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## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

#### **BUILDING RESILIENT ENERGY SYSTEMS**



Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Group of Experts

Iva Brkic, Secretary, Committee on Sustainable Energy Sustainable Energy Division

# Key achievements 2022-2023



 Developed cross-thematic knowledge to produce joint papers and events on key, complex topics: Building Resilient Energy Systems, Sustainable Hydrogen Production Pathways, Sustainable Resource Management (UNRMS/UNFC), Critical Raw Materials, Energy Connectivity, Role of Women in Energy Transition





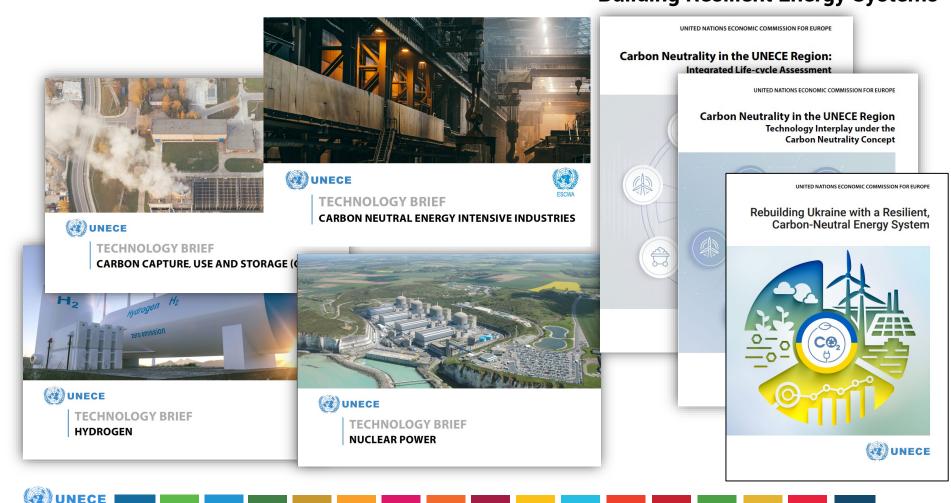
## **UNECE Carbon Neutrality Toolkit**

**Building Resilient Energy Systems** 





## UNECE Carbon Neutrality Toolkit Building Resilient Energy Systems



# Key achievements 2022-2023 (continued)

- Organized special events and high-level dialogues on the topics of building resilient energy systems, critical raw materials, climate finance, energy connectivity and digitalization of energy systems.
- Launched a strategic partnership of UN
  Agencies (UNECE, UNESCAP and UNDP) at
  the 2nd Almaty Energy Forum and formed a
  Task Force for Energy Transition in Central
  Asia to design and build resilient energy systems
  in Central Asia.
- Set up, in cooperation with EMBER, an online bi-monthly series *Methane Mondays* providing a platform for a multistakeholder dialogue on matters related to MRV and mitigation of methane emissions along the coal value chain



NECE



# **Key Areas of Work**

| Building resilient energy systems in the UNECE region                    |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Priority areas for 2023  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sustainable resource<br>management & access<br>to critical raw materials | Low, zero and<br>negative-carbon<br>technology interplay | Scaling systemic<br>efficiencies &<br>digitalization of energy<br>system networks |  |  |  |  |  |
| Just Transition  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regional Advisory Services   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

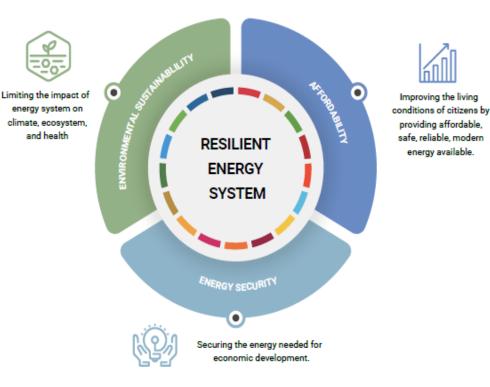


# 2023: building resilient Energy Systems

## Technical Considerations and Actions for Achieving Energy Security, Affordability, and Sustainability Net-Zero for Europe, North American and Central Asia

## What is a resilient energy system?

- A resilient energy system ensures that energy makes an optimal contribution to a country's social, economic, and environmental development.
- Energy security strengthens energy independence through interconnectivity and trade.
- Affordability reduces costs of electricity, heating, cooling, and transport.
- Environmental sustainability lowers the carbon footprint and enhances efficiency across the energy supply chain.



# **Energy System Resilience: UNECE contribution**



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

### **Building Resilient Energy Systems:**

Actions for Achieving Greater Energy Security, Affordability and Net-zero in the UNECE Region





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#### **Recommendations for Policymakers**

The Expert Groups have aligned on five important recommendations to build a resilient energy system and achieve balance among affordability, energy security, and environmental sustainability:

- 1. Prioritize and maximize the implementation of energy efficiency solutions to drive down primary energy consumed while meeting economic and societal needs.
- 2. Digitalize the energy system and take advantage of increasing consumer digital literacy capturing the enormous optimization opportunity in the value chain.
- 3. Accelerate fuel switching to optimize the carbon footprint of end use energy and replace carbon intensive fuels where practical with low- and zero-carbon options.
- 4. Manage resources effectively, sustainably, and with circular economy considerations, using the UN framework Classification (UNFC) and UN Resource Management System (UMRMS).
- Accelerate the deployment of low- and zero-carbon technologies by scaling renewable energy, nuclear power and advanced fossil fuels with carbon capture, use and storage.



#### **Key Considerations for Policymakers**

As policymakers look across the options included and assess what will be best for their circumstances, it is important to bear in mind the following key considerations:

- 1. Recognize that there is not a one-size-fits-all approach.
- 2. Consider long term goals as they design policies today.
- 3. Address behavioural barriers to unlock innovation and digitalization potential.
- 4. Build a workforce to deliver on a just energy transition and address the skills shortage.
- 5. Integrate resiliency concerns into existing and related planning efforts.
- 6. Consider climate change impacts on supply and demand.



# **Platform on Resilient Energy Systems**

## 1. Al-powered real-time interactive tool

Artificial intelligence and machine learning for facilitating data-driven policy making.





## 2. Forum for inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue

Unique forum for information exchange, which hosts demand-driven policy dialogues on topical issues, supported by data collection, classification, and policy analysis.



# Demo EnergyChat in partnership with University of Zurich and International Organizations



| Ask from trusted resources | 5 |
|----------------------------|---|
|----------------------------|---|

|  | UNECE, | WMO, | IPCC, | IEA, | IAEA, | OSCE) |  |
|--|--------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|--|
|--|--------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|--|

| Could we reach net zero targets without nuclear energy? |   |
|---|---|
|   | > |
| ◯ gpt-3.5-turbo <b>O</b> gpt-4                          |   |
| Responses:  |   |
| - WMO   |   |
| - IPCC  |   |
|   |   |
| - UNECE   |   |
|   |   |
| → OSCE  |   |

- IEA

- IAEA

- Summary



# Building resilient energy systems in Central Asia

## UNECE launched strategic partnership with UNDP and ESCAP

Key areas of work to include:

- •Low- and zero-carbon technology interplay in Central Asia
- •Access to critical raw materials in Central Asia
- •Water and energy nexus in Central Asia
- Energy connectivity in Central Asia

•Fostering next generation of energy experts to deliver on energy transition in Central Asia



3<sup>rd</sup> Almaty Energy Forum











## Support the development of a Hydrogen Ecosystem

- Operationalize Task Force on Hydrogen to coordinate efforts and develop:
  - a comprehensive classification for hydrogen
  - Specifications for UNFC/UNRMS application to hydrogen projects and production technologies, if/where appropriate

## Accelerate activities on Sustainable Resource Management

- Support UNECE member States in priority deployment of UNFC
- Continue development of UNRMS with a focus on the extraction, sustainability and procurement of Critical Raw Materials and Resource Efficiency, i.a. with focus on Central Asia



## Methane management

- Reducing coal mine methane emission from active and abandoned coal mines
- Measure and manage methane emissions across the natural and gas value chains
- Saved the Date: Global Methane Forum 2024

