

## TEMPLATE FOR INPUTS

<p><b>Guiding questions on further accelerating the implementation of SDG7</b></p> <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>
<p><b>INPUTS</b> (max 500 words)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>INPUTS OF UK</b></p> <p>The UK thanks the UN and its Agencies for hosting this important global stocktake to mark the completion of the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All.</p> <p>Energy is a fundamental human need and lies at the heart of both the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Although promising progress has been made in the last decade, particularly on electrification and renewables, SDG7 remains desperately off track, predominantly relating to clean cooking and energy efficiency targets. To meet our 2030 goals, we call upon the global community to recommit to Agenda 2030 and press for accelerated delivery in support of net zero 2050 targets.</p> <p>Achieving SDG7 using renewables sources, can deliver a multitude of positive outcomes for billions across the areas of health, gender, and education, and can at the same time address the triple-planetary crisis of climate change, environmental degradation, and pollution, whilst lifting millions out of poverty.</p> <p>These present and future challenges require a strong, united, and responsive international system to meet the scale of challenge. We encourage Multilateral Development Banks to continue to reform further, including by deploying concrete coordination mechanisms, both internationally and at country level to scale up access to finance to support expanded access to clean energy for the poorest countries.</p> <p>To make renewable sources the most affordable and reliable option for all, we will also need to continue to derisk clean energy investment to accelerate the deployment of low-carbon infrastructure and technologies, supporting developing countries to implement policies and regulations to increase financial flows, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa – where the cost is often 2-3x more than in the Global North.</p> <p>To accelerate action, we will need to adopt a whole systems approach across political ambition, institutions, infrastructure, jobs, skills, and finance to understand and overcome the barriers to clean energy uptake. Our partnerships will need to be locally led, ensuring developing countries leadership is at the forefront of change.</p> <p>We will also need to focus efforts on helping developing countries improve their national level energy policy and planning, targeting productive use as well as households to ensure ongoing affordability. We will need accelerate efforts on the SDG7 targets that are increasingly off track, including clean cooking, alongside delivering on COP28 pledges to triple renewable energy deployment and double energy efficiency improvements.</p>

We must continue to prioritise data collection to direct our efforts, utilising institutions such as the ESMAP, the IEA, WHO and IRENA, and their 'Tracking SDG7 Report'. Alongside new, and innovative methods, to hasten global ambition, we will also need to work through existing mechanisms such as the UN's Energy Compacts, which the UK is supportive of, led by Sustainable Energy for All.

The UK was at the forefront in 2015 in supporting the adoption of SDG7, reflecting energy in global development goals for the first time, and our 2023 International Development White Paper reaffirms our commitment to help meet all the SDGs. As we look to 2030 and beyond, the UK will continue to work with partners to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, demonstrated through our £11.6bn commitment to International Climate Finance between 2021 and 2026, with clean energy as one of four pillars, including our £265m Transforming Energy Access and £55m Modern Energy Cooking Services programmes. We will also continue to accelerate the transition to net zero by 2050, in a just and inclusive manner that leaves no one behind.