



79th Commission Session Side Event

Green Power Corridors: Aligning Power System Connectivity with Sustainable Development

Co-organized by UN ESCAP, China, Mongolia, and the Republic of Korea

19 May 2023, 12:45 to 13:45 (GMT+7)

UN Conference Centre, Meeting Room A, and online via Zoom

Background and Rationale

Power system connectivity linked to the deployment of renewable energy resources is a key tool for accelerating the energy transition and mitigating climate change. In 2021, ESCAP member States endorsed the Regional Road Map on Power System Connectivity. One Road Map strategy – Strategy 9 – focuses on the need to ensure alignment with connectivity projects and sustainable development. It includes as a milestone “A set of principles to enable the assessment of interconnection projects against economic outcomes, efficiency and sustainability criteria and to ensure coherence with the Sustainable Development Goals agreed by member States by 2023.”

With the support of the governments of China and the Republic of Korea, ESCAP is undertaking two projects related to Strategy 9. One project – developing a Green Power Corridor Road Map for North-East Asia – is seeking to develop a coherent, relevant, and actionable vision for increased power system connectivity in that sub-region to enable a secure and affordable energy transition. The second – the Green Power Corridor Framework project – is building off of the findings of the North-East Asia Road Map project and the insights of ESCAP’s Expert Working Group on Energy Connectivity to develop a comprehensive set of principles to meet Strategy 9’s milestone. These principles will assist countries in utilizing power system connectivity as a tool for accelerating energy transition and reducing carbon emissions from the power sector in line with national policy objectives and Paris Agreement targets.

The expected outcome is feedback on and consensus towards development of a complete set of principles in the form of the Green Power Corridor Framework. Following the roundtable discussion, the Framework will be further refined and presented for consideration by member States at the Asia-Pacific Energy Forum in October 2023.

Tentative Programme:

| Time | Agenda |
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| 20 mins | <p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E Mr. Tumur Amarsanaa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Permanent Representative of Mongolia to ESCAP • Mr. Ke Yousheng, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of China to ESCAP • Mr. Joyoung JEON, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to ESCAP |
| 35 mins | <p>Presentation of Green Power Corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Power Corridor Framework and Roadmap for North-East Asia <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Ying Fan, Dean of the School of Economics and Management, Beihang University (online) • Mr. Grayson Heffner, Director, Utility Modernization and Power Trade, USAID SE Asia Smart Power Program <p><i>Followed by moderated discussion</i></p> |
| 5 mins | <p>Summary and conclusions</p> |

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