



From goals to ACTION: Powering the FUTURE with **SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

CONCEPT NOTE

Digital transformation of energy systems: accelerating action through coordination and innovation

Organizers: Government of North Macedonia,
UNECE, ESCWA, ESCAP, UNDP

Date: 29 October 2025

Time: 09:00–17:00 (Skopje/Geneva) / 15:00–23:00 (Bangkok) / 10:00–18:00 (Beirut)

Venue: Holiday Inn, Skopje, North Macedonia, and online

Overview

The modernization and digitalization of energy systems are essential for achieving a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable energy future. This full-day session will explore governance and policy frameworks for enabling smart, integrated, and digitalized energy systems that leave no one behind.

The discussions will focus on harmonized policy approaches and governance mechanisms that enable effective digital transformation of energy systems. Key focus areas will include interoperability with legacy infrastructure, cyber resilience, and managing decentralized energy generation, distribution, and storage through advanced digital tools and data-driven solutions.

Building on the ongoing efforts under the UN-Energy priority area on Digitalization, this workshop will also serve as a practical catalyst for broader coordination and stakeholder engagement. While distinct from the long-term UN-Energy Digitalization track, it will facilitate dialogue and identify further opportunities for collaboration.

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Objectives

- Assess the current state of digitalization in the energy sector across regions.
- Identify key barriers, enablers, and opportunities for implementing digital technologies in energy systems.
- Highlight the role of digital governance frameworks and policies in integrating decentralized energy sources.
- Share lessons learned, best practices, and regional experiences in advancing digital transformation.
- Facilitate peer learning, knowledge exchange, and collaboration on digitalization and innovation.
- Address socio-economic considerations to ensure a just and equitable digital transformation of energy systems.

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced understanding of digital transformation pathways and priorities across diverse national and regional contexts.
- Identification of concrete opportunities for pilot initiatives, partnerships, and technical cooperation to advance digitalization in energy systems.
- Strengthened visibility, coordination, and stakeholder engagement in support of the broader digitalization agenda and its alignment with the UN-Energy priorities.

Target Group

- National energy and ICT policymakers
- Utilities and grid operators
- Digital technology providers
- Development agencies and financial institutions
- Academia and think tanks
- Civil society and youth representatives





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Agenda

<p>09:00–09:30</p>	<p>Digitalization as an enabler of sustainable energy systems <i>Welcome remarks and scene setting</i></p> <p>Mr. Stefan Andonovski Minister of Digital Transformation, North Macedonia</p> <p>Ms. Radia Sedaoui Chief, Energy Section, ESCWA</p> <p>Ms. Denise Mulholland Chief, Energy Systems Section, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p> <p>Mr. Armen Grigoryan Resident Representative, UNDP North Macedonia</p>
<p>09:30–10:15</p>	<p>Powering the future: why digital transformation matters <i>Panel discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How is digital transformation reshaping the global energy landscape? - Which emerging digital technologies can most effectively accelerate system transformation? - How can digital transformation ensure inclusive benefits? - How to build digital skills and bridge human-capital gaps for future-ready energy workforce? <p><i>Moderator</i> Mr. Hosni Ghedira Senior Advisor, AI7I</p> <p><i>Panelists</i> Mr. Stjepan Sučić CEO, Koncar – Digital Ltd. Mr. Samer Zawaydeh Lecturer, Al Hussein Technical University Mr. Riad Meddeb Director, UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub Mr. Andrei Covataru (online) Senior research associate, Energy Policy Group</p>
<p>10:15–10:45</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>10:45–12:00</p>	<p>Data-driven energy planning and operations <i>Panel discussion</i></p> <p><i>Moderator</i> Mr. Riad Meddeb Director, UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub</p> <p><i>Panelists</i> Mr. Leonardo Rocha Souza Chief, Energy Statistics Section, United Nations Statistics Division Mr. Goran Stojanovski Founder, Elevate-Global Ms. Ana Trbovic (online) Co-Founder, Grid Singularity and Energy Web Foundation Mr. Thierry Mathieu (online) Co-founder, Attributes, ENGIE Mr. Nikola Bitrak CEO, Colenco Ltd.</p>
<p>12:00–14:00</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>

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<p>14:00–15:15</p>	<p>Strengthening governance and capacity for digital transformation <i>Interactive moderated roundtable</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Which policy and regulatory frameworks are essential to ensure inclusive, reliable, and sustainable digital energy systems? - How can governments balance innovation with cyber resilience, data privacy, and interoperability across new and legacy systems? - What measures can strengthen coordination between energy and ICT actors and build institutional capacity for secure digital transformation? - How can governance enhance transparency, accountability, and public trust in digital data and emerging technologies? <p><i>Scene-setting</i></p> <p>Ms. Kimberly Roseberry <i>(online)</i> Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division</p> <p>Mr. Stefan M. Buettner <i>(online)</i> Director, Global Strategy & Impact, EEP</p> <p><i>Moderator</i></p> <p>Mr. Igor Litvinyuk Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p> <p><i>Panelists</i></p> <p>Mr. Mark Kaplan <i>(online)</i> Co-Founder and Partner, WholeChain</p> <p>Ms. Qi Shuguang <i>(online)</i> Professor in Engineering, China Academy of ICT</p> <p>Mr. Romanas Savickas UNOPS</p>
<p>15:15–15:45</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>15:45–16:45</p>	<p>Pathways forward: inter-regional cooperation and partnerships <i>Interactive moderated roundtable</i></p> <p><i>Scene-setting</i></p> <p>Mr. Igor Litvinyuk Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE</p> <p><i>Moderator</i></p> <p>Mr. Sean Ratka Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Section, ESCWA</p> <p><i>Scheduled interventions from country representatives and stakeholders</i></p>
<p>16:45–17:00</p>	<p>Wrap-up, summary of key takeaways, and next steps for regional and interregional cooperation</p>

Connection details for online participation

<https://teams.live.com/join/9337415864962?p=XnZrUBAxB3yvl60AfX>

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