



**UN Development Account project**

**“Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19”**

**Report of the Session 1 “Validation Workshop for the SDG 7 Roadmap for Kazakhstan” in the framework of the Regional Stakeholder Consultations on Energy Connectivity and Sustainable Energy**

**Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, 12 June 2024**

## Background

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) are implementing jointly the UNDA project “Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19” (January 2022-June 2025) for eight beneficiary countries. UNECE is responsible for activities in three of them: Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. The project is aimed at supporting national Kazakhstan obligations in the framework of the SDGs implementation. The main goal of the project is to develop a roadmap to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) “Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy sources for all.”

The project uses the National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning ([NEXSTEP](#)), which is an integrated and innovative approach to policy decision-making that combines technical, economic, and socio-environmental analysis under a methodology that has been peer-reviewed by a panel of external experts. The tool supports the development of national SDG 7 Roadmaps to provide policymakers with scenarios that estimate the share of different energy resources and identify the technological interventions required; economic analyses to provide insights into feasible interventions; and policy analyses to guide the development of balanced national policies.

The first National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop was held on 2 February 2023 in Astana. At this inception workshop, UNECE and ESCAP introduced the NEXSTEP and its application for the development of the National SDG 7 Roadmaps for the beneficiary countries.

In the course of 2023, ESCAP and UNECE with support of the national consultant collected data on energy intensity in industry, residential, transport and commercial sectors in Kazakhstan. Energy and

emissions modelling, multiple scenario development, and economic analysis have been completed following an intensive data collection process.

Key results and findings of the energy and emissions modelling, multiple scenario development, and economic analysis using NEXSTEP were presented and discussed with stakeholders at the Second National Consultation Workshop on 9 November 2023 in Astana to seek comments, suggestions, and expert opinions to ensure that these findings are meaningful and aligned with Kazakhstan's specific context.

After the Second National Consultation Workshop, the national consultant forwarded "Main Scenarios for Kazakhstan on SDG 7" to stakeholders in Kazakhstan for review, comments and suggestions. In March-April 2024, the national consultant received comments and suggestions from stakeholders. Based on these new inputs, scenarios have been refined and presented for validation at the Session 1 "Validation Workshop for the SDG 7 Roadmap for Kazakhstan" of the Regional Stakeholder Consultations on Energy Connectivity and Sustainable Energy in Astana on 12 June 2024.

## Proceedings

Session 1 "Validation Workshop for the SDG 7 Roadmap for Kazakhstan" under the UNDA project "Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19" was held on 12 June 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan. The session agenda is attached in Annex 1.

Session 1 was organized jointly by UNECE and ESCAP, with UNDP Kazakhstan providing logistical support. Session 1 involved. Policy makers, energy sector professionals, representatives of UNECE, ESCAP, project national and international consultants, experts from Central Asian countries, representatives of the business community, and other interested stakeholders participated in the Session, which was held in a hybrid format (in-person and online). Total number of participants was 78 (onsite and online), of whom 30 were women. The list of in-person attendance is attached in Annex 2.

Session 1 was opened by **Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski**, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE, who made introductory remarks and provided an overview of the project, which aims at developing national SDG7 Roadmaps.

**Mr. Michael Williamson**, Chief of Section, Energy Division, ESCAP, welcomed the workshop participants and stated that nowadays it is important to have integrated systemic approach for SDG7 promotion. He mentioned that synergy between organizations is an important pillar to solve increase in energy demand and finding solutions to decrease greenhouse emissions. In addition, he expressed gratitude for all stakeholders, including the Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan, the Bureau of National Statistics, KEGOC JSC and others for support during collection of data by the national consultant.

**Mr. Yernar Bilyalov**, UNECE National Consultant in Kazakhstan, provided short overview of all steps that lead to preparation of the "Main Scenarios for Kazakhstan on SDG 7". He emphasized the role of the the Ministry of Energy and the Bureau of National Statistics during data collection process and

shared main challenges during the process. He informed that the most challenging part was data collection for the commercial sector due to lack of information, however he said that the Institute for Development of Electric Power Industry and Energy Saving JSC collects data for government-owned buildings.

**Mr. Vitaly Bekker**, UNECE International Consultant, shared the results of preliminary modelling towards SDG7 targets for 2030. In the presentation, he described the current situation in the energy sector, provided assumptions, growth factors, and constraints in the scenario development for the SDG7 Roadmap. They provided an analysis of five scenarios: the baseline – Business As Usual (BAU) Scenario; Assessing the gap – Current Policy Scenario (CPS); Meeting the SDG and NDC targets – Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Scenario; and Beyond 2030 – Sustainable Heating Scenario and Towards Net Zero Scenarios. The presentation included preliminary policy recommendations and conclusions for energy transition in Kazakhstan.

**Ms. Tatiana Vedeneva**, President, Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development (CREED), Kyrgyzstan, who served as the UNESCAP National Consultant on SDG7 Roadmap development in the country, presented results of the SDG7 Roadmap for Kyrgyzstan. She shared her experience in data collection and presented recommendations that were developed for Kyrgyzstan in the SDG7 Roadmap. She recommended to carefully analyze financial projections for all scenarios under the SDG 7 Roadmap. Her presentation was followed by a series of questions from the audience, to which she provided answers based on the experience of Kyrgyzstan.

The presentations were followed by an open discussion on the objectives of the project and modalities of its implementation.

During discussions, **Mr. Yernar Bilyalov** informed participants about tariff policy in energy market in Kazakhstan. Representatives of the Ecojer Association, **Mr. Rustem Kabzhanov** and **Mr. Ramazan Zhampeiisov** highlighted the main challenges in Kazakhstan that may have negative impact on development of SDG 7 in Kazakhstan, including low level of energy efficiency in residential and commercial sectors, low tariffs in energy sector, slow development of small – scale renewable energy projects and others. Also, **Mr. Rustem Kabzhanov** proposed UNECE to participate in the “*Energy working group*” at the Ministry of National Economy of Kazakhstan to share current work of UNECE and SDG7 Roadmap Scenario.

**Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski** made closing remarks and outlined the next steps in the project implementation.

The workshop materials will be posted at: <https://unece.org/info/events/event/391414>

## Session 1 Agenda

Time (GMT+5)	Agenda item
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome and session introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Michael Williamson</b>, Chief of Section, Energy Division, UNESCAP (online)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Oleg Dziubinski</b>, Regional Advisor, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</li> </ul>
10:15 - 11:15	Data collection and verification process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Yernar Bilyalov</b>, UNECE National Consultant for Kazakhstan Presentation of the modified SDG7 roadmap scenarios for validation with a focus on Technological options and policy measures to achieve SDG7 targets</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Vitaly Bekker</b>, UNECE International Consultant Experience with SDG7 roadmap scenarios for Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tatiana Vedeneva</b>, President, Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development (CREEED)</li> </ul>
11:15 - 11:45	Moderated discussion and Q&A led by <b>Mr. Oleg Dziubinski</b> , Regional Advisor, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the key findings</li> <li>• Comments and recommendations</li> </ul>
11:45 - 12:00	Wrap up and next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Oleg Dziubinski</b>, Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</li> </ul>

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