



Republic of North Macedonia
Ministry of Energy, Mining
and Mineral Resources



14th International Forum on
**ENERGY FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**
28–30 October 2025, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia



United
Nations



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

CONCEPT NOTE

SDG 7 Roadmaps as a Policy Instrument: from Development to Implementation

Co-organizers: UNESCAP, UNECE, UNECLAC, and UNECA

28 October, 14:00-17:00 (Skopje/Geneva)/20:00-23:00 (Bangkok)

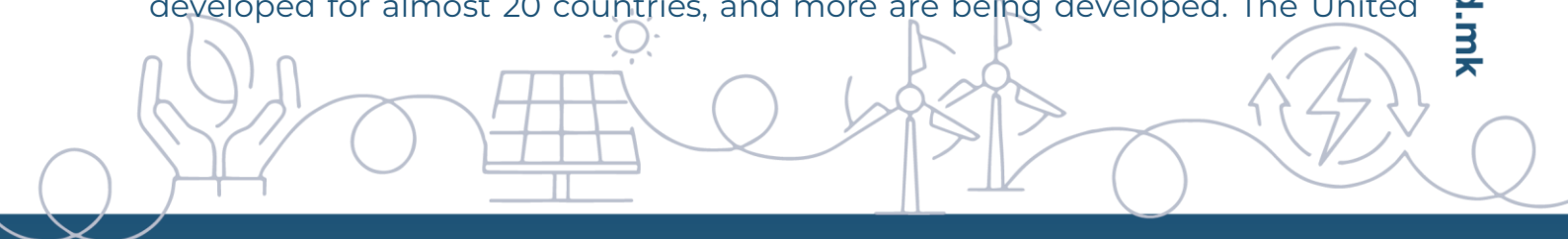
[Link for online participation](#)

Background

Successful development of the energy sector depends on the availability of data and information on energy supply and demand, development of proper strategies and policies, and their implementation. Transitioning the energy sector to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the objectives of the Paris Agreement presents a complex and difficult task for policymakers. It needs to ensure sustained economic growth as well as respond to increasing energy demand, reduce emissions, and consider and capitalize on the interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) and other SDGs. To address this challenge, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) has developed the National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP). This tool enables policymakers to make informed policy decisions to support the achievement of the SDG 7 targets, as well as nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

From January 2022 to December 2025, ESCAP and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) are jointly implementing the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project “Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19” that resulted in developing national SDG 7 Roadmaps for eight beneficiary countries of the project: Armenia, Federated States of Micronesia, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Mongolia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Uzbekistan. Overall, the SDG 7 Roadmaps have been developed for almost 20 countries, and more are being developed. The United

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Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) also participates in this project. Training on developing SDG7 Roadmap and long-term energy planning using the NEXSTEP framework was organized for government officials and experts of ECLAC member States.

The key objective of each SDG 7 Roadmap is to align and synergize the government's energy policies and measures to achieve the SDG 7 and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets. The Roadmap contains a matrix of technology options and enabling policy measures for the government to consider. It presents several scenarios that have been developed using national data, considering existing energy policies and strategies as well as reflecting on other development plans. These scenarios are expected to enable the government to make an informed decision to develop and implement a set of policies to achieve SDG 7 by 2030, together with the NDC.

This session is the final event of the UNDA project. It builds on the outcomes of the *Inter-regional seminar on strengthening energy policies of countries with special needs to build back better from COVID-19* held during IFESD-13 in Bangkok in December 2024, and on the progress in project implementation since then. It looks at the lessons learned and experience of countries in developing national SDG 7 Roadmaps and, most importantly, at the progress in their implementation in the countries that had their Roadmaps developed earlier.

Objectives

- Share knowledge and experience from the process of developing SDG 7 Roadmaps
- Discuss potential and opportunities to implementing recommendations from the SDG 7 Roadmaps
- Provide insights on the ways to sustainable energy transition until and beyond 2030.
- Based on the experiences of ESCAP and ECE countries, offer a model for countries in other regions to consider developing their own roadmaps for achieving SDG 7 or other energy transition plans, with the support of UN Regional Commissions.

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Target Group

Policymakers (ministries in charge of energy planning and policy development), financial institutions, business representatives, international organizations, and research institutions.

Provisional Programme

Time (Skopje)	Agenda
14:00 – 14:10	Welcoming remarks <i>Mr. Hongpeng Liu</i> , Director, Energy Division, ESCAP <i>Mr. Dario Liguti</i> , Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE
14:10 - 14:20	Introduction and scene setting <i>Mr. Michael Williamson</i> , Chief of Section, Energy Division, ESCAP <i>Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski</i> , Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE
14:20 – 14:35	NEXSTEP and the UNDA project - overview of achievements to date <i>Mr. Anis Zaman</i> , Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division, ESCAP (online)
14:35 – 15:15	Country perspectives on lessons learned from development of SDG 7 roadmaps Moderator: <i>Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski</i> , Regional Adviser, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE



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	<i>Speakers:</i> • Mr. Suren Shatvoryan, UNECE Consultant for Armenia • Mr. Yernar Bilyalov, UNECE Consultant for Kazakhstan • Ms. Ganchimeg Chimed, Senior Expert, Foreign Cooperation Division, Ministry of Energy, Mongolia • Mr. Rakhimjan Babakhodjaev, UNECE Consultant for Uzbekistan
15:15 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 16:30	Panel discussion: Potential and opportunities to implement recommendations from the SDG 7 Roadmaps <i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Senior Energy Expert <i>Panellists:</i> • Mr. Hovhannes Abrahamyan, Armenia, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure (MTAI) • Ms. Margalita Arabidze, Georgia, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (MoESD) • Mr. Sanzhar Takenov, Kazakhstan, Ministry of Energy (MoE) • Ms. Tatiana Vedeneva, Kyrgyzstan, Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Development (CREEED) • Mr. Fitratullo Nabiev, Uzbekistan, National Agency for Energy Efficiency (NAEE)
16:30 – 17:00	Discussion: Pathways to sustainable energy transition until and beyond 2030





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Moderators: **Mr. Monga Mehlwana**, Economic Affairs Officer, Connectivity and Infrastructure, UNECA and **Ms. Marina Gil Sevilla**, Senior Economic Affairs Assistant, Natural Resources Division, ECLAC

- **Ms. Rana Humbatova**, Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan Renewable Energy Agency (AREA)
- **Mr. Randall Zuñiga**, Costa Rica, Energy Director of the Environment and Energy Ministry (MINAE)
- **Mr. Michael Williamson**, Chief of Section, Energy Division, ESCAP

Mode of participation

The workshop will take place in a hybrid format (in-person and online).

Contact

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