

UNCTAD TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT PROJECT
ON ENERGY AND AGRICULTURE

**Virtual Stakeholder Workshop on Technology
Assessment of Green Hydrogen Electrolysis**

Concept Note

Friday, 23 February 2024, 09:00-13:30 (UTC+2)
Online

Introduction

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is implementing a project to promote technology assessment (TA) in the energy and agricultural sectors in Africa. TA can become a powerful tool for making strategic choices about the procurement, development, introduction, and governance of new technologies. It entails critical and participatory evaluation of the social, economic and environmental benefits and risks of a technology.

The UNCTAD project seeks to strengthen the capacities of science, technology and innovation policymakers and other stakeholders in sub-Saharan Africa, and to propose policies and mechanisms to support the learning, diffusion and adoption of technologies in the energy and agricultural sectors.

In South Africa, following a comprehensive review of national development plans and the technological landscape, it has been decided that the focus of the TA will be on electrolysis production for green hydrogen production.

In order to ensure a participatory and inclusive approach, essential for generating appropriate policy recommendations for the TA report, the insights and perspectives of stakeholders must be heard. With the objective of garnering valuable perspectives from all relevant stakeholders, the Department of Science and Innovation of South Africa and UNCTAD have decided to organise a virtual stakeholder workshop.

Participation

The workshop targets South African government officials, officials from regulating agencies and public utility companies, representatives of academic and research institutions, representative from the civil society (including those from rural communities, youth associations, and women associations), and representatives from the private sector and financial institutions.

Relevant local staff of the TA project and two representatives of the UNCTAD team will also participate.

Format

The workshop is scheduled to take place online on Friday, 23 February 2024, from 09:00 to 13:30 (UTC+2). The meeting link will be circulated to workshop participants in advance.

Objectives and topics

This workshop aims to garner valuable perspectives from all relevant stakeholders, which are essential to ensure a participatory and inclusive approach that will enable the generation of appropriate policy recommendations for the TA report. More specifically, the topics that will be covered include: I) knowledge of electrolysis production and green hydrogen technology and its core feature, II) attitudes towards electrolysis production and green hydrogen and its risks and challenges, III) opportunities and benefits of electrolysis production and green hydrogen, IV) future considerations and support.

Additional information

More information regarding the agenda can be obtained at the following link: <https://unctad.org/meeting/virtual-stakeholder-workshop-technology-assessment-green-hydrogen-electrolysis-south-africa>. For any queries, please contact: Mr Selby Modiba, Deputy Director: Multilateral Cooperation, Department of Science and Innovation at Selby.Modiba@dst.gov.za, Mobile:+27823065114 and Mr. Matteo Ramina, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD, matteo.ramina@unctad.org; sticourses@unctad.org .