

Concept Note

High-Level Policy Dialogue and Launch of the SDG7 Roadmap for Georgia

21 December 2020, 09:00 – 10:00 hrs (GMT +4)

Background

In response to the Ministerial Declaration of the 2nd Asian and Pacific Energy Forum (April 2018, Bangkok) and the Commission Resolution 74/9 which endorsed its outcomes, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) has been supporting member States to develop SDG7 roadmaps. ESCAP has designed the National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning ([NEXSTEP](#)) which enables policymakers to make informed policy decisions to support the achievement of the SDG7 targets as well as emission reduction targets (NDCs). NEXSTEP has also garnered the support of the Committee on Energy in its Second Session in 2019, with recommendations to expand the number of countries being supported by this tool.

Progress of SDG7 roadmap development in Georgia

ESCAP has been fortunate to have Georgia as one of the three pilot countries in this initiative, and collaborate with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (MoESD) in organizing national consultation workshops to apply the NEXSTEP tool as well as to provide recommendations and guidance on developing the SDG7 roadmap for Georgia.

The roadmap has now been developed based on several scenarios by using the NEXSTEP tool. The final set of scenarios and recommendations have been reviewed and agreed upon in the stakeholder consultation workshop held on 8 October 2020. All comments and suggestions have been incorporated. Finally, the roadmap has been reviewed by stakeholders and national experts as nominated by MoESD.

Objectives of the high-level policy dialogue (HLPD)

ESCAP in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development is organizing a high-level policy dialogue on the SDG 7 roadmap for Georgia. The main objectives of this HLPD are to:

- a) Disseminate the key results and policy recommendations to high-level government representatives, international and regional agencies, private sector, and academic and research institutions;
- b) Seek guidance on implementation of the recommendations to ensure the SDG 7 targets are achieved by 2030;
- c) Encourage partnerships and collaborations to support the implementation of the SDG 7 roadmap; and
- d) Officially launch the SDG 7 roadmap for Georgia.

Mode and duration of HLPD

In the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, this will be a virtual workshop. Meeting link and further guidelines to join HLPD will be shared with the speakers and participants in advance.

Tentative Programme

Welcome remarks	
09:00 - 09:10	Mr Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
Keynote address	
09:10 - 09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr David Tvalabeishvili, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia• Mr Gogita Todradze, Executive Director, National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT), Georgia• Ms Maia Melikidze, Commissioner, Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC), Georgia
Official launch of the SDG7 Roadmap for Georgia	
Panel discussion	
09:30 – 09:50	<p>Moderator: Mr Michael Williamson, Section Chief, Energy Division, EACAP</p> <p><u>Presentation about the SDG7 Roadmap for Georgia</u></p> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Margalita Arabidze, Deputy Head of Energy Reforms and International Relations Department, MoESD• Mr. Zviad Gachechiladze, Deputy Head of Electricity Department at GNERC• Ms. Irine Tsukhishvili, Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee, Parliament of Georgia
Closing remarks	
09:50 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Margalita Arabidze, Deputy Head of Energy Reforms and International Relations Department, MoESD• Mr Michael Williamson, Section Chief, Energy Division, EACAP