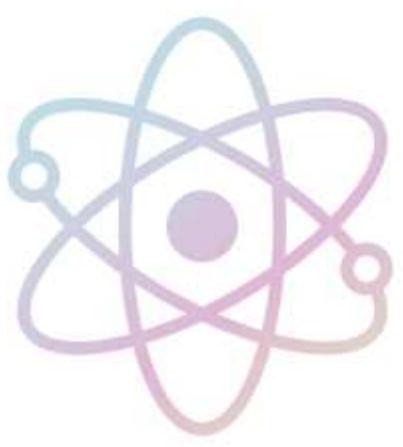


Progress on the Partnerships with the ADB

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Background

- Preliminary discussions followed by a proposal for collaboration between the ADB and the RCA on energy planning submitted to the ADB on 2 April 2021 by Mr Prinath Dias (PAC Chair)
- Initial meeting held on 19 April 2021 attended by ADB, RCA FP, PAC Chair and RCARO
 - Identified common interests in establishing partnerships on the area of energy planning with the possibility of extending to other areas at a latter stage
- The 43rd RCA NRM(April 2021) welcomed the partnership initiative and approved the RCARO to follow up the progress to established a partnership project with the ADB

Actions Taken

- Virtual meetings (May, June) held attended by ADB, IAEA TC, RCA FP, PAC Chair and RCARO
 - Agreed to organize a joint activity in energy planning with a possibility of further extending the collaboration at a later stage
 - Shared the view on concluding a separate MOU between the ADB and the IAEA on energy planning
- * Cooperation Framework Agreement between the IAEA and the ADB signed in 2018(energy planning, RCA are not included)

Future Possibilities

- Further extending the initial collaboration with ADB in Energy Planning under a new Framework Agreement if necessary.
- Establishing collaboration between RCA and ADB under the existing Framework Agreement between IAEA and ADB in areas of Agriculture and Food Safety, Climate Change, Environment, Human Health, and Water Resources.

Proposed Actions

- The meeting may
 - take note of the progress made in establishing collaboration between the RCA and the ADB;
 - approve to conduct a joint event in Energy Planning as a first step; and
 - approve RCARO and RCA FP to continue negotiations with ADB to establish collaboration under the existing Framework Agreement or under a new Agreement if the need arises.