PROGRAMME OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY FOR 2009-2010
AND ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE OF
THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SUBPROGRAMME

Note by the secretariat

1. The draft programme of work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy is prepared in the light of the Work Plan on ECE Reform, the decisions of the Commission at its sixty-second session and the decisions of the Committee at its sixteenth session.

2. The draft programme contains the programme elements that the Committee itself implements and those elements of its subsidiary bodies that are of particular importance and significance to the Committee. The detailed programmes of work of these subsidiary bodies are contained in their respective reports.

3. This document is intended to facilitate the work of the Committee and not to influence in any way its decisions. Moreover, the Committee will need to consider broad issues of particular concern to the United Nations-wide system such as implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

4. The evaluation of the programme of work for 2006-2007 biennium and the proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 are attached to this document.
OVERVIEW AND PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Related programme elements and implementing bodies

C: Committee on Sustainable Energy
WP.G: Working Party on Gas
EE21: Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project
G.C: Gas Centre
GE.CE: Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels
GE.CMM: Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane
GE.EE: Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation
GE.FE: Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Harmonization of Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources Terminology
G.E.G: Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas

1. NORMATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE ENERGY FIELD INCLUDING LABELLING AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS AND RELATED LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Work to be undertaken: To develop and implement norms and standards and to harmonize legislation, regulations and policies in the field of energy in order to promote sustainable energy development, such as:

(a) follow-up on the implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources (UNFC), as per ECOSOC Resolution 2004/233 which invites the Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and regional commissions to consider taking appropriate measures for ensuring worldwide application of the UNFC, and the development of Guidelines, Specifications and Case Studies for its implementation (C, GE.FE);

(b) ongoing harmonization of terminologies and classification systems for the evaluation and assessment of reserves/resources of energy commodities – petroleum, natural gas, solid fuels and uranium (C, GE.FE);

(c) development of standards for carbon emissions trading (C, EE21, GE.CMM);

(d) development of UNECE guidelines for measuring capacity adequacy in electricity generation and transmission, as well as on enhancing transparency of cross border transmission, in the UNECE region (GE.CE);

(e) harmonization/convergence of norms, practices and policies (C, WP.G, EE21, GE.CMM, GE.FE, G.E.G).
assisting member States to develop norms and standards to integrate new electricity production technologies (e.g. carbon capture and storage (CSS)) into regulatory structures, including environmental regulations (GE.CE);

(g) assessing the relationship between electricity industry regulation and the choice of fuel mix with special focus on cleaner electricity production methods (GE.CE); and

(h) provision of technical assistance to countries with economies in transition in the energy regulatory and policy fields (C, EE21).

Work methods: To be carried out at annual sessions of the Committee and through Ad Hoc Groups of Experts, Task Forces, conferences, seminars, workshops, special studies and through the Regional Advisory Services.

2. OPENING AND LIBERALIZATION OF ENERGY MARKETS; SERVICE TARIFF SYSTEMS AND SECURITY OF SUPPLY

Work to be undertaken: To assess the major developments and trends in the ongoing restructuring and liberalization of energy markets, inherent challenges and opportunities associated with the opening up of energy markets, and to address issues related to the implementation of the regulatory, trading and technical aspects of market liberalization, such as:

(a) assessment, monitoring and exchange of experiences regarding the implementation of the European Union (EU) Gas Directives in EU Member States and, in particular, their extension to other UNECE member countries (G.C, WP.G);

(b) dialogue with the private sector on the implementation of market liberalization principles and practices (C, G.C, WP.G);

(c) assessment of overall energy security risks and potential policy responses (C);

(d) assessment of the security of natural gas supplies (G.C, WP.G);

(e) institutional capacity development and training for the benefit of countries with economies in transition regarding industry restructuring, privatization, pricing and tariff setting (C, G.C);

(f) exchange of views as well as policy-related studies on implications of market liberalization for government objectives, such as energy security and protection of the environment (C); and

(g) technical advisory missions relating to regulatory matters, industry restructuring and market liberalization (C, G.C, WP.G).

Work methods: Exchange of information and experiences among member countries at annual sessions of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and through Task Forces, seminars, workshops, technical missions and Regional Advisory Services, including preparation of analyses.
3. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY STRATEGIES FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Work to be undertaken: To promote the development and implementation of strategies and policies to facilitate the transition to a more sustainable and secure energy future and to contribute a regional perspective to global events at which issues related to energy sustainability and security are addressed, such as:

(a) regional input to the work and activities of the Commission on Sustainable Development (C);

(b) promotion and facilitation of implementation of the UNECE Guidelines on Reforming Energy Pricing and Subsidies to policymakers in countries with economies in transition, including through collaborative activities with other United Nations agencies and relevant international organizations (C);

(c) dialogue with the private sector and non-governmental organizations to facilitate the transition to a sustainable energy future within the UNECE region (C);

(d) dissemination of information and provision of technical assistance to countries with economies in transition on sustainable energy issues (C);

(e) undertaking a broadly shared intergovernmental expert dialogue on energy security specifically in the area of energy infrastructure investment and financing. In the future this dialogue to be extended to cover any/all of the following areas: (i) data and information sharing and increased transparency; (ii) legal, regulatory and policy framework; (iii) harmonization of standards; (iv) research, development and deployment of new technologies; and (v) investment/transit safeguards and burden sharing in situations of crisis (C);

(f) periodic exchange of views on energy security risks and their interactions with the global financial community, including internet-based information exchanges on the subject and a continued assessment of energy security, corporate governance and energy efficiency undertaken in cooperation with other relevant international organizations (C, EE21); and

(g) assessment of how UNECE can contribute to enhancing the stability of the global energy market and energy security risk mitigation (C).

Work methods: Exchange of experiences at the annual session of the Committee, through Ad Hoc Groups of Experts, Task Forces, conferences, seminars, workshops, special studies and through the Regional Advisory Services.

4. RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

Work to be undertaken: To harmonize and develop guidelines and strategies to enhance energy efficiency and energy conservation, as well as to enhance regional cooperation on energy efficiency market formation and investment project development to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in countries with economies in transition, such as:
(a) development of guidelines for improving energy conservation and efficiency, in particular in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (C, EE21);

(b) regional networking between national participating institutions and international partners through enhanced internet communications for value added information transfers on financing energy efficiency projects and training (EE21, GE.EE);

(c) development and harmonization of regional policies and standards to both introduce economic, institutional and regulatory reforms and remove the barriers needed to support energy efficiency investments to reduce GHG emissions (C, EE21, GE.EE, GE.CE);

(d) promotion of municipal level projects to enable local and concrete energy efficiency development, as well as strengthening the reforms, skills and capacities needed for investment projects that meet international environmental treaty obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and UNECE (EE21, GE.EE);

(e) assistance in securing financing for energy efficiency projects, including through the provision of support for the creation of a dedicated investment fund for selected East European, Central Asian and South-East European countries, as well as providing support for cooperation with existing financial mechanisms operating in countries participating in the EE21 Project (EE21, GE.EE);

(f) assistance with the preparation of investment project proposals for submission to the SwissRe/Conning and Company European Clean Energy Investment Fund (EE21, GE.EE)

(g) promotion of sustainable development of municipalities and regions through rational use of energy and water resources in cooperation with the Regional Network for Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources for Southeastern Europe (RENEUER) (EE21);

(h) support for biomass energy projects and the capacity of customers to finance and implement them, thereby addressing reduction of GHG emissions and diversification of energy sources (EE21, GE.EE);

(i) increase the use of energy labels in the procurement process in public authorities (EE21);

(j) ensure the continued development of trade and international cooperation in the promotion of energy efficiency, including in sustainable energy technologies and renewable energy, in other regional commissions and within the UN-Energy context (C, EE21, GE.EE).
(k) development and study of coal mine methane (CMM) and coal bed methane (CBM) projects and raising the awareness of the benefits that CMM and CBM have in economic, social and environmental terms (GE.CMM, EE21, GE.G);

(l) assessment of trends and development of market for vehicles using alternative (gaseous) fuels (WP.G); and

(m) study of new and emerging methods for detection of gas leakages during gas industry operations (GE.G).

Work methods: Implemented through national participating institutions, private sector companies, international financial institutions, commercial banks, international organizations, other multi- and bilateral technical assistance programmes, Ad Hoc Groups of Experts and Regional Advisory Services, as well as through meetings, training sessions, workshops, seminars and special studies.

5. ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING ELECTRIC POWER AND GAS NETWORKS

Work to be undertaken: To encourage the modernization, extension and transboundary interconnection of the energy infrastructure of member countries in order to promote energy trade, economic efficiency, security of supply of electricity and the fuller integration of energy systems in the UNECE region, through activities such as:

(a) reviews of the situation and prospects for European interconnections in the field of natural gas (C, WP.G);

(b) evaluation and dissemination of information to promote and facilitate the security of supply of electricity, particularly in countries with economies in transition, in order to achieve reliable generation, transmission, distribution and delivery of electricity to the end-consumer, and all at economic levels over a continuous period (C);

(c) facilitating an intergovernmental dialogue on investment and regulation for the promotion of cleaner electricity production in the region (GE.CE);

(d) updates of studies on Underground Gas Storage and Gas Grids for both natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas (WP.G); and

(e) ongoing development of an international programme, known as the Blue Corridor Project, to establish a transboundary corridor in the UNECE region for freight and public transportation by natural gas vehicles (WP.G).

Work methods: Exchange of information and views during annual sessions of the Committee, coordination of activities and joint meetings with subregional organizations, and through Ad Hoc Groups of Experts composed of representatives of interested governments, companies and other international organizations as well as through seminars and workshops, including special studies.
6. CLEANER ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Work to be undertaken: To provide an overview of the policies and programmes carried out in member States related to the promotion of cleaner electricity production from coal and other fossil fuels in the context of sustainable energy development. Particular emphasis is placed on promoting the environmental sustainability of the “coal – and other fossil fuels – to electricity production chain”, and also promotion of technical cooperation among member States in applying cleaner electricity production technologies and practices, including CSS and other technical innovations to reduce emissions arising from the use of coal and other fossil fuels, such as:

(a) dissemination of information on technological innovations that will result in a reduced environmental impact from coal use, including in the area of (i) CCS through an assessment of the current status of research, development and deployment, promising technologies and key barriers to implementation, and (ii) other technological and operational developments including coal gasification and liquefaction and zero emissions technologies (C, GE.CE, GE.G);

(b) appraising the development of a regulatory framework conducive to promoting investment in cleaner electricity production, including continuing support for the CCS Regulators' Network in cooperation with the International Energy Agency and the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (GE.CE);

(c) assessing the relationship between electricity industry regulation and the choice of fuel mix with a special emphasis on cleaner electricity production methods (GE.CE);

(d) evaluating policies and measures to reduce the electricity efficiency gap between developed market and emerging market economies in the UNECE region (C, GE.CE);

(e) fostering the creation of a UNECE-wide consensus on enhancing investments in thermal generation and transmission, in particular in relation to cross-border transfer capacities and procedures (GE.CE);

(f) dissemination of information on improving the thermal efficiency of large coal-fired power plants and the reduction of environmentally harmful emissions, particularly for the benefit of member countries with economies in transition (GE.CE); and

(g) facilitating capacity building for air quality management and the application of clean coal combustion technologies in Central Asia (C, GE.CE).

Work methods: Exchange of information and views at the annual session of the Committee and through Ad Hoc Group of Experts, dedicated Task Forces, seminars, workshops and study tours; and preparation of studies, as well as presentation of case studies on successful projects.
7. COAL MINE METHANE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Work to be undertaken: To encourage the development and profitable recovery and use of CMM and abandoned mine methane (AMM) in the UNECE region. The use of CMM mitigates climate change, improves mine safety and productivity, and generates revenues and cost savings. Particular emphasis is placed on promoting the environmental sustainability of the CMM industry, as well as technical cooperation among member States through activities such as:

(a) working closely with member States and the mining industry to establish a clear link between the economic benefits gained through the safe drainage and use of CMM and to encourage implementation of best practices through dialogue with the relevant technical, business and regulatory communities (C, GE.CMM, GE.G);

(b) facilitating financing of CMM projects in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, including through active engagement with the international finance community (GE.CMM);

(c) reviewing current legal and regulatory frameworks to assess whether existing requirements are inhibiting investment and innovation in more effective CMM degasification programmes (GE.CMM); and

(d) identifying opportunities for the CMM sector, in particular in UNECE member States with economies in transition, to participate in and benefit from the various public and private GHG emissions markets in operation (GE.CMM).

Work methods: Exchange of information and views at the annual session of the Committee and through Ad Hoc Group of Experts, dedicated Task Forces, seminars, workshops and study tours; and through the preparation of studies, as well as presentation of case studies on successful projects.
ANNEX I

EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 2006-2007 BIENNium

1. Within the United Nations system, the programme of work of UNECE and its budget is approved every two years by the General Assembly. Within UNECE, each Sectoral Committee’s programme of work is mandated, extensively reviewed and evaluated. This process includes legislative reviews by intergovernmental bodies, financial reporting, an account of final outputs, internal assessments by the secretariat and external evaluations. In addition, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) periodically appraises the work programme, while related financial audits are conducted under the auspices of the Board of External Auditors. The Committee on Sustainable Energy accords the legislative mandate for its programme of work that it approves in the form of a Strategic Framework every two years. The Committee also provides a legislative review of its work at each annual session. The secretariat provides an account of the work programme’s final outputs and a financial report to the General Assembly each year. This note describes the methodology used to evaluate the Committee’s work and summarizes some of the results achieved during the 2006-2007 biennium.

2. In accordance with its 2006-2007 Strategic Framework, the work programme of the Committee on Sustainable Energy was designed to aid UNECE countries in overcoming two fundamental challenges in the field of energy: (a) the transition to a more sustainable development path for the production and use of energy; and (b) the fuller integration of the energy economies and energy infrastructure of countries in the region. The Committee was to achieve those objectives through a variety of activities and projects. However, three expected accomplishments were singled out for careful scrutiny to reflect the performance of the Committee as a whole: (a) progress in addressing sustainable energy development issues, in particular environmental improvement, and in understanding energy efficiency in economies in transition, (b) the greater integration of the energy economies and energy networks of UNECE countries, and (c) the further extension and implementation to the oil, gas and uranium sectors of the United Nations Framework Classification for Reserves and Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities. Quantified performance indicators with baselines, targets and actual performance achievements have been used to measure each of these expected accomplishments.

I. Legislative Review

3. A legislative review was completed of the 2006-2007 programme of work by the Extended Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and its Ad Hoc Groups of Experts on 14 December 2005 (ENERGY/2005/6) when it also approved the Strategic Framework for 2008-2009. The 2006-2007 programme of work was reviewed and approved by the Committee on Sustainable on 27-29 June 2005 (ECE/ENERGY/65). The programme of work was subsequently reviewed by the annual sessions of the Committee on 28-30 November 2006 (ECE/ENERGY/68) and 28-30 November 2007 (ECE/ENERGY/76).
II. External Evaluation

4. UNECE as a whole was the subject of an External Evaluation carried out by a team of four consultants contracted by the Commission. The consulting team issued an external evaluation report in June 2005. This report covered the activities of all UNECE Sectoral Committees, including the Committee on Sustainable Energy. It recommended that the Committee on Sustainable Energy should be strengthened in the fields of energy efficiency, cleaner energy production, energy security and the diversification of energy sources, taking into account environmental concerns. It also noted that the Committee on Sustainable Energy should streamline its activities and cooperate more closely with the International Energy Agency (IEA/OECD) and the Energy Charter.

5. The Work Plan on ECE Reform engendered the streamlining intergovernmental structure of the Committee, greater emphasis on energy security within the Committee itself and more extensive relations with the International Energy Agency and the Energy Charter among other relevant international organizations. During the 2006-2007 biennium, the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal in Sustainable Development and the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Electric Power were merged to become the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels. Following the successful completion of the Energy Security Forum activities in 2006, the Committee on Sustainable Energy launched an expert intergovernmental dialogue on energy security directly during its 2007 annual session. The International Energy Agency and the Energy Charter have actively taken part in this energy security dialogue. During 2007, the International Energy Agency and the Energy Charter began cooperating on preparations for a conference with UNECE held in during the Energy Efficiency 21 Project Steering Committee session in May 2008 on International Cooperation on Energy Efficiency: Working Together on a Low Carbon Economy.

6. Each intergovernmental body, expert group and technical assistance project provides a form of external oversight and evaluation for UNECE activities. However, in the sustainable energy field, external evaluation is more extensive and pronounced than for some of the other Sectoral Committees because of the large extrabudgetary financial resources this programme attracts. All donors require detailed substantive and financial reporting on the projects they fund while many also finance external evaluations. In some cases, donors assign an external expert to accompany, monitor and evaluate a project to ensure a consistent independent source of advice for the duration of project operations. The responsive, accountable and transparent management of projects supported by extrabudgetary funds helps to attract and keep donors. A number of the activities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy that are supported largely by extrabudgetary resources have maintained operations for 10 to 15 years, notably in the fields of natural gas and energy efficiency. During the 2006-2007 biennium, external evaluation reports were issued for activities funded by UNDP, the United Nations Development Account and the United Nations Foundation/United Nations Fund for International Partnerships.

7. In addition to the oversight of expert groups and external advisers, work programme elements and projects can be evaluated by a variety of “objective” means including user surveys and analyses of Internet usage patterns for dedicated project websites or pages. For example, the Energy Efficiency 21 Project webmaster undertook an external evaluation of the Project by an Internet based survey of EE21 participants documented in a report on the EE21 Website Survey.
The survey illustrates how a small but representative sample of EE21 participants view the project and its activities, in particular which activities and facilities of the website are valued most. It appears that the use of documentation ranks high among the features of the website. This feature has been expanded during the present phase of the Project (2006-2009).

III. Internal Evaluation

8. Two self-evaluations by the UNECE secretariat have been completed: one on the Coal Mine Methane project and one on the Capacity building for Air Quality Management and the Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia (CAPACT) project. The Coal Mine Methane Project self-evaluation reveals the need for a greater emphasis on mine safety rather than the market and policy issues addressing methane utilization rather than degasification. A number of participants from coal producing UNECE member States in Eastern Europe were particularly concerned about mine safety. The self-evaluation of the CAPACT project showed that the deployment of clean coal technology in Central Asian countries could benefit from a model law on energy efficiency which could be adopted by national governments in the region in order for participating countries to implement a regional energy efficiency and conservation programme.

IV. Overall Assessment

9. The legislative reviews, financial reporting, accounting of final outputs, external evaluations and internal self-evaluations by the secretariat show that the Committee on Sustainable Energy attracted record levels of interest, commitment and support for its programme of work in 2006-2007. Both the 2006 and 2007 annual sessions of the Committee were attended by over 220 participants from some 40 UNECE countries and six countries outside the UNECE region, as well as by some 20 international organizations. Both the 2006 and 2007 Committee sessions comprised decision-makers to a significant degree, with over half the participants at the Director level or above within their government ministry, company, international organization or non-governmental organization. Expert group and technical assistance project meetings have had similar levels of participation. The Extended Bureau of the Committee has provided strategic direction and oversight for the Committee by, inter alia, determining the content and form of the Committee’s 2006 annual session and adopting the Strategic Framework for 2008-2009.

10. The recommendations of the UNECE External Evaluation have been taken into account by the Committee and the UNECE secretariat in the design of the programme of work, redeployment of regular budget staff to the Sustainable Energy Division, extrabudgetary fundraising and through contacts with other international organizations. In addition, the United Nations personnel policy of staff mobility was implemented with the Division during the 2006-2007 biennium. The programme of work and the intergovernmental structure was streamlined and refocused. Each intergovernmental body was mandated with revised and renewed terms of reference approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy and subsequently endorsed by the UNECE Executive Committee in 2006 and 2007. Regular budget and extra-budgetary financial accounts and final output reports were submitted and approved by the relevant United Nations departments and external donors. During 2006-2007, the programme attracted record levels of extrabudgetary funding in the fields of energy efficiency, energy security and natural gas. Representatives of the IEA, the International Energy Forum (IEF) and the Energy Charter
attended the 2006 and 2007 annual sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy to maintain coordination and cooperation with their respective work programmes.

11. While the Extended Bureau of the Committee and the secretariat have contributed to implementing the recommendations of the UNECE External Evaluation, the guidance of the Committee is required for key decisions during the 2008 annual session. In particular, the Committee will be called upon to determine the emphasis to be placed on its activities on energy security and energy efficiency. These decisions will help to assimilate the results of the evaluation of the programme of work during the 2006-2007 biennium.
ANNEX II

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SUBPROGRAMME

PROPOSED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE PERIOD 2010-2011
Subprogramme 5: Sustainable Energy

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate (a) the transition to a more sustainable development path for the production and use of energy; and (b) the fuller integration of the energy infrastructure and energy markets of the countries in the region.

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<th>Expected accomplishments of the secretariat</th>
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| (a) Progress in the international dialogue between governments and industry on sustainable energy development issues, in particular, cleaner energy production, energy security and diversification of energy sources. | (a) (i) Increase in the percentage of participants in policy discussions, as well as discussions on technical matters, who evaluate them as being useful for decision-making. Baseline: 2008-2009: 65 per cent Target: 2010-2011: 70 per cent  
(ii) Increase in the percentage of respondents to a web-based survey that find UNECE information, technical and policy-oriented reports on sustainable energy issues very useful. Baseline: 2008-2009: 60 per cent Target: 2010-2011: 65 per cent |
| (b) Progress in addressing energy conservation and efficiency issues across the UNECE region, especially those leading to a reduction in energy-related environmental impacts, including progress in the formation of energy efficiency markets in economies in transition. | (b) (i) Increase in the percentage of participants in policy discussions who evaluate them as being useful for decision-making. Baseline: 2008-2009: 65 per cent Target: 2010-2011: 70 per cent  
(ii) Increase in the number of energy efficiency investment projects developed under the UNECE Energy Efficiency 21 Project that have been approved for financing in the economies in transition. Baseline: 2008-2009: 14 projects Target: 2010-2011: 16 projects |
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

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<th>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</th>
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| (c) Further extension and implementation of UNECE recommendations/guidelines and instruments for sustainable energy development, in particular, extension and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources (UNFC) | (c) (i) Increase in the number of professional organizations and international standard setting organizations supporting the further development and implementation of the UNFC, including as a basis for financial reporting standards for extractive activities; Estimate: 2008-2009: 4 organizations Target: 2010-2011: 5 organizations  
(ii) Increase in the number of countries expressing intent to apply the UNFC in their fossil energy and uranium resources management; Baseline: 2008-2009: 8 countries Target 2010-2011: 10 countries |
| (d) Progress in implementation of projects in support of sustainable energy development | (d) (i) Higher quantity of diesel fuel replaced by natural gas in commercial vehicles on the Blue Corridor Project road transport itinerary across Europe. Baseline: 2008-2009: 320,000 tonnes Target: 2010-2011: 350,000 tonnes |

Strategy

The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Energy Division. The subprogramme will promote public-private sector cooperation between governments, energy industries and the financial community and relevant international organizations to foster sustainable energy development in member States. It will assist countries with economies in transition to integrate their energy economies and infrastructure more fully in the region and the global economy; increase energy security for importing and exporting countries alike; reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through self-financing mechanisms for trading carbon emissions and coal mine methane; enhance the performance of energy industries; and contribute to the long-term supply of fossil fuels through the global adoption of a classification standard for energy reserves and resources.

Whilst taking into account the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, the subprogramme is designed to promote a sustainable energy development strategy for the UNECE region, in particular the mitigation of energy security risks through the pursuit of sustainable energy policies in the short, medium and long-term. The UNECE will promote well-balanced energy network systems across the region tailored to optimize operating efficiencies and overall regional cooperation and sustained improvements in energy efficiency. The subprogramme will support the development of self-financing projects to reduce GHG emissions in economies in transition for submission to public-private sector investment funds associated with its programme of work. It will promote projects for gas infrastructure and transportation.
networks, with particular attention to the Caucasus, Central Asia, and South-Eastern Europe. In the context of post-EU enlargement, the subprogramme will assist member States with the integration of their energy economies through the compatibility of the legal, regulatory and policy measures, including business practices and the development of classification systems and guidelines, and also to conduct studies on natural gas markets.

UNECE will continue to coordinate its activities with other international organizations to ensure efficient use of resources and avoid duplication. The extrabudgetary resources usually attracted by the sustainable energy activities will reinforce the present structure of intergovernmental dialogue. Whilst activities begin with policy dialogue, the subprogramme allows for policy recommendations to be implemented through international norms, standards, training programmes, technical assistance and preparation of investment projects.