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**Advancing the 2030 Agenda: Interlinkages and Common Themes at the HLPF 2018**

*An expert group meeting in preparation for HLPF 2018:*

*Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies*

*25 – 26 January 2018, United Nations Headquarters New York*

**SDG 7: Ensuring access to affordable, reliable,  
sustainable and modern energy for all**

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# Introduction

- The world is in a big and urgent need of transformative solutions that can bend the present trajectories towards a more sustainable future with greater wellbeing for all
- Access to energy services is a prerequisite for human development and well-being as well as prosperous economic development and job creation
- Many developing countries has urgent needs to address access to energy services through a rapid and wide scale expansion of both electricity generating capacity – on-grid and off-grid – and the supply of other forms of energy
- The SDG 7 aims to close the energy access gap and “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” through a combination of national action and international cooperation

# Observations

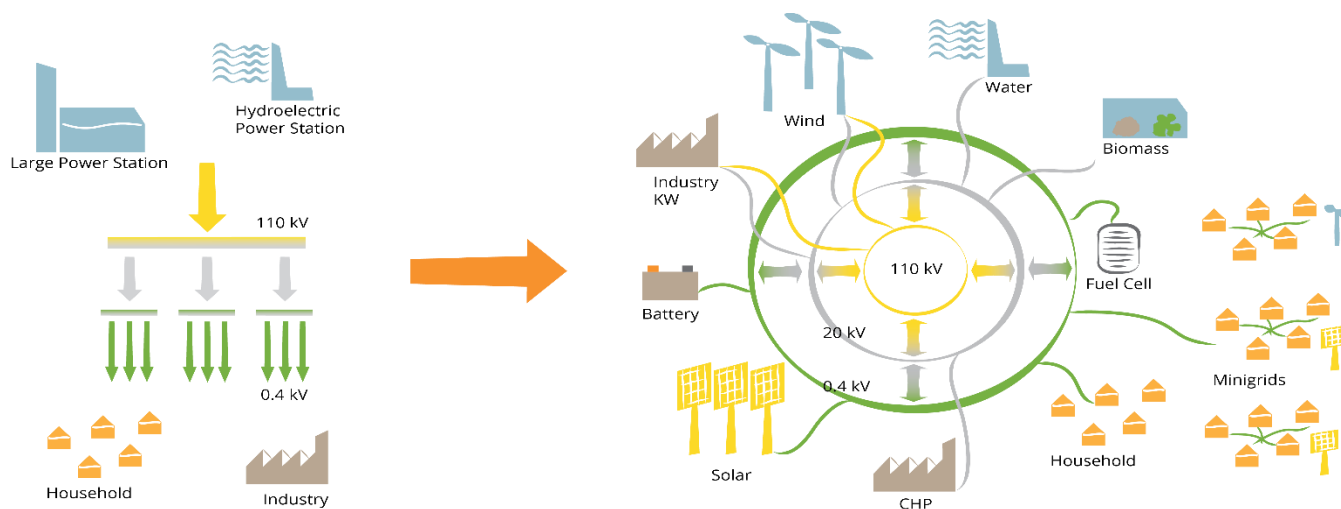
- Energy access is ambiguous and no clear universally accepted definition
  - Electricity access referred to sometimes as number of households supplied
  - Lack of access to clean cooking facilities referred to as relying for cooking only on traditional biomass and 3 stones
  - Sometimes access is seen as solely household energy issues
  - Energy access goes beyond household and basic needs
- Energy access is used within a particular context
- Initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable energy access are not new
- Renewable sources of energy are key to the SDG7
- Many of such initiatives in the past did not provide meaningful results for various reasons
- It is crucial to identify and analyze critical issues, barriers and opportunities that will help stimulating the achievement of the SDG7 taking into account lessons from the various initiatives

# Energy access discussion may resolve around

- Appropriate technology
  - Suitable business models
  - Notion of accessibility, availability, affordability, and being used
  - Physical access, physical availability of energy infrastructure
  - Quality and reliability of services
  - Adequacy, acceptability, cleanness
  - Energy transition as an adequate framework to address energy access
    - Processes behind development of human societies
    - Change in one state of energy system to another one in terms of quantity, structure of end-use and supply, and quality
    - Linked to technical, economic, political, and social, changes
    - Significant set of changes to patterns of energy use in a society, potentially affecting energy sources, carriers, converters, and services
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# Addressing energy access is a complex exercise involving balancing across various dimensions

- Contextualizing energy access: understanding categories – scale – type – magnitude
- Respective roles of various energy systems in a specific context
- Readiness of supply and end-use energy technologies to the prevailing conditions
- Policy and regulation for energy access: a myriad of policy instruments and regulations are widely used by variety of projects
- Energy deprived populations
- Energy deficient populations
- Energy insecure populations



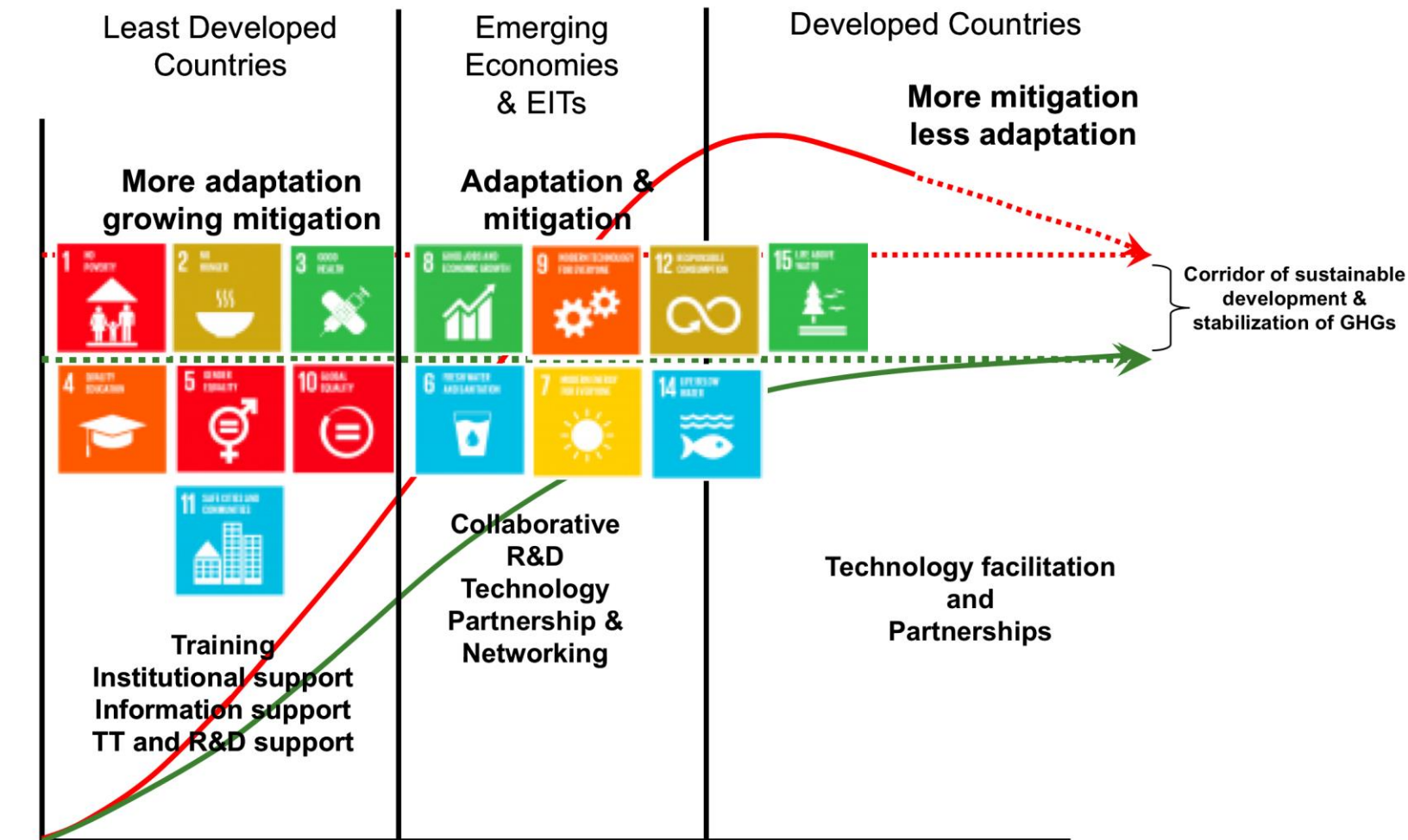
# SDG7 offers enabling conditions and powerful support to the other SDGs

- SDG6 – Energy is crucial for widening water availability, access and resolving scarcity, improving management, controlling pollution. Some energy sources if not correctly managed could have counteracting effect on water
- SDG11 – Energy is central to human settlements and in particular cities and design and management of cities have huge implications on energy
- SDG12 – Energy is essential improving consumption and production patterns
- SDG15 – Some energy sources deployment will reinforce the objective of halting deforestation, protection of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainable management of forests, prevention of biodiversity losses, etc.
- SDG17 – Accelerating the pace of energy transition and expanding its scope will bring substantial social, economic and environmental benefits, but will require global partnerships

Figure 5 Affordable and clean energy supports all Sustainable Development Goals



# Achieving SDGs differs in each country and by income group - there is no “one size fits all” solution!



# Pre-requisites for benefiting interlinkages

- Country ownership is fundamental
  - Institutional and policy innovation are vital
  - Adequate prioritizing investment will be crucial
  - Endogenous technology development and deployment is important
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# The forming new paradigm should be explored

- The rapid growth of renewables reflects commitment by governments around the world in response to pressing challenges and emerging opportunities
  - Lessons from myriad of experiences and initiatives
  - Focus on countries and regions with limited and/or lack of policy
  - Mobilization of non-state actors
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**Thank you**