



Tracking progress and exchange of experiences on how to increase the uptake of renewable energy

Agenda Item 4 – 8th Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

5 October 2021, 10h30 – 12h30 CEST (Geneva time)

Objective: to provide reliable data and information on progress made and trends related to renewable energy uptake in the UNECE region

Context: Providing affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean energy remains a key challenge for the whole world, and the ECE region is no exception. While the countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Europe and North America are united in their goal of accelerating the development and implementation of renewable energy projects, the status and progress of market development is not homogenous across the region. Despite the fact that a number of promotion schemes are in place across the region, ultimately the uptake of renewable energy depends on market access and the effective implementation of these schemes.

Attracting investments represents a major challenge in several UNECE countries, even with numerous advanced support schemes and policies for renewable energy. Renewable energy investment are not sufficient to attain SDG7 goal and related renewable energy target.

Global investment in renewables was USD 304 billion in 2010-2020

- For the sixth consecutive year, renewable energy capacity investments by developing and emerging countries (excluding hydropower projects larger than 50 megawatts, MW) exceeded those of developed countries, although by a smaller margin than in previous years, accounting for 50.5% of the 2020 total.
- Investments for the year rose 13% in developed countries and fell 7% in developing and emerging countries.
- Investment growth continued for the seventh consecutive year in specific developing or emerging countries, including in Brazil (up 23%), the Middle East and North Africa (up 22%), and Asia and Oceania (up 13%).

Source: REN21, 2021

What is the state of renewable energy development in South East Europe, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Caucasus and the Russian Federation?

What are the perspectives of increasing the renewable energy uptake in the UNECE region?

Taking into account preliminary findings of the new version of the REN21 UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report under preparation, the delegates will consider the progress made in the uptake of renewable energy and the subsequent needed policy options from the perspective of renewable energy.

In addition, the experience on what is needed to overcome bottlenecks from recent Renewable Energy Hard Talks through an open dialogue among stakeholders, including through inter-sectoral coordination and cooperation with relevant organizations, will be presented and discussed by participants.

This session will be delivered by the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

10h00 Opening of the Sustainable Energy Expert Week

- **Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE

10h05 Matters related to the Group of Experts

10h30 Setting the scene – Ms. Vibhushree Hamirwasia, REN21, overview of preliminary findings from the new REN21 UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report

10h45 Anticipating the future – Mr. Laurence Green, German Energy Agency (dena), renewable energy perspectives and opportunities in the UNECE region.

11h00 Discussion with experts from member States and stakeholders

- What is the status of renewable energy in ECE countries (17)
- What are the potential opportunities in the entire UNECE region?
- What kind of policy and institutional framework is needed?
- What are concrete bottlenecks to renewable energy investments in selected UNECE countries and how they can be overcome?
- How can UNECE help?

Moderator: **Mr. Nazir Ramazanov** (former GERE Chair)

Interventions from countries and other stakeholders:

- **Mr. Adrian Bylyku** (Executive Director) and **Mr. Artan Leskoviku** (Director RE), National Agency of Natural Resources (Albania)
- **Mr. Nikoloz Kholodov**, Chief Specialist at Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Policy Promotion Division · Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (Georgia)
- **Ms. Nurzat Abdyrasulova**, Head of the Unison Group (Kyrgyzstan)
- **Ms. Jovanka Atanackovic**, State Secretary, Ministry of Mining and Energy (Serbia tbc)
- **Mr. Georgy Ermolenko**, Vice-Chair GERE Bureau (Russian Federation)
- **Mr. Hans Joseph Fell**, President of Energy Watch Group (Germany)
- **Mr. Andreas Dreisiebner**, Solarspar (Switzerland)
- Other countries.

12h00 Q&A

12h15 - Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, UNECE, advisory services related to renewable energy.

12h25 - Ms. Kankana Dubey, UNECE consultant, “Energy Transition and Post-Covid-19 Socio-economic Recovery: Role of Women and Impact on Them”.

12h35 – Mr. Vitaly Bekker and Mr. Andrey Dodonov, “Updated guidelines and best practices for MSME in delivering energy efficient products and renewable energy equipment”.

12h45 Wrap up, Conclusions & Next steps

