

ROADMAP			
TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	State of the Energy Union		
LEAD DG – RESPONSIBLE UNIT – AP NUMBER	SG.D3 (IN ASSOCIATION WITH ENER AND CLIMA) – 2015/SG+/013	DATE OF ROADMAP	09/2015
LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE	Communication plus Staff Working Documents and/or Commission Reports		
INDICATIVE PLANNING	http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/pdf/planned_commission_initiatives_2015.pdf		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/energy-union/index_en.htm		
This indicative roadmap is provided for information purposes only and can be subject to change. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content and structure.			

A. Context, Subsidiarity Check and Objectives
<p>Context</p> <p>The Commission's Communication on a Framework Strategy for the Energy Union adopted on 25 February 2015 (COM(2015) 80 Final)¹ foresees an "annual reporting" to the European Parliament and the Council on the "state of the Energy Union" in order "to address the key issues and steer the policy debate". This "State of the Energy Union" should provide, on an annual basis, a comprehensive state of play, challenges and next steps of the implementation of the Energy Union, outline key policy issues at European, regional and national level and also steer the policy debate between the Commission and Member States and other EU institutions.</p> <p>This year's State of the Energy Union will be the first time that we are preparing this report and is linked to the setting up of the future process. The Commission will use the experience of this year's exercise to review the structure and preparation of the State of the Energy Union for future reports, which therefore might include additional elements and topics and/or have different thematic focus areas. As the adoption of the State of the Energy Union will take place only days before the start of the Paris climate negotiations, it will also include political messages relevant to the upcoming negotiations in Paris.</p> <p>The State of the Energy Union, which is part of the governance process for the implementation of the Energy Union objectives, will address energy and climate issues but also closely linked issues in other relevant policy areas, leading to more and longer-term policy coherence.</p>
<p>Issue</p> <p>The implementation of the Energy Union needs close monitoring and follow-up by the Commission, other EU institutions, Member States and the stakeholder community.</p> <p>The State of the Energy Union should send a clear signal to stakeholders and investors that a proper follow-up of the implementation of agreed targets and objectives across the five dimensions of the Energy Union, including the targets of the 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy, is being carried out.</p> <p>Also, the State of the Energy Union will give the Commission the opportunity to come forward with an annual assessment and possible policy conclusions at EU, regional and national level. This task will be facilitated by key energy and climate indicators building further on those announced in the Commission's Communication on the 2030 Framework for energy and climate. It will also draw on the outcome of high-level meetings and discussions with Member States and relevant stakeholders, e.g. in the context of the Energy Union Tour and the bilateral validation process in relation to the country fact sheets.</p> <p>Current reporting in the climate and energy fields, both from the side of the Member States and from the Commission, is fragmented and does not provide a sufficiently comprehensive and holistic approach to the state of play and the main challenges in the energy and climate areas. This will be further streamlined in the future, with first steps being undertaken together with this year's State of the Energy Union.</p>

¹ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:1bd46c90-bdd4-11e4-bbe1-01aa75ed71a1.0001.03/DOC_1&format=PDF

<p>With the adoption of the Energy Union strategy, there is a need to make sure that the EU monitoring tools are focused and comprehensive and address relevant developments at EU, regional and national level. This monitoring process will be an integral part of the broader governance of the Energy Union and will contribute to the achievement of the Energy Union's objectives. The State of the Energy Union will provide a tool in this direction.</p>
<p>Subsidiarity check</p>
<p>No legal basis is strictly speaking necessary for the Commission to adopt the State of the Energy Union, but its objectives are in line with Article 194 TFEU. The report as such will have no direct impact on subsidiarity.</p> <p>In order to ensure the necessary monitoring and follow-up on the five dimensions of the Energy Union, it is necessary to aggregate national information and draw conclusions at EU level. This will build on national reporting and planning. As an integrated part of the governance of the Energy Union, the State of the Energy Union ensures a common instrument to assess progress and make recommendations and issue possible policy conclusions at EU, regional and national level while at the same time fully respecting the Member States prerogatives in the energy field under the Treaties.</p>
<p>Main policy objectives</p>
<p>The main objectives of the State of the Energy Union 2015 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure comprehensive and holistic reporting on the state of play, challenges, and way forward for the implementation of the Energy Union across its five dimensions; • to steer the debate with other EU institutions, Member States and relevant stakeholders; • to improve data, analysis and intelligence to underpin the Energy Union, encompassing all the questions raised in the Energy Union. <p>Other specific objectives of the State of the Energy Union 2015 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to give guidance to Member States on certain elements of the integrated national energy and climate plans; • to develop and provide first analysis of key indicators for competitive, secure and sustainable energy as announced in the Communication on the 2030 climate and energy Framework; • to provide each Member State with factual analysis and observations on the key opportunities and challenges with regard to the implementation of the Energy Union Strategy.
<p style="text-align: center;">B. Option Mapping</p>
<p>N/A as it concerns a Communication which is based on the commitment made in the Energy Union Framework Strategy.</p>
<p>Proportionality check</p>
<p>The State of the Energy Union will not go beyond what is necessary to achieve the objectives as set out above and will have no direct impact on Member States' possibilities to define and implement policies at national level.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C. Data Collection and Better Regulation Instruments</p>
<p>Data collection</p>
<p>The assessment in the State of the Energy Union will be mainly based on the information and data reported by Member States, Eurostat, as well as on Commission reporting already foreseen by sectoral energy and climate EU legislation. In addition, the State of the Energy Union will further develop key indicators measuring progress towards a more competitive and secure energy system in a 2030 perspective, building further on the indicators presented in the Commission's Communication from January 2014 on the 2030 Framework and those indicators included in the Energy Union fact sheets.</p>
<p>Consultation approach</p>
<p>No formal public consultation is foreseen.</p>

In May 2015, the Commission initiated a consultation process with Member States based on 28 "country fact sheets", outlining for each Member State opportunities and challenges across the Energy Union's five dimensions. These were circulated to Member States in view of a high-level Energy Union Tour, with dedicated meetings with individual Member States, national parliaments and other stakeholders at the national level. Moreover, bilateral technical meetings have taken place to discuss the country fact sheets with the individual Member States. These processes will support the preparation of the State of the Energy Union.

In parallel, the Commission has engaged in close dialogue with the European Parliament and stakeholders.

Will an Implementation plan be established?

Yes No

According to the better regulation guidelines, this initiative does not require an Implementation Plan.

Will an impact assessment be carried out for this initiative and/or possible follow-up initiatives?

Not for this initiative. However, the State of the Energy Union will refer to a range of initiatives for which Impact Assessments are foreseen.