



## 11th INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

VIRTUAL | SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2021

### **Policy discussion on Digitalization in Energy: enabling joint efforts to maximize opportunities and minimize challenges**

in the framework of the eighth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

Geneva and online, 21 September 2021, from 11:30 to 13:00.

#### **Concept note**

Digitalization is an emerging trend revamping the energy landscape and enabling progress toward continuous energy efficiency improvements; hence it is often recognized as a priority area of innovation in the energy sector. The work of the Group of Experts in this complex area is carried out by the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy.

Unlocking the energy efficiency potential through digitalization in many cases requires advancement of relevant policies. A position paper titled as “*Digitalization: enabling the new phase of energy efficiency*” ([GEEE-7/2020/INF.3](#)) was published in September 2020 and presented in the seventh session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency. One of the largest opportunity areas identified for digitalization is in buildings, where it is argued to have the potential to reduce energy use by as much as 10 per cent globally by 2040 if applied throughout buildings value chain and life cycle.

In view of this, the Task Force developed an evidence-based document “*Improving Efficiency of Buildings through Digitalization – Policy Recommendations from the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy*” ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/5](#)) that elaborates on the role that application of digital technologies could play to increase energy efficiency in buildings and aims to raise awareness of policymakers and stakeholders of related benefits, risks, uncertainties, and trade-offs.

It is, however, argued that digitalization shall be considered from its various dimensions and as part of a policy development to ensure overall net benefit to the system and its participants. Thus, being informed by the abovementioned document, experts will be invited to further explore other sectoral opportunities and ways of how to deliver on the energy efficiency potential that digitalization brings to the energy system and its actors by advances in data, analytics, and connectivity, and by optimization of energy use.

## Tentative Timeline

Time	Duration	Content	Speakers
11:30– 11:35	5 minutes	<b>Opening and setting the scene</b>	<b>Dr. Piyush Verma</b> Chair, Task Force on Digitalization in Energy
11:35– 11:45	10 minutes	<b>International standards on energy efficiency, smart energy, and green data centres</b>	<b>Ms. Reyna Ubeda</b> Advisor, International Telecommunication Union
11:45– 12:00	15 minutes	<b>Internet of Things and Advanced Communication Protocols for Energy Efficiency</b>	<b>Mr. Benoit Lebot</b> Senior Policy Advisor, French Ministry of Ecological Transition, and Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency
12:00– 12:15	15 minutes	<b>How Data Analytics can Drive Strategic Thinking Across the Utility</b>	<b>Dr. Beth Massey</b> Director, Connected Analytics, the United States Energy Authority
12:15– 12:55	40 minutes	<b>Panel discussion</b>	Moderator: <b>Dr. Romanas Savickas</b> Senior Advisor for Energy, UNEP-DTU Partnership, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, and Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency  Panellists: <b>Dr. Beth Massey</b> Director, Connected Analytics, the United States Energy Authority  <b>Mr. Benoit Lebot</b> Senior Policy Advisor, French Ministry of Ecological Transition, and Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency  <b>Mr. Ole Kjeldsen</b> Director, Microsoft Denmark  <b>Dr. Erlijn van Genuchten</b> Cyber Security Expert
12:55– 13:00	5 minutes	<b>Wrap-up and Conclusions</b>	<b>Dr. Romanas Savickas</b> Senior Advisor for Energy, UNEP-DTU Partnership, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, and Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency