



MEETING SUMMARY (DRAFT)

Meeting of the Multi-stakeholder SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group

2 November 2018, WHO HQ - Geneva

The multi-stakeholder SDG7 Technical Advisory Group (SDG7 TAG) met on Friday, November 2 July 2018 at the World Health Organization's Headquarters at the margins of the WHO's first global conference on air pollution. Ms. Sheila Oparaocha of ENERGIA and Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk of Norway, the co-facilitators, kicked off the meeting. The Agenda is attached in [Annex 1](#). The list of participants is attached in [Annex 2](#). A list of ongoing and planned activities discussed is attached in [Annex 3](#).

Main Issues:

1- Opening Remarks

- a. The co-chairs opened the meeting and recapped the very active and impactful first year of the SDG7 Technical Advisory Group.

2- WHO Air Pollution Conference and the Energy and Health Platform

- a. Maria Nera from WHO briefed TAG members on the outcomes of the WHO's first global conference on air pollution and health. Based on WHO Director-General's closing remarks¹, she presented the five ways WHO would use to achieve a two-thirds reduction in global mortality from air pollution by 2030, including its commitment to working toward universal electrification of health facilities with sustainable energy by 2030 and its plan to establish a new multi-stakeholder Global Energy-Health Platform of Action to achieve SDG 3 on health and SDG 7 on energy, starting with a focus on clean cooking, together with UNDP and other stakeholders. The platform is a timely attempt to refocus on the global clean cooking agenda the implementation of which lags behind the most among the SDG7 targets.

3- Debriefing on SDG7 review at HLPF 2018

- a. The Secretariat provided an update on the successful review of SDG7 at the High-level Political Forum in July 2018. The 27 Policy Briefs put together by members of the TAG were received very well and effectively informed the discussions at HLPF. The ministerial declaration contained a paragraph on SDG7 that clearly identified clean cooking as a priority topic. The President of the General Assembly's summary highlights SDG7 even more in detail and recognizes the work of the TAG as well.
- b. HLPF in 2019 will review six goals: SDGs 4 (quality education), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 10 (reduced inequalities), 13 (climate action), 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and 17 (partnerships for the goals). Interlinkages with SDG7 of all six are critical to highlight.
- c. HLPF in 2019 will convene twice: in July at the ministerial level and in September at the heads of state and government level. Only one political declaration will be adopted.

¹ <http://www.who.int/dg/speeches/2018/high-level-action-day/en/>

4- Organizational issues

- a. The extension of the mandate of the two co-facilitators of SDG7-TAG was welcomed by acclamation.
- b. The secretariat recapped the background for the establishment of the SDG7 TAG that it was established by DESA within the scope of its mandate by UNGA to provide secretariat services for HLPF; that SDG7 TAG would remain an informal, multi-stakeholder group that is advisory in nature and works on technical issues; and that to maintain its credibility, TAG membership should strike a good balance between regional and other key constituencies and strive to reach gender parity.
- c. SDG7 TAG's updated terms of reference: a draft was circulated among the participants. Key issues raised:
 - TAG's focus remains SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs in line with the objectives of HLPF. Mobilizing action should also be a part of the key objectives of TAG.
 - Membership should remain open in principle but be contingent on meaningful contribution of would-be members and partners. While its size should remain manageable, the current TAG membership needs to expand to cover three categories in particular: developing countries, NGOs working on the implementation of SDG7 and private sector participants.
 - Additional clarity is needed to be reflected in the ToR about the frequency of TAG meetings.

5- Activities and deliverables

- a. SDG7 Policy Briefs for 2019 HLPF: TAG agreed to focus next year's Policy Briefs on SDG7's interlinkages with SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17, as well as on challenges/opportunities around the targets of SDG7, regional perspectives including on LLDCs and SIDS, and select forward-looking issues.
- b. The Policy Briefs will again be launched in April/May 2019 to inform the process leading up to HLPF, as well as other relevant processes such as the Secretary-General's Climate Summit and the high-level review of the SAMOA Pathway in September.
- c. Participants agreed on the need of a deeper dive on climate related activities at the next TAG meeting, including on an anticipated policy brief on SDG7's interlinkages with SDG13.

6- Actions to operationalize the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action and SDG7 related engagements:

- a. Participants provided an update on ongoing and planned efforts in support of the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action (Annex 3).
- b. The secretariat informed that the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action has been fed into the global plan of action for the UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024, through SG's report on energy to the UN General Assembly this fall. This will ensure full alignment between the actions to advance the Decade and SDG7.

7- Contribution of the SDG 7 TAG to the mid-point review of UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024

- a. The Secretariat provided an update on the ongoing negotiations of a General Assembly Second Committee resolution that will likely endorse a series of events in 2019 on the mid-point review of the UN Decade.
- b. Participants welcomed the possibility of using the midpoint review of the Decade as a global launching platform for SDG7 policy briefs, the 2019 SDG7 Tracking Report and other relevant activities. The secretariat will share a draft concept note for the planned events at the next TAG meeting.

8- SDG7 Progress Monitoring

- a. Custodians of the SDG7 indicators informed that a new governance arrangement has been put in place for the SDG7 Tracking Report, with a rotating chair (IEA for the 2019 report) and the secretariat at ESMAP. Noting that SDG7 is the only goal among all SDGs that has a single, coordinated goal-wide annual tracking report, the TAG members wholeheartedly congratulated the custodians for their joint efforts.
- b. The TAG has been requested by the custodian agencies to serve as the steering committee of the tracking report. The TAG has welcomed and accepted this proposal that should be reflected in the updated ToR.
- c. The custodians shared the good progress being made in working toward a new 2019 SDG7 Tracking Report framework, with a strong data driven approach and an enhanced policy section. The first draft to be shared with TAG members will be ready by March for review, the report will be ready to launch in the first half of May, and will officially showcased at the Clean Energy Ministerial in late May, the EU Sustainability Week in early June, and IRENA's Council meeting in June.
- d. Regional commissions will continue to contribute to the report, and every three years there will be a deeper regional analysis to be included in the report.
- e. The secretariat informed that the Inter-Agency and Expert Group of SDGs Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) under the UN Statistical Commission has identified the need for possible additional indicators for a variety of SDG targets. This includes a possible additional indicator on electricity affordability under the target 7.1. Accordingly, the SDG7 custodian agencies have provided initial suggestions to the IAEG-SDGs.
- f. It was pointed out that there would be a need for interaction between TAG and the SDG7 custodian agencies early enough to support possible future refinements/revisions of SDG7 indicators under the auspices of the IAEG-SDGs.
- g. Discussions are ongoing with the donors on the budget and sharing of the resources among the custodian agencies through ESMAP for the SDG7 Tracking Report.

9- COP24 and Secretary General's Climate Summit

- a. The Secretariat provided an update on the planned UN DESA Pavilion at COP24 and invited TAG members to share suggestions for potential events.
- b. As details are clarified, the Secretariat will update on the planning and execution of the SG's Climate Summit next September.

10- Next TAG meeting will take place in Abu Dhabi, at the margins of IRENA's Assembly, exact date/location TBD (tentatively, 14 January 2019). The TAG expressed sincere appreciation to IRENA for hosting the meeting.

11- Next Steps:

- a. Secretariat to circulate updated TAG ToR reflecting the comments of participants and including an updated list of members.
- b. Secretariat to circulate draft table of contents for 2019 SDG7 policy briefs. An annotated outline for each policy brief will be shared by lead organizations in time for the next TAG meeting.
- c. Secretariat to circulate concept note on planned activities in the context of the mid-point review of the Decade.
- d. Secretariat to update/upgrade the TAG's website to ensure better information sharing and links to relevant actions by the TAG member organizations and others.
- e. IRENA to confirm date/time/venue for the next TAG meeting in Abu Dhabi in January 2019 at the margins of the IRENA Assembly.

Annex 1: Agenda

Meeting of the Multi-stakeholder SDG7 Technical Advisory Group (SDG7-TAG) WHO HQ (Salle A) - Geneva, 2 November 2018

Agenda

1. **Opening Remarks**
Sheila Oparaocha and Hans Olav Ibrekk, Co-Facilitators
2. **Welcoming remarks by the host, including on main outcome of the Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health**
Maria Neira, WHO
3. **Adoption of Agenda**
4. **Debriefing on SDG7 review at HLPF 2018**
Secretariat
5. **Organizational issues**
 - Co-Facilitators' appointments by DESA
 - SDG7 TAG Terms of Reference
 - SDG7 TAG membership
6. **Activities and Deliverables 2018-2019**
 - 6.1 Discussion on potential ***SDG7 Policy Briefs for 2019 HLPF*** – focus on SDG7's interlinkages with the SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17 to be reviewed.
 - 6.2 Catalyse measurable actions to ***operationalise the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action***: All TAG members are invited to share their relevant new/on-going actions. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Advancing SDG 7 implementation
 - ElectriFI
 - European External Investment Plan
 - Green Peoples Energy Initiative for Africa
 - Decentralized Renewable Energy for Access
 - Strengthening interlinkages between SDG 7 and other SDGs
 - Global Energy and Health Platform of Action
 - Global Network on Energy and Jobs
 - Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement
 - Global Network on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Addressing regional priorities
 - Addressing regional priorities
 - SIDS Lighthouse Initiative 2.0
 - Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres

- SDG 7 roadmaps in Asia and the Pacific countries

6.3 Contribution of the SDG 7 TAG to the mid-point review of UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024

7. Monitoring: SDG7 Tracking Report 2019

- SDG7 indicator custodians on the 2019 report including a debriefing from the recent meeting held in Paris
- Update on potential new indicator for SDG7

8. SDG7 related engagements (All TAG members)

- IRENA Innovation Week 2018
- Global Conference on Energy Efficiency (IEA)
- The 4th International Off-Grid Renewable Energy Conference (IRENA)
- The 1st International Conference on Renewable Energy for Healthcare (IRENA)
- The 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (UNECE)
- World Energy Outlook 2019 (IEA)
- Renewable Energy and Efficiency Week, Berlin (BMZ)
- UNFCCC/COP 24 (UNFCCC, DESA and others)
- UN General Assembly 2nd committee on energy (DESA)
- The 9th IRENA Assembly (IRENA)
- Global Conference on Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda (DESA)
- European Development Days, (EU Commission)
- EU Sustainable Energy Week (EU Commission)

Others

9. Updates on relevant processes

- SG's Climate Summit • UN-Energy

10. Next SDG7 TAG meeting

11. Conclusions and Next Steps

Sheila Oparaocha and Hans Olav Ibrekk

Annex 2 - List of participants

Organisation	Name
ENERGIA	Sheila Oparaocha (co-facilitator), Rita Poppe (HIVOS), Richenda Van Leeuwen
Norway	Hans Olav Ibrekk (co-facilitator)
WHO (Host)	Maria Neira, Heather Adiar-Rohani, Jessica Lewis, Cherryl Adlp, Elena Villalobos
The Netherlands	Frank van der Vleuten
Denmark	Oliver Jacobi Lomholt
Germany	Alexander C. Kauer, Sofja Giljova
Kenya	Paul Mbuti
European Commission	Felice Zaccheo
IRENA	Elizabeth Press
IEA	Cecilia Tam
FIA Foundation	Sheila Watson
UNEP	John Christensen
UNDP	Marcel Alers
UNIDO	Takeshi Nagasawa, Cassandra Pillay
UN OHRLLS	Rita Ruohonen
UNECA	Monga Mehlwana
UN ESCWA	Radia Sedaoui
UNECE	Scott Foster, Oleg Dziubinski, Anna Piwowarski, Gianluca Sambucini
UNICEF	Gautam Narasimhan
WB	Elisa Portale, Stephen Halloway
UNITAR (observer)	Thomas Forhgrub
SE4All (observer)	George Hampton, Glenn Pearce-Oroz
UNDESA (ex officio)	Minoru Takada, Nadine Salame, David Koranyi

Annex 3 - Actions to advance the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action

Advancing SDG 7 implementation

- **ElectriFI:** a \$120 million flagship project of the European Commission, that also includes funding from USAID/Power Africa, Sweden and potentially other European Member States, focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa (Nigeria, Zambia, Benin, Ivory Coast with other countries expected to join), SIDS in the Pacific. Myanmar and Bangladesh also expressed interest;
- **European External Investment Plan:** three pillar instrument policy support, technical assistance, and blended investments mixing donations with lending;
- **Green Peoples Energy Initiative for Africa:** a new German initiative to support decentralized energy solutions in rural areas of Africa, also attempting to create a unified framework for households, SMEs and industrial appliances;
- **Decentralized Renewable Energy for Access:** supported by the Netherlands, Germany, Kenya and Nepal; private sector companies SELCO and Schneider Electric; and civil society organizations (CSOs) Hivos, ENERGIA and SNV;
- **Energy for Life Program:** in the process of conceptualization by Kenya, with a focus on air pollution, clean cooking, agro-processing, food preservation, health applications of energy;
- **Global Conference on Energy Efficiency (IEA):** the IEA's third Global Conference on Energy Efficiency took place in Paris with ministers and high-level government officials, business leaders, financial institutions and civil society gathering from over 40 countries to advance the dialogue on energy efficiency, with a focus on action and delivery of scalable, impactful efficiency policies and programmes, informed by the most extensive analysis the IEA has ever conducted on energy efficiency: Energy Efficiency 2018;
- **World Energy Outlook 2018 (IEA):** to be published in mid-November as per regular schedule, and will include a special section on the future of electricity;
- **Pavilion at COP 24 (DESA, GEIDCO and others):** UN DESA, with GEIDCO, will be running a pavilion that offers TAG member organizations to put on events;
- **Global Conference on Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda, Copenhagen, March 2019 (DESA/UNFCCC):** to identify potential synergies and inter-linkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement (including through analyses of VNRs and NDCs), analyze gaps and challenges, including trade-offs, and make a set of concrete recommendations for strengthening synergies; directing the means of implementation towards more joined-up action; and stimulating multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- **Global Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi 26-28 November 2018 (Kenya):** first global conference on the sustainable blue economy, to harness the potential of our oceans, seas, lakes and rivers to improve the lives of all, particularly people in developing states, women, youth and Indigenous peoples, leveraging the latest innovations, scientific advances and best practices to build prosperity while conserving our waters for future generations;
- **RISE – Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (World Bank):** first global policy scorecard of its kind, grading 111 countries in three areas: energy access, energy efficiency and renewable energy, aimed at helping governments assess if they have a policy and regulatory framework in place to drive progress on sustainable energy and pinpoints where more can be done to attract private investments;

- **Sustainable Mobility for All (World Bank, FIA Foundation):** a strategic global initiative that supports the implementation of the SDGs and transform the transport sector, focusing on clean transport, with upcoming initiatives on moving away from old ICE vehicles, dirty diesel;
- **Energizing Finance: Scaling and Refining Finance in Countries with Large Energy Access Gaps (SE4All):** key insights and recommendations to support governments and development finance institutions boost finance levels – and use it more effectively;
- **Renewable Energy and Efficiency Week, November 19-23, 2018, Berlin (BMZ):** expert workshop for partners of German bilateral development cooperation in the energy sector
- **The 4th International Off-Grid Renewable Energy Conference, October 31-November 1, 2018, Singapore (IRENA):** global platform dedicated for sharing experience and best practices about design and implementation of enabling policies, tailored financing schemes, innovative business models and technology applications for stand-alone and mini-grid systems;
- **The 9th IRENA Assembly, Abu Dhabi, January 11-13, 2019 (IRENA)**
- **European Development Days, June 5-6, 2019, Brussels (EU Commission):** bringing the development community together to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions;

Strengthening interlinkages between SDG 7 and other SDGs

- **Global Energy and Health Platform of Action (WHO, UNDP and other partners):** initial focus on clean cooking, mobilizing significant political support and new commitments – public and private, from the energy and health sectors, but also from climate change action, developing global implementation roadmaps for the priority areas of action; demonstrating leadership by initiating significant actions and initiatives; conducting advocacy and outreach at high-level international engagements related to SDGs, especially on health, energy, environment, gender and climate change; promoting an interdisciplinary approach engaging all stakeholders and existing initiatives, while avoiding duplication of effort, fostering alignment and creating strong synergies;
- **Global Network on Energy and Jobs (IRENA):** formal launch of the network planned in Abu Dhabi;
- **The 1st International Conference on Renewable Energy for Healthcare, November 2, 2018, Singapore (IRENA)**
- **Sustainable Solutions in Water and Energy Partnership (UN DESA and Itaipu):** a partnership led by UN DESA and ITAIPU BINACIONAL to promote water and energy sustainability and other SDGs in support of the implementation of Agenda 2030 with the objective to build a global multi-stakeholder partnership and network to enhance capacities, dialogues and cooperation at all levels, for enabling cross-sectoral approaches, advocacy and knowledge management that address SDG6 and SDG7 and interlinkages with other SDGs holistically;
- **The Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement:** developed by a coalition of 13 organizations led by UNITAR and UNHCR with 60+ policy recommendations, workplan for next 2-3 years being developed, plans to launch in Abu Dhabi in January 2019;

- **Equal by 30 (IEA):** public commitments by public and private sector organizations to work towards equal pay, equal leadership and equal opportunities for women in the clean energy sector by 2030;
- **World Health Assembly, May 20-28, 2019, Geneva (WHO):** potential platform for showcasing the 2019 tracking report and the energy-health platform.

Addressing regional priorities

- **The 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, December, November 12-15, Kyiv (UNECE):** four main tracks: energy transition and decarbonization; robust systems and infrastructure; matchmaking and investor confidence; and “hot topics” and “deep dives.” Annual sessions of UNECE Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency and Group of Experts on Renewable Energy;
- **Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (UNIDO):** an innovative south-south and triangular multi-stakeholder partnership to accelerate the energy and climate transformation in developing countries. The gradually expanding partnership comprises a sub-network of centers for the African and the Arab region (in cooperation with the EAC, SADC, ECOWAS, and the Arab League) and a sub-network for Small Island Developing States (in cooperation with SIDS DOCK, CARICOM, and SPC). Currently, the network is expanding to Central America, Central Asia and the Himalaya-Hindukush region.
- **SIDS Lighthouse Initiative 2.0 (IRENA):** ramped up ambitions, greater alignment with SDGs;
- **EU Sustainable Energy Week, June 2019 (EU Commission):** a month-long series of activities to build a secure energy future for Europe, bringing together public authorities, private companies, NGOs and consumers to promote initiatives to save energy and move towards renewables for clean, secure and efficient power;
- **SDG 7 roadmaps in Asia and the Pacific countries (ESCAP)**
- **African Climate Investment Summit in Johannesburg 2019 (UNECA)**

Toward a sustainable and equitable energy future

- **IRENA Innovation Week 2018**