

Workshop “Strengthening national capacity in applying sustainable energy policies and practices based on the recommendations of the Environmental Performance Reviews”

Online via Zoom platform

30 June 2021

09:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (CEST)

Objectives of the workshop:

- Review and analysis of the recent Environmental Performance Review (EPR) recommendations on energy and environment and reminder of the main conclusions of the workshop in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan in 2017
- Sharing of experiences by selected countries on the implementation of recommendations drawn from EPR chapters on energy and environment
- Tools and instruments to support sustainable energy, including draft National Sustainable Energy Action Plans
- Identification of common priorities for technical assistance
- Discussion on the way forward

Working language: English and Russian with simultaneous interpretation

Provisional programme

- 08:45 – 09:00 Please connect to the online meeting platform 15 minutes ahead of the meeting start time to test your audio and video connections.
- 09:00 – 09:10 Opening and welcoming statements
- *Ms. Elisabete Quintas da Silva*, Chair of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy
 - *Mr. Marco Keiner*, Director, Environment Division, UNECE
- 09:10 – 09:15 Introduction to the programme, *Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa*, Regional Adviser, Environment Division, UNECE
- SESSION 1: Priority issues for the transition to sustainable energy**
- Moderator: (TBC)**
- 09:15 – 09:25 Common issues, challenges and proposed recommendations towards transition to sustainable energy, as identified in the EPRs, including addressing relevant SDGs, *Mr. Antoine Nunes*, EPR Programme Manager, Environment Division, UNECE
Ms. Anja Nerima, Environment Division, UNECE
- 09:25 – 10:10 Sharing of experience on the implementation of EPR recommendations related to energy and environment:
Presentations by country representatives (*one from each subregion, 7 min per presentation*):
- *Ms. Sylvia Rangelova*, Director of International cooperation and EU affairs Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, Bulgaria

- *Ms. Teodora Obradovikj Grncharovska*, State Counsellor on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, North Macedonia
- *Ms. Maia Tskhvaradze*, Acting Head of the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia.
- *Mr. Jakhongir Talipov*, Head of International Cooperation and Projects Department, State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection, Uzbekistan

10:10 – 10:20 Q&A and discussion

SESSION 2: Opportunities and challenges for development of sustainable energy policies. Tools and instruments to support transition to sustainable energy

Moderator: (TBC)

10:20 – 10:35 UNECE work in support of transition to sustainable energy
Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE
 Instruments to increase share of renewable energy in energy mix
Mr. Gianluca Sambucini, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

10:35 – 11:15 Identification of key barriers to implementing EPR recommendations related to energy and environment and possible actions to overcome them:

- Policy tools – Strategic Environmental Assessment, *Ms. Elena Santer*, Environmental Affairs Officer, Environment Division, UNECE
- Business Models with participation of Public and Private Stakeholders for Low Carbon Technologies implementation – *Mr. Romanas Savickas*, Senior Advisor for Energy, UNEP-DTU Partnership, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency (recorded presentation)
- Key challenges for development of sustainable energy policies in Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan – *Mr. Oleksandr Antonenko*, Head of Energy Efficiency Unit or *Ms. Özlem Duyan*, Energy Efficiency Coordinator, Energy Charter Secretariat
- Support of the implementation of EPR recommendations on information and data awareness in Central Asia – *Mr. Sergey Tulinov*, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division, UNESCAP

Q&A, interactive discussion

11:15 – 11:45 Panel Discussion. Sharing good practices, success stories and challenges of developing and implementing sustainable energy policies in UNECE subregions (with specific focus on minimizing environmental impact from energy and reduction of emissions from energy)

- *Mr. Artan Leskoviku*, Director of RES, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, National Agency of Natural Resources of Albania (AKBN)
- *Mr. Mikhail Malashenko*, Deputy Chairman of the State Standardization Committee of the Republic of Belarus – Director of the Department for Energy Efficiency
- *Mr. George Abulashvili*, Director, Energy Efficiency Centre (EEC) Georgia
-Central Asia

Q&A, interactive discussion

SESSION 3: Ways forward and Closing

Moderator: (TBC)

11:45 – 12:00 Interactive discussion on the ways forward

The Chair will close the workshop. The summary of the discussions and the list of participants will be finalized by the UNECE secretariat for circulation to the participants after the workshop.