

ADVANCING **SDG 7** IMPLEMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2030 AGENDA

Activities of the Multi-stakeholder
Technical Advisory Group on SDG 7
2018-2019

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INTRODUCTION

The 2030 Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. SDG 7, among others, is a dedicated and stand-alone goal on energy, calling to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”. Energy is crucial for achieving almost all of the Sustainable Development Goals, from its role in the eradication of poverty through advancements in health, education, water supply and industrialization, to combating climate change.

2018 has been a pivotal year for Sustainable Development Goal 7. For the first time the High-Level Political Forum reviewed progress on SDG 7, under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council. The review provided a critical occasion for taking stock, strengthening our energy-related commitments and redoubling our efforts to meet those targets. **On our current trajectory, we are not on track to meet the targets,** despite the real gains being made in all areas. Urgent action is needed to accelerate the implementation of SDG7.

1 billion people still live without electricity, and more than 3 billion people continue to lack access to clean cooking solutions. Modern renewable power generation is expanding rapidly, but much greater efforts will be required in end-uses. The global rate of improvement in energy efficiency has been accelerating recently, but energy intensity needs to improve at an even faster rate, necessitating a significant ramp-up in global policy ambition.

SDG 7 remains within reach. Advances in technologies, rapid cost declines, strategic shifts in policies, new business models and a growing number of best practices are accelerating the transformation of the energy systems in many places and bringing this goal within reach. To leave no one behind, we must capitalize on this momentum to mobilize greater political will and cooperation, together with higher levels of public and private investment in a sustainable energy future.

The time to act is now. It is critical that the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG 7 Action be translated into concrete, time-bound action plans and partnerships to move this work forward quickly, and the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group will strengthen its efforts towards this end.



“At the heart of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement lies energy. Achieving SDG7 on energy can unlock vast potential for economic growth in all regions and for all people, while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”

LIU Zhenmin

Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations



Achievement of SDG 7 is within reach, but only if we all take immediate action to scale up our efforts. The Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG 7 Action put forward by the multi-stakeholder SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group represents a collective response to tackling these global challenges. Its aim is to help all stakeholders step up, focus and scale up their actions towards the achievement of SDG 7. It is critical that the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG 7 Action be translated into concrete, time-bound action plans and partnerships to move this work forward quickly, and the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group will strengthen its efforts towards this end.

Sheila Oparaocha

Executive Director

ENERGIA International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy
(Co-facilitators of the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group)



Achieving SDG 7 will catalyze actions to meet the Paris Agreement on climate change and reach the other SDGs. However, at the current rate of progress, the world will fail to meet the SDG 7 targets. The good news is that significant advances in technologies, rapid cost declines and strategic shifts in policies are transforming the energy systems in many parts of the world. We must capitalize on this momentum to mobilize greater political will and cooperation, together with higher levels of public and private investment in a sustainable energy future.

Hans Olav Ibrekk

Policy Director, Section for Energy and Climate Change
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(Co-facilitators of the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group)

ENERGY IN THE 2030 AGENDA



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Sustainable Development Goal 7

First-ever universal goal on energy that calls to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”.

- 7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- 7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- 7.A By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology
- 7.B By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support



ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is the defining issue of our time – and we are at a defining moment.

In December 2015, the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21/CMP1) convened in Paris, France, and adopted the [Paris Agreement](#), a universal agreement which aims to keep a global temperature rise for this century well below 2 degrees Celsius, with the goal of driving efforts to limit the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States express their commitment to protect the planet from degradation and take urgent action on climate change. Specifically, the Agenda included [Sustainable Development Goal 13](#) on climate action, which aims to “take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact”.

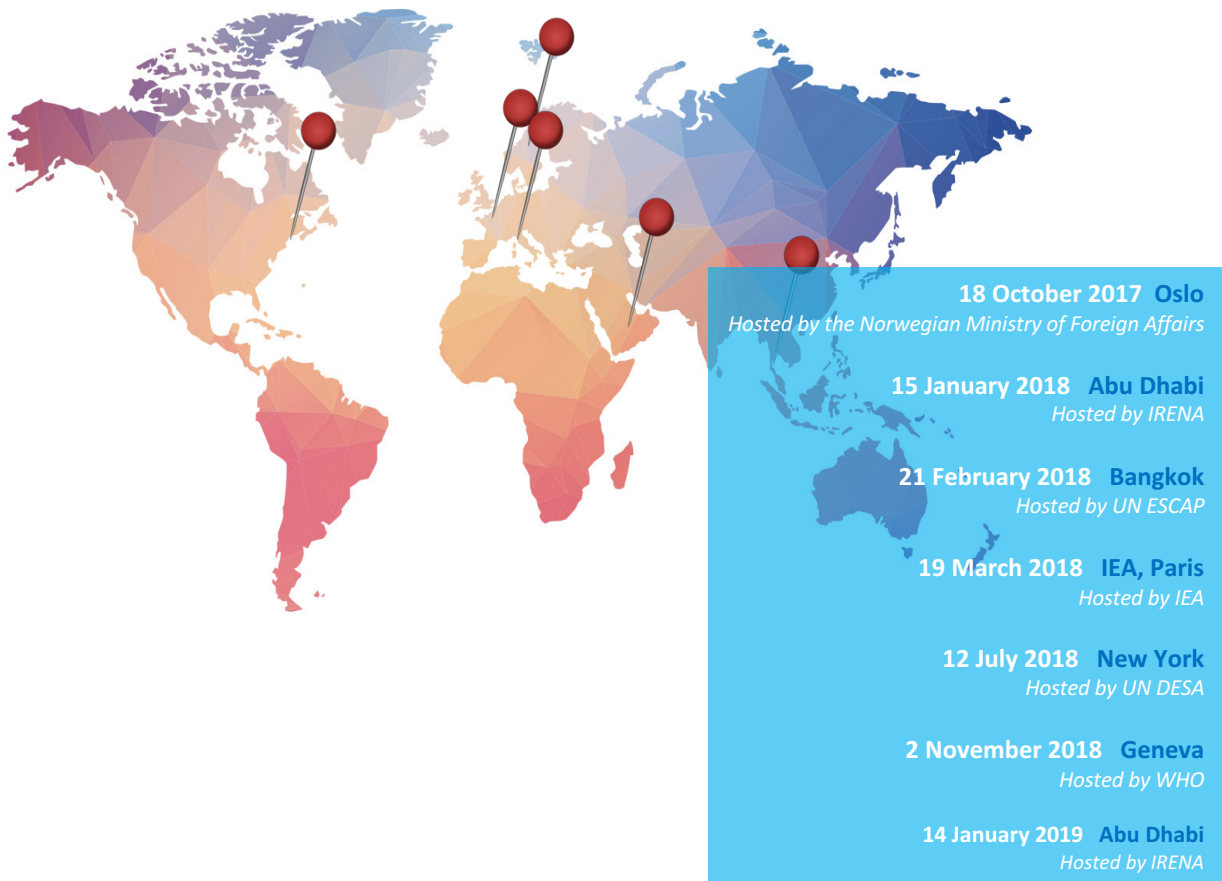


Multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Group on SDG7

Convened by UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the SDG7-TAG was 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, leading up to the HLPF in July 2018 and beyond. More specifically, the Technical Advisory Group advise on the following:

- inclusive processes to support the SDG7 follow-up and review, including on ways to strengthen multi-stakeholder engagements;
- deliverables including policy briefs, to inform intergovernmental discussions in regards of SDG7 follow-up and review and its interlinkages with other SDGs;
- recommendations to UN DESA, as secretariat for HLPF, on how best to support and coordinate the relevant processes and products development.

The SDG7-TAG membership is drawn from governments, UN system, international organizations and other multi-stakeholders. Its co-facilitators have been selected to facilitate an exchange of views and information among members, keeping in mind its informal nature. Meetings of the SDG7-TAG are held either with their members being physically present or by video conference or teleconference.



Multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Group on SDG7

Co-facilitator



Sheila Oparaocha
ENERGIA



Hans Olav Ibrekk
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

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Felice Zaccheo
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Dan Zhang
United Nations Association of
China



Rana Adib
REN 21



Dymphna van der Lans
Clean Cooking Alliance



Sheila Watson
FIA Foundation



Rita Poppe
Hivos



Nebojsa Nakicenovic
International Institute for Applied
Systems Analysis



Glenn Pearce-Oroz
SEforAll



Leena Srivastava
TERI University



Laura Cozzi
International Energy Agency



Rabia Ferroukhi
International Renewable Energy Agency



Byron Chilikunga
OLADE



Monga Mehlwana
UNECA



Manlio F. Coviello
UNECLAC



Hongpeng Liu
UNESCAP



Radia Sedaoui
UNESCWA



Scott Foster
UNECE



Olivier Dubois
FAO



Moustapha Kamal Gueye
ILO



Marcel Alers
UNDP



Mark Radka
UN Environment



Daniele Violetti
UNFCCC



Vincent Kitio
UN-Habitat



Rakshya Rajyashwori Thapa
UNICEF



Tareq Emtairah
UNIDO



Heidi Schroderus-Fox
UN-OHRLS



Thomas Fohgrub
UNITAR



Heather Adair-Rohani
WHO



Riccardo Puliti
World Bank



Daniel Schroth
African Development Bank



Mohammed Alsayed
Islamic Development Bank

Ex-officio



Minoru Takada
UN DESA

MILESTONES IN 2018 SUPPORTING SDG7 IMPLEMENTATION

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

SDG7 POLICY BRIEFS

Incl. Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG 7 Action

in support of the first SDG7 Review at the UN HLPF 2018

CONVENING DIALOGUES

Global SDG 7 Conference

a preparatory meeting for the 2018 HLPF

Regional Forums on Sustainable Development

with focus on Energy and its cross-cutting issues

ADVOCACY & OUTREACH

Vienna Energy Forum

with focus on SDG7 review

SEforALL Forum

Lisbon

European Development Days

with focus on SDG7 review especially on gender and clean cooking

SDG7 workshop

Copenhagen

MONITORING PROGRESS

2018 SDG7 Tracking:

The Energy Progress Report



**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



First Global Review of SDG7 on ENERGY

- 9-18 July 2018, UNHQ
- 46 Voluntary National Reviews (44 include comprehensive review on SDG 7)
- Ministerial Declaration
- Summary by the President of ECOSOC

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

Accelerating SDG7 Achievement – Policy Briefs on SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs

in support of the First SDG7 Review at the UN High-Level Political Forum 2018



The **27 Policy Briefs** prepared by the Multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Group on Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7-TAG) explore SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs, including advancing SDG7 implementation, strengthening interlinkages between SDG7 and other SDGs, regional perspectives and experiences, and building a sustainable and equitable energy future.

It includes a **Summary for Policy Makers**, which presents a **Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action**. The Global Agenda is a collective response to tackling the challenges of SDG7 and creating a foundation for concerted action by governments and all relevant stakeholders.

50 organizations, including 21 from the UN system, cooperated to produce the publication.

Available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18041SDG7_Policy_Brief.pdf



CONVENING DIALOGUES

Global SDG7 Conference

21-23 February 2018, Bangkok, Thailand



UN ESCAP Photo

At the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development in July 2018, SDG7 was one of the goals in the spotlight. To prepare for this review, a global preparatory meeting was held on 21-23 February 2018 at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok. The event was jointly organized by UN DESA and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), and the Royal Government of Thailand.

The conference brought together key stakeholders from Governments, UN system and other international organizations, the private sector, and civil society to engage in a dialogue that emphasized the integrated and cross-cutting nature of sustainable energy and its multiple roles in supporting the achievement of the SDGs.

The conference was generously supported by Norway, Republic of Korea, China through the UN sub-trust fund for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Germany, The Netherlands, the European Commission, ENERGIA, and Hivos.

CONVENING DIALOGUES

“

In achieving the goals, the private sector could be a real player with support of the government's effective and predictable policy. We anticipate that the private sector as a real driver for implementation could bring not only investments but also the necessary technologies and innovations for the achievement of SDG7.

Siri Jirapongphan, Minister of Energy, Thailand



“

As the clean energy sector continues to grow and evolve, competitiveness will be dependent on the ability to attract and retain a diverse pool of talent capable of bringing fresh perspectives.

Marianne Hagen, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway



“

Our responsibility is to work together, forge the partnerships it will take to find what every girl and every boy, every woman and every man are included in that tremendous opportunity space access to energy for all affords in our common hope for inclusive, equitable and sustainable life paths.

Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States



“

In a few years, renewables have moved to the centre-stage of the global energy landscape and are now competitive with conventional energy sources in many places around the world. While the pace of the energy transformation is growing stronger every year, action must be taken to accelerate it if we are to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency



Regional Forums for Sustainable Development

The **United Nations Regional Commissions** have a significant role to play in promoting sustainable development in their respective regions by promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation and effective linkage among global, regional, subregional and national processes to advance sustainable development.

Regional Commissions convene Regional Forums for Sustainable Development in the regions which support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including its follow-up and review process, and provide regional inputs to the High-level Political Forum. Sessions of the Regional Commissions also provide inputs into the HLPF, support implementation, peer learning and review of the 2030 Agenda.

- **ESCAP:** Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, 28-30 March 2018, Bangkok, Thailand
- **UNECE** Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2018, 1-2 March 2018, Geneva, Switzerland
- **ECLAC:** Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, 18-20 April 2018, Santiago, Region Metropolitana, Chile
- **ESCWA:** Arab Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, 24-26 April 2018, Lebanon
- **ECA** Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, 2-4 May 2018, Dakar, Kaolack, Senegal



ADVOCACY & OUTREACH



From May 14th to May 16th, the **Vienna Energy Forum** (VEF) gathered leaders from governments, civil society, international organizations and the private sector, in an aim to push the energy-development agenda forward. The vast array of participants debated key issues and opportunities surrounding sustainable energy for development, reflect on how to strengthen and advance SDG #7 and its nexus with other development goals, and provide action-oriented objectives across sectors.

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A number of SDGs are more likely to be achieved if the interlinkages among them are recognized and integrated in development policies and planning. Significant among these are SDG 7 on Energy and SDG5 on Gender, which are inextricably linked. Bringing together experiences from member states, international organizations and civil society, the side event “Achieving gender equality through universal access to energy: a roadmap towards 2030” was co-organized by the UN DESA and European Commission during this year’s **European Development Days** forum to showcase how energy access is a key driver for gender equality, and how the integration of gender and energy can help reap benefits at multiple levels and contribute to the achievement of other SDGs.

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MONITORING PROGRESS



UN Statistical Commission

Global Indicator Framework for SDGs

17 SDGs, 169 targets and over 230 indicators

- 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity
Custodian agency: World Bank
- 7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology
Custodian agency: WHO
- 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption
Custodian agencies: IEA, IRENA, UN Stats Division
- 7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP
Custodian agencies: IEA, UN Stats Division
- 7.A.1 International financial flows to developing countries in support of clean energy research and development and renewable energy production, including in hybrid systems
Custodian agencies: IRENA, OECD
- 7.B.1 Investments in energy efficiency as a proportion of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services
Custodian agency: IEA



The SDGs Report

By UN Secretary-General

Prepared by the Secretary General annually, this report assesses progress towards all goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda based on the SDGs indicators.

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018



The Energy Progress Report

A joint report of the custodian agencies



This report tracks global, regional and country progress on the four targets of SDG7: energy access (electricity, clean fuels and technologies for cooking), renewable energy and energy efficiency, based on statistical indicators endorsed by the UN.



International Energy Agency
Sustainable Energy Together



International Renewable Energy Agency



United Nations
Statistics Division



World Health Organization



WORLD BANK GROUP



2018 HLPF

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

9 - 18 JULY 2018, NEW YORK





Review of SDG7 at HLPF 2018

The United Nations High-level Political Forum (HLPF) is the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. In 2018, under the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”, it undertook the first global review of SDG7, along with reviews of goals 6, 11, 12 and 15, and the annual review of goal 17.

At the Forum, 46 countries undertook Voluntary National Reviews to assess progress towards achieving the goals. The 2018 HLPF served as a first critical milestone to take stock of progress to-date including energy’s linkages with other SDGs and to reflect on the way forward.

HLPF Official Meeting | Review of SDGs implementation: SDG 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

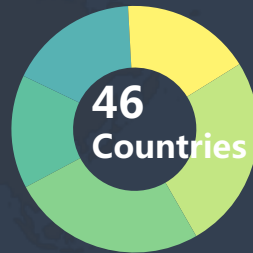
Achieving SDG 7 will catalyse actions to meet the Paris Agreement on climate change and reach the other SDGs including poverty eradication, gender equality, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, food security, health, education, sustainable cities and communities, clean water and sanitation, jobs, innovation, and transport. However, without urgent action, the world will fall short of achievement of SDG 7 and consequently other SDGs.

On July 10, the Forum held a discussion on “Goal 7 — Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”, chaired by Council President Marie Chatardová and moderated by Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency. It also featured a presentation by Heather Page, Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring Section, Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Panellists included: Siri Jirapongphan, Minister for Energy of Thailand; Laurence Tubiana, Chief Executive Officer of the European Climate Foundation; Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director of ENERGIA, Zambia; Riccardo Puliti, Senior Director of Energy and Extractive Industries Global Practice of the World Bank Group. The lead discussants were Hans Olav Ibrekk, Policy Director of Energy and Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway; Mengrong Cheng, President of the United States Representative Office of State Grid Corporation of China, and United States Representative ad interim of Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization; and Joan Carling, TEBTEBBA (indigenous peoples major group).

VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS

SDG 7 IN FOCUS

- ◆ Latin America and Caribbean Group
- ◆ African Group
- ◆ Asia-Pacific Group
- ◆ Eastern European Group
- ◆ Western European & Others Group



The Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) were called for by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to facilitate the sharing of national experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the SDGs. During 2018 HLPF, SDG 7 on energy was in-depth reviewed at global level for the first time. A majority of 2018 VNR countries included SDG 7-specific analysis and reviews in their reports.

Target 7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

- **95% reported on access to electricity**
- **27% mentioned clean cooking**

Target 7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

- **Renewable energy is mentioned in all VNRs**

Target 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

- **89% reported on energy efficiency progress and challenges**

64% highlighted investment in energy sector

Investment



43% reported on technology breakthrough and emphasized the importance

Technology & Innovation



30% emphasized the importance and urgent needs of enhancing capacity building

Capacity Building



55% showcased energy partnership, including public-private partnerships and cross-regional cooperation.

Partnership



61% mentioned interlinkages between energy and the other SDGs, such as transport and gender.

Energy and climate were highlighted in 68% VNRs

Interlinkages



89% of the 44 countries set national policy or agenda to accelerate energy development, most of them are aligned with SDG7 targets

Policy & Regulation



Note: This analysis focuses on the 44 countries for which VNR full reports were available online by 30th August.

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

Paragraph 24. Note with concern that more than 1 billion people currently live without electricity, which prevents meaningful economic growth and job generation. Three billion people lack access to clean-cooking solutions and are exposed to dangerous levels of indoor air pollution, which cause an estimated 3.8 million premature deaths per year, with women and children most at risk. We are encouraged that the transformation of the world's energy systems is being accelerated by advances in technology, rapid declines in the cost of renewable energy, deployment of least-cost decentralized solutions, policy support, new business models and sharing of best practices. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the International Solar Alliance as an international organization and note the continued work of the International Renewable Energy Agency. We emphasize the need for strengthened political will and increased levels of investment and action by all stakeholders to increase access, on mutually agreed terms, to clean energy research and technology. We commit to enhancing international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advances and cleaner fossil fuel technology, and to promoting investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology. We call upon Governments and all stakeholders to make clean-cooking solutions a priority and to close the electricity access gap by harnessing the potential of decentralized renewable energy solutions. We support solutions that are in line with people's needs and that support local economic activities such as the productive use of energy. We call upon Governments and other stakeholders to accelerate the pace of transition towards renewable energy, especially in end-use sectors such as transport, buildings, agriculture and industry, as well as the pace of energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy, including cooling and district heating. We reaffirm the commitment to rationalizing inefficient fossil fuel subsidies taking into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries. It is also critical that we scale up capacity-building, research and development, including by sharing experiences and data and promoting innovation and investments in energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy, and that we support sustainable energy deployment, particularly in developing countries;





SDG7 related meetings, events and engagements

The 2018 UN HLPF continued to demonstrate strong momentum around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over 2,000 multi-stakeholder participants, including over 115 heads of states/ministers/vice-ministers, reviewed the implementation of SDGs over the course of 2 weeks, informed by 46 voluntary national reviews and over 260 side events. The first official SDG7 review has proven productive, positive and strong commitments by all stakeholders to achieve this goal. Over 20 events focused on SDG7 were convened, almost all by member organizations of the SDG7 Technical Advisory Group, engaging about 1,500 participants collectively, featuring diverse audiences including heads of states, ministers, ambassadors, heads of international organizations, business executives, Major Group leaders, as well as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Under/Assistant-Secretaries-General of UN system organizations.

MAIN SESSIONS AND EVENTS

HLPF Luncheon: Accelerating SDG 7 Achievement in support of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The European Commission and DESA co-hosted a High-level Luncheon on accelerating SDG7 achievement in support of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on Monday 16 July at the UN Delegates Dining Room. One of the highest profile events during the entire HLPF, it was joined by over 200 senior leadership including 2 Heads of States, 3 Deputy PMs, 10 Ministers/Vice Ministers, 13 Ambassadors and 8 Heads of UN and International Organizations. Mr. Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development at the European Commission and Mr. Elliot Harris, Assistant-Secretary-General for Economic Development gave the opening remarks. Distinguished participants included: H.E. Mr. Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea and H.E. Mr. Tommy E. Remengesau Jr., President of Palau, Three Deputy Prime Ministers from Lebanon, Mongolia and Togo, 10 Ministers and Vice Ministers from Andorra, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Honduras, Jamaica, Lithuania, Oman and Panama, 13 Ambassadors, Heads of UN entities and International Organizations including UN Women, UNECE, UNESCWA, UNOHRLLS, UNITAR and IRENA, and many executives from business and civil societies. On behalf of Major Groups (women, business, youth), Rita Poppe from HIVOS delivered remarks. The session focused specifically on the interlinkages between energy, health, climate change and the empowerment of women as well as importance of mobilizing private sector investments to meet the rapidly increasing energy needs in developing countries.

HLPF Special Event: SDG Business Forum 2018

The SDG Business Forum 2018 gathered governments and business leaders to take stock on progress made so far on the SDGs, with including a focus on SDG7, on 17 July. Co-hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the UN DESA and the UN Global Compact, it convened a diverse and multi-stakeholder group reaching nearly 600 participants. High-level speakers included Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; Miroslav Lajčák, President of the UN General Assembly; Marie Chatardová, President of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations; Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General of UN DESA; Lise Kingo, CEO & Executive Director of the United Nations Global Compact; and John W.H. Denton, Secretary General of the ICC.

HLPF Special Event: 2018 Partnership Exchange

The annual UN Partnership Exchange convened on 13 July to review multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments in supporting the implementation of SDGs. For SDG7, six speakers presented their initiatives and partnerships, including Ambassador Fatoumata Kaba of Guinea on the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI); Raphael Edou, Deputy Mayor of Cotonou, The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa; Yoshioka Tatsuya, Founder and Director of Peace Boat Ecoship; Ariel Scheffer da Silva, Head of Environmental Area, Itaipu Binational; Samantha Shiffman, PVH Sustainable Manufacturing Park in Ethiopia; and Carteron Jean-Christophe, Sustainable Development Goal 7 SULITEST module. In addition, the work of IRENA's multi-stakeholder platform IRENA Coalition for Action was also presented at this event.



Photo/Yekbun Gurgoz

SIDE EVENTS AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

Monday, 9 July

HLPF Side Event: Gender in SDG7: Closing the knowledge gap

ENERGIA and DFID hosted a side event with the aim to inform the ministerial and multi-stakeholder dialogues at the HLPF with evidence and lessons on the interlinkages between SDG 5 on gender and women's empowerment and SDG 7 on energy. More specifically, it looked into the impacts of energy access on women and girls and why taking a gender approach leads to better and more inclusive outcomes.

HLPF Side Event: Women in Energy: Fueling Development

Organized by Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, the event highlighted the importance of enhancing women's leadership and diversifying the involvement of women across the energy value chain, and what elements of an enabling environment can advance these goals. With contributions from governments, international organizations, and civil society, the panel discussion addressed the successes, challenges, and pathways forward in empowering women in the energy sector and achieving SDG7.

Tuesday, 10 July

HLPF Side Event: Evidence on Gender and Energy

Convened by ENERGIA and Hivos, this breakfast meeting provided an opportunity for an interactive discussion on the latest evidence on gender and energy. Participants interacted one-on-one with the researchers from the ENERGIA Gender and Energy Research Programme, who will each chair a round table discussion.

HLPF Side Event: Briefing on UNECE High Performance Building Initiative

Organized by Ms Olga Algayerova, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Executive Secretary, this event facilitated discussions among representatives of government, research, and civil society on the goals, strategies, and resources of a new "UNECE High Performance Building Initiative" to help achieve SDGs on sustainable energy and climate, and health and well-being.

Wednesday, 11 July

HLPF Side Event: Official Launch of the Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions and Situations of Displacement

The Global Plan of Action (GPA) Steering Group including UNITAR, UNHCR, IOM, and Government of Germany, held a high-level panel discussion and expert level meeting to launch the Global Plan of Action Framework. The Expert-level meeting on the morning focused on operationalizing the recommendations laid out in the Global Plan of Action framework and laid out the next steps for the consultation process to create the GPA work plan. The lunch high level session presented a panel discussion focused on the need for leaving no one behind and how the Global Plan of Action movement can be a tool for accelerating progress on sustainable energy solutions in situations of displacement.

HLPF Side Event: SDG7 Policy Briefs and the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action

This event, organized by Norway in collaboration with the multi-stakeholder SDG7 Technical Advisory Group, composed of experts from governments, UN organisations, international organisations and other stakeholders convened by UN DESA, shared the key messages from a set of 27 SDG7 Policy Briefs, including the Global Agenda for Accelerated SDG7 Action, to support the first SDG7 review at HLPF 2018.



Photo/Amagor Robert Niang

Thursday, 12 July

HLPF Side Event: Leaders for Decentralized Energy Access – Accelerating the potential through a Global SDG7 Action Plan

Organized by the Government of Germany, in cooperation with Hivos, the Government of The Netherlands, Kenya and Nepal, and other members of the Brooklyn Coalition for decentralized renewable energy (Government of The Netherlands, Kenya and Nepal, Selco India and Schneider Electric, SNV, Energia and Hivos), the session discussed how can we concretely support the uptake of decentralized renewable energy solutions – in policy, finance and multi stakeholder cooperation, and to sketch a Global SDG7 Action Plan on decentralized renewable energy.

HLPF Side Event: Bridging and Building to a Renewable Energy Future: How to deliver at scale?

Transformation is picking up speed in the power sector, but urgent action is required in heating, cooling and transport. Organized by Germany and the Netherlands with REN21, this event discussed how to accelerate renewable energy uptake.

HLPF Side Event: Tracking SDG7: Progress Toward Achieving its Targets

Organized by the World Bank in collaboration with the SDG7 indicator custodians and the UN Regional Commissions, the event shared key findings from the Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report that assesses the progress made by each country on these three targets and provides a snapshot of how far we are from achieving SDG7. The Energy Progress Report provides a global dashboard on progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7). The report is a joint effort of the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of UNDESA, the World Bank, and the World Health Organization (WHO), which are global custodian agencies for the SDG7 indicators.

HLPF Side Event: Off-grid renewable energy for universal modern energy access

Renewable energy off-grid solutions are witnessing an unprecedented development thanks to dedicated policy and regulations, falling costs, technology innovation, new business models and local entrepreneurship. Renewables are well-positioned to provide the most cost-effective and sustainable solutions for energy access in rural and remote areas. Co-hosted by IRENA and Norway, this side event presented IRENA's findings on off-grid and brought together practitioners to share experiences and identify concrete actions needed to scale-up off-grid renewable energy deployment.

HLPF Side Event: Accelerating the energy transition in LLDCs

Moderated by Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary General and High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States, the side event presented LLDC inputs to the first global review of SDG7 at the HLPF 2018 while furthermore contributing to the Vienna Programme of Action for the LLDCs for the Decade 2014-2024 (VPoA) which recognizes the energy challenges and opportunities in LLDCs. Organized by the Chair of the Group of the LLDCs; Austria;

HLPF 2018: SDG7 RELATED ENGAGEMENTS

HLPF Side Event: Transformative Pathways towards sustainable and resilient societies in 2030 and beyond

Organized by the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the event served to launch The World in 2050 (TWI2050) report at the UN. The TWI2050, a partnership of some 20 institutions from around the world, aims to contribute to the science and to develop pathways to a more equitable and sustainable development. It presents major challenges facing humanity to achieve the transformative changes toward sustainable futures.

Friday, 13 July

HLPF Side Event: “Lifting us all up” - Accelerating innovative clean energy value chains in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

Organized by UNIDO in cooperation with Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates, CARICOM Secretariat, SIDS DOCK, PCREEE, and CCREEE, the side event explored how SIDS, regional organizations, and international partners are fostering and can better foster inclusive climate and clean energy markets through policy, technical and technological approaches, business models, and multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks.



Photo/Juan Manuel Becarí Morales

HLPF 2018: SDG7 RELATED ENGAGEMENTS



Photo/Jesse Alegre

Monday, 16 July

HLPF Side Event: The Energy-Water Nexus: Managing the linkages between SDG6 and SDG7 for sustainable development

The event was jointly organized by UNDESA and ITAIPU Binational (Paraguay-Brazil) as part of their recently launched partnership on “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions”. Participants of this side event discussed the importance of integrated approaches on water and energy in the search for sustainable solutions given the strong interlinkage that exists between these two factors. Partnerships designed for the sharing of best practices on integrated management of water and energy and on transboundary cooperation were identified as valuable mechanisms for pursuing poverty eradication and sustainable development.

HLPF Side Event: SDG7 – Leaving No One Behind

Hosted by SEforALL, this high-level dialogue explored evidence of progress in achieving SDG7, from the perspective of our commitment to leave no one behind. Panelists shared their experience of success, examined how policy matters, how partnerships and getting finance flowing drove results and provided examples of what works and what can be replicated to achieve the speed and scale.

High-Level Dinner: Sustainable Renewable Energy at the Heart of the SDGs

This interactive high-level dinner and dialogue, co-hosted by IRENA, Norway and DESA at the New York Harvard Club, brought together heads of states, ministers and leaders from the public and private sectors and civil society to discuss experiences, partnerships and solutions to harness the transformative power of renewable energy. Moderated by Mr. Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of IRENA and joined by among others H.E. Mr. Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. President of Palau, H.E. Mr. Jens Frølich Holte, State Secretary at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, H.E. Dr. Hala Elsaid, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Egypt, H.E. Dr. Gemedo Dalle, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ethiopia, H.E. Ms. Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter, Parliamentary State Secretary at Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany, ECOSOC President Ms. Marie Chatardova and Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General of UN DESA, it underscored that renewable energy is transforming world energy systems at an unprecedented pace, contributing to the realization of almost all SDGs, including those related to climate, economic growth, cities, jobs, agriculture, health, water and poverty.

HLPF Side Event: Jamaica – A Case Study in Fuel Economy Policy

Hosted by UN Environment and the Jamaican Mission, and sponsored by the Global Fuel Economy Initiative, the event showcased the important work that GFEI is doing to deliver the SDGs – with a particular focus on how the practical support and capacity-building that GFEI partners provide to countries to improve vehicle efficiency is contributing to the SDG7 target of doubling energy efficiency globally by 2030.

Wednesday, 18 July

HLPF Side Event: Energy sector transformation - Decentralized renewable energy for universal energy access

Convened by the Government of Nepal, with support of the Government of The Netherlands and Hivos, and based on Policy Brief 24 on decentralised renewable energy (DRE) as well as best practices from the presenting countries, companies and CSOs, this session discussed recommendations for the uptake of decentralized renewable energy to inform the SDG7 review process and support governments, financial institutions, civil society and private sector players to invest in DRE. Speakers emphasized that transformation of the energy sector should take advantage of new technologies and declining renewable energy costs, and that scaling up existing off-grid solutions and linking them to energy service delivery generate substantial socioeconomic benefits, contributing to multiple SDGs.

HLPF Side Event: Leadership on fossil fuel subsidy reform for sustainable energy access and poverty reduction

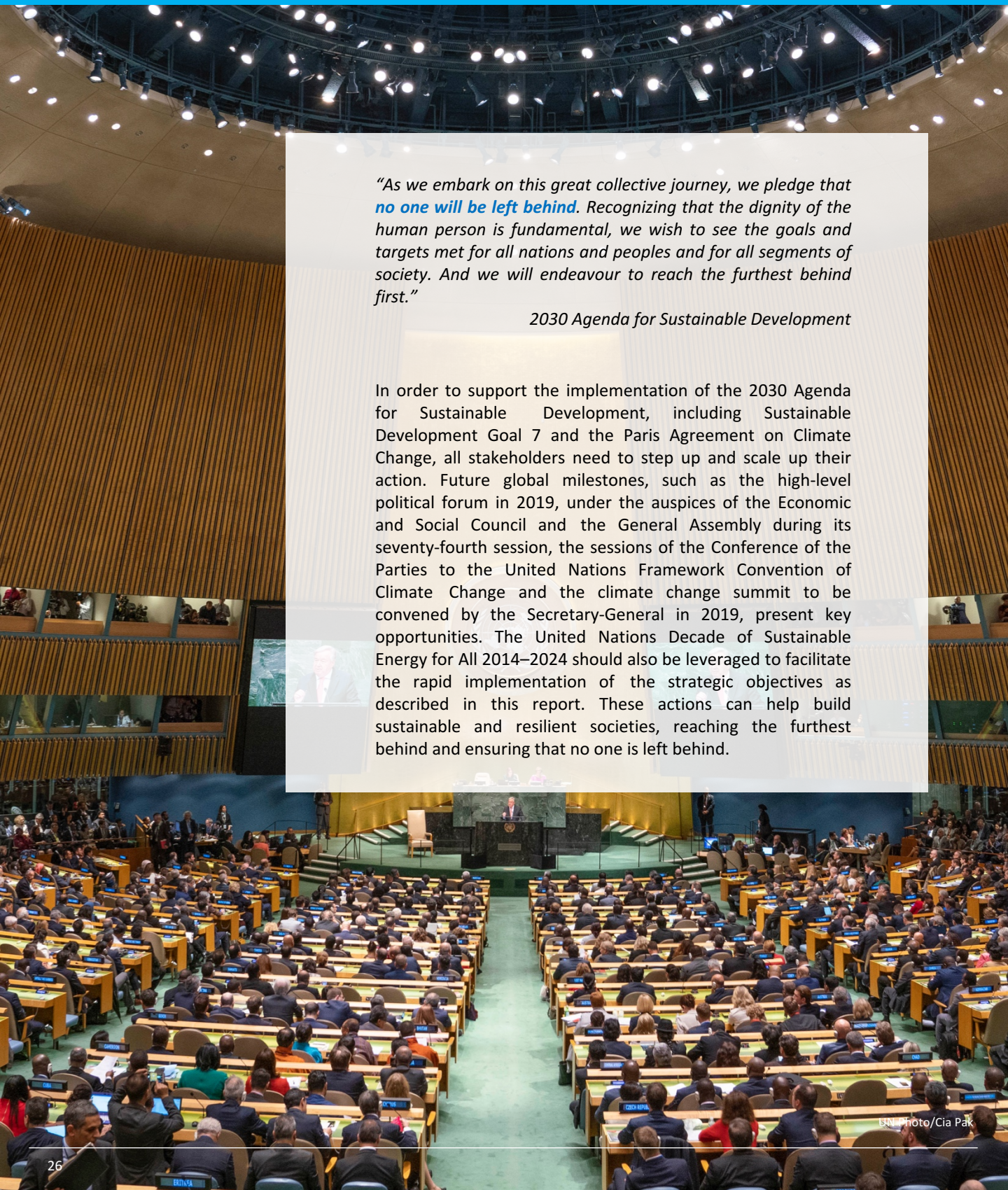
Convened by New Zealand, this side event presented opportunities for financing and delivering the SDGs through fossil fuel subsidy reform, with a focus on sustainable energy access. Speakers presented replicable strategies for fossil fuel subsidy reform with high benefits for poverty reduction, gender and the SDGs. These strategies include better targeting of subsidies and subsidy "swaps," which entail shifting fossil fuel subsidies toward sustainable energy solutions like renewable energy and energy efficiency, as well as investments in public transport.

MOVING FORWARD 2019 AND BEYOND

*"As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that **no one will be left behind**. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first."*

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goal 7 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, all stakeholders need to step up and scale up their action. Future global milestones, such as the high-level political forum in 2019, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly during its seventy-fourth session, the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change and the climate change summit to be convened by the Secretary-General in 2019, present key opportunities. The United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All 2014–2024 should also be leveraged to facilitate the rapid implementation of the strategic objectives as described in this report. These actions can help build sustainable and resilient societies, reaching the furthest behind and ensuring that no one is left behind.



FOCUS OF TAG-SDG 7 IN 2019

1. Follow up to the SDG 7 Review at HLPF 2018: Turning the Global Agenda into action

*International cooperation among all stakeholders on specific, strategic, bold and time-bound plans of action and partnerships, such as**



Global Energy and Health Platform of Action

led by WHO and UNDP, a new multi-stakeholder platform of action to achieve SDG 3 on health and SDG 7 on energy, starting with a focus on clean cooking



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



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 and Employment

Led by IRENA, a multi-stakeholder platform focusing on the interlinkages between SDG 7 on energy and SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth

* Additional partnerships can be identified as needed.

2. Technical Contributions to the HLPF 2019

SDG7 Policy Brief 2019 with a focus on energy's linkages with SDG 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17

Energy Progress report 2019

Launch of the reports at the mid point review of the UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024 in May, New York



3. Global Advocacy and Outreach

Mid Point review of the UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024

Regional Forums on Sustainable Development

Stock-taking meeting for UN climate summit 2019

10th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM10)

G20 Summit & Energy Ministerial Meeting

European Development Days

High-Level Political Forum 2019 (under the auspices of the ECOSOC)

UN Climate Summit

UN SDG Summit (HLPF under the auspices of GA)

High-Level Review of the SAMOA Pathway

Catalysing Multi-stakeholder Action: UN Decade for Sustainable Energy for All 2014 - 2024



In order to respond to the call for accelerated action towards the achievement of SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, we all must step up and scale up our efforts. The United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All 2014–2024 can present a unique global platform for mobilising actions by all stakeholders.

The UN General Assembly, through the recent resolution on “Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”, has invited the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to convene dialogues, which could consist of a series of events including discussions among energy policy makers and other multi-stakeholders in 2019 to be supported by the Secretariat, in order to discuss the implementation of the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, including the Global Plan of Action for the Decade as described in the report of the Secretary-General (A/73/267) that builds on technical inputs such as the global agenda for accelerated SDG7 action proposed by SDG7-TAG. Marking the midpoint of the Decade, this presents a strategic opportunity to respond to the SDG 7 review at 2018 HLPF and strengthen international cooperation among all stakeholders towards SDG 7 achievement.

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs supports the Secretary-General in coordinating the activities of the Decade, in cooperation with UN entities, international organizations, multilateral development banks, businesses, civil society and other stakeholders. The SDG7 Technical Advisory Group will continue to play an important role in mobilising multi-stakeholder actions in support of the 2030 Agenda.

The UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All: Global Plan of Action

I. ADVANCING SDG 7 IMPLEMENTATION

- **Make clean cooking solutions a top political priority**, and put in place specific policies, cross-sectoral plans and public investments, supported by renewed game-changing multistakeholder partnerships.
- **Close the electricity access gap** by establishing detailed plans of action nationally, regionally and globally to 'leave no one behind', backed by determined leadership, targeted policies and regulations, multistakeholder partnerships, bottom-up actions and increased investment in both on- and off-grid solutions.
- **Accelerate the pace of transition towards renewable energy**, especially in end-use sectors such as transport, buildings and industry, to combat climate change and realise substantial economic, health and environmental benefits.
- **Harness the potential of decentralised renewable energy solutions**, which are key to universal energy access and empowerment of people, companies and communities. The rapid growth of decentralised energy systems challenges the structure and economy of the energy sector and requires a new policy and regulatory framework to fulfil its transformational potential.
- **Scale up investments in energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy**, supported by well-designed, evidence-based policies (e.g., building codes, minimum energy performance standards, energy performance labels, cost-reflective energy tariffs, and fuel economy requirements), as well as by regional, national and local action plans (with effective enforcement and monitoring).
- **Double the financing for SDG 7 globally**, from the current annual level of about US\$ 500 billion to US\$ 1 to 1.2 trillion per year until 2030. Public finance must be designed to catalyse far larger amounts of private financing. Climate finance should be tapped, as it could effectively contribute to the achievement of SDG 7 as well as the Paris Agreement. Use of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies should be phased out. Special attention needs to be given to those countries, regions, communities and people that are currently left out, including in the advancement of decentralised energy and clean cooking solutions.
- **Scale up capacity building and education**, with renewed, cross-sectoral approaches, to develop human and institutional capacities and required skills in support of universal energy access and energy sector transformation. A network of national, regional and global institutions should be mobilised to facilitate needs assessments, deliver trainings and other capacity building activities, and develop robust monitoring arrangements. Refresh and re-align the curriculum in education institutions to better respond to SDG 7 and other goals.
- **Enhance innovation systems, including research, development, deployment and diffusion**, in the design and operation of the whole energy system, and especially in the end-use sectors of transport, industry and buildings, through increased public and private investments and increased international cooperation.
- **Invest in data collection systems and data analysis** to build institutional capacities at the national level and ensure effective monitoring of the SDG 7 targets, including, as needed, through improved, policy-relevant indicators. Joint work by the global custodians of SDG 7 indicators should be strengthened in order to present a coherent SDG 7 tracking report.

Actions on the Ground

ElectriFI: a \$120 million flagship project of the European Commission, that aims to support investments that increase and/or improve access to modern, affordable and sustainable energy services, with a particular emphasis on decentralized energy solutions.

Green Peoples Energy Initiative for Africa: a 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.

The UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All: Global Plan of Action

II. STRENGTHENING INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN SDG 7 AND OTHER SDGs

- ***Harness the potential of cross-sectoral interlinkages to maximise multiple benefits and synergies*** by promoting energy as an enabler for all the SDGs. Special attention should be given to the interlinkages between energy and poverty eradication, reduction of inequalities, gender equality, jobs, climate change, food security, health, education, clean water and sanitation, sustainable cities and communities, innovation, transport, industrialisation, peace and security, refugees and other situations of displacement. Risks of trade-offs, such as among sustainable energy, food security and water, will have to be managed, while harnessing the opportunities for synergies.
- ***A unified approach is required to achieve SDG 7 and meet the goal of the Paris Agreement simultaneously.*** Decarbonisation of the world's energy systems and attainment of the targets of SDG 7, including ensuring universal access to modern energy by 2030, are mutually reinforcing and must be advanced at the same time.
- ***Integrate gender equality and women's empowerment into all energy actions to advance the SDGs.*** Empower women in the design, production and distribution of modern energy services, by developing their technical and business skills and establishing financing schemes to support gender-specific programmes and women's access to capital. Develop gender-responsive policies, programmes and monitoring systems, and ensure equal participation of women in decision-making bodies in energy institutions, along with sex disaggregation and gender analysis of data to monitor SDG 7.
- ***Promote sustainable and low carbon cities*** with reliable and affordable public transportation systems, energy-efficient built environments, and significant shares of their energy needs met by cleaner energy sources.

Actions on the Ground

Global Energy and Health Platform of Action: led by WHO and UNDP, a new multi-stakeholder platform of action to achieve SDG 3 on health and SDG 7 on energy, starting with a focus on clean cooking.

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. Plans to be launched in Abu Dhabi in January 2019.

Equal by 30 Campaign: a public commitment 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, launched by IEA at the Clean Energy Ministerial.



Sustainable Solutions in Water and Energy Partnership

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 UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All: Global Plan of Action

III. ADDRESSING REGIONAL PRIORITIES

- **Strengthen cooperation at the regional level** to promote innovation and facilitate financing; support regional cross-border power grid connectivity to enhance energy security, advance economic integration and sustainable development; and share best practices (including on productive uses) that are responsive to regional needs regarding SDG 7, and its interlinkages with other SDGs.
- **Prioritise ending energy poverty in the most vulnerable countries.** Investments (by all stakeholders) in sustainable energy in these countries will have a significant positive impact across different SDGs, and exemplify the true spirit of leaving no one behind. Each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development, and there are serious challenges within many middle income countries. However, the most vulnerable countries – in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states – deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict or post-conflict.

Actions on the Ground

Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres: an innovative south-south and triangular multi-stakeholder partnership, hosted by UNIDO, to accelerate the energy and climate transformation in developing countries.

SIDS Lighthouse Initiative 2.0: an initiative supported by IRENA, which aims to enable SIDS energy systems' transformation, leverage investment support, strengthen climate resilience, and contribute to the attainment of the sustainable development goals in SIDS.

International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development: Organized by the UN Regional Commissions, the forum aims to provide a unique opportunity for policymakers and experts from various parts of the energy sector to reflect on the implications of the fast-paced energy transition that has become the new normal, review the activities to date and to make further progress towards meeting the sustainable development goals.

IV. ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATION TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE ENERGY FUTURE

- **Promote transformational investments** in developing sustainable, inclusive and equitable energy systems, including by strengthening energy systems through cross-border grid connections, and fully incorporating decentralised renewable energy solutions in energy planning, while recognizing that energy transition will take different paths in different parts of the world. Promoting such a transformation will require multiple and multifaceted actions by all actors, including a concerted, multilateral approach that paves the way for advancing universal energy access through decentralised solutions, while at the same time advancing the Paris Agreement.
- **Transform human behaviour from energy-intensive lifestyles to more sustainable patterns**, promoting technological and institutional changes that would result in adequate food, clean water, better education and reduction of poverty and gender inequalities, together with reductions in air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Strengthen decision-making processes by reinforcing improvements in energy data collection, indicators and monitoring efforts**, adopting, as needed, a broader range of forward-looking indicators on energy for sustainable development, including interlinkages indicators (e.g. energy-health and energy-jobs).
- **Harness the power of all stakeholders to drive change** through advocacy, capacity building, mobilisation and collaborative action, including businesses, civil society, women and youth.

Accelerating SDG7 Achievement – Policy Briefs on SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs

in support of the UN High-Level Political Forum 2019



The SDG 7 Policy Briefs for 2019 will be launched in April / May 2019 to inform the process leading up to HLPF. The Policy Briefs will focus on SDG7's interlinkages with 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), as well as on challenges and opportunities around the targets of SDG7, regional perspectives including on LLDCs and SIDS, and select forward-looking issues.

The Energy Progress Report 2019

A joint report of the custodian agencies



This report tracks global, regional and country progress on the four targets of SDG7: energy access (electricity, clean fuels and technologies for cooking), renewable energy and energy efficiency, based on statistical indicators endorsed by the UN.

Strengthen Synergies between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement in 2015 has established a firm foundation for the coherent implementation of climate action and sustainable development objectives at all levels. Climate action features explicitly in Agenda 2030 as SDG 13 on climate action and is deeply interconnected with many of the other goals and targets. It is therefore important to discuss how best to leverage advocacy, policies, programmes, implementation mechanisms, multi-stakeholder action and partnerships for both the SDGs and for climate action, so that co-benefits are maximized and trade-offs minimized at all levels.

SDGs Pavilion at UNFCCC / COP 24

Poland, 4-14 December 2018



Co-convened by UN DESA and GEIDCO, the pavilion featured a series of interactive dialogues and exhibitions to promote the interlinkages between climate action and the 2030 Agenda including energy, water and many other thematic issues, in cooperation with UN entities and other international partners, for the entire two weeks of the conference.

Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Linking Implementation across SDGs and NDCs

Copenhagen, 1-3 April 2019



Co-organized by UN DESA and UNFCCC, the Global Symposium aims 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, and stimulate multi-stakeholder partnerships. The Symposium will promote dialogue on the SDGs, considered in the HLPF, and linkages with climate action, considered in the UNFCCC. The focus of the discussions will be on implementation at the global, regional and country levels.

High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) — Review of SDG 13 on Climate Action

New York, July 2019



The global review process for the SDGs will complete its first quadrennial cycle in 2019, with SDG 13 itself set for in-depth review at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July.

UN Climate Summit 2019

New York, 23 September 2019



To support efforts to implement the Paris Agreement and to increase ambition and climate action, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene a summit to mobilize political and economic energy at the highest levels to advance climate action that will enable implementation of many of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Summit will convene on the theme 'A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win,' and seek to challenge states, regions, cities, companies, investors and citizens to step up action.



"At the heart of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement lies energy. Achieving SDG7 on energy can unlock vast potential for economic growth in all regions and for all people, while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

António Guterres

United Nations Secretary-General

KEY MILESTONES

2019

9th session of the IRENA Assembly
11 – 13 January
Abu Dhabi

Global Conference on synergies
between the Paris Agreement and
Agenda 2030
April
Copenhagen

10th Clean Energy Ministerial
27 – 29 May
Vancouver

Regional Forums
on Sustainable Development
1st – 2nd Quarter
ESCAP, UNECE, ECLAC, ESCWA, ECA

European Development Days
June

TAG-SDG7 Meeting
July
New York

CLIMATE SUMMIT 2019  A RACE WE CAN WIN

UN Climate Summit
23 September
New York

UNFCCC / COP25
11 – 22 November
Chile

TAG-SDG7 Meeting
14 January
Abu Dhabi

TAG-SDG7 Meeting
3 April
Copenhagen

Midpoint Review:
UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024
23 – 24 May
New York

Stock-taking meeting for UN climate summit 2019
30 June – 1 July
Abu Dhabi

G20 Summit
28 – 29 June
Osaka



July 2019 - HLPF under the auspices of the ECOSOC



SDG Summit (HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly)
24 – 25 September
New York

High-Level Review of the SAMOA Pathway
27 September
New York

2030

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Toward the Future We Want



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