



UNFC – an update

Charlotte Griffiths

**Secretary, UNECE Expert Group on
Resource Classification**

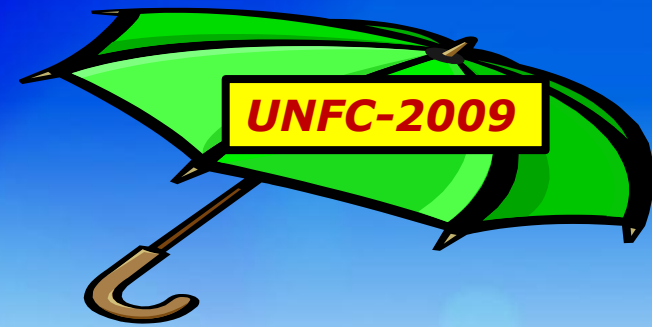
Working Party on Gas

Geneva, 22 January 2013





UNFC ...



- **United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources (UNFC)**
- **UNFC is a global, generic, principles-based “umbrella” system**
 - **Applicable to both solid minerals and fluids**
 - **Uses a numerical coding system**
 - **Facilitates global communications**
- **Aligned with and direct linkage to key minerals and petroleum systems (CRIRSCO for minerals & SPE-PRMS system for oil & gas)**
- **Quantities can be estimated using these systems and reported using UNFC numerical codes (allowing integration with Government estimates and providing coverage of full resource base for long-term planning)**
 - **Other systems can be aligned with UNFC in the future**



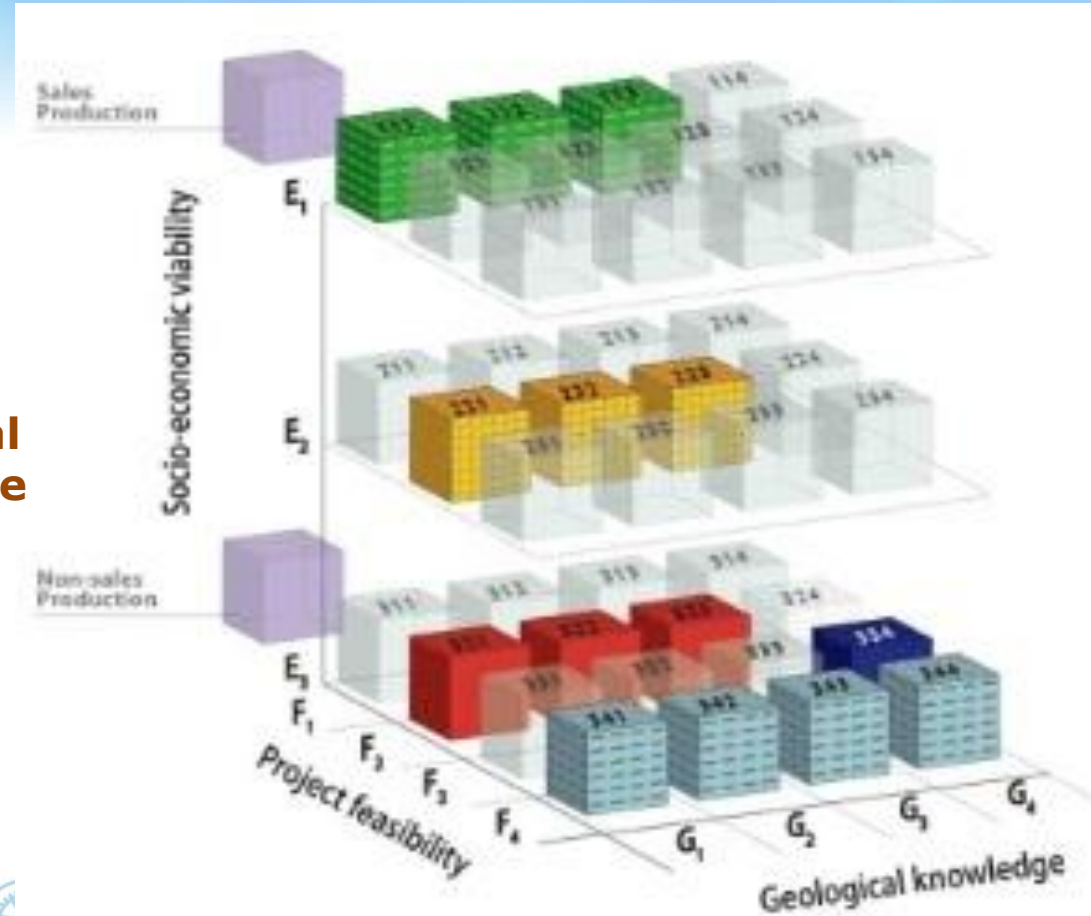
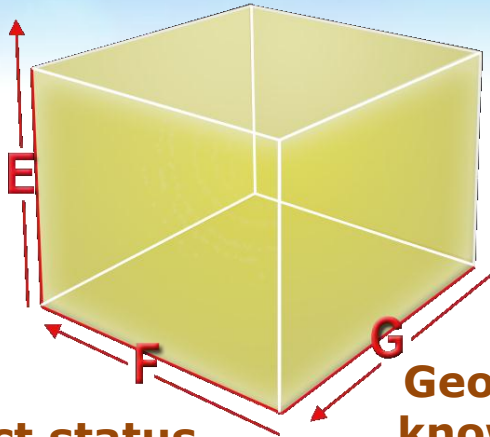


UNFC – Based on Three Criteria

Economic and social viability
(E axis)

Field project status and feasibility
(F axis)

Geological knowledge
(G axis)





Why is UNFC needed?

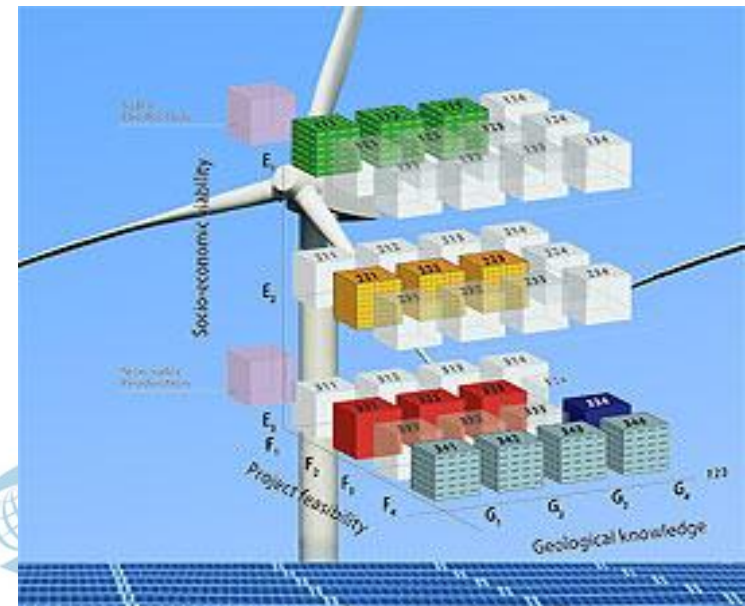
- **Communication**: need for common global language for energy and mineral resource estimates
 - terminology chaos! ("mineral reserve" not same as "petroleum reserve", what are "proved reserves"?)
- **Consistency and coherence**
- **Increasing overlap between mining and oil & gas industries**
 - major issue with respect to "unconventional" resources
 - SPE-PRMS (petroleum) designed for fluids
 - CRIRSCO family of codes designed for mined solids
- **Long-term planning (at company and national level)**
 - need to see total resource base for "sustainability"
- **Comparison of renewable energy resources with non-renewable resources**





Priorities of Expert Group and Other Applications of UNFC

- **PRIORITY: finalize specifications (basic rules of application) for UNFC. Draft generic and commodity-specific for solid minerals and oil and gas issued for public comment 22 Oct-22 Dec 2012**
- **IAEA working on application of UNFC to nuclear fuel resources (uranium and thorium)**
- **Application of UNFC to injection projects (eg CO₂ storage)**
- **Renewable Resources Working Group using UNFC as template to develop industry wide reserves classification system. First time direct comparison of benefits of renewables with hydrocarbon projects, allowing better view of energy mix**





UNITEC
ECONOMIC
FOR



UNFC-2009

**Classification
Framework and
Category Definitions**

**Petroleum
Specifications
SPE-PRMS**

**Solid Minerals
Specifications
CRIRSCO**

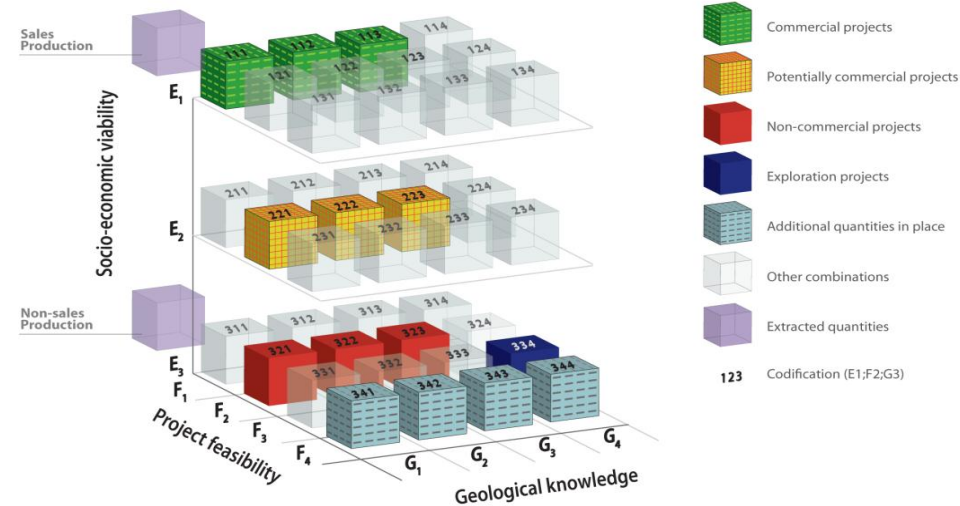
Other Aligned Classification Systems





Sustainable and Efficient Development

- **Securing affordable and sustainable energy requires a common standard for:**
 - **Developing long sighted policies for the global markets**
 - **Government resources management for security and efficiency**
 - **Industry processes to develop new technologies and efficient project management**
 - **Cost effective allocation of financial resources**





For more information on UNFC

- <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html>
- E-mail: reserves.energy@unece.org
charlotte.griffiths@unece.org
- Next Meeting:
**Expert Group on Resource
Classification, Geneva
23-26 April 2013**
 - **UNFC Workshop, 23 April**

