

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK 2023

BUILDING RESILIENT ENERGY SYSTEMS

11-15 SEPTEMBER 2023 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA



Agenda Item 4 – [10th Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy](#)

Tracking Progress in the Uptake of Renewable Energy

11 September 2023, 10h40 – 13h00 CET (Geneva time)

Objective: Present to the Group of Experts the current progress of the uptake of renewable energy and identify ways in which this can be strengthened amongst ECE member states.

Context: The uptake of renewable energy is essential for a sustainable future. The changing energy backdrop means that energy security is a priority and reliance must be placed on renewable energy in order to achieve Sustainable Energy Goal (SDG) 7 targets.

Although the 2023 ECE Policy Brief on SDG 7 confirmed positive trends and the great potential for the deployment of renewable energy systems within the ECE member states suggests that the uptake of renewable energy is feasible. The rate of progress has not been enough to meet SDG 7 targets. Acceleration of efforts is essential to achieving universal access to affordable, reliable, modern and sustainable energy.

In the recent years ECE countries have substantially increased the pace of adoption of renewable energy technologies. Aided by the desire for economic recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic, renewable energy has managed to pivot itself into a central position on this matter, connecting itself to necessary infrastructure investments that intend to focus on yielding long term growth. Renewable energy has also received favour via policy incentives of ECE countries as well as financial support schemes for promoting renewable energy. Out of 52 analysed ECE countries, 47 promote renewable heating at the political and financial levels.

Whilst there is significant potential for renewable energy deployment in the ECE region, the majority of countries are still heavily reliant on fossil fuels, with the 44 ECE member States having a share of renewable energy in their energy mix just above 10 per cent. While we should be optimistic as the data shows a positive trend, with this being higher than in comparison to 26 countries in 2000 and 40 in 2015. This data still underlines there is much to be done in terms of increasing uptake of renewable energy.

Documentation:

ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2022/3 – Renewable Energy Status Report 2022 - key findings

ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2023/3 - Status of implementation of renewable energy action plans across 17 ECE countries

ECE/ENERGY/32/2023/INF.2 – Policy brief on advancing power system connectivity in support of SDG7

ECE/ENERGY/32/2023/INF.3 – Policy brief on aligning critical raw materials development with sustainable development

Moderator: Mr. Tibor Fisher, Vice-Chair of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, Director of the Renewable Energy Division, Dena

Setting the scene – Review of SDG7 at the High-level Political Forum

- **Mr. Minoru Takada**, Energy and Climate Team Leader, and Head of the UN-Energy Secretariat, UN DESA
- **Mr. Gianluca Sambucini**, Secretary, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, UNECE

Panel on how to boost the renewable uptake in the coming years

This panel will discuss the progress on the uptake of renewable energy within the region and assess the prospects for future development. Obstacles and challenges will also be identified for the development of renewable energy in selected target countries, as will ways to address financing and the role of policy in increasing the uptake of renewable energy. The panelists will include experts from international organizations and share their insights from a variety of different perspectives.

- **Mr. Evelina Trutnevyte**, University of Geneva, Renewable Energy Systems
- **Ms. Naida Taso**, Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, Energy Community
- **Ms. Roberta Boscolo**, Climate and Energy Lead, World Meteorological Organization
- **Ms. Suriya Javanti**, Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, USA, Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council
- **Mr. Chokan Laumulin**, Professor, School of Natural and Social Sciences, The British-Kazakh Technical University, Vice-Chair Committee on Sustainable Energy
- **Mr. Jakhongir Movlanov**, Director of “Center of Geoinnovation Technologies” and senior scientific researcher at University of Geological Sciences of Uzbekistan

Role of private sectors in increasing the uptake of renewable energy

- Remarks by **Mr. Andreas Dreisiebner**, CEO, Grow Solutions, Switzerland
- Remarks by **Ms. Selen Inal**, Clean Energy & Green Transition Consultant / Regional Lead for UNECE, the UN Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition (CEET)
- Remarks by **Mr. Wolfram Zeitz**, Executive Secretary, IECRE – IEC System for Certification to standards relating to Equipment for use in RE Applications

Q&A and Open Discussion

Conclusion and Recommendations