

# REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

29 – 30 MARCH 2023 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE



## Peer Learning Round Table Outline

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



### SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

## Accelerating the energy transition and enhancing energy system resiliency through increased energy efficiency and renewable energy

The evidence-based [2022 UNECE Policy Brief on SDG7](#) confirms positive trends, though recognizes that the region is falling short on the broader role that energy must play in the quest for a sustainable future. The changing energy backdrop adds urgency to advance SDG7 targets to maintain reliability and efficacy of energy systems, including by addressing policy issues around the supply chains that will underpin the green transition.

The roundtable will address interlinkages of energy with other SDGs and will discuss how to design more resilient and environmentally sound energy systems in a holistic manner in support of the 2030 Agenda. It will consider, among other, the following priority actions:

1. Maximize the implementation of energy efficiency solutions
2. Accelerate renewable energy uptake.
3. Manage resources effectively and sustainably, with circularity considerations and based on internationally agreed environmental, social and governance standards.
4. Accelerate the deployment of low- and zero-carbon technology to decarbonize the energy system over time.
5. Leverage finance for a low-carbon, resilient energy system

The peer learning session will aim to bring together a variety of stakeholders to share different perspectives, experiences, and expertise in connection with the broad range of issues related to the SDG 7 targets, cognizant of national development aspirations. The objective would be to share concrete experiences and insights on specific immediate actions that policymakers may consider for managing energy supply and demand in a sustainable manner while leaving no one behind, to achieve higher systemic efficiencies, to ensure overall net benefits to the energy system and its actors throughout the value chain, and to reinforce the ability of energy systems to absorb shocks and recover, among other taking advantage of applicable digital solutions, to ultimately make energy systems more sustainable, and

## Guiding questions

<b>Question 1</b>	How to substantially increase renewable energy and improve energy efficiency by 2030?
<b>Question 2</b>	How to create a resilient energy system of the future?
<b>Question 3</b>	How important are critical raw materials and management of secondary resources for implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

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## Summary

Geneva, 29 March 2023, 15h00-18h00 (CET)

## Scenario

15:00- 15:10	<p><b>Welcome remarks</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Dario Liguti</b> Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p> <p><b>Ms. Laura Altanger</b> Head, Regional Nature, Climate and Energy Team, Bureau for Europe and Central Asia, UNDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Interlinkages of SDG7 with non-energy SDGs</i></li><li>• <i>Implementation of 2030 Agenda and its SDG7 in the UNECE region: overall context and mid-point review</i></li></ul>
15:10- 15:20	<p><b>Setting the scene by the Chairs of the UNECE Group of Experts</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Kostiantyn Gura</b> (online) Head of the State Agency of Infrastructure Projects, Ukraine Chair, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy</p> <p><b>Mr. Stefan M. Buettner</b> (online) Director, Global Strategy &amp; Impact, Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production, Germany Chair, Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency</p>
15:20- 16:00	<p><b>Thematic Block 1: Affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for greater energy security in the UNECE region</b></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><b>Mr. Dario Liguti</b> Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p><b>Ms. Mariam Darchia</b> Senior Specialist, Sustainable Development Promotion Division Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia</p> <p><b>Ms. Lisan Kuster</b> Director, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Global Lead, ShelterTech Habitat for Humanity International, Slovakia</p> <p><b>Mr. Aleksandar Macura</b> Director RES Foundation, Serbia</p> <p><b>[Civil Society Speaker (TBC)]</b></p> <p><b>Key questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Creating a suitable environment to increase renewable energy uptake</i></li><li>• <i>Energy efficiency from the system-level perspective: integrated thinking, policymaking, governance, and cross-sectoral action</i></li></ul> <p><b>Open discussion</b></p>

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16:00-  
17:00

## ***Thematic Block 2: Leveraging finance for a low-carbon, resilient energy system***

Moderator:

**Mr. Hans-Juergen Walter**

Global Leader, Sustainable Finance, Deloitte

Panellists:

**Ms. Aida Sittikova**

Director, Energy, Eurasia, Middle East and Africa, Sustainable Infrastructure Group

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Vice-Chair, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

**Mr. Conrad Albrecht**

Managing Director, Head of the Sustainability Directorate

Eurasian Development Bank

**Mr. Mike Richter**

Senior Executive Banking

DZ Bank

**Ms. Paula Redondo Pereira**

Head, Regulatory Affairs

Luxembourg Stock Exchange

**Ms. Mariola Domenech**

Sustainability Director, ACCIONA Energy

*Key questions:*

- *International cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology*
- *Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all*

***Open discussion***

17:00-  
17:45

## ***In-depth Case Studies***

Recent developments in North Macedonia (tbc)

**Ms. Razmena Cekic**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of North Macedonia

Using the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) in the United Kingdom - for lithium and other critical metals in Cornwall

**Ms. Frances Wall**

**Ms. Eva Marquis**

Camborne School of Mines

University of Exeter, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings in Portugal: use of wood in construction

**Mr. Manuel Collares Pereira**

Scientific Advisor, Vanguard Properties

*Other concrete examples*

***Open discussion***

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17:45-  
18:00

*Wrap up of the Peer Learning Round Table and concluding remarks*  
**Mr. Dario Liguti**, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

## Organizers

Organizers	UNECE Sustainable Energy Division (Lead), UNDP
Contributors	IOM, UNEP, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNOPS, UNWOMEN, WIPO, WMO