



Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Sustainable Energy****Twenty-eighth session**

Geneva, 25-27 September 2019

Item 8(a) of the provisional agenda

**Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy:
Review of subprogramme performance and planning****Draft programme of work of the sustainable energy
subprogramme for 2020****Note by the secretariat****Introduction**

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2020. The Committee on Sustainable Energy (“the Committee”) is invited to adopt it and recommend to the Executive Committee (ExCom) for approval. Any subsequent additional, discontinued or carried over outputs will be reflected in UN Umoja system used by the Secretariat for planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme.
2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes logical relationship between the hierarchical results (deliverables – objectives – impact) known as ‘results chain’, the resources (human and financial) known as ‘inputs’ and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent from achieving the objective.
3. The objective, the most significant planned result and the deliverables in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) proposed programme budget for 2020. The objective of the subprogramme is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In attaining its objective, the subprogramme builds on cross-sectoral collaboration with other subprogrammes in relevant ECE nexus areas where multiple SDGs converge¹. This type of collaboration enables the subprogramme to maximize existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work and have a multiplying effect on the impact of its actions to support countries to implement SDGs.

¹ The ECE nexus areas are as follows: 1) Sustainable use of natural resources; 2) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages; 3) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and 4) Measuring and monitoring SDGs.

The deliverables of the subprogramme fall into the following main categories: (a) facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies; (b) generation and transfer of knowledge, including technical cooperation projects, training events, seminars, workshops, and publications; (c) other substantive deliverables, and (d) communication deliverables.

4. The details of the proposed publications are provided in Annex I. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in Annex II.

I. Objective and alignment with SDGs

5. The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure access to affordable and clean energy for all and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

6. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Energy Division.

7. The objective is aligned with SDG 7, which is to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; to increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix; to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology; and to expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.

8. The objective is also aligned with SDG 9, which is to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, and to upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes.

9. Furthermore, the objective is also aligned with SDG 12, which is to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources; to reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse; and to rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and affected communities.

10. Finally, the objective is also aligned with SDG 13, which is to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries; to integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning; and to improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

11. Alignment with the SDGs serves as a framework for contributing to the objective of the subprogramme. Within this framework, the subprogramme will develop cross-sectoral activities with other ECE subprogrammes where there is complementarity between the respective Sustainable Development Goals and targets, in line with the nexus areas described in footnote 1

II. Highlighted planned result for 2020

12. Achieving a step change in the efficiency with which natural resources are used:

Supporting the production of renewable energy at scale will require a broad range of materials. Development of a 3-MW wind farm requires 335 tons of steel, 4.7 tons of copper, 1,200 tons of concrete, 3 tons of aluminium and 2 tons of rare earth elements. Deploying a United Nations resources management tool will facilitate the efficient production of those materials in an environmentally, economically and socially acceptable manner while incurring minimal waste. Having access to such a tool would enable countries to manage their national natural resources endowments in line with their objectives. Its broad adoption would create a universally accepted standard, thereby channelling investment in resources in a coherent, socially responsible and cost-effective manner. Financial institutions are anticipated to require use of the system, once approved, in their project finance documents.

13. Member States have recognized that current approaches to the management of such resources as energy or raw materials do not deliver the systematic efficiency that is needed for the 2030 Agenda to be achieved. In 2018, the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy noted that attaining the objectives of the 2030 Agenda would require the efficient production, transformation and use of resources.

14. *Challenge and response:* The challenge was that there is no universally accepted method for the national management of natural resources that enables the optimal production and use of resources and that accommodates environmental and social considerations in line with the 2030 Agenda. The Committee on Sustainable Energy agreed to pursue the development of a United Nations resources management system, and ECE has mobilized a global, multisectoral network of experts to initiate the development of a system to meet the challenge. This process is expected to be a multi-year endeavour starting in 2019.

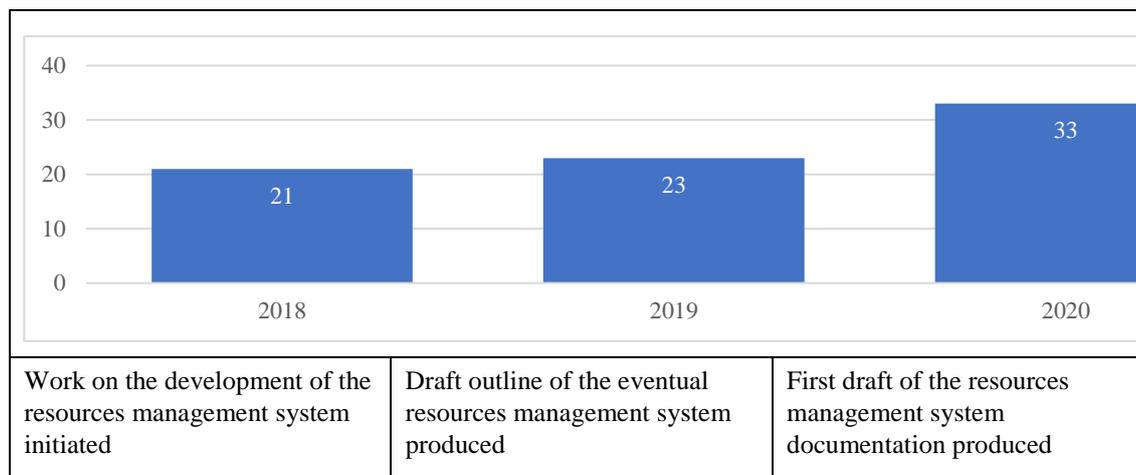
15. In response, for 2020, ECE will develop a draft United Nations resources management system, based on the existing United Nations Framework Classification for Resources. The uptake of the Framework Classification for Resources is a foundational step for deploying the system. The Framework Classification is being taken up progressively around the world, including, notably, by China, India, the Russian Federation, the Nordic countries, the European Union and the African Union, and it is being considered in Latin America and throughout Asia. Furthermore, the Framework Classification has been extended to embrace both renewable energy sources and anthropogenic resources. The development of the United Nations resources management system will include partnerships with China, the Russian Federation, the European Commission and the African Union Commission. Building on the success of the work of the experts, ECE will deploy and disseminate the resources management system globally through training seminars, publications, case studies and certification procedures.

16. *Result and evidence:* The planned deliverable is expected to contribute to the result, which is the deployment of an integrated system for the efficient management of natural resources.

17. Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the development of draft documentation for the United Nations resources management system, including specifications, guidelines and best practices by 2020, as shown in the figure.

18. The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective. It will contribute to the nexus areas on the sustainable use of natural resources, sustainable and smart cities, sustainable mobility and smart connectivity and measuring and monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Performance measures: number of member States applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and progress in the development of the United Nations resources management system



III. External factors

19. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective on the assumption that at the national, regional and local levels there is: (a) political will and capacity to integrate sustainable energy objectives into policies and to promulgate legislation, including the objectives of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative; and (b) sufficient awareness and participation of the public in implementing national and regional policies to improve energy access and reduce both greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector.

IV. Deliverables to be implemented in 2020

20. The below table lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, that would contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>
Quantified deliverables	
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:	
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	60
1. Documentation for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies	60
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	38
2. Meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies	38
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge:	
Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	6
3. Project on Pathways to Sustainable Energy	1
4. Project on Energy Efficiency in Buildings	1
5. Project on Global Tracking Framework	1
6. Project on the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS)	1
7. Projects on Methane Management	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10
8. Workshops for experts and government officials on the application of UNFC	2
9. Capacity-building seminars on energy efficiency measures, accelerators and standards	2

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>
10. International capacity-building seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation	2
11. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development	4
Publications (number of publications)	2
12. Publications on the Best practice guidelines, case studies and other publications related to sustainable energy	2
Non-quantified deliverables	
C. Substantive deliverables:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation, advice and advocacy: Regional advisory services for Government officials and other stakeholders of countries of the ECE region on pathways to sustainable energy and national action plans related to the subprogramme's programme of work 	
D. Communication deliverables:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets on sustainable energy and related topics • External and media relations: press releases, key note speeches, articles • Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of subprogramme's website 	

Annex I

Details of proposed publications and promotional material for 2020

A. Non-recurrent publications

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Trim size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s) or XB)</i>	<i>Translated language(s) and Source of funding (RB and language(s))</i>	<i>No. of copies</i>
1	United Nations Framework Classification for Resources	ECE/ENERGY /2018/8 and ECE/ENERGY /119, para. 96	Print and electronic	A4	400	E	A, C, F, R, S (all RB)	1000A, 1500C, 1000E, 5000F, 2000R, 3000S,
2	Promoting Policies and Measures for Energy Efficiency Implementation	ECE/ENERGY /2018/8 and ECE/ENERGY /119, para. 96	Print and electronic	A4	90	E	F, R (all RB)	500E, 100F, 400R

Annex II

A. Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
70/133	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
70/221	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
71/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
71/162	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
71/243	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
72/230	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
72/234	Women in development
72/237	South-South Cooperation
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
73/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
73/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development - GUAM
73/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

73/227	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
73/231	Disaster risk reduction
73/236	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
A (68)	High-level statement
B (68)	Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

General Assembly resolutions

69/225	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
70/213	Science, technology and innovation for development
72/224	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Economic and Social Council decisions

1997/226	United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities
2004/233	United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources
2011/222	Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines