

**2020 Evaluation of UNECE
Collaboration with UN and
other Partners
in
Delivering on Energy for
Sustainable Development**

*Programme Management Unit (PMU) /
Division of Sustainable Energy (DES)*



30th session COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
CONCRETE ACTIONS TO ATTAIN ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Agenda of the Presentation



- Scope of the Evaluation, its Goal and Results
- Evaluation Methodology and Stakeholders Interviewed
- Key Findings and Conclusions
- Evaluation Recommendations
- Circular Economy and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources: Implementation Strategies.

Scope of the Evaluation, Goal & Results



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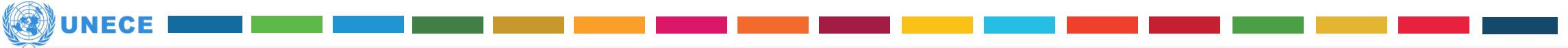
- **Goal:** Assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, impact, and sustainability of the partnership and collaboration practices of the UNECE's subprogramme 5 (Sustainable Energy) with the UN & external partners in delivering on energy for sustainable development.
- **Timeframe:** Explore the activities of the SED during the period 2016 to 2019 that benefit from engagement with UN and external partners.
- **Expected Results of the Evaluation:** Contribute to enhancing cooperation with existing and potential partners and to strengthen the impact of the activities of the UNECE's subprogramme 5 (Sustainable Energy).

Methodology & Stakeholders Interviewed



- Conducted in Compliance with the UNECE Evaluation Policy & Standards for Evaluation (2016) of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG).
- Applied the criteria of relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability introduced by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- Reached out to 69 external stakeholders from 35 countries: representatives of other UN agencies, UNECE member States, academia, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, research centres, intergovernmental organizations, & independent experts.
- 62 percent of respondents (43 out of 69) were male, and 36 percent (25 out of 69) were female.

Key Findings & Conclusions



- Coherent with the resolution 67/215 ("Decade of Sustainable Energy for All") & highly relevant to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.
- Few changes at the national level could be solely attributed to the UNECE's interventions - most result from collective efforts at national and international levels.
- Shifted organization's attention towards women's empowerment in the energy sector and spurred several relevant publications & incorporation of gender-focused agenda items into high-level sessions of the regional commissions.

Key Findings & Conclusions



- In general, cooperation practices of the UNECE were relevant to improving the living standards of the population including marginalized groups.
- A shortage of financial and human resources in 2016-2019 was perceived to be crucial with respect to the activities listed in the workplans of the different groups of experts facilitated by the SED.
- Existing human and financial resources allocated for the SED were effectively used to fulfil the mandates of the division in delivering on energy for sustainable development.

Key Findings & Conclusions



- The UNECE applies a decentralized resource mobilization approach to reduce its dependency on a regular budget and to attract extrabudgetary sources of funding.
- The UNECE's interventions and all of its joint initiatives contributed to building the capacity of the member and non-member States to deliver on sustainable energy and to achieve the relevant SDGs and the targets set out in the Paris Agreement.
- The sustainability of the UNECE's partnership with its member States and external parties depends on the value added by the UNECE and its recognition by stakeholders as a leader in sustainable energy.

Recommendations



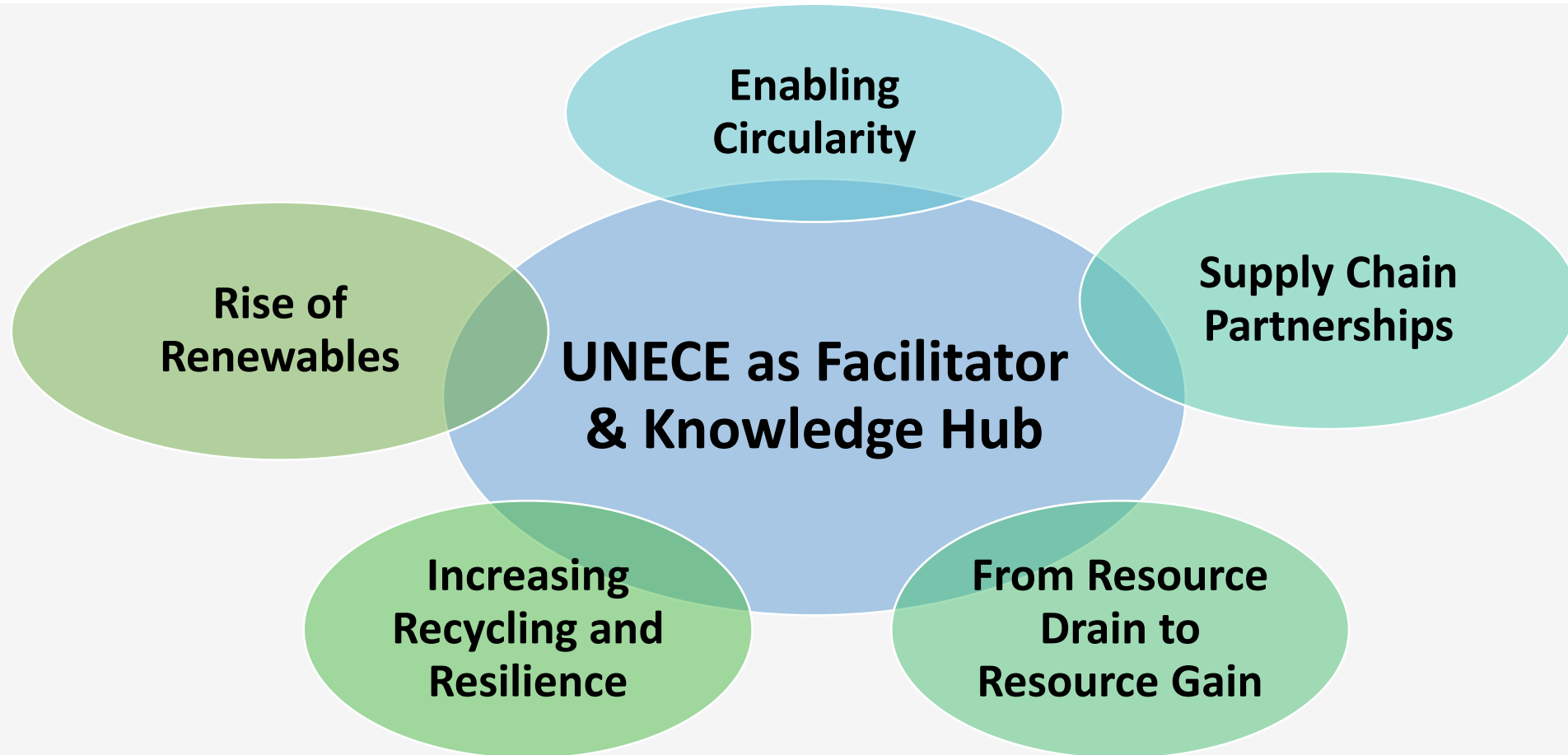
- To continue diversifying sources of funding and attract extrabudgetary sources for mid- to long-term (3-5 years) technical assistance and advisory interventions. => **Fully accepted by the management**
- To adjust the existing business model for resource mobilization and engage in pilot hiring of a P2-P3 level partnership officer/consultant within the SED who will be engaged in a full fundraising cycle. => **Not accepted (linked with regular budget limitations & will be kept in a longer-term perspective for the division).**
- To consider planning impact evaluations of specific interventions, (e.g. an international center of excellence (ICE)) to measure and report on the tangible and intangible impact of this intervention and increase visibility of the UNECE itself. => **Accepted partially (considering impact evaluations for recently established ICEs at the programme level or through future Technical Cooperation projects).**

Recommendations



- To continue introducing gender-responsive S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound) indicators to measure progress made regarding the gender mainstreaming agenda & encourage active participation of female subject-matter experts. => **Fully accepted by the management.**
- To continue raising awareness of the member States on the human rights dimension and the impact of the sustainable energy agenda on marginalized and vulnerable groups. => **Accepted partially (will be reflected in the future programmes & subject to the approval of the Committee on Sustainable Energy in December 2022).**
- To introduce S.M.A.R.T. indicators to measure the progress made with regard to the impact of the UNECE's activities on marginalized and vulnerable groups (including women, youth and elderly). => **Accepted partially (subject to donor interest and EXCOM approval in December 2022).**

Strategic Dimensions: Circular Economy & Sustainable Use of Natural Resources



Entry Point: Circular Economy & Sustainable Use of Natural Resources



Circular Economy: Enabling Circularity

Push of Regulations

UNECE as a
Facilitator &
Knowledge Hub

Pull of New
Markets

Public Sector, Non-State Agencies, Private Sector, International Organizations

Thank you!

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UNECE

Date 24 September 2021, Geneva



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