

## TEMPLATE FOR INPUTS

<b>Guiding questions on further accelerating the implementation of SDG7</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can ambitions be further increased and implementation be further accelerated?</li><li>• How can means of implementation and partnerships be further scaled up?</li><li>• What will be the appropriate institutional arrangements for continuing to advance international cooperation on energy beyond the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All?</li></ul>
<b>INPUTS</b> (max 500 words)
<p><b>INPUT OF GOVERNMENT OF GREECE:</b></p> <p>SDG-7 constitutes a “compass goal”, inextricably linked to many other SDGs and to the Paris Agreement target. Thus, it is of paramount importance to continue pursuing it beyond the momentum created by the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for all. To this end, there is a need for committed Governments coupled with active private sector, International Organizations and civil society, in order to produce innovative, practical and transformative solutions.</p> <p>Greece remains firmly committed to the collective efforts towards sustainable energy as it is reflected in its strategic and legal framework. Indeed, our National Energy and Climate Plan, reviewed in 2023, as well as our National Climate Law, adopted in 2022, set ambitious targets towards climate neutrality by 2050, through a smooth energy transition for the economy and the society, taking into consideration the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.</p> <p>More specifically, Greece focuses on 4 key areas in pursuing SDG-7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Rapid growth of Renewable Energy Sources (RES)</u>: By 2030, 80% of our electricity will be produced by RES given our excellent solar and wind potential. To this end, emphasis has been given on the development of energy storage systems. At the same time, there is a plan of progressively developing a hydrogen economy. The target for RES as a share of total gross energy consumption for 2030 is 44%.</li><li>• <u>Decarbonisation of primary economic sectors</u>: Greece progressively decommissions all lignite powered plants with the aim of complete decommissioning by 2028, having already reduced coal use by over 80%. In this context, there is a strong focus on connecting non-interconnected islands to the interconnected system by 2030, and on the utilization of electricity from RES for the production of renewable fuels.</li><li>• <u>Improving energy efficiency</u>: Greece pursues its target of no more than 15.4mtoe final energy consumption in 2030, among others, by implementing programs for energy renovation of its building stock, with the 2nd Renovation Wave being included in its National Recovery and Resilience Plan- “Greece 2.0”.</li><li>• <u>Just energy transition</u>: Measures and policies aiming at the energy transition are people-centered and place particular emphasis on tackling energy poverty through improving energy efficiency, protecting vulnerable consumers and carrying out information and education activities.</li></ul> <p>The lesson learned during this decade based on our increasing efforts to attain SDG-7 is that only through global common endeavors SDGs can be achieved. Greece is deeply engaged in implementing all relevant international agreements and remains eager to further expand its multilateral and bilateral cooperation schemes, to further adapt its legal and policy instruments and to renew its commitments towards SDG-7. In order to further accelerate our common efforts, Greece highlights the need for better coordination in the data collection process related to the SDGs’ indicators. Indeed, there is room for international cooperation towards more reliable, comparable and standardized data as well as interoperable databases. The custodian agencies, competent to compile and verify those data, may further contribute to the capacity building and support of the national authorities in order to avoid additional administrative burden and to better track progress.</p>