



Cross-cutting and inter-sectoral cooperation to integrate renewable energy into energy systems

Agenda Item 5 – 8th Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

5 October 2021, 15h00 – 17h30 CET (Geneva time)

Objective: to integrate renewable energy into the energy system through synergies, cooperation and an integrated approach

Context: The target of increasing the renewable energy uptake for ECE countries requires an integrated approach and multi-stakeholder dialogue to achieve higher renewable energy shares within future energy systems. This includes an improved understanding of renewable energy resource characteristics and availability as well as the strengthening of policy, institutional, normative and regulatory frameworks.

The study titled “Overview of Benefits and Challenges for Governments applying UNFC to Renewable Energy Projects and Resources”, jointly prepared by the Renewable Energy Working Group of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) and GERE experts will be presented and discussed.

Renewable energy plays a strong role in helping to achieve better management of resources within the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus. The role of renewable energy in promoting the nexus approach will be specifically considered, as well as links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the implications for climate change mitigation.

Expert dialogue

- Experts will be presenting their experience and views on how to better integrate renewable energy into energy systems, in particular on the interlinkages and synergies between renewable energy and natural gas and cleaner electricity production.
- Experts discuss how to consider possible follow-up activities in applying UNFC to Renewable Energy Projects and Resources.
- Experts will consider how to move towards an integrated and holistic approach in the deployment of renewable energy and will discuss possible joint inter-sectoral work from the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus perspective: addressing trade-offs and exploiting synergies with agriculture, forest management, water management, and environmental protection/restoration.

15h00 Managing Renewable Energy Resources –

The study “Overview of Benefits and Challenges for Governments applying UNFC to Renewable Energy Projects and Resources”, jointly prepared by the Renewable Energy Working Group of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) and GERE experts, will be presented and discussed.

Debate and open discussion on “Benefits and Challenges for Governments applying UNFC to Renewable Energy Projects and Resources” (UNECE study)

Setting the scene and Moderator: **Mr. Jeremy Webb**, Chair of the Renewable Energy Working Group

Panellists:

- **Ms. Long Seng To**, Loughborough University and Chair, EGRM Solar Energy Sub-group
- **Mr. Mike McCurdy**, Managing Director, Fuels & Power, ICF International
- **Mr. Nazir Ramazanov**, former GERE Chair
- **Mr. Harikrishnan Tulsidas**, UNECE

Q&A

16h15 A nexus approach - Sustainable deployment of renewable energy using a water-energy nexus approach will be discussed, as well as links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the implications for climate change mitigation. The Publication “Towards sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment: Trade-offs and opportunities with water resources and the environment” (UNECE, 2020) will be referred to.

Interventions:

- **Ms. Lucia de Strasser**, UNECE, Environment Division, Water Convention Secretariat,
- **Mr. Vassilis Triantafillos**, Special Advisor to the Secretary General for Energy and Mineral Resources at Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy

17h00 Wrap up, Conclusions & Next steps