



**United
Nations**



HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON
ENERGY
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 2021

MINISTERIAL THEMATIC FORUMS

Side Events:

Launch of the UNISS Energy Compact for the Sahel

Organized United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Monday 21 June 6:00 – 7:00 EST

This side event will provide an opportunity to reflect on the current situation of energy access in the Sahel, hear from key regional institutions involved in promoting sustainable energy through their Member States, and launch the UNISS Energy Compact for the Sahel.

It is estimated that among the 334 million inhabitants of the 10 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, The Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal), more than half still lack access to electricity, while close to 90% do not use clean cooking technologies and fuels. Clean energy access is a fundamental enabler to sustainable development in Sahel countries. Due to its cross-linkages with the environment, health, education, gender equality, and economic development, renewable energy supply offers a unique transformative potential for improving living conditions in the region.

In 2013, the UN adopted the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), a results-focused comprehensive framework to strengthen governance, security and resilience in the Sahel region. In 2018, the UNISS strategy received a recalibration, leading to the UN Support Plan for the Sahel. This plan is built around six priority areas, one of which is dedicated to renewable energy. Seventeen UN agencies have since join forces to develop a conceptual framework and an Energy Compact, highlighting their offer and comparative advantages in the region. The Compact describes how renewable energy can be harnessed in the Sahel region in order to promote economic growth and poverty reduction, especially in rural areas.

Link to platform

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