

Energy Transition Pathways for the 2030 Agenda SDG 7 Roadmap for Tonga







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Energy Transition Pathways for the 2030 Agenda

SDG7 Roadmap for Tonga





Developed using National Expert SDG7 Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP) December 2020

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Foreword: ESCAP

The Kingdom of Tonga has been working to develop its energy sector in line with the targets set out in SDG7. As an island nation, energy is a critical input to the wellbeing and economy of the country, underpinning its trade, transport and services.

Tonga's Sustainable Development Goal 7 Road Map highlights that good progress has been made on many of the targets of SDG7. It underscores that continued progress will be assisted by an integrated policy framework. The Road Map is intended to play this role in helping Tonga achieve its SDG and NDC targets by providing a matrix of technological options and enabling policy measures. Its scenarios have been developed using national data and take into account existing energy policies and strategies, together with the NDC. It offers recommended technology solutions and policy options for reducing emissions, saving energy, lowering costs and improving access for all.

It is hoped that the analysis in the Road Map will help the Government of Tonga to make an informed decision to develop and implement a set of policies to achieve SDG 7 by 2030 and deliver on its NDC.

Tonga is among the first countries in the region to develop an SDG7 road map. This experience will help other countries in the region looking to understand how they can realize increased ambition on sustainable energy.

ESCAP is committed to continue to support Tonga and all its member States in delivering a secure, resilient and sustainable energy future as it builds back better from COVID-19.

Hongpeng Liu

Director, Energy Division, ESCAP

Foreword: Tonga

It is my pleasure to provide the foreword for this, the first Report on the Tonga Energy Roadmap 2010-2020. This Roadmap for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) presents a detailed assessment aimed at helping the country to reach a clean and green energy future and in particular achieve its national energy targets under NDC and TERM Plus. It details a range of technical opportunities and policy options for reducing emissions, saving energy and lowering costs. The Roadmap offers an opportunity to leverage a least-cost sustainable energy development pathway, and to direct the investment savings to other critical sectors. The National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP) will enable policymakers to make informed policy decisions to support the achievement of the SDG7 targets as well as emission reduction targets (NDCs).

From the Government of Tonga's perspective, the development of the Roadmap has required unprecedented access to government ministries and one of the state-owned enterprises (Tonga Power Limited) by the country's development partners to enable them to clearly identify the underlying problems and, therefore, identify optimum and targeted solutions. This has not always been an easy process, as it has stretched the resources and capacity of some of the government entities. Hard questions have also had to be asked in relation to the adequacy of government processes in areas of governance, effectiveness, transparency and accountability.

Energy is a fundamental building block for the Kingdom in its social and economic development, and in enhancing the livelihood and wellbeing of all Tongans. It affects all businesses and every household. Accessible, affordable and sustainable electricity that is environmentally responsible and commercially viable is a high priority. My Government recognizes the importance of having dependable, accessible and reasonably-priced power as a key catalyst for sustainable economic growth. Achievement of these goals is crucial to achieving the Government's primary target of "poverty alleviation", including100% accessibility to electricity.

I commend this Roadmap and the information it contains and hope that its impacts will benefit all.

'Ofa atu

Mr. Paula Ma'u

CEO for Ministry of MEIDECC January, 2021

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Abbreviations			
and	acronyms		

BAU	business-as-usual	MCDA	Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis
BESS	battery energy storage system	MEIDECC	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy Information, Disaster management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications
CBA	cost benefit analysis		
CFL	compact fluorescent light		
CNO	coconut oil	MEPS	minimum energy performance standard
CO2	carbon dioxide	MJ	megajoule
CPS	current policy scenario	MTF	Multi-Tier Framework
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network	MW	megawatt
EC	European Commission	MWh	megawatt-hour
EE	energy efficiency	NDC	nationally determined contributions
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	NEXSTEP	National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning
EV	electric vehicle	NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
GDP	gross domestic product	OIREP	Outer Island Renewable Energy Project
GEF	Global Environment Facility	Onter	
GHG	greenhouse gas	PCREEE	Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy
ICS	improved cooking stove	PIREP	and Energy Efficiency
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change		Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Project
IRENA	International Renewable Energy	PP	power plant
	Agency	PV	photovoltaic
IRR	Internal Rate of Return	RE	renewable energy
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