

WORKSHOP

on Energy Statistics for Western African Countries

15 – 18 October 2019, Dakar, Senegal

Draft Concept note

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Background

1. Energy is fundamental for socio-economic development. The availability of and access to energy and energy sources is particularly essential to poverty reduction and further improvements in the standards of living. However, at the same time, with the constantly increasing demand for energy, there are growing concerns about the sustainability and reliability of the current production and consumption patterns and the impact of the use of fossil fuel on the environment.
2. Until the early aughts, the international methodology on energy statistics consisted of a number of guidance documents¹ that were very rich in information and influential to country methodologies, but were also descriptive in nature, not focusing on harmonisation. Under these circumstances, in 2005, the UN Statistical Commission set up the Oslo City Group on Energy Statistics (Oslo Group) and the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics (InterEnerStat). The Oslo Group was established to “contribute to the development of improved methods and international standards for national official energy statistics”. InterEnerStat is a group of over 20 international organisations working in the field of energy statistics, with a mandate to harmonise differing definitions across organisations as close as possible. The concrete output of the cooperation within the InterEnerStat were harmonised lists of energy products and energy flows published in 2010.
3. Building on the harmonisation work achieved by InterEnerStat, the Oslo Group helped draft the *International Recommendations for Energy Statistics* (IRES), with an overarching goal of providing such standards and guidance to national compilers covering relevant concepts and definitions, classifications, data sources, data compilation methods, institutional arrangements, data quality assurance, metadata and dissemination policies. IRES was endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2011. IRES contains the Standard International Energy Product Classification (SIEC), the first definitive standard classification for energy products.
4. This was a timely endorsement, since one of the major outcomes from the United Nations Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development was the development of a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in which SDG7 is a dedicated stand-alone SDG on energy with three major targets and two additional targets representing means of implementation. In particular, SDG Indicators 7.2.1 on renewable energy and 7.3.1 on energy efficiency rely on high-level aggregations derived from energy balances compiled according to IRES. Promoting IRES ensures more accurate measurements and better comparability of the SDG7 indicators between countries.
5. An ongoing dialogue among statistical producers, the various levels of government, business sector, the academic community, and the general public about energy issues and how to measure them according to

¹ UN Concepts and Methods in Energy Statistics, with Special Reference to Energy Accounts and Balances (1982); UN Energy Statistics: Definitions, Units of Measure and Conversion Factors (1987); UN Energy Statistics: A Manual for Developing Countries (1991); IEA/EUROSTAT Energy Statistics Manual (2005)

WORKSHOP

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internationally comparable methodologies is fundamental to evidence-based policy formulation. This workshop aims to promote the international standards and to provide a platform for an exchange of experience between participant countries.

Objectives

6. The objective of this workshop is to build capacities in the Western African countries for production of accurate energy statistics, balances and indicators, including SDG indicators, in accordance with international standards, to serve better the national policy needs.

Organizers of the workshop

7. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' Statistics Division (DESA/SD), in collaboration with the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP, a subsidiary organ of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa - UNECA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is organising a regional workshop for Western African countries on energy statistics. The workshop will be held from 15 to 18 October 2019 and will be hosted by the IDEP in Dakar, Senegal. Other agencies involved with international energy statistics in the region, such as the African Energy Commission (AFREC), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) may also provide resources to the workshop. This workshop will provide an opportunity to bring together the energy statisticians from the West African countries, in order to allow an exchange of experience and sharing of best practices between participant countries from the region.

Participants

8. About 20 participants, in charge of energy statistics from national statistical offices or ministries of energy, are expected in the workshop, mainly from West and Central African countries, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo.

Organisation of the programme

9. The workshop will be conducted over four days, and its programme will be organised around four themes:
 - i) International standards in energy statistics;
 - ii) Data collection and compilation issues;
 - iii) Dissemination and analysis, including commodity and energy balances, as well as energy efficiency indicators (energy SDG indicators therein contained);
 - iv) Preparation of energy balances with the Energy Balances Studio.
10. The workshop will discuss the international standards in energy statistics that resulted from harmonisation efforts by InterEnerStat and consolidation of conventions carried out by the Oslo Group. These standards, including the Standard International Energy Product Classification (SIEC) and harmonised definitions for energy flows, are published in IRES.

WORKSHOP

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11. The workshop will then provide an overview of data collection and compilation issues, divided by groups of products, since different characteristics of each group render the recommendations not uniform.
12. Presentation issues, indicators and dissemination will be discussed next, including building commodity balances and energy balances.
13. The fourth session of the workshop will provide the opportunity to use the Energy Balances Studio – an application developed by IAEA based on the UNSD Annual Questionnaire on Energy Statistics – to develop their national energy balances. The final part of the workshop will revolve around applications, including energy efficiency indicators for SDG7 tracking.

Expected outcome

The workshop is expected to result in:

EA1: Increased knowledge of statisticians in national statistical offices and line ministries about the international methodology on energy statistics, as well as recommendations and good practices contained in the *International Recommendations for Energy Statistics* (IRES).

EA2: Improved capability of participants from national statistical offices in identifying gaps and challenges in applying the recommendations from IRES as regards product coverage, scope of energy statistics and the use of the Standard International Energy product Classification (SIEC).

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ANNEX I: AGENDA

Draft Agenda

Venue: African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)

Tuesday, 15 October 2019		
9:00-11:30	Registration Opening statements Introduction to Energy Statistics	
11:30-12:30	Legal framework and institutional arrangements	
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-16:00	International Recommendations for Energy Statistics and SIEC	
16:00-17:00	National energy statistics data collection and data availability. Presentations from participating countries.	4 countries, 15 minutes each
Wednesday, 16 October 2019		
9:00-12:30	Oil and oil products Coal, Peat and derived fuels	
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-16:00	Natural gas	
16:00-17:00	National energy statistics data collection and data availability. Presentations from participating countries.	4 countries, 15 minutes each
Thursday, 17 October 2019		
9:00-12:30	Renewables and waste	
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-16:00	Electricity and Heat	
16:00-17:00	National energy statistics data collection and data availability. Presentations from participating countries.	4 countries, 15 minutes each
Friday, 18 October 2019		
9:00-12:30	Energy Balances and energy balances studio	
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-15:30	Energy balances and Energy Balances studio	
15:30-17:00	Tracking energy efficiency	