

Building Capacities for Energy Planning: International Support for Sustainable Development

Date: Tuesday November 12th, 2024

Location: SDG Pavilion

Time: 14:00 - 15:00

Background

The Paris Agreement aims to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Achieving this goal, while maintaining energy security and power system reliability, requires a fundamental transformation of energy systems. This includes the expanded deployment of low-carbon technologies, increased storage capacity, sustainable fuels, and the integration of diverse energy vectors.

Appropriate methodologies and tools are needed to conduct the necessary assessments for developing national and regional plans, respecting national specifics and country-driven contributions to global energy and climate related goals. However, many emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs) face challenges due to limited access to reliable data and insufficient human resources. These constraints often hinder national ownership of the energy planning process and impede the mobilization of necessary financing.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) assists EMDEs in strengthening their capacities for energy system analysis and planning. This support includes capacity-building activities and the transfer of energy planning tools and methodologies. These methodologies may also be extended to address cross-sectoral linkages within the Climate, Land, Energy, and Water (CLEW) nexus. Capacity-building activities encompass both remote and in-person training, as well as technical assistance, focusing on comprehensive energy strategies and transitions toward low-carbon economies. The objective is to enhance the knowledge and skills of local experts, enabling informed decision-making and effective policy development.

Partnerships with other international organizations are essential to achieving these goals within available resources. Over the past four decades, the IAEA has provided support to more than 135 countries and continues to collaborate with international, regional, and national institutions to foster local expertise for sustainable energy development.

This event will showcase examples of collaboration between international organizations and Member States, and explore future frameworks for joint efforts.

Key Themes

- Share information on the support provided by participating organizations to strengthen energy planning capacities, including access to data, tools, and scenario-based modelling for evidence-based decision-making.
- Discuss key components of effective capacity-building initiatives in energy planning, highlighting successful examples and best practices.
- Explore frameworks for enhanced collaboration among international institutions involved in energy planning capacity-building and identify opportunities to improve the coordinated delivery of services to EMDEs.

Provisional Agenda

- Opening remarks: Mr. Mikhail Chudakov, Deputy Director General, the IAEA
- Panel discussion moderated by Wei HUANG, Director, the IAEA
 - Robert Sogbadji, Deputy Director, Ministry of Energy, Ghana
 - Gloria Alvarenga, Director, OLADE
 - Simon Benmarraze, Head of energy planning, IRENA
 - Mark Howells, Director, Climate Compatible Growth
 - Brianna Lazerwitz, Energy Economist, IAEA
 - Senior representative of Ministry of Energy, Brazil (TBD)
- Closing remarks by DDG/Director of the IAEA