REPORT OF THE GLOBAL SDG 7 CONFERENCE AT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)

Country: Thailand  
Region/Cluster: ESCAP

Name of the Training: A global preparatory meeting of the review of SDG 7 at the 2018 UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

Venue: UN Bangkok, Thailand  
Date: February 21st - 23rd, 2018

Profile and No. of Participants: 3,000 participants from different stakeholders, Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations, representatives from Ministries of Social Development, Energy, Environment, Health, Foreign Affairs, from ESCAP Region.

Name of the Facilitators: Sharma Akhthar, Under- Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, Facilitators and Experts from WHO, World Bank, Multi stake-holders and other Sectors.

Co-conveners of the Conference: UN DESA, MINISTRY OF ENERGY, THAILAND and ESCAP.

Methodology of the Conference: Panel discussion, sharing of experiences through best practices and power-point presentations.

Conference Supported by: Norway, Republic of Korea, China, Germany, the Netherlands, the European Commission, ENERGIA, and Hivos.

Language: English

Objectives of the Series of Side Events and the Conference:

- To facilitate the sharing of experiences of on-going partnerships and provide a global launching pad for new partnerships and voluntary commitments from all stake-holders in support of the achievement of SDG 7.
- To highlight innovative approaches in driving affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to find initiatives that demonstrate concrete inter-linkages between SDG 7 and other SDGs.
This conference will have an opportunity to feed into the global 2018 Partnership Exchange Special Event, to be held on 13 July 2018 in the margins of the 2018 HLPF at United Nations in New York.

**On February 21st:**

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPICS</th>
<th>ORGANIZED BY</th>
<th>LEARNINGS</th>
<th>CHALLENGES/ BARRIERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Health and Energy-Saving,</strong></td>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>*In low and middle income countries the major health impacts are caused by indoor/ outdoor pollution, eg, use of traditional stoves, kerosene, and firewood for cooking.  *WHO is developing a Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit (CHEST) to promote clean and safe interventions in the home.</td>
<td>How do we use national survey data? Exposure and burden of disease estimates?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lives With Clean Energy.</strong></td>
<td>SARGO Foundation in India</td>
<td>*SARGO Foundation focuses on three areas: health, livelihood and agriculture. It works towards bridging the gap between the health care systems and appropriate use of technology in storing vaccines, equipment and decentralized energy delivery. *The use of cleaner and more fuel efficient stoves and fuels drastically reduce exposure to harmful smoke, provide economic opportunities for Indians, and can help reduce forest</td>
<td>*Social Belief Systems of the people need to be addressed, eg. Use of firewood for cooking which makes food tastier. *Introducing LPG needs awareness and education. *Need to look at an holistic approach in the adoption of clean cooking solutions. *How could the Public Sector accelerate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Global Tracking Framework.</strong></td>
<td>Supriyakumar from Global Alliance for clean cooking solutions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean.</td>
<td>John Hauge from Global LPG Partnership, South Western Cameroon. Sharing of best practices and progress from the Arab Region, Latin America and the Caribbean. The panelists from the Asia-Pacific region, the Asian Development Bank. Least developed countries are Africa.</td>
<td>degeneration. It reduces cooking time specially for women and the girl children. *Encourage people to use LPG for household cooking. *Status and Achievements: Universal access to modern energy is a very slow process in energy efficiency, and a marginal role of renewable energy. *Policy recommendations: -Initiating proactive policy-making -Developing and implementing suitable policies and institutional framework -Integrating energy, climate and environmental goals more closely into socio-economic development targets. -Restructuring domestic energy and water pricing. -Operating a change of scale in achieving Energy Efficiency across the building sector, in appliances and commercial equipment. -Improving financial matters and communication. -Preparing financial markets and greater use of International finance. -Building institutional capacity, transparency and accountability, Monitoring and data collection systems, and dissemination.</td>
<td>collaboration with Private Sectors? *Need to develop a National Policy to map resources and fund a coordinated effort. *Climate: Renewable Energy (RE) uptakes not reducing emissions. *Fossil Fuel (FF): the share of FF in the energy mix remains high at 81%. *Water Energy–Food nexus: Impact of energy on other sectors. *National and regional targets for clean cooking fuels and technologies should be established. Clean cooking must be better integrated into the energy policy framework.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Strengthening information quality and awareness-creation.
- Reinforcing the role of science and research and a stronger civil society.
- Move to “Energy for Sustainable Development” and develop holistic and cross-cutting indicators.

*Energy: a major enabler of sustainable development and indispensable for eradicating poverty. Energy allows countries to accelerate economic development, increase prosperity and empower people and business.
*Energy enables other universal goals including food security, good health, gender equality, water availability, economic growth, proper education, etc.
* Energy is key factor related to climate change.
* UN DESA Energy Grant, “Powering the Future We Want” consists of One Million US Dollars annually, to fund future capacity development activities for an initial period of 5 years (2015-2019). Its objective is to promoting leadership and innovative practices in meeting the global energy challenges to provide capacity building.

*Insufficient capacity, regional imbalance, growing pressures on resources and the environment, aging population.
* Climate change, resources efficiency, innovations, inequality and development assistance and support for the implementation of the SDGs.

*Is it possible to achieve the goal of Energy 2030 policy? (KOREA)
- Yes. We can achieve the goal but the cost is the key. Without the high
4. **Doing things differently:**

* WE CARE SOLAR: Saving mothers and newborns in childbirth with solar power.

* NEXUS ENERGY(NE)  
  Health: Ensure electricity & sustainable energy access to all Health Centers of the world. Eliminate all premature deaths resulting from indoor pollution from polluting fuels. It is estimated that 4 million premature deaths are due to indoor air pollution, more deaths than from Malaria, HIV/ AIDS and T.B.  
  Education: Ensure electricity access to all schools of the world.  
  Gender: Minimize all risks to women and girls related to energy activities such as cooking, wood collection, lack of lighting, candle light etc.

*One of the eight investment impact areas of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) is aligned with SDG 7 targets.*

*As of Feb 2018, the GCF Board has approved 17 funding proposals in Energy Access and Generation to the value of USD 1.5 billion from GCF. The projects and programs have a total value of USD 6 billion. They will help a further 20 countries across the globe to provide energy access through cleaner energy sources. They aim at reducing emissions totaling 972 million tons of CO2 in their penetration of Solar and Wind, it is impossible to reduce the cost. Cost of solar and wind is the function of the adoption-economy of scale.  
* The regulatory risk in the electricity market is another challenge.

*Operation and maintenance  
*Dedicated financial systems   
*Including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in planning and in creating awareness among the communities.
The panelists are Paul Mibuthi from the Government of Kenya, Carbs from Power for All sector, FabbiTiami from Indonesia.

*Life time among 19.2 million direct beneficiaries.

*‘Leaving no one behind’ and multi stake-holder’s approach is an important aspect.

* In Kenya: the need to find out the needs of the people and the accessibility of that need is necessary. Lack of engagement with PPP.

* Indonesia: The Energy Delivery Model meets the need and demand of the community.

* Possible solutions could be to identify the needs and plan accordingly, e.g. Electricity for schools, income generation for farmers, and electricity from Micro-Hydro to the households.

*Public funding is very much needed in order to reach the poor, despite of the contributions of the private sector.

**FEBRUARY 22nd Thursday:**

The second day’s program began with the welcome address from the Chair, H.E Ambassador Marie Chatardova, President of UN Economic and Social Council. She stated that SDG 7 is very much related to poverty, health, climate change and gender equality. In attaining the SDG7 targets, access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for all needs a major international platform, High Level Political Forum (HLPF).
H.E MiroslavLajcak, President of UN Assembly gave his message through video link. He said that energy is a tool for the eradication of poverty.

We cannot achieve SDGs without SDG7. Ecological development, control of energy supplies creates conflicts. 1.2 billion people have no access to electricity.

Need to scale up our efforts. There is some progress, but it is too slow.

Need innovations, PPP and capacity building

Accelerate the HLPF in July 2018.

Opening remarks by co-conveners:

H. E. Sirijirapongphan, Minister of Energy, Thailand stated that there is some progress in achieving energy electrification in Thailand. Lessons learned through Sustainable Development: challenges sustainable development philosophy with an inner consciousness. In achieving SDGs we need to increase trade responsibility, national/regional cooperation, inclusive PPP and CSOs.

Shamshad Akhtar, Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP: In the 21st century, sustainability and equality will underpin profound changes on how we generate, consume and provide energy for the web earth of economy, society and environment.

She highlighted the advancements in Asia and Pacific region.

Electrification:

90% of the region’s population has access to basic electricity services, up from 70% in 1990. Yet progress is uneven in 10% of the region where some 420 million people remain without access to electricity and are deprived of the means of becoming economically productive. Political will, innovative finance and technology approaches need to be sustained. On and off grid solutions are being applied to close this gap in particular, rural electrification.

Energy Efficiency: The critical constituent of sustainable energy, both enhance productivity and reduce emissions. The majority of the ESCAP member states have established EE or conservation targets and incorporative EE in their Paris Climate Commitment. Yet, we remain the most energy intense region in the world.
**Calls of Optimism:** Deployment of renewal energy technology continues to increase at an unprecedented rate in Asia Pacific which is leading from the front. In 2016 China and India alone commissioned over 94 megawatts of renewal generation, 59% of global total. Need to support countries to exploit their renewable energy potential through multilateral approaches, which include financial availability, technical support, joint project development and sharing policies that have worked successfully.

Supported by ESCAP, Asia Pacific region power trading, which is going to be further advanced by the enhancement of power grid, is emerging as key revenue for the export of surplus electricity.

**Meeting the future energy needs** in a sustainable way will require innovative system thinking, innovation and digital revolution, which are emerging to assert in a more sustainable and consumer friendly energy approaches like electric cars. Solar power and efficient lighting are producing access to energy in remote areas.

**Challenges and opportunities:** Besides cooperation among countries in the region, innovative finance is critical. SDG 7 is an extraordinary opportunity for our generation to create jobs, ensure a clearer environment, and increase productivity of the economy. This is an opportunity the region is hoping to seize.

**Key Note Address:**

**Fekitamoeloa Katoa,** High Representative from the least developed countries, land-locked countries and small island developing states, spoke of their perspectives and their key actions to improve their development:

- Capacity support access toward the eradication of poverty, gender equality and for children’s health.
- Access to finance and partnership. PPP is needed.
- Light: Working towards building equitable and sustainable partnerships.

**Howard Ramsey,** Executive Director, Green Climate Fund. He stated that it’s about more SDGs bringing together the aspirations that countries have and transforming the global investment process. New markets to be created by new innovative financial structures.
Sharing experiences from the ground:

**ACHIEVING SDG 7 IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC:**

Shamshad Akhtar, Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP:

Total energy consumption in Asia and the Pacific region is expected to increase by 16% by 2030. Challenges to ensure these legitimate needs are met sustainably, and that the negative consequences of the increase rate of consumption are somehow managed and mitigated. One such consequence is heavy air pollution which afflicts cities across the region. According to WHO we are exposed to this health hazard every day. It serves to underline the urgent and the broader need to develop cleaner energy to power transport, industries, residential heating and cooking. To do so immediate change is required the way we generate and consume energy.

The share of renewable mix must increase significantly. The growing demand for energy makes it a big challenge. To reduce energy consumption SDG 7 is focused on improving EE. Since 1990 energy intensity has been reduced. The 2030 agenda requires that we do so in a way that is inclusive and ‘that leaves no one behind’.

- **Haurn – Or –Rashid Energy Division from Bangladesh**, stated that a framework especially from the private sector is needed. The need is to transfer from fossil fuel to renewable energy. The energy supply factor should be affordable and available to people with the potential of being renewable.

- **Sanyukta Samaddar, Niti Ayog, India**, shared about the progress made in clean energy and electrification. 40% of people in rural areas have no access to clean cooking supplies. Private Sector companies have come into the country and work together with all stakeholders. There is progress in internet and digital revolution for the entire population. Access to clean cooking fuel encourages people to use LPG through reform subsidies. The challenges are that renewable energy requires huge financial support, and international global partnerships need to be strengthened.

- **Shoaib Ahamad, Acting Director, SAARC**, (South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation) Energy Centre: The components of a national framework on energy was explained. The majority of SAARC countries are least developed due to poor planning and the minimal resources. Legislation in any nation is long and detailed and it takes time
to change. The majority of countries do not use the new technologies. For progress there is need to have the private sector brought into the country for change to take place.

**On the 23rd Friday:**

**PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN SDG 7 AND OTHER SDGs.**

Ensuring universal access to electricity through decentralized solutions that address poverty and inequality.

**Key Policy messages:**

**Hannah Daly, Energy Access Lead, IEA:** Energy is a key preclusion for analyzing the development. It is essential for advancing many of the SDGs, including promoting prosperity, empowering women, equality, access to health, education, clean water and reducing climate change.

eg: Use of unsustainable bio-mass for cooking and heating by over 2.8 billion people is the main cause of more than 4 million premature deaths worldwide, due to indoor pollution.

SDG7 ensures access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all by 2030, with specific targets that relate to Energy access, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and its corresponding implementation.

**Marcel Alers, Head of the Energy, UNDP,** shared his experience and stated that

- Increasing emphasis on rural areas requires attention
- Convenience for renewable energy has become small and inefficient
- In order to scale up, ensure commercial capital, initial public-private partnership
- Continue the need for governments to ensure policies/strategies and plan for future connection.
- The link with energy leads to the development of descent jobs, food supply, education and health for the families.
- Energy provides a lot of potential for the fulfillment of all the other SDGs.
1. PANEL DISCUSSION:

Based on the questions asked by the moderator:

Response from Paul Mbuthi, Principal Renewable Energy Officer at the Ministry of Energy & Petroleum, Kenya

Q. What are the practical household needs to be addressed?

- A participatory process: Enable the target beneficiaries to express what their needs are and address those very needs of the people. Continue evaluation of delivery motives and other helps. To achieve Energy Access use the right approach at the right time.

Q. How do we approach Energy delivery system?

- Value maximization, and to achieve other socio-economic development it requires responsive, robust policy in the countries.
- Affordability is the barrier due to financing. Many households are not able to pay so there’s a need to look at the service and what they have access to.
- How do we empower private systems to tailor financing solutions in countries.

Sarah Alexander, SELCO Foundation, India:

- Key barriers: Energy access is an enabler; is the means to the end; it’s not a technology where other sources of environment come in.
- eg: as with the lighting system in India, reach out to the local areas by unlocking the enterprising system which makes it affordable, capacity building and vendor linkages.
- Social change is a challenge; people have their own ideas and beliefs towards their social practices.
- Need for a long term process. Challenge the term used “ON GRADE and OFF GRADE” decentralized energy, house may be electrified, but the when they go the hospital is it electrified?

EstomihN.Sawe, Executive Director, Tanzania (Centre for Sustainable Modern Energy Initiatives).
Issues of local capacity: Are people able to access finance, able to build, manage and contribute to access?

Issue of understanding the messages among people, awareness is limited

Issue of understanding the developmental impact between sectors, eg: environment, health etc.

Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Head of Strategic Planning, Green Climate Fund (GCF):

He explained the functioning of GCF. It is the largest fund in the world. The essential goal is to support countries to access their plans, which have 8 strategic areas of mitigations like SDG 7 and its targets, four adaptations, like health, food and water security. They generate finance when counties approach with proposals through National policies and priorities. The priority option is always people-centered proposals.

2. PANEL DISCUSSION:

ENERGY AND HEALTH:

Kakuko Nagatani-yoshida, Regional Coordinator for Chemical waste and Air quality, Asia and the Pacific Office, UN Environment addressed the key policy messages:

- Air pollution, both indoor and outdoor (atmospheric), kills. The energy sector is among the most responsible.
- Prioritizing energy policies that reduce adverse impact on health and generate health benefits will spur progress across the entire Sustainable Development Agenda.
- “Making the clean available” and “Making the available clean”
  - House hold access to clean fuels and technologies.
  - Away from coal in energy and diesel in transport.
  - Health sector powered with clean energy and less Green House Gas emission.

Hon. Satya Widya Yudha, member of the Indonesian House of Representatives, Air Quality Asia.
Air pollution caused from various factors like, transportation, climate change which affects health.

In Indonesia the data shows that 1.2 million people are affected with Bronchial, Asthmatic problems due to pollution.

Challenge is to fix the Air quality monitoring System in city houses and buildings. Converting from gasoline to natural gas which is safe for the environment as well the wellbeing of people, eg: Clean Cooking energy from kerosene to LPG.

Wei Huang, Director, Division of Planning, Information and Knowledge, International Atomic Energy Agency: (IAEA)

IAEA is the world’s center for cooperation in the nuclear field, promoting safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technology. It works in a wide range of areas including energy generation, food, health, agriculture and environmental production.

Challenges: Infrastructure availability is critical. National policy must be strengthened to solve the health issues.

Open Discussion:

Sharing of good practices from Nigeria/ Uganda showed that use of Solar Suitcase in health care centers saves the lives of the many new-born children and their mothers.

Policy information is useful for policy making and formulating a family policy planning

Scientific measures are needed for data information.

CLOSING SESSION:

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Mahmadamin, Vice President of UN Economic and Social council:

Participants are invited to the closing plenary meeting of the Global Plenary Meeting on SDG7 Conference for the past three days of sharing and looking at the progress, opportunities and challenges in implementing the SDG 7. The summary of the discussion in this conference will bring important points to this HLPF on Sustainable Development.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:
Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP:

- During our three days of conference we have explored how to achieve universal access to modern Energy, how to increase the share of the renewals in global energy mix and how to double the global rate of progress in energy efficiently.
- We have shared best practice, innovative ideas and initiatives and identified crucial inter-linkages between SDG7 and other SDGs which must be strengthened if 2030 agenda is to be achieved.
- While the challenges we face in achieving SDG7 are formidable this conference has underscored the collective potentials of the global community of practice on SDG 7.
- This deliberation will help shape discussions the HLPF in New York, for which Energy will be a key topic.
- We have the pleasure of having with us the President and Vice President of the Economic and Social Council, who will carry forward this discussion. Several of the countries that will conduct National Voluntary reviews at the Forum and will also be presented.
- The secretariat will ensure the output of the deliberations will be fed into HLPF preparations.
- This conference has thrown its spot-light on the challenge of effectively tracking progress towards SDG 7 and the need for clear and comparable indicators, methodologies and data. Overcoming this challenge is urgent if we have to accelerate progress to a common goal.
- We heard from local, national, and international actors about their experiences, showing the measure of progress towards SDG7. The Participants from all the world region and LLCs, SIDs, and LDCs exchanged lessons from their own National experiences. There was extensive recognition of Sustainable Energy Solution could contribute to creating jobs, including health, mitigating climate change, enhancing gender equality and improving water and food security.
- SDG7 success is contrition to our ability to mobilize and leverage finance to foster progressive technology and innovation.
With many other SDGs a joint of approach policy development is essential for optimum results. As well feeding into the HLPF, this preparatory conference also informed the 5th Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development which will take place at the end of March, in Bangkok.

The Forum will take regional perspective on SDGs and focus on the areas of upcoming HLPF including Energy.

ESCAP also will organize a second Asia Pacific Energy Forum at ministerial level in early April. This will scrutinize regional development and offer regional perspective on Energy to build consensus on regional approaches.

Representative, UN DESA:

- The messages from this conference are both optimistic and sobering.
- The outcome of this conference will be reported to member states through several channels.
- To ensure timely dissemination of this message of the conference, the co-conveners will organize a briefing to member states in New York in April.
- The messages will be transmitted to the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development and to the Global Workshop on Voluntary National Reviews.
- The messages will also be transmitted to the extra bureau for consideration in the preparation of the ministerial declaration HLPF of sustainable development.
- The 27 policy briefs will be revealed and finalized taking into account the deliberations of this conference.

Representative, Ministry of Energy, Thailand:

We are all aware of the specific challenges and the inter-linkages between SDG7 and the other SDGs. With increased knowledge and understanding, combined with a powerful network that has been developing over the past few days, we have gained the confidence and commitment to accelerate the implementation of SDG 7.
On behalf of the 3 co-conveners of the global SDG 7 Conference, the department of Economy and Social Affairs, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific and the Ministry of Energy of Thai Government, the draft outcome is presented.

**Draft outcome Summary:**

- Achievement of the SDG 7 on energy is inextricably interlinked with most of the SDGs, including poverty eradication, food security, clean water and sanitation, prosperity, health, education, job creation, empowerment of women and children.
- Universal access to electricity and clean cooking solutions is fundamental to human development. Significantly increasing the share of Renewable Energy and doubling the global rate of improvement in Energy Efficiency in accordance with the achievements of the Paris Agreement on climate change.
- Effective action towards self and sustainable low-carbon in climate change resilience energy system is essential to talking climate change and achieving the objectives of 2030 agenda. Central to such action is the provision of universal access to energy, wider deployment of renewal energy, increasing resilience of the energy system and improving Energy Efficiency.
- The fundamental role of Energy is in achieving SDGs and growth on SDG 7 as convened by UNDESA and UNESCAP, Thailand.
- The conference was aimed at preparing input of the first reviewing of SDG 7 to be undertaken during UN HLPF in July 2018 in New York. Under the auspicious of UN, ECSOC brought together the wider range of stake-holders, from Governments, UN system and other international organizations, the private sector and civil society from across the world.
- The conference facilitated inclusive dialogues on the challenges & opportunities for furthering progress towards SDG7, its constituents to the advancement of other SDGs and the issues related to respective regions and countries in special substances such as Developing Countries, LLDCs, LDCs and SIDs.
- Progress towards the achievement of SDG 7 to reach the goal by 2030.
  - Still more than a billion people mostly in rural areas live without the benefits of electricity, while 3 billion people are without access to clean cooking supplies
with catastrophic consequence, in terms of over 4 million premature deaths due to indoor pollution affecting women and children.

While modern renewable energy is expanding rapidly in the electricity generation sector across the world, comparable progress has not occurred with Renewable Energy in the heat or transport sectors.

Advancement in reducing Energy intensity globally, progress is not yet sufficient to meet Energy Efficiency target under SDG 7.

- Achieving SDG 7 remains feasible in spite of the challenges. Participants emphasize that technology goal innovations, new business models and growing number of best practices are breathing this goal within reach. To accelerate progress we emphasize, among others, the need for enabling environments, including policies, and stable regulatory conditions.
- Concerned actions by Public and Private sectors will overcome financing challenges, scale up capacity building, integrate cross sector approaches to break the silo, and operational inter-linkages.
- Regional cooperation to promote harmonization, innovations and competitiveness, in order to enhance the effectiveness of action under the SDGs. Women and children bear the greatest burden of Energy poverty.
- Participants underscore the need for integrating gender equality within all SDGs. They further share the need to ensure that all elements of Energy planning is a policy-making factor in gender dimensions, and actively advancing women’s leadership at all levels.
- It was underlined that the role of civil society fundamentally consists in driving and sustaining change, including advocacy, public mobilization of monitoring of public policies in doing business. Our future depends on the choices we make.
- Participants underscored the need to give special attention to those countries which are farthest behind and who are most vulnerable, namely LDCs, LLCs, and SIDs. Investing in sustainable energy in these countries will have significant positive impact across different SDGs, in the truth of ‘leaving no one behind’ according to the aim of the 2030 agenda. Policies to capitalize actions at all levels are essential.
- If we are to achieve SDG7, participants call forth multi-stakeholders to global plans of action in key areas, including clean cooking, decentralized renewable energy, access and
clean Energy for vulnerable populations, such as refugees and other displaced populations.

- Our stakeholders were encouraged to focus on relevant innovative solutions and strategies. The annual global policy exchange to be held in the margins of the HLPF will provide opportunity for profiles and review of their contributions.

- Participants have emphasized the need for improvement in reporting the data collection and capacity building systems to ensure effective monitoring of SDG 7 target at country level. They welcome the work of global custodians of SDG 7 indicators and encourage joint preparation of SDG7 Global Tracking Framework on an annual basis.

- Participants urge that the 27 recipes prepared for conference, along with the summary of policy makers, should be finalized as soon as possible, and shared with member states, as the main technical input for SDG 7 review during HLPF 2018. Expressions of appreciation for the contribution of Ecosoc SDG 7 advisory group encouraged the group to continue strengthening the world on SDG 7 and its inter-linkages with other SDGs, in working toward HLPF and beyond.

- To enhance global alignment conditions as all reach out in support of the achievement of SDG 7 by 2030.

- Participants encourage the suggestion of Thailand, on behalf of co-convener of the Conference, to submit and present the outcome of this conference to the HLPF to be held in the Head Quarters in July 2018. Participants also call upon governments, the regional commissions, UN regional commissions, international organizations and all stakeholders to intensify their engagement with the forthcoming SDG 7 review at HLPF, though supporting the Voluntary National Review and other outreach platforms, such as regional forums, sustainable development, the Vienna NG forum, the Sustainable NG forum, the European development forum.

- Participants expressed their gratitude to the Ministry of Energy, Thailand for their warm hospitality and cooperation in the preparation and organization of this conference, to UN ESCAP for its outstanding conference services and management, to Norway, China, Germany, the Netherlands, the European Commission, Energia and Hivas for their generous commitment to continue working on SDG 7 in support of achieving the SDGs.
The conference came to the end by thanking all the participants.

**Personal Reflection and Learning:** Attending the SDG 7 conference was a learning experience as well as this conference helped me to expand my knowledge, understanding and awareness of how the Regional arm of UN serves as the main Economic and Social Development Centre of the UN in Asia Pacific. It is an eye opener for me how the countries foster cooperation achieving SDG 7 in particular SDG 7 and its targets.

I was enlightened by the panel discussions the importance of implementing SDG7 and its interlinkages with other SDGs like health, climate change, gender equality and ending poverty etc. This conference challenges me to take more interest in creating awareness on indoor and outdoor pollution at grass root levels.

Sr. Jancy Saleth Selvaraj