

Concept note

**10th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (IFESD),
7-8 October 2019, UN Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand
From Targets to Action**

Evidence-based Policies for Sustainable Use of Energy Resources in Asia and the Pacific

**09:00-12:00, Tuesday 8 October 2019
Venue: UN Conference Centre**



Lead contact: Mr. Faran Rana, ESCAP; e-mail: faran.rana@un.org

Background and Rationale

Energy planning in order to align with the vision of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement requires a paradigm shift. In order to ensure all targets are achieved by 2030, the institutional capacity at the national level to undertake evidence-based energy policy development, needs to be further strengthened. ESCAP has been delivering several capacity development programs in the region to help address this challenge.

The project *Evidence-based Policies for Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific*¹, has been implemented in five member States with the objective of strengthening the capacities of policymakers in the region. The project targets the following outcomes: 1) increased capacity to assess, forecast and track energy development trends and future scenarios using data, policy and analytical tools, 2) apply knowledge gained from informational tools and project activities to evidence-based policymaking, and 3) to comprehensively understand informational sources to monitor and evaluate energy targets.

The Fiji project component is helping develop an energy knowledge management system with a view to study the impact of electric vehicles on the energy sector. In Tonga, the project has developed an energy data collection framework and an outlook for sustainable energy planning. In Thailand, a review and evaluation of the renewable energy policy and modelling for future pathways is under development and under a second component, a policy recommendation for renewable energy training was conducted. In Kazakhstan, the project explores the scope of renewable heat with respect to the country's transition to a green economy. Lastly, in Pakistan, the project has built the capacity of policymakers in energy modelling with a view to achieve the NDCs.

¹ <https://www.unescap.org/our-work/energy/energy-sustainable-development/evidence-based-policies>



ESCAP will deliver the concluding workshop of the project *Evidence Based Policies for Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific* as part of the 10th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development. This will consolidate the results and learnings of the five country components and will promote cross-border sharing of experiences and knowledge.

The Forum will also host a session on the National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP)² – an initiative to support the development of national SDG7 roadmaps. NEXSTEP is an integrated tool to assist policymakers make informed policy decisions that would help achieve SDG7 targets and NDC. Workshop participants are also invited to join this session given its relevance to this project.

Objectives

The objectives of the workshop are to

- Disseminate lessons learned, experiences and best practices from the project *Evidence-based Policies for Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific*;
- Identify opportunities of collaboration to build on existing capacities and promote knowledge exchange to strengthen evidence-based policy making in the region;
- Receive feedback and recommendations on improving ESCAP’s future capacity building activities.

Tentative Agenda

Project focal points from each of the five participating countries will highlight common priorities and challenges, reflecting on on-the-ground experiences, policy achievements, and lessons learned. Pathways to make use of existing capacities and established cooperation tools to drive forward the achievement of SDG7 will be discussed. Implementation partners and other in-country stakeholders will also take part in the workshop.

Regional workshop components

- *Project Overview: 09:00 – 09:30*
- *Session 1: 09.30 – 10.55 hrs: Strengthening Institutional Capacity on Evidence-Based Policy Development in Sustainable Energy (ESCAP)*
- *Session 2: 10.55 – 12.00 hrs: Energy Modelling and Scenario Analysis to Inform Policy Decisions for the 2030 Energy Transition (ESCAP)*

² <https://www.unescap.org/our-work/energy/nexstep>

| Workshop for the Development Account Project “Evidence-based policies for the Sustainable Use of Energy Resources in Asia and the Pacific” Venue: UNCC Thursday, 8th October 2019 | |
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| 9:00-9:20 | Opening and welcome statement Overview of DA Project Implementation <i>Mr. Michael Williamson, Section Chief, Energy Division, ESCAP</i> |
| 9:20-9:30 | Learning Oriented Project Evaluation <i>Mr. Frank Noij, Project Evaluator</i> |
| Session 1 | Strengthening Institutional Capacity on Evidence-Based Policy Development in Sustainable Energy |
| 9:30- 9:45 | Sustainable Energy Use in the Transport Sector <i>Mr. Ulaiasi Butukoro, GGGI, Fiji</i> |
| 9:45 - 10:00 | Renewable Heat and Kazakhstan’s Energy Transition <i>Ms. Katazina Andrukonyte, ESCAP Consultant,</i> |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Energy Data Collection and Tonga’s Energy Outlook <i>Mr. Samiuela Matakaiongo, MEIDECC, Tonga</i> |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 10:30 – 10:55 | Discussion by Policy Makers on Strengthening and Institutionalizing Evidence-based Decision Making <i>Facilitated by Mr. Michael Williamson, ESCAP</i> Ms. Lesi Vuatalevu, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Fiji Ms. Zhanna Khairullina, Ministry of Energy, Kazakhstan Mr. Sosefo Tofu, MEIDECC, Tonga |
| Session 2 | Energy Modelling to Inform Policy Decisions for the 2030 Energy Transition (ESCAP) |
| 10:55-11:10 | Energy Modelling Capacities with a View to Achieve the SDG7 and NDCs <i>Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, SDPI, Pakistan</i> <i>Dr. Kejun Jiang, ESCAP Consultant, Energy Research Institute</i> |
| 11:10-11:25 | Thailand’s Renewable Energy Policy Scenarios and the Roadmap for Capacity Building <i>Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)</i> <i>Mr. Kamol Tanpipat, ESCAP Consultant, Thailand</i> |
| 11:25-11:45 | Discussion on Energy Modelling for the 2030 Energy Transition <i>Facilitated by Mr. Michael Williamson, ESCAP</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan - Ms. Munlika Somprano, Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency, Thailand |

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| 11:45-12:00 | Wrap-up, feed-back and thank you Lessons learned, common challenges and building on current tools in place |
| 12:00 – 13:30 | Lunch |
| 13:30 – 17:15 | Accelerating the Implementation of SDG7 and NDC by Developing National Roadmaps & Multi-stakeholder Partnerships in Promoting NEXSTEP to Develop National SDG7 Roadmaps <i>Jointly organized by ESCAP & ADB*</i> |
| 17:15 – 18:00 | Closing Plenary of the 10th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development |

**Important Note: workshop participants are also invited to join these sessions given their relevance to this project*

Expected Outputs

The workshop will help to:

- Expand the regional knowledge base of energy forecasting and scenario analysis in developing evidence-based national energy policy.
- Strengthen regional capacity to support policymakers through cooperation among multiple stakeholders in the energy sector in Asia and the Pacific.
- Highlight the vast diversity of energy issues within Asia and the Pacific and the need to take a localized perspective in assisting countries with the achievement of National targets and SDG7.

Participants

The workshop participants will be from government, civil society, the research community, think tanks, international organisations and the private sector.