



# Report by the **COMMITTEE** on **Sustainable Energy**

**Jürgen Keinhorst, Chair**  
Committee on **Sustainable Energy**

Ninety-fifth meeting of the Executive Committee, 11 December 2017

# Sustainable Energy subprogramme

***Ensure access to affordable, clean energy;  
reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the  
energy sector***

- Addressing the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 7
- Facilitating the required transition towards more sustainable energy systems in the UNECE-Region
  - Supporting the development of pathways of transition, which
    - address climate change while acknowledging the enduring share of fossil fuels in the region's energy mix;
    - set incentives to decouple economic growth from carbon intensity and resource consumption;
    - ensure access to reliable and affordable energy.
  - Promoting the enhanced integration of the region's energy markets.
- Therefore CSE develops normative instruments, works on standards and best practice guidance supported by six Expert Groups
  - Coal mine methane
  - Resource classification
  - Natural gas
  - Energy efficiency
  - Renewable energy
  - Clean electricity

# Energy in the UNECE region

Outcomes of the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 (i)

- Achieving the ambitious goals of the 2030 Agenda & overcoming barriers towards a sustainable energy future remain a huge task for the countries of the UNECE-Region.
- To manage the required transition, UNECE member States face various challenges, such as aging infrastructure, limited access to capital and the urgent need to secure and improve economic wealth and living standards.
- Energy intensity and the share of fossil fuels within the UNECE region is still higher than the world's average, the share of renewable energies in parts of the region is far below average.
  - **Current progress for more sustainable energy systems in the UNECE region is insufficient to achieve SDG 7 by 2030.**
  - **The UNECE region is not on track to reach 2 degree target.**

# Energy in the UNECE region

Outcomes of the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 (ii)

- Moreover, no clear definition of “Sustainable Energy” exists.
  - **Without a clear definition, common goals & targets cannot be defined.**
- Given the heterogeneity of the UNECE region, there won't be “**one fits all solution**”. **Individual pathways** will be chosen.
- Common aspects remain, such as:
  - Energy is not only access to energy: Quality of life.
  - Choices must be economically and socially viable.
  - Stronger focus needs to be on technology options reducing the net carbon intensity of the energy system.
  - Energy can't be seen in an isolated way; it has to be addressed via a nexus approach (e.g. food and water).



**CSE offers a platform for policy dialogue, exchange, peer-learning and application of best practices.**

# Selected achievements 2016-2017

## Policy dialogue

- International Fora on Energy for Sustainable Development and support of Energy Ministerial in Kazakhstan, EXPO 2017
- Exchanges on the critical role of carbon capture, use and storage and high-efficiency, low emission technologies in achieving climate objectives involving the private sector

## Going to the field

- Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland
- Biogas technology for rural areas in Kyrgyzstan (Regional Advisory)

## Standards and guidelines

- Broadening the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources to renewable energy
- Framework Guidelines on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings jointly with the Committee on Housing and Land Management
- Best Practice Guidance on Coal Mine Methane

## Tracking progress

- Global Tracking Framework: Regional assessment on achieving SDG 7
- UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report 2017

# Looking ahead

- Working towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 7 and further energy-related Sustainable Development Goals
  - Review of SDG 7 through the High-Level Political Forum in 2018
  - Pathways to Sustainable Energy
  - UNECE companion report to the “Global Tracking Framework”
- Enhancing collaboration across the subsidiary bodies, the Regional Commissions and across divisions
  - Joining expertise of the expert groups via a joint project “Modernization of energy infrastructure” aiming to support the transformation of large industrial complexes;
  - Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings
  - Strengthening work on nexus approaches (particularly the work between the Committee and the UNECE Committee on Environment)
  - Regional advisory activities, e.g. in the field of energy and housing
  - Strengthening cooperation with the Regional Commissions on the United Nations Framework Classification on Resources (UNFC)
- Deepening conversations and peer learning
  - 9<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, Ukraine, Q4 2018

# Requests to the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is invited to take note of the work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and its subsidiary bodies and to approve

- The programme of work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy for 2018-2019; and
- The renewal of mandates and work plans of the subsidiary bodies

as contained in documents ECE/EX/2017/L.11 and L.12 from 27 November 2017.

# Thank you for your attention



Committee on **Sustainable Energy**

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