



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



**Third Almaty Energy Forum  
Day 3, Workshop 1**

**Inter-regional seminar  
Sharing lessons learned and best practices from the development of SDG 7  
Roadmaps**

8 November 2023, 9:00 – 13:00 Almaty/10:00 – 14:00 Bangkok/4:00 – 8:00 Geneva  
Kazakh British Technical University, Almaty and online

**Background**

The United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project “**Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19**” is being implemented jointly by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The objective of this project is to improve the capacity of policymakers by supporting them to develop SDG 7 Roadmaps which enable the delivery of both the sustainable energy transition and the economic recovery from COVID-19. The participating eight countries<sup>1</sup> are at different stages of Roadmap development, while one country (Kiribati) has completed its Roadmap. These countries are member States of UNESCAP, with three of them (Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan) are also member States of UNECE.

The Roadmap development initiative commenced in 2019 by ESCAP following the Second Asian Pacific Energy Forum (APEF), which mandated the Secretariat to help member States achieve SDG 7. To date, ESCAP has developed over 20 national and sub-national Roadmaps. These Roadmaps have underscored the imperative for governments to intensify their efforts in developing and implementing energy policies that align with the recommendations outlined in the Roadmaps. Furthermore, the Roadmaps have presented ambitious scenarios that go beyond the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7. They have encouraged countries and cities to explore opportunities for reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050, thereby demonstrating an unwavering commitment to sustainable energy transition.

The Road Maps have also stimulated additional requests for ESCAP's technical assistance in endeavours related to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal 7. As an illustration, in Bhutan, a significant and ongoing clean cooking project is being carried out, with the objective of achieving universal access to clean cooking by 2030. This has led to the signing of an agreement between the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Government of Singapore, in accordance with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which will provide financial support for the project's implementation.

This inter-regional seminar is intended to allow project countries, which are participating in the roadmap development process, to share their lessons learned and best practices through regional dialogue. Interested participants from other countries in the region and energy experts/professionals are welcome to join.

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<sup>1</sup> Armenia, Brunei Darussalam, Federated States of Micronesia, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Mongolia, Timor-Leste, and Uzbekistan.

**Objectives of the Seminar**

1. To highlight findings and recommendations from SDG 7 roadmaps developed or under development in the participating countries.
2. To share lessons learned and best practices throughout the roadmap development process.
3. To identify common challenges to implementing the recommendations and discuss ways to address them collectively.
4. To identify common capacity building needs within countries in order to be able to follow up effectively on the roadmaps.

The event will provide an opportunity to share perspectives and learn from one another on common priorities and approaches to address the energy transformation challenges facing member States in different subregions.

**Expected Outcomes**

Enhanced capacity for the participating countries to implement recommendations from the SDG 7 Roadmaps through dialogue and pooling collective knowledge of challenges and opportunities. The seminar will also explore opportunities for ECE, ESCAP and UNDP to support countries developing strategies, policies and plans in follow up to SDG 7 roadmaps.

**Tentative Programme**

9:00-9:10	<p><b>Introductory/welcome remarks</b>  <b>Mr. Michael Williamson</b>, Section Chief, Energy Division, UNESCAP (online)  <b>Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski</b>, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p>
9:10-9:20	<p><b>Introduction and scene setting</b></p> <p>Overview of the National Expert Sustainable Development Goal 7 Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Anis Zaman</b>, Associate Professor of Sustainable Development, Murdoch University (online)</li> </ul>
9:20-10:50 minutes	<p><b>Country presentations on lessons learned from development of SDG 7 Roadmaps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Suren Shatvoryan</b>, National Consultant, Armenia</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Yernar Bilyalov</b>, National Consultant, Kazakhstan</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Ueaniti Kiritimati</b>, Assistant Energy Economist, Energy Planning Division, Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy, Kiribati (online)</li> <li>• <b>Ms Tatiana Vedeneva</b>, President Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development (CREEED), Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Faustino Yarofaisug</b>, Assistant Secretary, Energy Division, Department of Resources &amp; Development, Federated States of Micronesia (online)</li> </ul>



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**UNECE**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Ganchimeg Chimed</b>, Foreign Cooperation Division, Ministry of Energy, Mongolia</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Krittiya Petsee</b>, Plan and Policy Analyst, International Affairs Division, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy Thailand (video message)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Ruben Jeronimo Freitas</b>, President, National Authority for Electricity Public Institute, Timor-Leste (online)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Rakhimjan Babakhodjaev</b>, National Consultant, Uzbekistan</li> </ul> <p><i>Facilitated by Ms Anna Lobanova, Sustainable Energy Specialist, UNESCAP Q&amp;A audience</i></p>
10:50-11:10	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:10-11:40	<p><b>Panel discussion “How SDG 7 Roadmaps can support countries to recover from multiple crises - COVID-19, slowing global growth, inflated commodity prices and turmoil in the financial sector”</b></p> <p><i>Participants will discuss how SDG 7 Roadmaps can help better recover from COVID-19 and other crises.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Dario Liguti</b>, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Nikolay Pomoshchnikov</b>, Director, ESCAP Subregional Office for North and Central</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tatiana Vedeneva</b>, President Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development (CREEED), Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Vitaly Bekker</b>, SDG 7 Roadmaps Development Consultant</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Nizomiddin Rakhmanov</b>, Head of Project Analysis Division, Green banking Department, Uzpromstroybank, Uzbekistan</li> </ul> <p><i>Moderated by Mr. Sergey Tulinov, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP</i></p>
11:40-12:40	<p><b>Dialogue on challenges and opportunities in developing SDG 7 Roadmaps and common findings across countries</b></p> <p><i>Participants will reflect on the national experiences and identify the overlaps between national roadmap recommendations; drawing together common needs and priorities for capacity development as well as implementation of the recommendations.</i></p> <p><i>Moderated by Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</i></p>
12:40-12:50	<p>Wrap-up, next steps, and closing</p> <p><b>Mr. Michael Williamson</b>, Section Chief, Energy Division, UNESCAP</p> <p><b>Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski</b>, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p>



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**Organizers**

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

**Point of contacts**

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## Annex 1

### Scenario for Panel discussion “How SDG 7 Roadmaps can support countries to recover from multiple crises - COVID-19, slowing global growth, inflated commodity prices and turmoil in the financial sector”

*Moderated by Mr. Sergey Tulinov, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP*

#### **Questions for panellists:**

1. COVID-19 presented a major economic disruption for countries across the region. Many organisations have advocated for using the SDGs to guide investment in economic stimulus. How relevant are sustainable energy sectors in generating job creation and economic multipliers?
2. The COVID-19 experience highlighted existing inequalities in society as the poorest and most vulnerable were hardest hit. Looking at the sustainable energy recommendations in previous SDG 7 roadmaps, which of these so you think can help reverse some of these inequalities?
3. SDG 7 roadmaps prepared for different countries set out priorities for development of clean cooking, energy efficiency and renewables. Which of these sectors offer particular advantages for countries recovering from COVID-19 economic and social shocks?
4. What do you think are some of the key lessons we can take away from the COVID-19 pandemic as far as the energy sector is concerned? What could countries do to increase their energy sector resilience to future unforeseen crises?



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## Annex 2

### Scenario for Dialogue on challenges and opportunities in developing SDG 7 Roadmaps and common findings across countries

*Participants will reflect on the national experiences and identify the overlaps between national roadmap recommendations; drawing together common needs and priorities for capacity development as well as implementation of the recommendations.*

*Moderated by Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE*

This session is intended to be an open Q&A session with presenters and the audience.

#### **Possible lead in questions include:**

1. Despite the differences in national circumstances, the roadmaps completed to date show that all countries need to do more on energy efficiency. What are the low hanging fruit among the energy efficiency policy options?
2. Clean cooking recommendations in various national SDG 7 roadmaps have converged toward electric cooking as a preferred option over other technologies. Is this the right solution for all countries?
3. Electric vehicle adoption is a common thread across many national policy recommendations to support energy efficiency and renewables. How could countries collaborate to overcome the barriers to getting more EVs on the roads?