



Sustainable Energy Subprogramme

Quarterly Report

2nd Quarter 2018
(April to June 2018)

This document is an informal document submitted to the Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy to assist the Bureau in its oversight of activities under this sub-programme.

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Committee on Sustainable Energy (CSE)

1. Activities

- (a) 18 June 2018: The Committee **Bureau** discussed a number of issues related to the agenda of the 27th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy in person and per WebEx. Minutes have been prepared and can be downloaded here: <http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/committee-on-sustainable-energy/committee-on-sustainable-energy/committee-bureau.html>.
- (b) 18 April 2018: UN DESA organised the second **High-Level Briefing to Member States in support of the SDG7 review** at HLPF 2018 at UN headquarters in New York. This event was convened by the Permanent Missions of Norway, Pakistan and Denmark as co-chairs of the Group of Friends of Sustainable Energy and launched the Policy Briefs on SDG7. The Executive Secretary Ms. Olga Algayerova represented UNECE. In preparation, governments also met at the regional level to exchange views on progress towards the 2030 Agenda. The series of regional fora on sustainable development hosted by the UN Regional Commissions took place between March and May 2018, with meetings in Geneva, Switzerland (UNECE); Bangkok, Thailand (ESCAP); Santiago, Chile (ECLAC); Beirut, Lebanon (ESCWA); and Dakar, Senegal (UNECA). The policy briefs and the complete list of final documentation for the HLPF can be downloaded here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018/documentation>
- (c) 11-14 June 2018: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan – **Sub-regional workshop on Central Asia** of the project **Pathways to Sustainable Energy**. This workshop brought together the modelling team with some twenty experts from Central Asia to continue the dialogue from previous workshops held in Astana, Baku, Geneva, and Vienna. It focused on policies and technologies in the sub-region. Results are being fed into the modelling process and will be presented at the 27th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48588>

2. Upcoming Events

- (a) At the writing of this document, the deliberations of the High-Level Political Forum have started in New York (9-18 July 2018). The results of the review of SDG7 will be reported at the next Bureau meeting and in the Committee. The Chair is present. UNECE is represented by the Executive Secretary, the Director of the Sustainable Energy Division and the JPO. Side events will be held on energy efficiency in buildings. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>
- (b) 10 September 2018: **The Committee Bureau** will be invited to its traditional in person meeting that precedes the official session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Bureau will be provided with the draft conclusions and recommendations and concept notes to substantiate the draft agenda as soon as available.
- (c) 25 September 2018: **Pathways to Sustainable Energy Stakeholder Information & Consultation Workshop: Intermediary Modelling Results & Policy Scenario Scoping**, Geneva. The Pathways modelling team will present the modelling approach and preliminary results, followed by a stakeholder consultation on the development of policy pathways. The link is here: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48720>
- (d) 26-28 September 2018: **27th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**, Geneva. Details are now on line and registration for participation is open. <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/com.html>
- (e) 12-15 November 2018: Invitations are being sent and preparations have reached a key point for the **9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development**, this time hosted in Kiev. A draft outcome document will be presented to the Committee (ECE/ENERGY/2018/3) for endorsement. The Bureau will receive an update in its meeting in September.

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Staffing and recruitment. End of JPO contract (3 October 2018).
- (b) Attracting UNECE member States to meetings and cannibalizing effect of meeting invitations to experts.
- (c) Funding situation of the project “Pathways to Sustainable Energy”.

4. Resources: 80% P5, 10% JPO (from Germany), 1 G5.

Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE)

1. Activities

- (a) The Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE) has continued the implementation of the Work Plan of GEEE for 2018-2019.
- (b) The fifth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency is planned to take place in the framework of the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development to be held in Kiev on 12-15 November 2018. Preparations for the Forum and for the GEEE session are ongoing.
- (c) The secretariat, in cooperation with several GEEE Bureau members organized Intensive Learning Session Overcoming Barriers to Investing in Energy Efficiency in the framework of the EE Global Forum 2018 on 21 May 2018. Panellists included a number of GEEE members, including the Chair and several Vice Chairs. Over 80 participants attended the event. Information is available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48603>.
- (d) The secretariat continued implementation of activities under the Joint Task Force (JTF) on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings (EESB). The study on the mapping of Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE region is close to be finalized; the final version will be available by the end of July 2018. The preparation of a study on the mapping of energy efficient technologies in buildings in the UNECE region will start in July 2018; the secretariat is in the process of hiring consultants for this study. An Associate Economic Affairs Officer has been recruited under the project on *Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings* and started working in mid-June.
- (e) The GEEE has approved by written procedure the Concept Note and the Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency (IEE) developed by several GEEE Bureau members with support of the secretariat. The document is submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement.
- (f) The Workshop on validation of results of mapping of Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE region - Second meeting of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings was organized on 14-15 May 2018 in Yerevan. Meeting documents are available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48300>. The meeting was organized jointly by UNECE (secretariats of GEEE and CHLM) and UNDP.
- (g) The secretariat is in the process of organizing Training seminar on high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in St. Petersburg on 5-7 September 2018 under the project Promoting the application of high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in member States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).
- (h) The second edition of the publication *Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency* has been issued both electronically and in hard copy in three languages English, French and Russian. Available at: <http://www.unece.org/energywelcome/areas-of-work/energy-efficiency/publications.html>. Hard copies can be requested from the secretariat.
- (i) The joint UNECE/Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency study *Overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency* has been issued both electronically and in hard copy in English. The French and Russian versions are expected soon. The publication is available at: <http://www.unece.org/energywelcome/areas-of-work/energy-efficiency/publications.html>. Hard copies can be requested from the secretariat.
- (j) Staff members participated in the following events:
 - Workshop on validation of results of mapping of Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE region – second meeting of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings, Yerevan, 14-15 May 2018.
 - EE Global Forum, Copenhagen, 21-22 May 2018 and Intensive Learning Session Overcoming Barriers to Investing in Energy Efficiency in its framework on 21 May 2018.

- Session The role of SDG 7 in transformational pathways toward a sustainable future - In support of the Review of SDG7 at the 2018 High Level Political Forum, Copenhagen, 23 May 2018.
- CEM9 Side Event Delivering Sustainable Cooling in a Warming World, Copenhagen, 24 May 2018.
- National Workshop “Energy Efficiency in Europe: How do Swiss sectors and policies score?”, Bern, 29 May 2018.
- Energy efficiency: A priority in combating energy poverty and providing access to affordable energy services for all. Bucharest International Energy Charter Forum, Bucharest. 6-7 June 2018.
- Industrial Efficiency 2018 organized by eceee and DENEFF, Berlin, 11-13 June 2018.
- Financing energy efficiency in Central and South-Eastern Europe. Sustainable Energy Investments Forum, Sofia, 28 June 2018.
- Events related to the high-performance building initiative hosted by the Permanent Mission of Belgium in New York.

2. Upcoming Events

(a) List of events organized by UNECE or where UNECE work on energy efficiency will be presented:

- Training seminar on high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings, St. Petersburg, 5-7 September 2018.
- Global Power & Energy Leaders’ Summit and Global Power & Energy Exhibition (GPEX 2018), Barcelona, 17-20 September 2018.
- Twenty-seventh session of the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, Geneva, 26-27 September 2018.
- Workshop on validation of results of mapping of technologies to enhance energy efficiency in buildings - Third meeting of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings, Geneva, 3 October 2018.
- Fifth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, Kiev, 13-15 November 2018 (in the framework of the Ninth Forum).
- Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, Kiev, 12-15 November 2018.

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Additional resources (financial and in-kind) for activities under the Work Plan, particularly for 2019-2020.
- (b) Broader participation by UNECE member States in the activities of this Group of Experts.
- (c) Identification and prioritization of the most promising areas for cooperation with other Groups of Experts.

4. Resources

1 D1 (15%), 1 P5 (20%), 1 P4, 1 P2 (as of mid-June 2018), 1 G5 (40%).

Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (CEP)

1. Activities

- (a) The Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (CEP) continued to implement its 2018-2019 work plan.
- (b) Preparations for the 14th session of the CEP, to be held during the Committee week on 28 September 2018, have started. The agenda was approved by the Bureau.
- (c) The Group (a Bureau member and secretariat) presented the work of the Group at the 2nd International Clean Coal Technologies Summit, held 10-11 April 2018 in Istanbul

2. Upcoming Events

- (a) 14th session of Group of Experts on CEP, Geneva, 28 September 2018.
- (b) International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, November 2018

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Insufficient regular budget resources.
- (b) Identify and secure the extrabudgetary resources needed to carry out the work plan and related capacity building activities.

4. Resources

1 P5 (10%), 1 P4 (50%), 1 G6 (25%), plus in-kind contributions by experts.

Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE)

1. Activities

- (a) The Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) has continued the implementation of the Work Plan 2018-2019.
- (b) Preparations of the 5th GERE session within for the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development are on-going. The agenda was approved by the Bureau.
- (c) The UNECE Renewable Energy Hard Talk was organized in Astana, Kazakhstan, 26-27 April 2017. This is the fourth multi-stakeholder dialogue after those held in Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan. The Hard Talk was hosted by the Ministry of Energy and organized by UNECE in cooperation with the European Commission (EU DEVCO/ EU TAF) and USAID, main partners and donors of this activity. The dialogue for unblocking investments in renewable energy has led to specific recommendations and priorities on market risks; renewable energy support schemes; tariffs, permitting; transmission and distribution grids; resource and technology risk; bankability; Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The event was instrumental to promote the first round of renewable energy auctions organized by Kazakhstan in May-June 2018.
- (d) Preparatory work continued for the organization of three Renewable Energy Hard Talks in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia in 2018, within the context of the Drina river basin new follow-up project. The intention is to promote renewable energy deployment with special attention to water-food-energy-ecosystem nexus issues and fostering transboundary cooperation and action across sectors among the riparian countries of the Drina river. The first of the three Hard Talk is foreseen on 17-18 October in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (e) The Chair of GERE Bureau, Mr. Nazir Ramazanov, participated in person in the meeting of Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, Geneva, 18 June 2018 and in the GERE Bureau call on 19 June 2018.
- (f) Staff member participated in the following events:
 - Fourth UNECE Renewable Energy Hard Talk, Baku, Azerbaijan, 26-27 April 2018; See more at <https://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/renewable-energy/unece-hard-talks.html>
 - Renewable Energy Readiness Assessment (RRA) in Azerbaijan held by the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources (SAARES) in cooperation with IRENA, 31 May-1 June 2018. Presentation and use of the conclusions and recommendations from the UNECE Renewable Energy Hard Talk;
 - International Congress REENCON XXI, “Renewable Energy. XXI Century: Energy and Economic Efficiency, Skolkovo, Moscow, Russian Federation, 5-6 June 2018. Participation as speaker in ad hoc session. See more at: <https://reencon.hse.ru/en/>
 - Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, Geneva, 18 June 2018.
 - Bureau of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy call, Geneva, 20 June 2018. For more, see report at <https://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/renewable-energy/gere-bureau.html>

2. Upcoming Events

List of events organized by UNECE or where UNECE work on renewable energy will be presented:

- Hard Talk on Renewable Energy within the context of the Drina river project, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 17-18 October 2018;
- 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, Kiev, Ukraine, 12-15 November 2018;
- 5th session of GERE, Kiev, Ukraine, 13-15 November 2018

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Additional resources (financial and in-kind) for activities under the Work Plan 2018-2019.
- (b) Broader participation by UNECE member States in the activities of this Group of Experts.
- (c) Strengthening the work of GERE as contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as, in this direction, identification and prioritization of the most promising areas for cooperation

with other Groups of Experts and other UNECE areas. Development of an Umbrella programme for possible XB funding.

4. Resources

1 P5 (20%), 1 P4, JPO (30%), 1 G5 (40%).

Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (GoE on CMM)

1. Activities

- (a) GoE on CMM continues to work on the deliverables prescribed in its 2018-2019 work plan.
- (b) Activity A: Disseminate and Expand the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Recovery in Coal Mines (BPG)
- The official translations of the BPG into French has been completed, printed and hard copies were delivered to the Secretariat. It was also posted on line at https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/images/CMM/CMM_CE/BPG_ed.2_French.pdf
 - A draft of the official translations of the BPG into Spanish has been completed and delivered to the Secretariat. It was posted on the CMM website at https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/images/CMM/CMM_CE/BPG_ed.2_Spanish_Draft.pdf
 - The review of the official translations of the BPG into Russian has been undertaken by the Russian Experts. The task is to be completed in August.
 - An unofficial translation of the BPG into Polish based on an in-kind contribution by the International Centre of Excellence on CMM (ICE-CMM) in Poland is under revision. The task is to be completed before the annual session of the Group in September.
 - An authorization to print an unofficial translation of the BPG into Chinese completed on the basis of an in-kind contribution by ICE-CMM in China was prepared by the Headquarter in New York and sent to the Chinese Partners for their review and approval.
 - A seminar on CMM was delivered on 16 April in Toronto, Canada, within the framework of the [2018 Global Methane Forum](#) (GMF). The event organized in cooperation with the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) featured 11 technical presentations, which are posted at: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48373>.
 - The Secretariat participated in a conference on the Polish national policy on natural resources organized by the Polish Ministry of the Environment and the Polish Geological Institute on 13 June in Gdansk, Poland. The benefits of cooperating with UNECE, as well a great potential for a common work in the fields of resource classification, coal mine methane, and geothermal energy were highlighted (<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=49506>).
 - A one-day-long seminar *Turning Coal Mine Methane into an Asset: Implementing Best Practices and Policies* was delivered on 20 June in Astana, Kazakhstan within the framework of the [25th World Mining Congress](#). The event organized in cooperation with GMI featured 21 technical presentations, which are posted at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48630>.
 - The Group of Experts and the Secretariat are finalizing the preparations for a capacity-building workshop in Colombia. The event is scheduled for 24-25 July. The agenda has been developed and the international, as well as the local speakers have been identified and invited.
- (c) Activity B: Launch and support the work of the International Centres of Excellence (ICE) on CMM
- ICE-CMM in Poland held panel discussion on pre-mine drainage potential and ongoing projects in Poland (Miedzzydroje, Poland, 7-9 May). The event organized within the framework of the [GAZTERM](#) conference featured presentations delivered by representatives of the Group of Experts, ICE-CMM in Poland, and the Secretariat (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48625>).
 - ICE-CMM China delivered the first stage of a pre-feasibility-study of methane drainage and use in a Tenghui coal mine (3-6 June). A training for future trainers was organized to educate the latter about the best practices developed by the Group (<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=49507>).
 - ICE-CMMs in Poland and in China participated in GMF, each delivering a presentation.
 - ICE-CMM in China commenced preparations for a second “training the trainers” workshop scheduled for August 2018.
 - ICE-CMM in Poland is preparing its contribution to the capacity-building workshop that is to be organized by the Group of Experts in July in Colombia.
 - The Secretariat continues to actively explore a potential for obtaining funds for an extra-budgetary project allowing for better coordination of activities of ICE-CMMs.
- (d) Activity C: Collect and disseminate case studies on the application of BPG in specific coal mines in different regions of the world
- 34 presentations delivered at the events in Toronto, Miedzzydroje, and Astana were posted on the CMM website.

- (e) Activity D: Contribute, in cooperation with other Groups of Experts and under the leadership of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, to the work on integrated methane management in the context of sustainable development.
 - An extensive outline of a document on best practices in efficient monitoring, reporting, verification and reduction of methane emissions in the oil and gas sectors is being developed within the framework of the XB project on *Methane Management in Extractive Industries*.
- (f) Activity E: Further engage, in cooperation with other Groups of Experts and under the leadership of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, in the work on transition the coal industry in the ECE region
 - A meeting with the representatives of the Government of Kazakhstan (the Ministry of Energy, and the Ministry of Investments and Development) and ArcelorMittal Temirtau was held on 19 June in Astana to discuss the country's involvement in the project on Modernization of the energy sector. All parties expressed their willingness to tighten the cooperation and to move the project forward.
 - A session on *Opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a well-established coal value chain* was delivered within the framework of GMF on 16 April in Toronto, Canada. The event organized jointly by the Group of Experts on CMM and CEP in cooperation with GMI featured a number of technical presentations and a panel discussion. All documents are posted at: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48373>
 - The Secretariat engaged with various stakeholders, such as IEA Clean Coal Centre, Boston University, ENavi Kopernikus project, UNDISD, and Innovationsregion Lausitz GmbH to explore synergies between their work and the UNECE project on Modernization of the energy sector. All above-mentioned entities were invited to participate in the 13th session of the Group of Experts on CMM

2. Upcoming Events

- (a) A capacity-building workshop on Best Practices in Coal Mine Methane Capture and Utilization, 24-25 July, Bogota, Colombia.
- (b) 13th session of the Group of Experts on CMM, 24-25 September, Geneva, Switzerland
- (c) A seminar on Best Practices in Coal Mine Methane Capture and Utilization, organized within the framework of the 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, 12-15 November, Kiev, Ukraine.

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Funding for the secretariat to service GoE on CMM and its Bureau.

4. Resources

1 P5 (20%), 1 P3 (75%) and 1 G6 (25%), plus in-kind contributions by experts.

Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC)

1. Activities

- (a) Deliverables of the [work plan for 2018-2019](#) are being implemented. The Bureau met on 11 April and 26 April to review progress on implementation of the work plan. The Technical Advisory Group met on 24 April. All other EGRC sub-groups continued to meet and communicate by email.
- (b) The [UNECE Resource Management Week 2018](#) “UNFC for Sustainable Development” including the Ninth Session of the EGRC was held in Geneva, 23-27 April. Over 350 experts from more than 80 countries participated in the range of meetings and workshops held during the Week. The Expert Group has taken [a number of steps to support the implementation of UNFC for sustainable resource management](#). The UNFC Anthropogenic Resources specifications were finalized – this work supports SDG 12 and the concept of the circular economy. The “[UNFC for Africa](#)” initiative led by the African Union Commission is making rapid progress and the “UNFC for Europe” initiative led by the European Commission was announced. Given the new direction of activities to define a comprehensive resource management system, the EGRC recommended its name be changed to the Expert Group on Resource Management.
- (c) The events held during the UNECE Resource Management Week 2018 included: (i) [Training on Introduction to UNFC in cooperation with PETRAD](#) (23 April); (ii) UNFC-African Mineral and Energy Classification and Management System Workshop in cooperation with the African Union Commission and the African Mineral Development Centre (23 April); (iii) [Workshop on UNFC for Sustainable Development](#) (24 April); (iv) Symposium on the ["Availability of raw materials from secondary sources: A key aspect of the circular economy"](#) (in cooperation with EIT RawMaterials, EU COST MINEA Project and ESM Foundation) (24 April); (v) [Special Workshop on Waste Valorization and Critical Raw Materials](#) (24 April) and (vi) UNECE-IAEA Consultancy Meeting on Application of UNFC to Uranium and Thorium (23–24 April).
- (d) A [Memorandum of Understanding was signed between EuroGeoSurveys \(EGS\) and UNECE](#) on 26 April for the promotion and application of UNFC in Europe and beyond.
- (e) [UNECE and the National Hydrocarbons Commission \(CNH\) of Mexico](#) organized a national workshop on “Application of UNFC to Petroleum resources” 18–21 June, Mexico City, which kick-started a pilot project to test UNFC for the classification of projects in selected blocks in Mexico where multiple social and economic challenges exist.
- (f) A [kick-off workshop of the African Union AMREC Working Group](#) tasked with the development of the UNFC-based African Mineral and Energy Resources Classification and Management System (UNFC-AMREC) was held on the sidelines of the 27th Colloquium of African Geology and 17th Conference of the Geological Society of Africa, 21-28 July, Aveiro, Portugal.
- (g) The capacity building project “Improving national capacities of Central Asian countries to harmonize and implement internationally applicable system of classification and sustainable management of energy and mineral resources” (2017-2019) funded by the Russian Federation was initiated. The first UNFC workshop was held in parallel with the [International Conference on Harmonization of Approaches in the Assessment of Mineral Reserves and Resources, Moscow, Russian Federation, 30–31 May 2018](#).
- (h) Organization is progressing of the first workshop on “Application of UNFC for Sustainable Resource Management” under the project on Integrated energy and water resource management in support of sustainable development in South-East Europe and Central Asia (2018-2021) funded by the UN Development Account 11th Tranche. The event will be held on 15 November in Kiev, Ukraine.

2. Upcoming Events

- (a) Workshop on Application of UNFC for Comprehensive Resource Management” 12 September in conjunction with the 4th Meggener Raw Material Days, Lennestadt-Meggen, Germany, 12–14 September 2018.
- (b) Petrad Training Course on “Application of UNFC for Resource management”, 17-18 October 2018, Stavanger, Norway.
- (c) UNECE and European Commission workshop on “[UNFC for Sustainable Resource Management in Europe](#)” on 16 November as part of the Raw Materials Week 2018, 12-16 November 2018, Brussels Belgium.

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Capability of secretariat to: service EGRC, its Bureau (23 members) and 20 sub-groups; respond to technical requests; organize workshops; update website; identify speakers for conferences etc.
- (b) Extrabudgetary funding urgently needed.

4. Resources

1 P5 (40%), 1 P4 (100% - temporary) and 1 G6 (50%). EGRC and UNFC development dependent on significant voluntary contributions (time, travel and sponsorship).

Group of Experts on Gas (GEG)

1. Activities

- (a) The Group of Experts on Gas (GEG) continues to implement its Work Plan 2018-2019.
- (b) The GEG Bureau held a number of consultations during April, May and June.
- (c) The implementation of the extrabudgetary project “Methane Management in Extractive Industries (Upstream Oil and Gas / Downstream Gas)” continues. The consultant hired to draft best practices in monitoring/reporting/verification and mitigating submitted an extended outline.
- (d) GEG participated in the World Gas Conference in June 2018 in Washington, DC.

2. Upcoming Events

- (a) International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, November 2018
- (b) 6th Session of the Group of Experts on Gas, March 2019, Geneva.

3. Main Challenges

- (a) Insufficient regular budget resources to service GEG, its Bureau and 4 task forces.
- (b) Identify and secure the extrabudgetary resources needed to carry out the work plan and related capacity building activities.

4. Resources

1 D1 (15%), 1 P5 (15%), 1 P4 (50%), 1 P3 (20%), 1 G6 (25%) plus in-kind contribution by experts.

Regional Advisor

1. Activities

(a) Advisory mission to Minsk, Belarus, 10-11 April

Meetings were held with officials of the National Statistic Committee of the Republic of Belarus Ms. Olga Dovnar, Deputy Chairperson and Mr. Alexander Snetkov, Head of the Department of Enterprises Statistics. On behalf of the Committee Ms. Olga Dovnar expressed gratitude for the technical assistance provided under the DA project “Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia”. It was noted that participation of national experts in the trainings on energy statistics helped them to improve national data collection and track progress in achieving indicators of SDG7. All recommendations, which were developed for Belarus as a result of the project’s activities, have been taken into account. The Committee requested to continue technical assistance and to assist Belarus in expanding energy efficiency indicators with an emphasis on the transport sector.

Discussions on further project implementation of the project and in particular on national best energy practises and preparation of National Action Plan to meet SDG7 were held with officials of the Department for Energy Efficiency of the State Committee on Standardization of the Republic of Belarus: Mr. Michail Malashenko, Deputy Chairman of the Committee and Director of the Department for Energy Efficiency; Ms. Ina Yeliseyeva, Head of Information and Analysis Section; Mr. Andrey Minenkov, Head of RES Section; Ms. I.Alekseichik, consultant and representatives of other stakeholders: Mr. Andrey Molochko, Belarus Energy Institute, Head of Department; Mr. Denis Kovalenko, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Project coordinator; Ms. O.Matsko, Ministry of Energy, Consultant. The relevant best practices on sustainable energy for Belarus to be included to the consultant’s work were discussed and agreed. It was noted that the study on best practices will also increase knowledge and understanding of what the best practices are throughout the UNECE region and an assessment of their applicability to the national circumstances. Detailed terms of references for the national study was agreed and discussed with UNECE consultant.

Meetings with the representatives of the National Statistic Committee and Department for Energy Efficiency of the State Committee on Standardization confirmed that DA project implementation is demand driven. National Statistic Committee delivered a letter to UNECE Executive Secretary related to UNDA project implementation and future cooperation.

(b) Field Projects

Relevant best practices on sustainable energy for four beneficiary countries (Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan) have been identified as a part of the Regional Adviser service and his role as manager for the United Nations Development Account project “Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia”. The studies prepared by national and international consultants developed increased knowledge and understanding of what the best practices are throughout the UNECE region and an assessment of their applicability to the national circumstances. This applicability and national models for development of sustainable energy policies have been considered through multi-stakeholder consultations with the participation of national officials/experts, UNECE, ESCAP and others in four beneficiary countries: Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.

In collaboration with the colleagues from the Sustainable Energy Division the Regional Adviser co-organized and held the UNFC Workshop on Harmonization of Approaches in the Assessment and Sustainable Management of Energy and Mineral Resources (30–31 May 2018, Moscow, Russia). The event was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Natural

Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. The Regional Adviser moderated one of the workshop's session. Participants from Central Asian beneficiary countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan – acquired knowledge and skills to apply UNFC for energy and mineral resource projects. The workshop also improved national capacities in dealing with uncertainties in resource management and innovative strategies for bringing resilience in the sector and development of a national system for classification and sustainable management of all energy and mineral resources based on UNFC.

In cooperation with CIS Electric-Power Council and Moscow Higher School of Economics the Regional Adviser co-organized a session "The development of renewable energy in the post-Soviet area: targets and directions for the international cooperation" under the framework of the International Congress "Renewable Energy - XXI Century: Energy and Economic Efficiency" (5-6 June, Moscow, Russia). The Regional Adviser made a presentation on up-coming UNECE project "Enhancing transboundary energy cooperation through introduction of wind and solar energy into power systems of the CIS countries to support achievement of SDG 7". The session was attended by the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Electric Power Council of the CIS and the Director of the Eurasian Economic Council Energy Department. They expressed their support of the proposed project activities and willingness to sponsor future projects related to RE development in CIS.

In collaboration with colleagues from the Sustainable Energy Division the Regional Advisor co-organized and held the Workshop/Stakeholder Consultation "Pathways to Sustainable Energy: National Sustainable Energy Action Plans & Scenarios for Central Asia" (12-14 June 2018, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). Targeted at government representatives and other important energy stakeholders from the five Central Asian countries, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, the workshop had several objectives. The workshop provided an opportunity to inform Central Asian stakeholders about the Pathways project and the study on policy options for Kyrgyzstan. Also, participants actively shared their comments and inputs to shape the development of sustainable energy scenarios and policy options from the perspective of Central Asia. Workshop results include a summary of the specific challenges of Central Asian countries in achieving sustainable energy from today's perspective, and an outlook towards policy options and pathways to achieve sustainable energy in the future. In total, 48 participants attended the workshop.

2. Main Challenges

(a) N/A.

3. Resources

1 P5 (100%).
