

Technical expert group on environmentally sound technology indicator for SDG 17.7.1

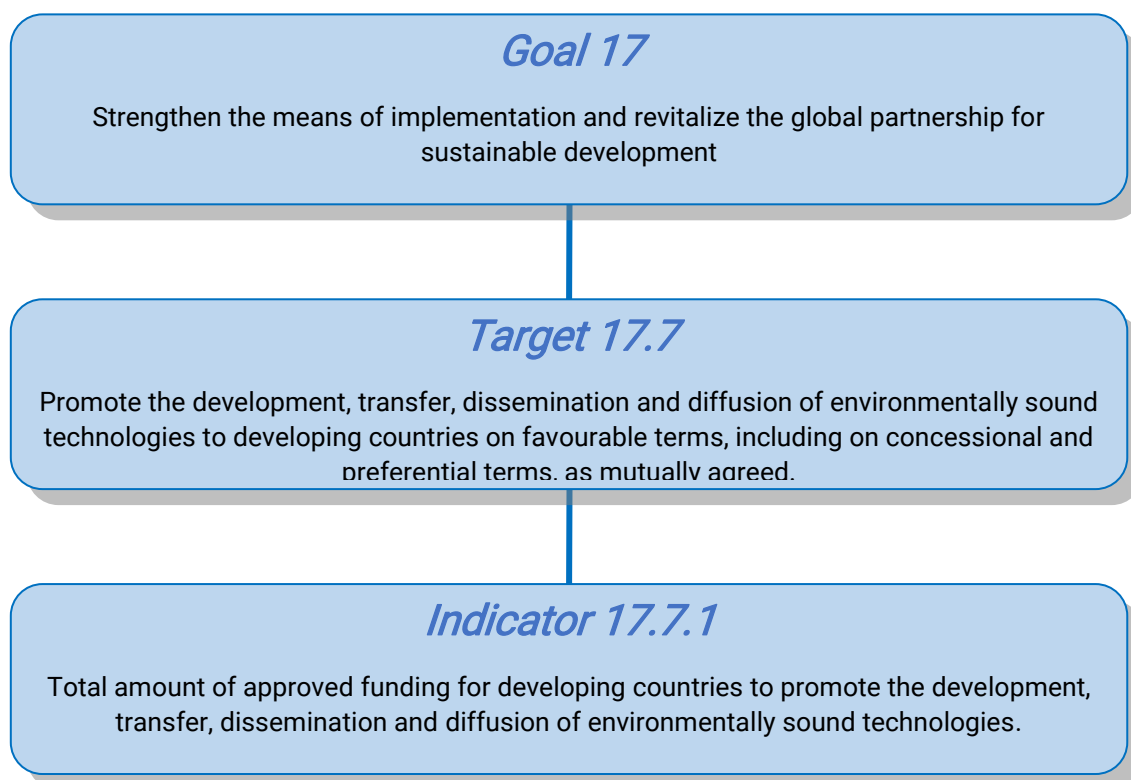
Second consultation meeting – 28-29 March 2018

Background note and agenda

1. Introduction

In September 2015, countries adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all by 2030 as part of a new sustainable development agenda. This 2030 Agenda provides guidance to national development and international development cooperation until 2030, marking a milestone in the global development process. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their 169 targets demonstrate the scale and ambition of this universal agenda. Effective SDGs, targets, and their indicators will serve as a management tool to help countries develop implementation strategies and allocate resources accordingly. Moreover, Indicators will be the backbone of monitoring progress towards the SDGs at local, national, regional, and global levels.

As custodian, UN Environment is responsible for leading the methodological development of the SDG 17.7.1 indicator and for compiling and reporting data on the indicator for the Secretary General’s progress report on the SDGs. The proposed methodology should be approved by UN member states¹.



¹ The Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) considers the SDG 17.7.1 indicator to be a Tier III indicator as there is currently no established methodology and standards for the indicator, the methodology/standards are being developed and tested.

Expected outcome of March Meeting

17.7.1 is a **Tier III indicator** within the SDGs classification, which means that no methodology exists for it, and our first task as Custodian Agency for this indicator is to develop a proposal for the methodology. Hence our main objective of this meeting is to gain convergence regarding the key definitional and methodological issues related to this indicator.

Technical Expert Group

UN Environment has established a technical expert group to support the development of a methodology to measure the SDG 17.7.1 indicator. The expert group includes a mix of experts from NGOs, international organisations, UN agencies, research organisations and academia:

Tsinghua university, University of California, SOAS University of London, IIT Delhi, Radbound University, UNIDO, OECD, CTCN, REN21, Fundación Bariloche, UC Energy Research Center, Verde Azul Consult Lda, Afrique - Energie – Environnement, Helio International, VerifiGlobal, Statistics Canada, National Cleaner Production Centre South Africa, EBRD, GCF, Eurostat, UNFCCC, IGES, WTO and UN Environment.

- First meeting (Teleconference)

The first meeting of the expert group was held on 17 January by teleconference. The meeting provided an opportunity for an initial information session and brainstorming on some of the key issues to be agreed in developing a methodology to measure funding of environmentally sound technologies, how this relates to the development of an internationally agreed methodology and how to move forward. The meeting documents can be accessed at the link [here](#).

Milestones and timeline for development of methodology

- ✓ **17 January 2018:** First expert group consultation meeting (virtual meeting)
- **28-29 March 2018:** Second expert group consultation meeting (Paris, France). Key issues to include in the work plan is expected to be identified along with the roles and responsibilities of experts
- **April –May 2018:** First draft of Methodology
- **May-June 2018:** Conducting pilot studies in 2-3 developing countries
- **June-July 2018:** Review of draft methodology by select group of country experts
- **July- August 2018:** Revised draft methodology circulated for review to Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDG) and wider group of countries

2. Proposed tentative agenda for second expert group consultation (28-29 March 2018)

Venue: Bâtiment VII, UN Environment, 1 Rue Miollis, 75015 Paris

Day 1: Wednesday 28th March

Time:	Agenda Item:	Facilitator/presenters:
8:30-9:00	Arrival and registration	
9:00-9:30	Opening, overview of workshop objectives and tour de table	Mark Radka
9:30-10:00	UN Environment’s role as custodian agency and an overview of SDG Indicator 17.7.1 - Break-down of Indicator 17.7.1 and main issues (including overview of questionnaire responses)	Lowri Angharad Rees
10:00-11:00	Plenary discussion on the purpose of Indicator 17.7.1: - Should the indicator promote and measure investments towards environmentally-sound technologies in all countries? Or should it focus on financial support for developing countries?	Mark Radka
11:00-11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:30-13:00	Defining Environmentally Sound Technologies:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction - UN Environment's work on EST assessments standards and tools - Life cycle assessment of GHG Mitigation Technologies (IRP) - Ecosystem thinking for defining EST - Tracking progress towards 'soft technologies' - Q&A and plenary discussion 	<p>Lowri Angharad Rees</p> <p>Steve Halls</p> <p>Sangwon Suh</p> <p>Felicia Jackson</p> <p>Enzo Sauma</p>
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-16:00	<p>Group exercise: Defining Environmentally-sound technologies</p> <p>Key issues to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can we define technology for the purposes of Indicator 17.7.1? Can we include 'soft technologies'? - Potential criteria for 'environmentally-sound'? (Impact-based, performance gains, or purpose-based?) - International standards v. nationally-defined - Establishing a 'dynamic baseline' for continuous improvement - Balance between conceptual ideal and practical feasibility 	
16:00-16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30-17:30	<p>Feedback from groups and discussion in plenary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aim to reach consensus on approach for defining environmentally-sound technologies - Define areas for further research, way forward and roles 	Facilitator: John Neate

7:30: Group Dinner: opportunity for continuation of discussions and networking (optional)

Day 2: Thursday 29th March

Time:	Agenda Item:	Facilitator/presenters:
9:00-10:30	<p>Measuring finance towards Environmentally-Sound Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction <p>An overview of International Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data sets on investments, projects and transactions (Bloomberg New Energy Finance) - The OECD's International Development Statistics Database - World Energy Investment Report <p>Tracking the adoption of clean technology at regional/national levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eurostat's Environmental Goods and Services and Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts - Statistics Canada's Clean Tech Satellite Account - The challenges and feasibility of measuring finance towards EST at the national levels <p>Q&A and Plenary Discussion</p>	<p>Rashmi Jawahar Ganesh</p> <p>Felicia Jackson</p> <p>Yasmin Ahmad</p> <p>IEA</p> <p>Monika Wozowczyk</p> <p>Cindy Lecavalier</p> <p>Ambuj Sagar & Daniel Bouille</p>
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00-13:00	<p>Group Exercise: Measuring finance towards EST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can financial flows be measured against our ideal definition of EST? - What data exists and international and national levels? From which sources and actors? Private v. Public? 	

	- What challenges exist at the national level? How ambitious can the indicator be, while remaining feasible?	
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00-15:00	Feedback from groups and discussion in plenary - Aim to reach consensus on approach for measuring finance towards EST - Define areas for further research, way forward and roles	Facilitator: Jonathan Duwyn
15:00-16:00	Defining the next steps, action points, roles and responsibilities	Lowri Angharad Rees
16:00-16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30-17:00	Conclusions and closing	Mark Radka