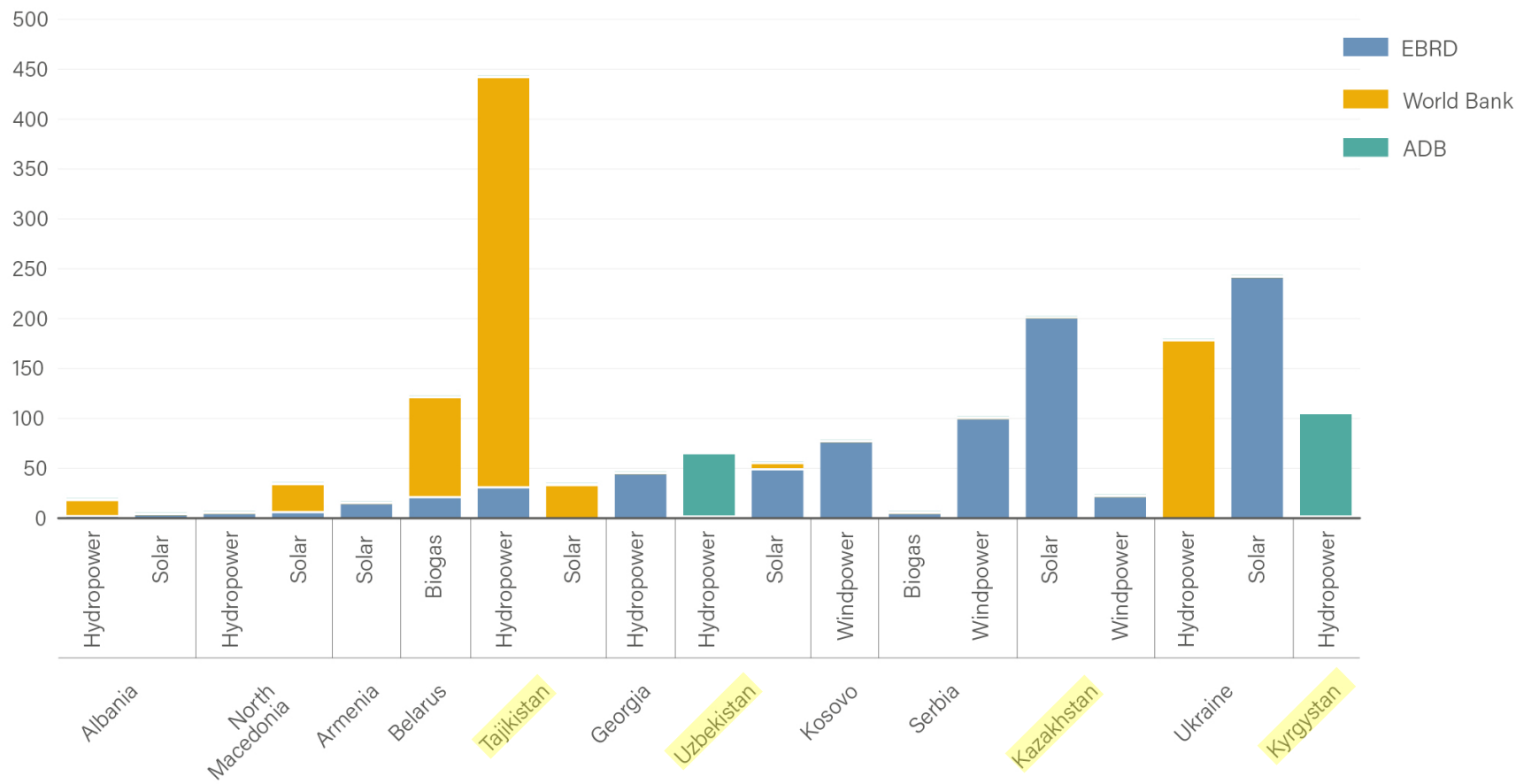
2017-2021

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EBRD, World Bank and ADB Finance for Renewable Energy Projects in the Focus Countries, 2017-2021

Million USD



Having targets are not enough

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Policies and implementation need to be strengthened

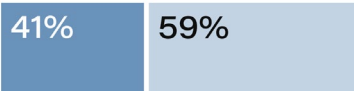
Renewable Energy Targets

Power



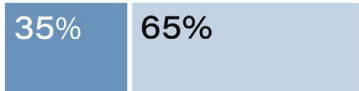
Only **23%** of the focus countries having a renewable energy target in electricity achieved it.

Transport

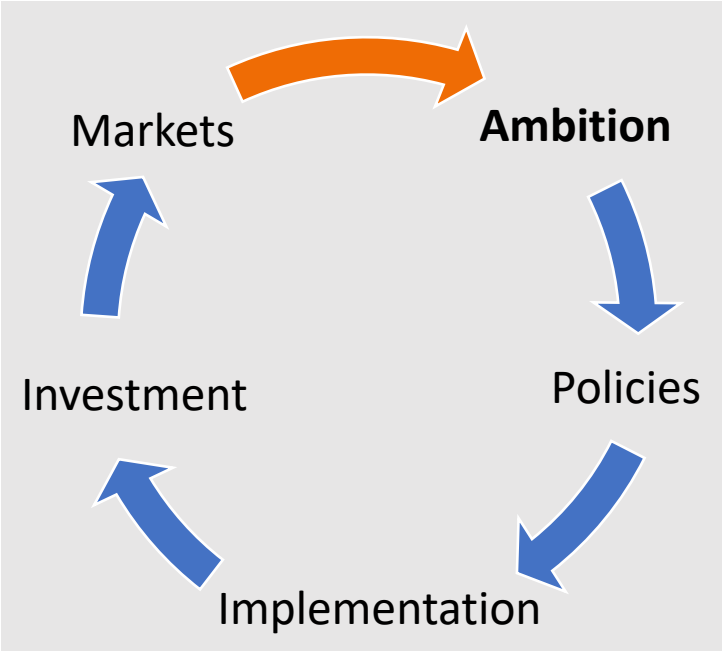


No focus country having a renewable energy target in transport achieved it.

Heating & Cooling



Only **67%** of the focus countries having a renewable energy target in heating and cooling achieved it.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

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The following high-level policy recommendations are proposed:

- Implement energy efficiency solutions immediately and to the greatest possible extent across both the supply and demand sides.
- Digitalize energy systems and capitalize on the opportunities arising from improved digital literacy and the deployment of digital solutions.
- Diversify the energy supply of both the UNECE region and the individual member states to enhance energy security and avert future supply and price shocks.
- Build a workforce to deliver on energy transition by addressing the skills and labour shortage. This will create the next generation of qualified experts who can deploy and maintain clean energy technologies.
- Implement an integrated, sustainable resource management framework based on shared principles. Tools such as the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) should be applied to minerals and energy sources.
- Integrate circular economy considerations into decision-making. The transition towards a greener energy system must encourage increased circularity of materials and resources and repairability of goods.
- Adopt the principles of a transition that is just and inclusive. This transition must aim to find the right balance between member states' on the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and on national energy security concerns. economic objectives.

Advancing SDG7 in the UNECE Region

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UNECE will continue to work with you for an acceleration of efforts to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Thank you!