



Multi-stakeholder SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group

BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has set out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, which jointly constitute a comprehensive plan of action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership.

SDG7 is a first-ever universal goal on energy, with targets on access, efficiency, renewables and means of implementation. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is crucial for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, from its role in the eradication of hunger and poverty, through advancements in health, education, inclusive growth, sustainable cities, water supply, infrastructure, industrialization, etc., to combating climate change.

The UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development is the central platform within the United Nations system for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Member States regularly undertake in-depth reviews, including through Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), to assess progress at the country level towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs.

To facilitate stocktaking of progress to-date and to seek advice on the technical preparation of the review of SDG 7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs at HLPF, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), as the secretariat for HLPF, through its Division for Sustainable Development Goals, has convened a multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Group on Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7-TAG).

In July 2018, SDG7 on energy was reviewed for the first time at HLPF. As a technical input, the SDG7-TAG prepared the 27 Policy Briefs that explored progress toward SDG7 implementation, interlinkages between SDG7 and other SDGs, and regional perspectives, culminating into a Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action.

In 2019, the first High-Level Political Forum under the auspices of the General Assembly - SDG Summit, will be convened to assess progress achieved since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in September 2015 and provide leadership and guidance on the way forward that would help accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.

OBJECTIVE

The SDG7-TAG is set up to seek, and facilitate exchange of, expert advice on how to strengthen the follow-up and review of SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs, in support of HLPF. More specifically, the SDG7-TAG will advise on the following:

- inclusive processes to support the SDG7 follow-up, review and implementation, including on ways to strengthen multi-stakeholder engagements.

- multi-stakeholder processes and partnerships to mobilize actions around SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs.
- analytical deliverables, including SDG7 policy briefs, to inform HLPF, and as required, other intergovernmental discussions, in regards to SDG7 implementation and its interlinkages with other SDGs.
- development of annual SDG7 Energy Tracking report by the SDG7 indicator custodians, by serving as its steering committee.
- recommendations to UN DESA, as secretariat for HLPF, on how best to support and coordinate the relevant processes and products development.

MODALITIES OF WORK

The SDG7-TAG membership is drawn from governments, UN system, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and other multi-stakeholders, with balanced regional and gender representation, that are committed to provide substantive contributions and/or resources to the work of the SDG7-TAG. Co-facilitators are selected to facilitate an exchange of views and information among members, keeping in mind its informal nature. Observers may be invited on an as-needed, case-by-case basis, if and when deemed helpful for the work of the SDG7-TAG. Meetings of the SDG7-TAG are held either with their members being physically present or by video conference or teleconference. TAG meetings are convened a few times a year according to a timeline communicated well in advance and preferably in the margins of global gatherings.

SECRETARIAT

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Division for Sustainable Development Goals, provides secretariat services for the SDG7-TAG, including logistical support.