



International Renewable Energy Agency

Fifteenth session of the IRENA Assembly

SDG7 on Sustainable Energy: The Road Ahead

11 January 2025, 9:00-10:30 GST
St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi

Background

Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) – ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all – is essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. However, progress toward SDG7 targets, including universal energy access, clean cooking solutions, renewable energy integration, and energy efficiency improvements, remains insufficient. The urgency of addressing the energy-climate nexus has never been clearer, as countries worldwide grapple with energy poverty, rising demand, and the pressing need to rapidly decarbonise their energy systems.

At the Summit of the Future, world leaders agreed on the Pact of the Future, committing to concrete actions towards a safer, more peaceful, sustainable, and inclusive world for tomorrow's generations, including universal energy access and just energy transition. Building on this strong commitment, the run-up to the third review of SDG7 at the HLPF 2026 will be an opportunity to generate further momentum in support of energy action, while also generating inputs to the SDG Summit 2027 which will consider how we will advance sustainable development also beyond 2030.

[UN-Energy](#) and the [SDG7 Technical Advisory Group](#) (SDG7 TAG) will both support these efforts to advance the SDG7 agenda by mobilising energy action and bringing together expertise to deliver insights and policy recommendations to guide progress, aligning energy policy with broader sustainable development goals.

Objectives

- This side event will provide a platform to discuss how to accelerate progress on SDG7 and to shape a pathway to a collaborative and ambitious energy agenda for the future. In particular it will
 - facilitate a dialogue on actionable strategies to accelerate progress toward achieving SDG7, aligning energy policy with broader sustainable development and climate goals.



International Renewable Energy Agency

- discuss how the commitments in the Pact of the Future and the upcoming third review of SDG7 at the HLPF 2026 can generate momentum and shape global efforts for a just energy transition.
- mobilise stakeholders, including governments, international organisations, and the private sector, to collaborate on advancing SDG7 and contribute inputs to the SDG Summit 2027 for post-2030 sustainable development planning.

Associated Publications

- IEA, IRENA, UN, World Bank and WHO [Tracking SDG 7: The Energy Progress Report 2024](#)
- UN [Summit of the Future Outcome Documents – Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations](#)

For more information please contact:

- Mirjam Reiner, Programme Officer, Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, IRENA (mreiner@irena.org)
- Martin Niemetz, Sustainable Development Expert on Energy, United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (martin.niemetz@un.org)

In collaboration with:

Convened by:



DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS



SDG7 TAG
AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Technical
Advisory
Group