

Visualisation map of the interlinkages between SDG 7 and other SDGs*



*This visualisation map is to stimulate discussion and does not provide a comprehensive overview of all interlinkages

This diagram, visually laid out using an online web-based systems diagram-mapping tool, called Kumu (<https://kumu.io/>), illustrates interlinkages between the targets of SDG 6 and the targets of the other 16 SDGs, and describes a cause-and-effect relationship of these interlinkages based on ESCAP developed analytical methodology. ESCAP's methodology launched in 2016, using systems thinking approach facilitates the process of understanding and analyzing the directionality and strength of the interlinkages within the targets of a specific SDG and with the targets across the rest of the 16 SDGs. The causal loop diagram describes the positive and reinforcing relationships between the interlinked SDG targets, which is to guide overall SDG implementation planning in synchronized, holistic and integrated manner. The directional characteristic of the arrows defines whether a target is a driver or is being driven by the specific target.

A guide through the visualization map

The analysis of the positive and reinforcing interlinkages between the SDG 7 and the rest of the Sustainable Development Goals confirmed that universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services (target 7.1) is crucial for vulnerable people to meet diverse basic services, such as access to drinking water and sanitation (target 6.1), access to health care (targets 3.7 and 3.8), access to education (target 4.1), access to information (target 9.c) and access to adequate and safe housing (target 11.1) with important contribution to reducing poverty in all its dimensions (target 1.2). Access to energy (target 7.1) implies also an increase of safety and security, contributing to reducing the incidence of violence (target 16.1) to women and inequalities (target 10.2) between sexes (women being able to walk home after work in the dark). Equally important, energy use efficiency (target 7.3) would decouple economic growth (target 8.4) with a significant impact on the environment (target 13.1) and at the same time would improve economic productivity (target 8.2). Economic diversification is a key component of sustainable development as it assists countries in reducing poverty (target 1.1) and generates employment (target 8.5) in the long run. The increase in the use of renewable energy (target 7.2) is critical in strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards (target 13.1) and contributes to reducing contamination of hazardous chemicals in air, water and land (target 12.4), with significant impact on reducing the number of deaths and illness due to pollution (target 3.9). Investments in technological innovation towards SDG 7 would stimulate innovations for water efficiency in water-pumping and irrigation systems (target 6.4), and would stimulate creation of new jobs (target 8.5), decarbonize the transport sector allowing better air quality in cities (target 11.2), ensure sustainable production and consumption patterns (target 12.a) and reduce fuel consumption with environmental benefits (targets 12.c and 13.2). There is an increasing role for women in promulgating clean energy infrastructure development (targets 5.a and 5.b), in particular in rural areas in the Asia-Pacific region, which has contributed to new opportunities for economic growth (SDG 8) and greenhouse gas emissions reduction (target 13.1).