

Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Hard Talks in UNECE countries

The UNECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE), jointly with relevant local ministries and with the support of key partners (e.g. the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century- REN21, the German Energy Agency - Dena, the Revelle Group, and others) organizes Renewable Energy Hard Talks in UNECE member countries. The Hard Talks bring together major stakeholders from public and private sector to identify existing barriers for renewable energy uptake and recommend concrete solutions and priorities to boost investments and, overall, increase the uptake of renewable energy in the energy mix. In 2016-2017, Hard Talks in Georgia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan led to fruitful results, addressing countries difficulties in the RE deployment.



HARDTALK

GERE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Contributing to achieve Sustainable Development Goal on Energy - SDG 7, GERE work on RE mainly focuses on tracking progress, the facilitation of regulatory and policy dialogue, and sharing of best practices. Since the SDGs are closely interlinked and benefit from synergies in their deployment, GERE is taking active steps to promote coordination with a nexus approach and integrated planning of interlinked resources across sectors, towards the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) was set up in 1947 by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to develop economic activity and strengthen economic relations among European countries and between them and other countries of the world.

UNECE also sets out norms, standards and conventions to facilitate international cooperation within and outside the region.

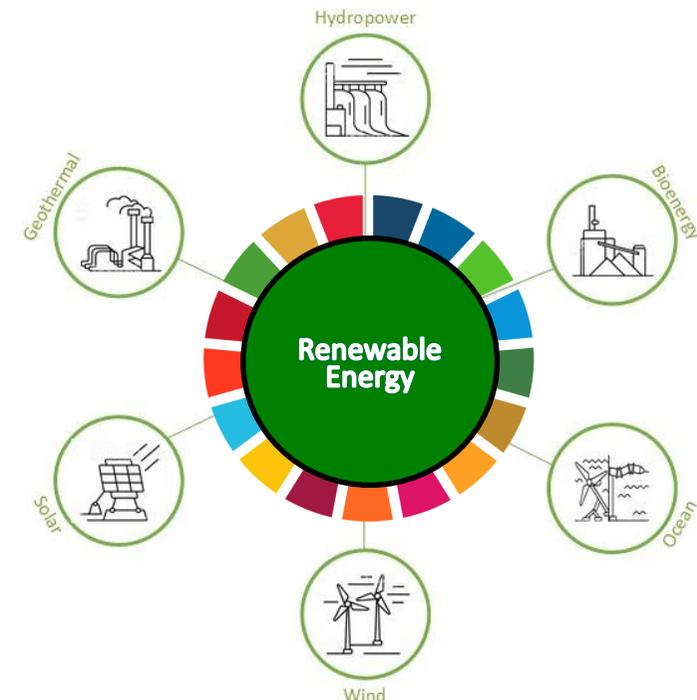
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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNECE WORK ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

GROUP OF EXPERTS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY (GERE)





UNECE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Established in 2014, the UNECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) is committed to carry out result-oriented, practical activities to substantially increase the uptake of renewable energy (RE) in UNECE member States.

GERE work aims to:

-  Increase the share of RE in the future global energy mix
-  Facilitates regulatory and policy dialogue on RE
-  Provide a multi-stakeholder platform for collaborations and information exchange
-  Support member States meet SDG7, the commitment of the Paris Climate Agreement and, overall, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

GERE KEY ACTIVITIES

GERE work contributes to speed up the changes needed to increase the RE uptake. Key GERE activities include:



Tracking progress in the uptake of RE sources: REN21 UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report 2015 & 2017



Exchange of experiences and good practices on how to increase the uptake of RE: Dena's project on RE-Uptake



Coordination with UNECE member States to exploit untapped potential: IRENA's Assessment of RE potential



Matchmaking to support RE investments: Matchmaking events with EU-DEVCO/EU-TAF; Cooperation with UNESCWA



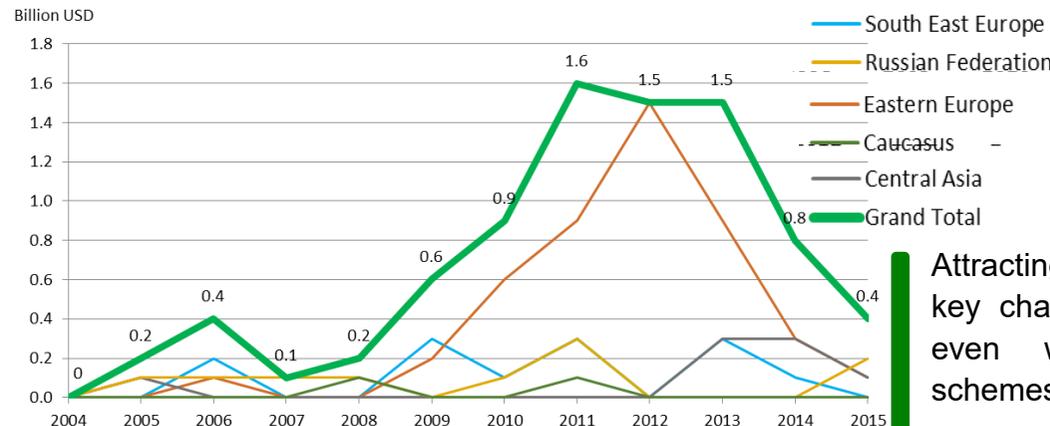
Cross-cutting cooperation to strengthen integration of RE in future sustainable energy systems, together with other Group of Experts, including on UNFC application to RE, water-energy nexus and PPPs

UNECE RENEWABLE ENERGY STATUS REPORT 2017

Launched at the 8th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Astana, Kazakhstan, June 2017, and jointly produced by the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), with contribution of the International Energy Agency (IEA), this report tracks and updates the status of renewable energy in 17 selected countries of South East and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Russian Federation.



RE INVESTMENTS - REVERSING THE DECLINING TREND



The 17 UNECE countries only received 0.2 percent or USD 0.4 billion of global renewable energy investment in 2015;

Attracting investment remains a key challenge in these countries, even with advanced support schemes and policies.