



SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group Meeting  
30 March – 9:00 to 10:30 AM (NY Time)  
Teleconference

## Meeting Summary

Members of the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group met via a conference call, 09:00 - 10:30 EST, 30 March 2021. The list of participants and the agenda can be found in Annex 1 and Annex 2 respectively.

### 1. Opening remarks

- a. The SDG7-TAG Co-Chairs, Ms. Sheila Oparaocha and Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk, thanked everyone for joining the meeting and the progress made on the Policy Briefs.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

- a. The draft agenda was adopted without amendments.

### 3. Presentation and Discussion of revised Draft Policy Briefs 2021

The focal points were invited to provide short remarks on the progress, followed by an opportunity for a discussion on each Policy Brief. It was emphasized that final drafts must be provided in succinct form by 15 April for review by the editor.

#### Strengthening Interlinkages

##### SDG1: No Poverty: IIASA, IRENA, MFA Netherlands

- a. The good progress of the report, including comments received, was emphasized, and it was further noted that the Policy Brief will be on time.

##### SDG2: Zero Hunger: FAO, Power for All, UAE, ESCWA, EU DEVCO, UNIDO, review CCA

- a. Emphasis was placed on the need for shortening, as well as indicators that measure synergies between SDG 7 and other SDGs, with good practices that illustrate the linkages.

##### SDG3: Good Health and Well-Being: WHO, ESCWA, IRENA, CCA, UNICEF, IIASA

- a. Feedback was incorporated and progress on cutting was made. The policy brief focuses on clean cooking and the link to health facilities, highlighting the impact on well-being in addition to gender. It was commented that systems used for food chains might be used for health purposes and vice versa, which was welcomed to be included.

##### SDG4: Quality Education: UNICEF

- a. The Youth Sustainable Energy Hub was asked to collaborate on updating this brief. The new angle brought to the brief is how innovation and young people in action can improve the achievement of SDG 7 in education and vice versa. Included in the brief are innovative tools developed by UNICEF and partners in the climate field can be scaled and replicated in the energy field.

SDG5: Gender Equality: UN Women, Ministry of Energy Kenya and Hivos/ENERGIA, ECA, ESCWA, EU DEVCO, UNIDO, review by CCA

- a. The policy brief focuses particularly on health care, education, and conflict & emergency. Especially important are investments at the household and community level for women to benefit. It was commented that the long draft versions should be kept, as they will be helpful for the Thematic Report for the HLD on Energy.

SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation: UNICEF, ESCWA, DESA & ITAIPU, ECA, EU DEVCO

- a. Good collaboration was emphasized on providing and incorporating the feedback. It was requested whether case studies and indicators could be included as appendices. The recommendation was made to include links and brief descriptions to stay within the specified scope.

SDG9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure: UNIDO, EU DEVCO, ECA, review by CC; SDG12: Responsible Consumption & Production: UNIDO, ESCWA, EU DEVCO, IIASA

- a. Both briefs are completed, and work is ongoing to shorten them. The problem of length, with references and case studies was highlighted and suggested to include them as appendices.

SDG10: Reduced Inequalities: MFA Netherlands, Hivos

- a. The draft is advanced, with comments being welcomed. Areas of focus were identified, including supply-side inequalities and their impacts, and inequalities in GHG emissions contributions and their impacts. It was highlighted that there are inequalities in the development of solutions that stem from inequalities in sciences and knowledge systems that will be captured in the draft.

SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: REN21, EU DEVCO, ECA, review by IRENA

- a. Shortening is the biggest challenge, with suggestions from colleagues highlighted as welcome. It was noted that the editor will not be responsible for cutting the content, however, the Secretariat can be approached for support.

SDG14: Life on Land: FAO, UAE, EU DEVCO, CCA

- a. The final version was submitted to the Secretariat. It was noted that some further work on synergies is needed, including indicators to be developed

SDG15: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: UNITAR, review by World Bank

- a. Comments have been incorporated and some additional considerations on fragile states have been integrated.

## **Regional Perspective**

Advancing SDG7 in Arab region: ESCWA with inputs from UAE, FAO, review by IRENA

- a. The Policy Brief was submitted in a timely manner and is in the process of being shortened. Due to the inclusion of renewable energy projects in the region, the policy brief will be given a positive core statement.

Advancing SDG7 in Africa: ECA, AfDB, EU DEVCO, FAO, Hivos, GEIDCO, BMZ, review by IRENA

- a. It was emphasized that the substance should not be removed by cuts, but the policy briefs should be better summarized which could be facilitated by other colleagues editing with a different perspective.

Advancing SDG7 in Asia and the Pacific: ESCAP, ADB, review by IRENA

- a. The draft will be provided once all input is received. In addition to the progress review, it will include the coal phase-out challenge, which requires urgent action including policy recommendations for various countries. In addition, the policy brief points out that the energy transition should be part of the "building back better" initiatives and included in the stimulus package.

Advancing SDG7 in ECE region: ECE, review by IRENA

- a. The draft will be submitted shortly, and work is still underway to shorten it. The policy brief will include key challenges, such as a just transition and a post-Covid period. As well as the further advancement of the tri-factor of action, which addresses high performance building, methane management, and sustainable resource management.

Advancing SDG7 in Latin America and the Caribbean: ECLAC, Hivos, review by IRENA

- a. The draft will be reviewed again and feedback on length is requested. It was commented that the analysis is valuable but that a version is needed that focuses on the key messages.

**Towards a sustainable and equitable energy future**

Multi-tier framework for measuring access to electricity and clean cooking solutions: World Bank/ESMAP, review by CCA

- a. Comments were received and updates included.

RISE-Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Development: World Bank/ESMAP

- a. Policies and regulations for all pillars of energy constitute the content, with an emphasis on clean cooking and energy access. Comments were stated to be welcome.

Advancing SDG 7 Implementation:

- a. The final chapters have been provided, comments have been received and are now being revised. The final draft will be shared soon, and comments are welcome. Data on SDG 7 has been provided, although data on electricity access in particular will change slightly over the next few days.

**4. Update on the Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report**

- a. Comments have been received and are being reviewed. The final draft report will be available by the end of March; in the meantime, additional comments are welcome. Custodians are open to inquiries about the data.

**5. Update by the Secretariat on the High-level Dialogue on Energy**

- a. Mr. Takada, Energy Team Leader, UN DESA, as representative of the Secretariat gave a brief progress update. The importance of SDG 7 Policy Briefs informing the TWG reports was highlighted. Coherent numbers coming from the SDG 7 tracking report were emphasized as important. It was noted that coordination of report launches should be ensured to inform the HLD, especially the Ministerial Thematic Forums. The SDG 7 TAG Group may support the adoption of voluntary commitments through Energy Compacts.

## **6. AOB**

- a. Focused workshops on clean cooking are being planned together with the Secretariat, and colleagues are to be invited after consultation.

## **7. Conclusions and Next Steps**

- a. The Co-Facilitators thanked for the joint effort on the submitted Policy Briefs and reminded of the timely completion in order to also inform the TWG Reports. The importance of the Summary for Policy Makers, which is yet to be drafted, was highlighted. The timeframe up to the 15 April for finalization was noted as an opportunity for further comments and finalization of the Policy Briefs. The SDG7 report is on track and now open for feedback, with the Co-Facilitators urging to carefully calibrate key messages to policy makers to scale up action. The strategic opportunity to align the report launches to inform the Ministerial Thematic Forum was welcomed.

## Appendix 1: Participants List

Organisation	Name
ENERGIA	Sheila Oparaocha (co-facilitator)
Norway	Hans Olav Ibrek (co-facilitator); Mina Weydahl
Denmark	Mira Bergem, Laura Skot
Germany	Alex Kauer, Paul Recknagel
Kenya	Paul Mbuti
The Netherlands	Frank Van der Vleuten
European Commission	Sofia Martinez
African Development Bank	Daniel Schroth
Clean Cooking Alliance	Asna Towfiq
FAO	Olivier Dubois
IEA	Kieran McNamara
IIASA	Leena Srivastava
IRENA	Michael Renner
OHRLLS	Pelin Gemici
REN21	Laura Williamson
UNDP	Marcel Alers, Anne Marx Lorenzen
UN ECA	Monga Mehlwana, Linus Mofo
UN ECA	Scott Foster
UN ECLAC	Ruben Contreras Lispergue
UN ESCAP	Hongpeng Liu, Sergey Tulinov
UN ESCWA	Radia Sidaoui
UNEP	John Christensen
UNICEF	Rakshya Rajyashwori Thapa
UNIDO	Rana Ghoneim
UNITAR	Philip Sandwell
UNSD	Leonardo Souza; Agnieszka Koscielniak
WHO	Heather Adiar-Rohani
WB	Elisa Portale, Stephen Halloway
UNDESA (ex officio)	Minoru Takada; Bahareh Seyedi; Martin Niemetz; David Koranyi; Nadine Salame



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**Draft Agenda**

**1. Opening remarks by the Co-Facilitators**

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk**, Policy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway
- **Ms. Sheila Oparaocha**, Coordinator, ENERGIA

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**3. Presentation and Discussion of revised Draft Policy Briefs 2021.**

- Each focal point will be invited to give a 2-3-minute introduction followed by a short discussion.

**4. Update on the Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report**

**5. Update by the Secretariat on the High-level Dialogue on Energy**

**6. AOB**

**7. Conclusions and Next Steps**

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk**, Policy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway
- **Ms. Sheila Oparaocha**, Coordinator, ENERGIA