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Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Sustainable Energy****Twenty-second session**

Geneva, 21-22 November 2013

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work**Biennial evaluation report for 2012–2013
(Sub-programme 5: Sustainable Energy)****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

This note is prepared pursuant to the decision of the Commission (document E/2004/37-E/ECE/1416) requesting Sectoral Committees to conduct biennial performance evaluations of their work programmes.

The note provides the 2012–2013 biennial performance evaluation report for the programme of work of the Sustainable Energy subprogramme. The evaluation is based on the 2012–2013 biennial evaluation plan (document ECE/ENERGY/2011/4), presented to the Committee at its twentieth session of 2011 and at the twenty-first session in 2012.

The biennial performance evaluation report links the expected accomplishments (EA) to the indicators of achievement (IA) of the 2012–2013 Strategic Framework, and divides the Committee's areas of work in six clusters. The performance measures are as of 30 August 2013.

The Committee is invited to endorse the biennial evaluation report.

Cluster 1: Sustainable energy development policy formulation

Expected accomplishment

1. Increased awareness and understanding on issues and policies related to sustainable energy development

Statement of accomplishments

2. During this biennium, the Committee on Sustainable Energy provided a forum for discussion of policies promoting affordable and sustainable energy for 30 countries as well as 15 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The dialogue of the 21st session of the Committee was focused on Managing Change: Enabling the Shift to Sustainable Energy.
3. Annual surveys indicated that more than 89 per cent of respondents expressed satisfaction with the policy dialogue promoted by UNECE and found the analyses and material produced by the Committee "useful" or 'very useful' for decision making. The majority of the respondents found the discussions either useful or very useful. No respondents considered the meeting useless.
4. During the 21st session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (28–29 November 2012), a paper-based questionnaire showed that 82% of participants indicated they were a decision-maker or an advisor to a decision-maker and hence have an influence on concrete policy changes.
5. During the 21st session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, six representatives of ECE member States made official presentations or statements on different sustainable energy issues as specified in the final programme.

Lessons learned

6. Discussion promoted by the Committee has generated interest in the work of the Committee, which outlines how the UNECE can help policy makers face their challenges and opportunities, strengthen the cooperation among member States, and improve collaboration between the public and private sectors to meet the objectives of a sustainable energy for all.

Indicators of achievement:

- (i) Percentage of government representatives participating in the Committee annual session that expressed satisfaction with the policy dialogue promoted by UNECE

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010-2011: 50
Target 2012–2013: 60
Achieved: 89

- (ii) The number of ECE member States making presentations/ statements at the Committee annual session

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010-2011: 6
Target 2012–2013: 8
Achieved: 6

Cluster 2: Sustainable energy development policy implementation

Expected accomplishment

7. Improved implementation of policies on sustainable energy development recommended by the Committee

Statement of accomplishments

8. At the 21st session in November 2012, the Committee did not adopt any policy recommendations and thus there was no implementation either. The indicators do not include possible decisions that may be taken at the 22nd session of the Committee on 21-22 November 2013.

9. The Committee members endorsed the Outcome Document from the EXCOM Informal Consultations on Sustainable Energy and recommended that the document be incorporated into the outcome document of the 2005 UNECE Reform Review. Further consultations to render the document operational have been conducted as foreseen in paragraph 18 of the report of the CSE session (ECE/ENERGY/89) and results will be presented to the 22nd session of the Committee on 21-22 November 2013 together with updated Terms of Reference for the Committee and its Subsidiary Bodies to be considered for adoption.

10. At the sixty-fifth session of the Commission, the Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE was adopted (E/ECE/1468) indicating the priorities of its programme of work. It states that “The ECE subprogramme on Sustainable Energy and its Committee on Sustainable Energy (CSE) and subsidiary bodies continue to provide member States with a platform for international dialogue and cooperation and are mandated to carry out a programme of work in the field of sustainable energy with a view to providing access to affordable and clean energy to all, in line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative of the Secretary-General, and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector”.

Lessons learned

11. In each of the priority areas of the Committee on Sustainable Energy it remains critical that the energy communities of member States be solicited to remain actively engaged and that they remain coordinated with their government’s representatives participating in either the Committee itself or in the Executive Committee.

Indicators of achievement:

- (i) The number of policy recommendations adopted by the Committee

Performance measures :

Baseline 2010–2011: 6

Target 2012-2013: 8

Achieved: -

- (ii) The number of policy conclusions and recommendations implemented

Performance measures :

Baseline 2010–2011: 50 per cent

Target 2012-2013: 60 per cent

Achieved: -

Cluster 3: Energy efficiency promotion at consumers' level

Expected accomplishment

12. Improved normative and institutional framework to facilitate market formation for energy efficiency projects

Statement of accomplishments

13. Under the “Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development” project in the framework of the Global Energy Efficiency 21 (GEE21) Project of the EE21 Programme, the subprogramme conducted Training Courses on Business Planning for Energy Efficiency Projects. Over 100 participants from 23 countries were trained to improve their financial engineering and business planning skills to identify, select and develop energy efficiency investment projects and prepare bankable project proposals.

14. UNECE prepared national case studies and held expert workshops under the annual Sustainable Energy Forum in Kyrgyzstan in 2012 and Georgia in 2013 to share best practices and lessons learned on enhancing energy efficiency and renewable national policies and legislation. The case studies presented policy reforms that have transformed economically attractive investment projects into bankable projects. These events helped to overcome earlier identified institutional and financial barriers and led to the development of projects on energy efficiency in several countries.

15. A preliminary pipeline of 22 project proposals has been prepared under the “Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development” project for submission to financial institutions.

16. Enhanced skills of experts in the private and public sectors from the countries in economies in transition would allow them to identify, formulate and present to financial institutions energy efficiency investment projects that are potentially bankable and subsequently implement them as well as introduce policy and institutional reforms needed to support energy efficiency investments.

Lessons learned

17. The positive experience from the EE21 Programme in the UNECE region has been shared and promoted in other regions of the world through the Global Energy Efficiency project (GEE21), in cooperation with the other UN Regional Commissions. UNECE provided methodological assistance to the ESCAP, ECA and ESCWA in developing a training programme on Business Planning for Energy Efficiency Projects. UNECE assisted all UN RCs with advice on policy and institutional reforms and direct links with financial institutions (e.g. banks and investment funds) in order to establish mechanisms, which can fast-track the development of self-sustained markets for energy efficiency.

Indicators of achievement:

(i) The number of experts, national and local representatives from the public and private sector that have been trained in energy efficiency market formation

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: 80

Target 2012-2013: 100

Achieved: 100

- (ii) The number of energy efficiency investment project proposals

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: 16

Target 2012-2013: 20

Achieved: 22

Cluster 4: Promotion and development of renewable energy sources

Expected accomplishment

18. Improved normative and institutional framework to facilitate market formation for renewable energy sources

Statement of accomplishments

19. UNECE held expert workshops under the annual Sustainable Energy Forum in Kyrgyzstan in 2012 and Georgia in 2013 to share best practices and lessons learned on enhancing energy efficiency and renewable energy national policies and legislation. These events helped to overcome earlier identified institutional and financial barriers and led to the development of projects on renewable energy in several countries. Over 100 participants from 23 countries were trained to improve their financial engineering and business planning skills to prepare bankable renewable energy project proposals. A preliminary pipeline of 10 project proposals with renewable energy components has been prepared under the “Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development” project for submission to financial institutions.

Lessons learned

20. The positive experience from the EE21 Programme in the UNECE region has been shared and promoted in other regions of the world through the Global Energy Efficiency project (GEE21) in cooperation with the other UN Regional Commissions. In particular UNECE had assisted ESCWA in developing UNDA project proposal “Promoting Renewable Energy Investments for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development”

Indicators of achievement:

(i) The number of experts that have been trained on renewable sources of energy market formation

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: 80

Target 2012-2013: 100

Achieved: 100

- (ii) The number of renewables investment project proposals

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: not available

Target 2012-2013: 10

Achieved: 10

Cluster 5: Normative activities for producers (up-stream)

Expected accomplishment

21. Enlarged set of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tool, including labeling and classification systems and related legal and policy framework for sustainable energy development

A. United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources (UNFC-2009)

Statement of accomplishments

22. In 2012 and 2013, the Expert Group on Resource Classification continued its work to develop the specifications for the application of UNFC-2009 which are needed to make the system operational. Development of the specifications was undertaken by the Expert Group through cooperation with the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) for petroleum and the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Systems (CRIRSCO) for solid minerals. UNFC-2009 has now been aligned with the CRIRSCO Template and the Petroleum Resource Management System (PRMS)¹, which importantly facilitates the reporting of the same resource quantities under either UNFC-2009 or the aligned system. The specifications were agreed by the Expert Group at its fourth session in 2013, which was a milestone in the development of the UNFC and the work of the Expert Group, and are now awaiting the approval of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. During the development of the specifications, requests for policy and technical advice were received such that the Expert Group agreed that a Technical Advisory Group will be essential to provide additional guidance and advice on the application of UNFC-2009. All stakeholders need the assurance that technical advice and improvements to UNFC-2009 will be provided as necessary to adapt and refine its capabilities. In 2012 and 2013, the Expert Group prepared a draft Terms of Reference for such a Technical Advisory Group, which was agreed by the Expert Group in April 2013 and is now awaiting the approval of the Committee.

23. Requests for policy and technical advice on UNFC-2009 were 10 and also received in relation to EuroGeoSource, a three-year EU co-funded project that commenced in April 2010. The project, which developed the EuroGeoSource web GIS system – a multilingual application that allows users to identify access, use and re-use aggregated geographical information on geo-energy and mineral resources from the ten EU project partners, decided to use UNFC-2009 as the tool to harmonize the energy and mineral resource data. Of the participating project countries, three were using UNFC-1997 (Bulgaria, Portugal and Romania), four were using a version based on the Russian classification system (Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia); and three were using the PRMS for petroleum and national systems for minerals (Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands). Bulgaria, Portugal and Romania are undertaking work to update to UNFC-2009. The Expert Group worked closely with the project coordinator and its members throughout the project – presentations on UNFC-2009 were delivered at project workshops and the project coordinator was invited to deliver project updates and challenges encountered related to UNFC-2009 at the 2012 and

¹ Petroleum Resources Management System (PRMS), which is widely used as the basis for petroleum classification, was approved by the Board of SPE in March 2007 and endorsed by the World Petroleum Council (WPC), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE) and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG).

2013 meetings of the Expert Group. As a result of this project, all ten countries are now either mapped to UNFC-2009 or have plans to implement the system directly. One of the key issues, for which technical advice was needed, was how to move from the UNFC of 1997 (UNFC-1997) to UNFC-2009. UNFC-1997 and UNFC-2009 are not fully aligned, since a number of changes were made in order to align UNFC-2009 with the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS. A document providing a high-level mapping of UNFC of 1997 to UNFC 2009 was developed and presented to the Expert Group in 2012.

24. Testing of UNFC-2009 going forwards will be a critical issue. Pilot projects and case studies allow potential users of UNFC-2009 to understand how the system works and to confirm that it meets their needs. It also allows any shortcomings and challenges in the application of UNFC-2009 to be highlighted. Feedback from such testing is being compiled by the Expert Group and will be taken into account in any periodic revisions of the system, as well as providing a database of information to respond to future technical requests. A significant pilot project undertaken by the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) was presented to the Expert Group in 2012 and represents the most important testing of the system to date. The pilot involved applying UNFC-2009 to the total Norwegian national petroleum resource base, representing a portfolio of more than 800 projects. The NPD did not request technical assistance during the pilot since it has an in-depth technical understanding of UNFC-2009 due to being closely engaged in its development and that of the specifications.

25. In order to build capacity on UNFC-2009, it was presented and/or promoted at 35 conferences and workshops worldwide in 2012 and at 16 conferences and workshops worldwide in the first eight months of 2013. Five technical workshops were organized in 2012 and 2013.

26. Pertinent material relating to UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group is available on the ECE website at: <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html>.

Lessons learned

27. For countries which have applied UNFC-1997, further training is, needed to explain the relationship between UNFC-1997 and UNFC-2009 and, in particular, the correct application of the UNFC-2009 specifications, including the CRIRSCO Template. Now that the specifications are finalized, subject to endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy, UNFC-2009 is operational with three challenges envisaged in relation to its implementation by both ECE and non-ECE member States: administrative, technical and financial. In view of the increasing number of requests for policy advice, technical assistance and national workshops, lack of funding is a growing impediment to implementation of UNFC-2009. Extrabudgetary funding is needed as the implementation of UNFC-2009 requires a capacity that is beyond what can be reasonably be expected through the goodwill and voluntary contributions of the members of the Expert Group. Delivery of presentations on UNFC-2009 by members of the Expert Group and the secretariat at global conferences, combined with national, regional and international technical workshops, served to build capacity and raise awareness on the Framework Classification in a relatively cost-effective manner. The technical workshops held on UNFC-2009 during 2012 in Bangkok, Mexico City and Lisbon and in 2013 in Geneva and Santiago, resulted in requests for assistance in building national competence on the application of the Framework from countries outside the ECE region. This highlighted the need to engage more closely with the other Regional Commissions. Testing, case studies and pilot projects all allow potential users to understand how UNFC-2009 is applied in practice, as well as providing a valuable database of information to respond to future technical requests.

Indicators of achievement

(i) The number of requests from member States for policy advice or capacity building to implement UNFC-2009

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: 3

Target 2012-2013: 5

Achieved: 10

B. Coal Mine Methane development

28. During the reporting cycle the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane started the implementation of extra-budgetary project on coal mine safety funded by the Russian Federation and approved by the ECE Executive Committee in November 2011. Companies and organisations from five ECE member States showed interest to participate in this project. Four member States requested policy advice or capacity building. The implementation of the project was temporarily put on hold in June 2012 but should be resumed in the near future.

29. Several other ECE member States, as well as some other United Nations Member States, have expressed interest in capacity building activities, primarily related to the implementation of the best practices in methane management and use in coal mines. These activities are still in a planning stage pending identification or release of necessary funds.

Lessons learned

30. As the focus of coal mine methane activities has moved from the UNECE regions to other parts of the world, in particular to East Asia, the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane has realized that it is necessary to engage stakeholders from these countries as well. Changing the focus of work from regional to global follows the ECOSOC decision 222/2011 regarding global dissemination of the Coal Mine Methane Best Practice Guidance. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane has made initial step in this direction.

Indicators of achievement

(i) The number of requests from member States for policy advice or capacity building to further develop, adopt and promote standards and regulations on Coal Mine Methane development

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: not available

Target 2012-2013: 4

Achieved: 4

Cluster 6: Normative activities for the transit level (mid-stream)

Expected accomplishment

31. Enlarged set of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tool on activities in the field of natural gas and cleaner electricity generation

Statement of accomplishments

32. The studies undertaken by the Working Party on Gas were only completed in 2013, so the development of normative instruments following from those studies will be developed starting in the next bi-ennium. There were no requests from member States for Policy advice or capacity building to develop, adopt and promote norms and standards for liquefied gas and shale gas development.

33. During the biennium UNECE implemented the United Nations Development Account: "Mitigating Climate Change through Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies". The primary beneficiaries, requesting advice or capacity building, were, the nine countries covered by the project: Afghanistan, China, India, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. The project helped energy policy makers and professionals in the beneficiary countries learn how to encourage foreign direct investment into advanced fossil fuel technologies. It contributed to strengthening their capacity to absorb foreign capital through, for example, developing bankable pre-feasibility studies. All project deliverables were finalized by 31 December 2012: nine national baseline studies, a synthesis study, ten pre-feasibility studies, seven workshops, and the final end-of-the project conference and workshop. The events brought together government representatives

34. The workshops were attended by nearly 600 participants from more than 100 Governmental agencies, institutions, Academia and energy and electricity companies. Final conference alone was attended by 114 delegates from all project countries, which helped create many formal and informal networks between country officials and potential investors and technology providers. Developers of pre-feasibility studies, as a part of training exercise ("learning by doing") gained first-hand experience on how to present such studies to potential investors and how to answer questions and concerns. The final investor conference held in November 2012 provided a platform for this exercise.

Lessons learned

35. Studies need to be executed in an efficient timeframe, and the development of normative instruments should follow a timeline that delivers timely results.

36. For successful capacity-building activities, it is necessary to identify reliable, competent and motivated local partners that possess good understanding of the subject matter and have good connections with principal stakeholders. There needs to be a clear link between the desired outcome, capacity building, and the architecture of the activities that are intended to achieve that outcome.

37. It is critically important to keep channels of communication with local partners open at all times. UNECE maintained a direct and well-functioning two-way communication, which helped achieve high quality of outputs – workshop material, background papers, national studies, pre-feasibility studies, etc.

Indicators of achievement

- (i) The number of requests from member States for policy advice or capacity building to develop, adopt and promote norms and standards for liquefied gas and shale gas development

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: not available

Target 2012-2013: 4

Achieved: -

- (ii) The number of requests from member States for advice or capacity building to develop, adopt and promote norms and standards for cleaner electricity production

Performance measures:

Baseline 2010–2011: not available

Target 2012-2013: 4

Achieved: 9
