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|  | United Nations | ECE/ENERGY/30/2021/INF.1 | |
| _unlogo | **Economic and Social Council** | | Distr.: General  8 September 2021  English only |

**Economic Commission for Europe**

Committee on Sustainable Energy

**Thirtieth session**

Geneva, 22-24 September 2021

Item 7(c) of the provisional agenda

**Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy:**

**Programme of work for 2022 and recommendations on key components of the programme of work for 2023**

Outline of key components of the programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2023

Note by the secretariat

Introduction

1. This document presents an outline of key components (objective, strategy and deliverables) of the programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2023. These components are based on the subprogramme-related section of the proposed programme budget of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) for 2022, with modified or new elements highlighted in track changes. The Committee on Sustainable Energy (“the Committee”) is invited to consider this information and provide recommendations on these components, as necessary. Those modifications and/or member States’ recommendations agreed by the Committee and included in its decisions will be reflected in the proposed programme plan of the subprogramme for 2023. It will be prepared by the secretariat at the end of 2021 and included in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2023.

Outline of key components of the programme of work

I. Objective

2. The objective, to which the subprogramme contributes, is to improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

II. Strategy

3. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Energy Division.

4. The strategy of the subprogramme is to support international policy dialogue and cooperation among governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development; develop and deploy ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues; and provide capacity-building and assistance to member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ~~four~~ ECE work on nexus areas[[1]](#footnote-2) and to circular economy related priorities.

5. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will assist member States in delivering on  ~~SDGs 7 and 13~~ the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by reducing the environmental footprint of energy, accelerating deep transformation of the energy sector to meet future needs, ensuring the sustainable management of resources and assessing options to ensure energy for sustainable development. The subprogramme will promote policy dialogue and cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners on sustainable energy issues, in particular circular economy, energy efficiency, cleaner electricity systems, renewable energy, coal mine methane, just transition, resource management, natural gas, hydrogen, carbon pricing and subsidies and energy security through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at improving cooperation. The subprogramme will provide technical assistance and guidance on energy for sustainable development, disseminate best practices and improve information-sharing. The subprogramme will promote collaboration among private and public stakeholders who are key to implementing national and regional policies including normative instruments and their deployment and dissemination.

6. The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 recovery through its regular work on sustainable energyThis work is expected to result in:

(a) More effective integration of sustainable energy across national policies and normative frameworks in support of the 2030 Agenda;

(b) Enhanced dialogue and cooperation among all energy actors to boost transformational investment in the energy sector and, consequently, accelerate the modernization of the energy system to meet countries’ development and climate commitments;

(c) Improved access of Member States to frameworks and tools required for integrated and sustainable resource management that aid the progress towards a more circular economy and contribute to the food-water-energy nexus.

(d) Implementation of requests from the Economic Commission for Europe to the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

(e) Greater availability of raw material resources needed for surveillance, response and recovery from current and future pandemics, including the raw materials needed to produce personal protection equipment, drugs, vaccines and essential services such as food, water and energy;

(f) Improvement in the performance of buildings from a health perspective (e.g., temperatures, comfort, effective air intake and recycling filters), which will improve the protection and resilience of populations.

III. Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

9. The below table provides an outline of deliverables that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

| *Deliverables* | *2022 planned* | *2023 planned* |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies** |  |  |
| **Parliamentary documentation** (number of documents) | **45** | **45** |
| 1. Documentation for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies | 45 | 45 |
| **Substantive services for meetings** (number of three-hour meetings) | **38** | **38** |
| 2. Meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, its Bureau and related subsidiary bodies | 38 | 38 |
| **B. Generation and transfer of knowledge** |  |  |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **8** | **7** |
| 3. **Sustainable resource management** | 1 | 2 |
| Project on the United Nations Resource Management System | 1 | 1 |
| Project on circular economy | 0 | 1 |
| 4. **Reducing the environmental footprint of energy** | 1 | 1 |
| Project on methane management | 1 | 1 |
| 5. **Accelerating deep transformation of the energy sector** | 4 | 3 |
| Project on energy efficiency in buildings | 1 | 1 |
| Project on transboundary cooperation on renewable energy | 1 | 1 |
| Project on gas in transport | 1 |  |
| Project on hydrogen | 1 | 1 |
| 6. **Supporting member States in securing sustainable energy** | 2 | 1 |
| Project on pathways to sustainable energy | 1 | 1 |
| Project on carbon neutrality | 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **10** | **10** |
| 7. Workshops for experts and government officials on the application of UNFC and UNRMS | 2 | 2 |
| 8. Capacity-building seminars on energy-efficiency measures, accelerators and standards | 2 | 2 |
| 9. International capacity-building seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation | 2 | 2 |
| 10. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development | 4 | 4 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **5** | **5** |
| 11. Publications on the best practice guidelines, case studies and other publications related to sustainable energy | 5 | 2 |
| **C. Communication deliverables** |  |  |
| 12. Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets on sustainable energy and related topics, for regional access  13. External and media relations: press releases, keynote speeches and articles |  |  |
| 14. Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of subprogramme’s website providing access to information and documents for regional and global audiences |  |  |

1. The ECE nexus areas presented to the Commission at its 69th session are: (1) Sustainable use of natural resources; (2) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages; (3) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and (4) Measuring and monitoring SDGs. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)