



Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus
Fifth meeting

Geneva, Switzerland, 18 October 2017

OPPORTUNITIES FOR A NEXUS APPROACH SEEN FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE ENERGY SECTOR

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Thursday, 18 October 2017 at 9.40 -10:40 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 3

The interconnectedness of international development commitments, notably the Goals of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, and the Paris climate agreement calls for a broad consideration of implications of development decisions.

Several recent reports and studies, including assessments of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus under the Water Convention, point at opportunities for synergies, for making energy sector development more sustainable and for reducing the trade-offs with e.g. other water uses and the environment. In addition, these reports also confirm that pace of progress on sustainable energy goals across the SDG7 pillars is falling short of what is needed to meet global objectives by 2030. As the regional UNECE report of the Global Tracking Framework highlights, nexus implications need to be included to assess the sustainability of the energy sector.

The session aims to build upon the progress tracking results to promote discussion about holistic, cross-sectoral and adaptive policy making to achieve energy for sustainable development. The focus is on experiences, possible solutions and challenges in integrating different sectors in energy policy making.

The discussion will feed directly into the UNECE project “Pathways to Sustainable Energy” which seeks to provide answers on how countries can attain sustainable energy. The project aims to define technology and policy options in order to develop adaptive policy pathways. The aim of the project is to establish a policy dialogue among UNECE countries.

An overview of the “Pathways to Sustainable Energy” project will be provided, followed by information on two recent UNECE reports tracking progress for sustainable energy. Country representatives provide their perspectives on national policies and their implementation to achieve their energy commitments, and how considering intersectoral effects (the energy-water-food-ecosystem nexus) can be helpful. The session will be concluded by a plenary discussion.

Guiding Questions:

- What information does the energy sector need for planning, for operation?
- What is the value of inter-sectoral studies for developing policies and strategies?
- What is the role of regional and transboundary cooperation in meeting energy sector commitments sustainably, taking advantage of intersectoral synergies?
- What experiences and lessons learnt exist in the formulation of holistic, cross-sectoral and adaptive policy making to address energy-related nexus (such across-sectoral assessments on water resources implications)?

09.40-09.50 Introduction: From Tracking Progress to Pathways to Sustainable Energy

Lisa Tinschert, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

- Results of the UNECE regional report of the Global Tracking Framework
- Project “Pathways to Sustainable Energy”
- Overview to nexus-related activities of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

09.50-10.20 Panel: Country Perspectives on the Energy-Water-Food –Ecosystems Nexus in National Policy Making

Margalita Arabidze, Head of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Division, Ministry of Energy, Georgia

Nafâa Baccari, Deputy Director of Renewable Energy National Agency for Energy Management, Tunisia

Predrag Milanovic, Adviser in the Department of Renewable Energy Sources Ministry of Mining and Energy, Serbia

10.20-10.40 Discussion

Introduction and moderation by Stefanie Held, Chief, Sustainable Energy Section, UNECE Sustainable Energy Division.
