



CONCEPT NOTE

Capacity Development Seminar 2016 UN DESA Energy Grant *Powering the Future We Want*

14- 15 December 2016
Conference Room 9
United Nations Headquarters,
New York, USA

BACKGROUND

In September 2015, Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 inter-linked targets.

In the context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognizing the importance of advancing implementation in sustainable development through partnership initiatives to address gaps in implementation, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the China Energy Fund Committee, have agreed to collaborate on a joint programme to promote success stories and best practices in diverse priority challenge areas related to sustainable energy including food security and sustainable agriculture, sustainable cities and urbanization, and transport.

The programme entitled “Powering the Future We Want - Recognizing Innovative Practices in Energy for Sustainable Development,” offers annual grants with the objective of funding future capacity development activities and innovative practices in energy for sustainable development, each year with a particular theme. The programme is being implemented for an initial period of 5 years, from 2015 until 2019.

This year, the theme of the grant is energy for sustainable transport, which addresses both SDG7 and Target 11.2 of SDG11. SDG7 calls to "Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all." Target 11.2 of SDG11 calls to “provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all,”. As part of the promotion of best practices, a grant will be provided to an individual or institution which has demonstrated leadership and ingenuity in promoting energy for sustainable transport, for replication and/or scaling up.

This Capacity Development Seminar provides an opportunity for the finalists of the 2016 Grant programme to disseminate their experiences and knowledge in the implementation of successful projects that promote energy for sustainable transport.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this seminar will be to: 1) Build capacities on best practices and successful implementation of sustainable energy transport projects; 2) Highlight groundbreaking innovations; and 3) Address challenges related to providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all.

At the conclusion of this capacity development seminar, it is anticipated that the participants will gain: 1) knowledge of successful projects of various scales promoting sustainable transport; 2) enhanced understanding of the issues faced by organizations and/or individuals implementing sustainable transport projects; and 3) awareness of major technical, managerial and financial challenges related to the implementation of these projects.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants will include representatives from the top 8 institutions that successfully reached the last stage of the evaluation process. Additional participants will include members of the Advisory Council, United Nations staff, representatives of Permanent Missions to the United Nations, international and national development organizations, and academia and students from universities.

LOCATION

The Workshop will be held in Conference Room 9 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City on 14-15 December 2016.