



## SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group Meeting

Oslo, Norway, 26-27 January 2022

### *Summary*

#### **Meeting Summary**

Members of the SDG7 Technical Advisory Group (SDG7 TAG) met on 26-27 April 2022 in Oslo, Norway, hosted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The list of participants and the concept note with programme are attached in Annex 1 and Annex 2, respectively.

#### **1. Opening remarks**

- a. The SDG7 TAG Co-Facilitators, Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk and Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, opened the meeting by highlighting the need to consider progress on SDG7 and its interlinkages also in the context of current affairs which will have a strong impact in this regard. It is especially important to pay special attention to the impact of SDG7 on people. The work of the SDG7 TAG is very progressive in this regard.

#### **2. Implementing the Global Roadmap for Accelerated SDG7 Action in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change**

- a. The Secretariat opened the session by providing a presentation on the outcomes and follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on Energy. Looking forward, plans are being made for a Global-Stock Taking on progress made.
- b. In the following discussion, participants raised a number of issues including:
  - i. It was emphasized that it is important to connect the Global Roadmap to policy-making, including by linking it to national and local levels.
  - ii. Issues like energy security and leaving no one behind should play a key role in implementing the Roadmap.
  - iii. The question was raised whether the role of fossil fuels in achieving SDG 7 needs more attention, and whether it would not be better to frame progress in positive terms rather than in negative terms, i.e. how to advance renewables and efficiency rather than how to phase out fossil fuels.
  - iv. It could help to create more coherence between the Global Roadmap and the SDG7 Policy Briefs, including by linking milestones and indicators. It would also help to strengthen the connection to the Energy Compacts in tracking progress.
  - v. The question of ownership on tracking interlinkages was raised. It is important to ensure that energy does not become marginalized as a means to an end.

### **3. Update on Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report 2022**

- a. On behalf of the SDG7 indicator custodians, Leonardo Souza, UNSD, provided an update on the Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report 2022. The Report finds that progress is being made, but it is by far not sufficient to meet the targets. Notably, finance for clean energy in developing countries has decreased the second year in a row.
- b. In the following discussion, participants sought clarifications on various points. The issue was raised how to communicate on progress given the dim prospects regarding some particular issues.

### **4. Presentations and Discussions of the draft Policy Briefs on energy's interlinkages with SDG4, 5 and 15.**

- a. The session included presentations by the lead authors of the Policy Briefs on interlinkages. Lisa Nyamadzawo, UNICEF, presented on the interlinkages with SDG4 (education), Elisabeth Cecelski, Energia, presented on the interlinkages with SDG5 (gender), and Olivier Dubois presented on the interlinkages with SDG15 (life on land).
- b. In the open discussion on these Policy Briefs, the following points were raised:
  - i. It was suggested that the indicators on interlinkages could be conceptualized as sub-indicators of the SDG7 targets, as to ensure clarity on ownership.
  - ii. Various suggestions were provided on how to improve the indicators presented and comments were made on their suitability.
  - iii. The question of how to deal with the lack of data was highlighted, especially in terms of its impact on the selection of indicators and how this fits with the vision on the way forward.
  - iv. The issue was raised that some indicators may be more fitting in some particular regional, national and local contexts than in others and that there may be value in applying a bottom up process in selecting them.
  - v. It was highlighted that we need to prioritise among the suggested indicators, as we cannot advance all of them at the same time. We need focus and clarity in order to have real impact and make a difference in policy-making.
  - vi. Suggestions for criteria for the selection of indicators were made: This could be whether they have any impact on specific SDGs; whether they have any direct connection to the Global Roadmap; or whether they help to fulfil our vision by leveraging resources from other sectors and provide added value by focusing on leaving no one behind.
  - vii. It was emphasized that in order to make a difference in the post-2030 agenda, we need to be ahead of the curve and show by 2025 that these indicators on interlinkages make a difference.

### **5. Presentations and Discussions on the Regional Policy Briefs**

- a. The session included presentations by the lead authors of the regional Policy Briefs. Presentations were made by Scott Foster, UN ECE, on the ECE region; by Kimberly Roseberry, UN ESCAP, on the Asia-Pacific region; by Radia Sedaoui, UN ESCWA, on the Arab region; by Shifaana Thowfeequ, UN OHRLLS, on the Least Developed Countries; and by Ruben Contreras, UN ECLAC, on Latin America and the Caribbean.
- b. In the open discussion, participants raised several issues including:

- i. Several requests for clarification on particular regional developments were made.
- ii. It was emphasized that the issue of just transition would deserve further attention in the regional Policy Briefs
- iii. It was mentioned that the regional Policy Briefs provide the opportunity to detail the need for different pathways to net-zero. The question of how to deal with fossil fuels is raised in various ways.
- iv. It was noted that it would be helpful to link the regional Policy Briefs to the Policy Briefs on interlinkages. For example, what is the situation of energy regarding land use, oceans, gender, health and security in the various regions.

## **6. Global Launch and Communications Plan**

- a. The Secretariat opened the session by providing a presentation on the Global Launch and Communications Plan. This included considerations on the timeline for 2022, the summary for policy makers, communication products for other audiences, leveraging other events for communication efforts, and organizing tailor made events.
- b. In the following discussion, participants raised several points, including:
  - i. It was emphasized that specific proposals for webinars regarding the Policy Briefs are needed.
  - ii. It was noted that better use must be made of social media, including twitter, needs to be made.
  - iii. It was suggested that communication products could include short videos targeted at particular audiences.
  - iv. A number of suggestions for other events that lend themselves for communications on the Policy Briefs were made. Processes on other SDGs should also be leveraged.
  - v. The Secretariat was called upon to draft a communications plan which would provide a long-term vision. The user perspective and question of SDG7 ownership should be key in this. Other members of the SDG7 TAG could then supplement this with communications plans on specific Policy Briefs or issues.
  - vi. Regarding the summary for policy makers, it was noted that it should include reference to the issue of adaptation which will be key at COP27 and that it should also note current affairs.

## **7. The Next Steps**

- a. The Secretariat provided further clarity on the next steps regarding the SDG7 Policy Briefs 2022 and outlined the way forward beyond this year.

## **8. Closing**

- a. The Co-Facilitators thanked all participants for the valuable contributions and emphasised a number of key points:
  - i. There is a need to arrive at focused indicators on interlinkages. We need to prioritize in order to have impact.

- ii. The Secretariat will draft a communications plan which will be shared for review.
- iii. The final versions of the Policy Briefs are due by 6 May.
- iv. All are called upon to provide the Secretariat suggestions on key messages for the summary for policy-makers. The Secretariat will share a first draft following receipt of the final Policy Briefs.
- v. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will work with the Secretariat to organize the side-event on the SDG7 Policy Briefs at the High-level Political Forum.

## ANNEX 1: Participants

### In-person

Hans Olav Ibrekk (Co-Chair)	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sheila Oparaocha (Co-Chair)	Energia
Heather Adair-Rohani	WHO
Filippa Braarud	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Elizabeth Cecelski	Energy Access and Gender Consultant
Gülser Corat	Coopersmith Law and Strategy
Nicholas Dehod	UNIDO
Peter Haugan	Institute of Marine Research of Norway
Geir Hermansen	NORAD
Paul Mbuti	Ministry of Energy of Kenya
Lily Odarno	Clean Air Task Force
Radia Sedaoui	UN ESCWA
Leonardo Souza	UNSD
Leena Srivastava	IIASA
Julia Toth	Energia
Frank van der Vleuten	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
Minoru Takada (Secretariat)	UN DESA
Martin Niemetz (Secretariat)	UN DESA

### Virtual

Yolande Amichia	IRENA
William Brent	Husk
Rocio Diaz Chavez	Imperial College London
Ruben Contreras	UN ECLAC
Deborah Cornland	SIDA
Olivier Dubois	FAO
Samah Elsayed	IRENA
Nanda Febriani Moenandar	IRENA
Scott Foster	UN ECE
Caroline Form	GIZ
Celia García-Baños	IRENA
Sofja Giljova	IRENA
Jacqueline Elizabeth Gill	IRENA
Karanpreet Kaur	IRENA

David McCollum	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Lisa Nyamadzawo	UNICEF
Viksne Olgers	European Commission - INTPA
Katharina Pröstler	UNIDO
Kate Power	SDG7 Youth Constituency
Atul Raturi	The University of the South Pacific
Paul Recknagel	GIZ
Kimberly Roseberry	UN ESCAP
Ursula Scharler	University of KwaZulu-Natal
Edna Guadalupe Soto Ruiz	IRENA
Rakshya Rajyashwori Thapa	UNICEF
José Torón	IRENA
Shifaana Thowfeequ	UN OHRLLS
Dymphna Van Der Lans	Clean Cooking Alliance
Frank Vollmer	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
Anant Wadhwa	SEforALL
Sheila Watson	FiA
Badariah Yosiyana	IRENA
Bahareh Seyed (Secretariat)	UN DESA
Nadine Salame (Secretariat)	UN DESA



### SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group Meeting

*Oslo, Norway, 26-27 April 2022*

Achieving SDG 7 is critical for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. The *Global Roadmap for Accelerated SDG 7 Action in Support of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement*, delivered by the UN Secretary-General as a forward-looking summary of the High-level Dialogue on Energy convened at the summit level in 2021 under the auspices of the UN General Assembly, charts the way forward with a set of priority actions with specific milestones toward 2025 and 2030. Recognising that achieving SDG 7 will catalyse action to combat climate change and attain many other SDGs, the Global Roadmap calls for realizing the potential of energy as a crucial enabler for the achievement of the SDGs and the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The importance and relevance of energy could not be overemphasised in times of the triple crises, i.e. the COVID-19, the Ukraine crisis, and the climate crisis, to ensure a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable future for people and the planet.

Against this backdrop, the main objective of this meeting of the SDG7 TAG will be to review the draft SDG7 Policy Briefs 2022. These Policy Briefs are intended to inform the High-level Political Forum and related intergovernmental discussions, including on the follow up to the High-level Dialogue on Energy, by providing substantive inputs prepared through inclusive multi-stakeholder consultations. This year's Briefs further discuss energy's interlinkages with other SDGs, with the objective to arrive at a set of solid indicators for these interlinkages, as well as the data required to assess progress on these indicators. This assessment will allow for the elaboration of concrete policy recommendations on the respective interlinkages. To establish a proof of concept, the 2022 Policy Briefs focus only on the interlinkages to some of those SDGs which will be discussed at the HLPF 2022: SDG 4 (education), SDG 5 (gender equality), and SDG 15 (life on land).

The development of these Policy Briefs is supported by an Expert Group on Energy's Interlinkages with other SDGs which brings together leading experts with relevant expertise on interlinkages to discuss and assess indicators to track progress, including data availability, as to enable a clear indication in the Policy Briefs of the most suitable and applicable indicators. The Group also supports the assessment of the current status according to these indicators and the elaboration of policy recommendations. This meeting will bring together the members of the SDG7 TAG with members of the Expert Group to discuss full drafts of the Policy Briefs 2022, based on the findings of the Group. The meeting will result in constructive feedback in support of the finalisation of the drafts to ensure that they include solid indicators, data, and recommendations.

SDG 7 is within reach, but we must act now. Energy Compacts are a key vehicle to translate the Global Roadmap into concrete actions and partnerships. Some 200 Energy Compacts with over US\$ 600 billion have already been committed by governments, businesses and civil society, but far more needs to be done. All stakeholders must step up to catalyse energy action for the achievement of the SDGs and net zero emissions.

## **Draft Programme**

### **Tuesday, 26 April**

12:30	Meet at MFA reception to receive badges
13:00-13:30	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <i>Host Government</i> <i>Co-facilitators</i>
13:30-14:15	<b>Implementing the Global Roadmap for Accelerated SDG7 Action in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change</b> <i>Presentation by the Secretariat, followed by open discussions</i>
14:15-14:30	<b>Update on Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report 2022</b> <i>SDG7 Indicator Custodians</i>
14:30-15:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:00-16:00	<b>Presentations of draft Policy Briefs on energy's interlinkages with SDG 4, 5 and 15.</b> <i>UNICEF, ENERGIA, FAO</i>
16:00-17:15	<b>Discussions of the Policy Briefs on energy's interlinkages with SDGs 4, 5 and 15.</b>
17:15-17:30	<b>Day 1 Wrap Up and Day 2 programme</b> <i>Co-Facilitators and the Secretariat</i>
19:00	<i>Dinner hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>

### **Wednesday, 27 April**

10:30-10:40	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Co-Facilitators</i>
10:40-12:00	<b>Presentations/Updates/Discussions on Regional Policy Briefs</b> <i>UN Regional Commissions and UN OHRLLS</i>
12:00-13:15	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:15-14:00	<b>Presentations/Updates/Discussions on Regional Policy Briefs (continued, if needed given the time differences with virtual participants/speakers)</b> <i>UN Regional Commissions and UN OHRLLS</i>



14:00-14:45	<b>Global Launch and Communications Plan</b> <i>The Secretariat</i>
14:45-15:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:15-15:30	<b>The Next Steps</b> <i>The Secretariat</i>
15:30-15:45	<b>Closing</b> <i>Co-Facilitators</i>