



# Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA) report 2020–2022

Building connections  
for better health





**Health and Energy  
Platform of Action  
(HEPA):  
report 2020–2022**

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for better health

Health and Energy Platform of Action report 2020-2022: building connections for better health  
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Top right | A woman cooking over a traditional wood stove in Thailand. © AdobeStock/Naypong Studio

Bottom left | An electrified health care facility in Rwanda. © MASS Design Group

Bottom right | A woman cooking with biogas in Bangladesh. © Clean Cooking Alliance/KM Asad

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This report was authored by the Health and Energy Platform of Action Secretariat on behalf of all HEPA partners.

A WHO-hosted network



Health and Energy  
Platform of Action



# Abbreviations and acronyms

CCA	Clean Cooking Alliance
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition
CHAI	Clinton Health Access initiative
CHEST	Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit (WHO)
EDM	Energy Delivery Model
EnDev	Energising Development
ENERGIA	International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy
ESMAP	Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (World Bank)
ETAF	Energy Transition Accelerator Financing
Gavi	the Vaccine Alliance
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GLPGP	Global LPG Partnership
GPA	Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings
HEART	Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool (WHO)
HEPA	Health and Energy Platform of Action
Hivos	Humanistisch Instituut voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking
IEA	International Energy Agency
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
LMICs	low- and middle-income countries
LPG	liquified petroleum gas
MECS	Modern Energy Cooking Services/University of Loughborough
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEforALL	Sustainable Energy for All
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization



# Introduction

A woman cooking with a traditional stove in Sri Lanka. © AdobeStock/Chalabala





Energy is linked to many of the sustainable development priorities, including public health, gender equality, food security, clean water, education, economic growth, youth and women's empowerment and climate action. The absence of clean and sustainable energy has a significant adverse impact on the health and livelihoods of the poorest populations. Around 2.3 billion people, mostly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), still mainly rely on inefficient and polluting fuels and stoves for daily cooking, exposing them to health-damaging emissions that result in millions of premature deaths each year (1). Health and livelihood risks are greatest for women and children as they are often tasked with cooking and gathering fuel. The traditional use of biomass for cooking also puts the environment and climate at risk by contributing to deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions.

Around 1 billion people worldwide, mostly in poor and rural communities, are estimated to be served by health care facilities without any electricity or reliable power supply, and only one in two hospitals in sub-Saharan Africa has a reliable electricity supply (2). Without adequate and reliable power, essential medical devices cannot function, basic amenities remain out of reach and delivery of health care services is of substandard quality. Unless rapid action is taken, the world will not meet its targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

In November 2018, during the first World Health Organization (WHO) Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, announced his vision to build a Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA) to enhance multisectoral collaboration between the health and energy sectors and mobilize the political and financial commitments needed to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 and 7. In response, WHO, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, in cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and other key stakeholders, launched HEPA in May 2019, with an initial focus on improving health through promoting clean fuels and technologies for cooking and accelerating access to electricity for health care facilities. Following this announcement, in July 2020, HEPA members worked together to develop a strategic workplan with five overarching objectives to strengthen the cooperation between the health and energy sectors and elevate energy access as a key development priority area for public health, gender equity, climate and sustainable development more broadly (see **Box 1**).

HEPA has gained significant momentum since its establishment in 2019. By October 2022 the platform had over 20 member organizations. All members are committed to working together and synergizing efforts on the ground to accelerate universal electrification of health care facilities and clean cooking.

This HEPA action report summarizes the key activities and results achieved and highlights activities under each of HEPA's five objectives.



Rural health centre in Zambia. © WHO/Blink Media/Gareth Bentley



A young girl collecting firewood in Ghana. © Adobe Stock/Renate Wefers



## Box 1. Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)

### Vision:

A world where the poorest populations' health and livelihoods are improved through the adoption of clean and sustainable energy.

### Mission:

HEPA mobilizes political and financial commitments and enhances cooperation between the health and energy sectors to accelerate the transition to clean energy, with an initial focus on clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities, in line with the following objectives.

### Objectives:

1. Mobilize political commitment, support and resources, and find ways of encouraging new public and private commitments from the energy and health sectors, as well as from the climate change action and other arenas.
2. Promote development of global or country implementation roadmaps for the priority areas of action.
3. Demonstrate leadership by identifying significant actions and initiatives with relevant stakeholders, with the overall objective of generating action and maximizing impact on the ground.
4. Conduct advocacy and outreach at all levels of engagement related to the SDGs, especially on health, energy, environment, gender and climate change.
5. Promote an interdisciplinary approach, engaging a variety of stakeholders at global, regional and national levels and building on existing initiatives, while avoiding duplication of effort, fostering alignment and creating strong synergies



A doctor using a solar lamp in rural Rwanda. © Power Africa

# HEPA membership and governance

*(as of October 2022)*

UN High-Level Political Forum 2022, New York. © UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe





HEPA is a voluntary, multistakeholder network serving as a mechanism for strengthening political and technical cooperation among health and energy actors. By October 2022, the platform had over 20 members consisting of governments, international, nongovernmental and civil society organizations, international business associations, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions. Members and associates actively support the fulfilment of the HEPA strategic political and technical objectives.

- **Convening agencies**

- World Health Organization (WHO) (serving also as the HEPA Secretariat)
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- World Bank/Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP)
- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH/Energising Development (GIZ/EnDev)
- Global LPG Partnership (GLPGP)
- Ghana Ministry of Energy
- International Energy Agency (IEA)
- Kenya Ministry of Energy
- Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS)/University of Loughborough
- Netherlands (Kingdom of the) Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Norway Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Pivot Clean Energy Co.
- Power for All
- SELCO Foundation
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)/Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings (GPA)
- Power Africa
- Vital Strategies

- **High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy**  
(see **Box 2** for more information)

- **Steering Committee 2019-2022**

- Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA)
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

- **Other members**

- Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)
- Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)
- Emory University
- International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy/Humanistisch Instituut voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking(ENERGIA/Hivos)



HEPA side event around the health-energy-climate nexus at COP27. © HEPA Secretariat

## Box 2. High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy

The High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy (the Coalition), convened by the WHO Director-General in the framework of HEPA, is comprised of leaders from governments, international organizations and health and energy champions (3). The Coalition provides strategic leadership for HEPA, strengthens cooperation between health and energy sectors, increases political momentum, spurs investments, mobilizes public support and drives practical solutions.

### Countries where High-Level Coalition members are based →

#### Ministries of Member States

- Minister of Energy, **Ghana**
- Secretary of State for Health, **Honduras**
- Secretary of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines, **Honduras**
- Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **India**
- Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, **Indonesia**
- Minister of Health, **Indonesia**
- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy, **Kenya**
- Minister of Energy and Mines, **Lao People's Democratic Republic**
- Minister of Public Health, **Lao People's Democratic Republic**
- Minister of Health, **Mongolia**
- Minister of Health and Population, **Nepal**
- Minister of International Development, **Norway**
- Minister of Health, **Rwanda**
- Minister of Health and Sanitation, **Sierra Leone**
- Minister of Energy, **Sierra Leone**
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Ecological Transition, **Spain**
- Minister of Health, **Spain**
- Minister of Petroleum and Minerals, **Timor-Leste**
- Minister of Health, **Timor-Leste**

#### International organizations

- Chief Executive Officer, **Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance**
- Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency (**IRENA**)
- CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Co-Chair of UN Energy/ **SEforALL**
- High Commissioner, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (**UN Human Rights**)
- Under-Secretary-General, **UN DESA**





- Administrator, **UNDP**
- Executive Director, **UNICEF**
- High Commissioner, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (**UNHCR**)
- Director-General, **WHO**
- Global Director for the Energy and Extractives Global Practice, **World Bank**
- Chair, **Amref Health Africa**
- Chief Executive Officer, **CCA**
- Director, **ENERGIA**
- Chief Executive Officer, **IKEA Foundation**

- President, **The Rockefeller Foundation**
- Chief Executive Officer, **SELCO Foundation**

#### Global health and energy champions

- H.E. Ms Samira Bawumia, Second Lady, **Ghana**
- Dr Kandeh Yumkella, Member of Parliament, **Sierra Leone**



# Highlights

Newborns being looked after in an urban hospital in Sierra Leone. © World Bank/Dominic Chavez





# Objective 1: Mobilize political commitment, support and resources, and find ways of encouraging new public and private commitments

Political engagement and stakeholder alignment around global priorities on health and energy, two landscapes that have often worked in silos, are urgently needed to spark and sustain collaborative effort and investment so that global goals and resolutions can be translated into regional and national actions. Through its first objective, HEPA provides a uniquely concerted response to ensure that accelerating access to clean energy for health is high on global, regional and national agendas.

## Elevation of health and energy linkages at numerous high-level and global multistakeholder meetings

To initiate and strengthen engagement with national and regional bodies regarding dialogue on access to clean energy and health, HEPA members have organized over 50 side events at more than 10 high-level or global multistakeholder meetings since the inception of the platform in 2019, with clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities always at the top of the agendas for action.

HEPA members have organized over 50 side events at more than 10 high-level or global multistakeholder meetings since 2019.

2021 began strongly, mobilizing resources for clean cooking, with the World Bank announcing at the Climate Action Summit the establishment of the Clean Cooking Fund with a funding target of US\$ 500 million over 5 years. The importance of using decentralized renewable energy solutions for the electrification of rural health care facilities was highlighted during the high-level ministerial session “Driving the Agenda for Energising Healthcare” at the 11th Session of the IRENA Assembly (4).

In June 2021, members of the Coalition unanimously endorsed the Strategic Roadmap on Health and Energy, which paves the way for a clean and healthy future for all. At the 14th edition of the European Development Days, IRENA Director-General, Francesco La Camera, UNDP Administrator, Achim Steiner, and WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, highlighted this

newly formed coalition is key to spurring much-needed political prioritization of energy for health, strengthening the cooperation between sectors, creating an enabling policy environment and scaling up investments. Building on the priorities identified in the strategic roadmap, the Coalition met for a second time in October 2022 and endorsed a Call to Action to increase climate resilience of health care facilities and air quality through sustainable energy.

Having recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed progress towards universal, clean energy access with severe implications for health, WHO, numerous HEPA members (ENERGIA/Hivos; GIZ/EnDev; Ministry of Energy, Kenya; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway; UN DESA; World Bank), members and champions of the Coalition and others (BrightGreen Renewable Energy; Energy Commission, Ghana) and the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group came together at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and Vienna Energy Forum to highlight health and energy needs to be a central focus in ensuring a sustainable and resilient recovery from COVID-19 and realizing the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement.

Since 2020, each September, the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies has brought awareness of the need for everyone to take action to tackle air pollution to ensure clean air for all. With the residential and health care sectors being some of the largest emitters of climate changing pollutants, various HEPA members, such as CCAC, have highlighted the negative impacts of poor air quality on health, the economy and climate and promoted actionable



solutions and tools enabling diverse actors to come together in a concerted national, regional and international effort to improve air quality.



At the High-level Dialogue on Energy in September 2021, co-chaired by UNDP, SEforALL and UN DESA, clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities were again at the forefront of energy issues that need accelerated actions. The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, issued a new global roadmap to secure clean energy access for all by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050. The roadmap sets an ambitious timeline to ensure that by 2025 500 million more people gain access to electricity and 1 billion more people gain access to clean cooking solutions.



HEPA members were actively involved in technical working groups on energy access and on enabling the SDGs through inclusive, just energy transitions, and which launched reports with substantive recommendations for actions needed for ministerial-level thematic forums, which provided inputs to the High-level Dialogue on Energy.

As a result of the dialogue, energy compacts were launched to accelerate action on clean, affordable energy for all. SEforALL and GIZ/EnDev provided instrumental support to countries with the development of specific commitments and actions to accelerate access to clean cooking by 2030 in their energy compacts. CCA and SEforALL, supported by seven other HEPA members, launched two multilateral energy compacts on clean cooking and health facility electrification, mobilizing US\$ 20.5 billion in investments aimed at ensuring at least 2.4 billion poorer people gain access to clean cooking and 25 000 health care facilities in impoverished areas are electrified with clean, sustainable power. It is estimated that 100–200 million people will benefit from having access to quality health services. The health care facility electrification compact is now supported by nearly 20 organizations.



WHO workshop on clean household energy in Rwanda, May 2022. © New Times Rwanda Journal

HEPA members were instrumental in orchestrating the launch of multilateral energy compacts that aim to accelerate clean cooking access to **billions** of people and powering **tens of thousands** of health care facilities in impoverished settings.



CCA launched the Week of Clean Cooking in October 2021 with a series of virtual engagements, events, content releases and networking opportunities to celebrate the International Day of Clean Cooking and drive progress on clean cooking. Numerous HEPA members joined CCA in hosting 13 virtual sessions that featured 70 speakers, more than 60% of whom were women. Over 1000 attendees from 42 countries engaged, learned, networked and shared knowledge.



As a critical stop on the road to COP27 in Egypt, CCA and the Government of Ghana, with support from GIZ/EnDev, co-hosted the Clean Cooking Forum in October 2022, where inputs from across the global ecosystem were incorporated to increase commitment, action, innovation and investment in clean cooking. More than 700 in-person attendees from over 60 countries and 2500+ virtual attendees learned about the latest cutting-edge evidence at the State of Evidence on Clean Cooking workshop and found synergies to make clean cooking more accessible to all.

HEPA partners helped put sustainable energy access and clean cooking on the agenda of G20 members. In 2020, at the request of the G20 Presidency, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, SEforALL in partnership with CCA, WHO and the World Bank and other organizations within the G20 Energy Sustainability Working Group led the development of a report on forward-looking options to improve universal access to energy for G20 members. One of the report's key recommendations was to create a G20 initiative on clean cooking and energy access that would concentrate G20 efforts moving forward. At the Riyadh Summit, energy ministers from the world's 20 largest economies formally recognized the importance of energy access and endorsed the initiative. This was the highest level of support possible within the G20 framework and

provided a much-needed profile to the issue of improving electricity and clean cooking access.



At COP26 in 2021, for the first time, an SDG 7 pavilion, managed by SEforALL, was hosted to drive commitments focused on energy for climate action.<sup>1</sup> A number of HEPA partners including SEforALL, CCAC, IRENA, WHO and seven other HEPA members participated in side events, in which numerous Coalition members were engaged as speakers, to highlight the integral roles clean cooking and health facility electrification play in climate change mitigation and adaptation.



In 2021, the Fifth International Off-grid Renewable Energy Conference ended with an emphasis on strong cooperation between the health and energy sectors as a key factor for successful electrification of health care facilities. Through events and other engagements attracting more than 700 participants, HEPA members Gavi, IRENA, SEforALL, SELCO Foundation, WHO, the World Bank and the Ministry of Health, Burkina Faso impressed upon global leaders that health and energy sectors working closely together is needed more than ever to advance innovations in designing decentralized renewable energy solutions and energy-efficient diagnostics tools and medical devices. Strong cooperation is essential to enable reliable and adequate electricity to health care facilities globally; this underpins several SDGs and ensure health for all.

The road to advocacy for health and energy was maintained well into 2022. HEPA continued to foster ongoing engagement at high-level dialogues and fora. To further drive initiatives, besides the aforementioned high-level and global multistakeholder meetings such as the 2nd Meeting of the High-Level Coalition, Clean Cooking Forum and much anticipated COP27, the Humanitarian Energy Conference in May 2022, hosted by UNITAR/GPA, welcomed participation from hundreds of high-level officials and displaced people on raising ambition levels to ensure that refugees and internally displaced people are not left behind in financing, capacity building and policies to advance electricity access and clean cooking.

1 Partners with side events at the SDG 7 Pavilion: GIZ/EnDev, SEforALL, UNITAR/GPA and World Bank/ESMAP. Other partners with side events at COP in general: CCA, CCAC, IRENA, MECS/University of Loughborough, UN DESA and WHO.





HEPA partners were also present at the 2022 SEforALL Forum co-hosted by the Government of Rwanda, which took place in May and brought more than 1200 global leaders together to enable progress on energy access and transition for health, climate and other development goals through partnerships and commitments, which amounted to US\$ 347 million in financial commitments.









A woman using an electric cookstove in Kenya. © Clean Cooking Alliance/Nick Wambugu Gichuki

The **WEEK**  
of **CLEAN COOKING**

**OCTOBER 18-22 2021**

### By the Numbers

The Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA) hosted the first-ever **Week of Clean Cooking**, a series of virtual engagements, events, content releases, and networking opportunities to catalyze action and engage everyone across the clean cooking ecosystem.

	<b>2,000+</b> Event Registrants		<b>1 MILLION+</b> People Reached through social and traditional media
	<b>42</b> Countries Represented		<b>70+</b> Speakers Engaged, with <b>60%</b> women
	<b>13</b> Curated Sessions		<b>89</b> Networking Meetings, with <b>219</b> participants


### Endorsing a New Energy Compact

As part of the Week of Clean Cooking, CCA launched a multi-stakeholder Energy Compact, "**Unlock the SDGs and Net-Zero with Clean Cooking**" CCA invited countries, cities, companies, and organizations to show support for the Compact by endorsing it and developing their own specific commitments and actions to achieve the targets set out in this Compact. Here are the stakeholders who have endorsed the Compact so far:

**Celebrating 10 Years of Impact**

Being held for the first time, the Week of Clean Cooking was part of CCA's 10 Years of Impact celebration, commemorating a decade of progress toward universal access. Learn more at [cleancooking.org/CCA10](https://cleancooking.org/CCA10)

**CLEAN COOKING ALLIANCE | 10 YEARS**



Flyer for the Week of Clean Cooking, 2021.



## Examples of high-level and global multistakeholder meetings where HEPA members highlighted the health-energy nexus

# 2019

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Inception of HEPA

# 2020

- 
- International Day of Clean Air for blue skies
  - G20 Riyadh Summit

# 2021

- 
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • 11th Session of the IRENA Assembly                           | • International Day of Clean Air for blue skies                         |
| • Climate Action Summit  | • High-Level Dialogue on Energy   |
| • 1st Meeting of the High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy | • Week of Clean Cooking   |
| • 14th European Development Days                               | • COP26   |
| • Vienna Energy Forum  | • 5th edition of the International Off-grid Renewable Energy Conference |
| • High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development        |   |

# 2022

- 
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Sustainable Energy for All Forum              | • 2nd Meeting of the High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy |
| • Humanitarian Energy Conference                | • COP27  |
| • International Day of Clean Air for blue skies |  |
| • Clean Cooking Forum                           |  |

## From commitments to implementation: demonstration of in-country progress on health and energy in key position products

HEPA members have been actively developing and contributing to numerous position products to ensure that health and energy linkages are considered when policies are formulated and offer evidence-based lessons from countries for

governments, businesses and civil society to draw from. To date, around 40 key position products published showcase on-the-ground in-country progress to accelerate access to clean energy for health. These products and many more under development highlight the ongoing country-level work and initiatives that reinforce the high-level commitments of equipping homes and health facilities with clean, sustainable energy for health.

### Policy briefs (examples below)



#### ON CLEAN COOKING



- Increasing access to clean cooking through subsidies.



- Value-added tax on cleaner cooking solutions in Kenya: costs outweigh benefits and impede national climate and Sustainable Development Goals.



- CCA's work in Nepal:
  - Collaborating with female community health volunteers in support of clean cooking programs in Nepal.



- Electric cooking in peri-urban Nepal: part 1  
Impacts of clean cookstove adoption on household energy use.



- Electric cooking in peri-urban Nepal: part 2  
Energy access needs for clean cookstove adoption.



- Increasing the potential for biogas to satisfy household cooking needs in Nepal.



#### ON HEALTH CARE FACILITY ELECTRIFICATION



- From procurement to performance: towards a private sector-led, service-based model to scale up sustainable electrification of public institutions.



- Powering healthcare intervention heatmap.



- Powering healthcare Nigeria market assessment and roadmap.



#### ON BOTH TOPICS

- "Interlinkages between energy and good health and well-being (SDG 3)" in Leveraging energy action for advancing the Sustainable development goals.



### Reports (examples below)



#### ON CLEAN COOKING

- Reports showcasing the application of the WHO Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool [HEART] to conduct rapid situational assessment and stakeholder mapping in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Honduras, Ghana, India, Kenya, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.
- Assessing potential for BioLPG production and use within the cooking energy sector in Africa.
- Clean cooking: financing appliances for end users.
- COVID-19's impact on the transition to clean cooking fuels: initial findings from a case study in rural Kenya.
- Energizing finance: understanding the landscape 2021; and Energizing finance: taking the pulse 2021.
- Evidence-based strategies to reduce the burden of household air pollution in Accra, Ghana.
- Maximizing the health benefits of clean household energy in peri-urban Nepal.
- Myanmar; cooking transitions. An analysis of Multi-Tier Framework Data for insights into transitions to modern energy cooking.
- Opening opportunities, closing gaps: advancing gender-equal benefits in clean cooking operations.
- Quantifying and measuring climate, health, and gender co-benefits from clean cooking interventions: methodologies review.
- The state of access to modern energy cooking services.
- Unlocking clean cooking pathways: a practitioner's keys to progress.





## ON HEALTH-CARE FACILITY ELECTRIFICATION



- Energizing health: accelerating electricity access in health-care facilities.



## ON BOTH TOPICS



- Theme report on enabling SDGs through inclusive, just energy transitions: towards the achievement of SDG 7 and net-zero emissions

## Publications in scientific journals (examples below)



## ON CLEAN COOKING



- Accelerating access to clean cooking will require a heart-head-and-hands approach.



- Are cleaner cooking solutions clean enough? A systematic review and meta-analysis of particulate and carbon monoxide concentrations and exposures.



- BioLPG for clean cooking in sub-Saharan Africa: present and future feasibility of technologies, feedstocks, enabling conditions and financing.



- Cooking in the margins: exploring the role of liquefied petroleum gas for refugees in low-income countries.



- Expanding data is critical to assessing gendered impacts of household energy use.



- Funding and delivery models for modern energy cooking services in displacement settings: a review.



- Household cooking fuel estimates at global and country level for 1990 to 2030.



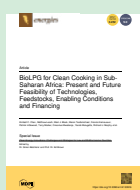
- Household perspectives on cookstove and fuel stacking: a qualitative study in urban and rural Kenya.



- Multiple aspects of energy poverty are associated with lower mental health-related quality of life: a modelling study in three peri-urban African communities.



- The benefits of action to reduce household air pollution (BAR-HAP) model: a new decision support tool.



New impactful position products are in the pipeline to gain new insights into the linkages between energy, health, well-being and other development priorities. For example, there will be reports that enhance understanding of the intersection between clean cooking, gender and youth and women's empowerment, case studies of civil society organizations implementing clean cooking solutions such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), biogas and electricity in local communities, and publications on industry, investment and legal landscapes key to informing the strategic application of clean cooking with a systems approach. HEPA partners will continue to collaborate closely with regional and national actors to develop roadmaps for eliminating solid fuels so that effective action on accelerating access to clean energy can be mobilized. Situational assessment and stakeholder mapping on health and household energy reports like those undertaken in Nepal and Rwanda will support policy-makers to design and implement clean cooking policies that

maximize health benefits. On health care facility electrification, expected publications in the coming years will offer insights on innovative financing approaches such as results-based financing and present country case studies to illustrate ways in which successful electrification could be optimized through careful assessment of technical feasibility and financial viability. These forthcoming publications will inform high-level decision-making and put health and energy stakeholders on the path to collectively drive solution-based clean cooking and health care facility electrification agendas.



A woman cooking with a gas stove in Thailand. © Adobe Stock/Dodotone





A vaccine refrigerator in a hospital in sub-Saharan Africa. © Energising Development

## Innovative financing to power homes and health care facilities with clean and sustainable energy

To date, GIZ/EnDev, SEforALL and the World Bank, with the support of five other HEPA members, have transformed energy access markets through innovative financing mechanisms such as results-based financing approaches (e.g. in Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam) and service-based approaches. These novel financing models were piloted in almost 20 countries and empowered public, private and other stakeholders to craft novel strategies to accelerate access to clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities with lasting, sustainable impact.

The Climate Investment Platform is a joint initiative of IRENA, UNDP and SEforALL, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund. The Climate Investment Platform's mandate is to increase capital mobilization and renewable energy impact investing in developing countries.

The Energy Transition Accelerator Financing [ETAF] Platform is an inclusive, multistakeholder climate finance solution managed by IRENA to advance the energy transition across emerging markets.

Three innovative funding initiatives are in development to accelerate financing on clean cooking and health care facility electrification:

- The Green Climate Fund will support the Greening Health Sector initiative to electrify health care facilities and build their resilience to climate change.
- The Results-Based Financing Accelerator, emerged from CCA's Systems Strategy, and aims to accelerate innovation across the clean cooking results-based financing ecosystem through piloting strategic partner engagement and knowledge sharing.
- Based on UNDP's Strategic Plan 2022–2025, the UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub – Sustainable Energy and Carbon Finance Programme Framework will support countries to scale up sustainable energy solutions and enhance readiness for carbon markets and accelerate implementation. It is designed to harness networks, experience and innovation to help 500 million additional people gain access and transition to clean, sustainable energy by 2030. It will work with governments in developing countries and with investors to unlock and harness public and private finance to power progress towards the SDGs.

These novel financing mechanisms enable innovative initiatives to be implemented and accelerate countries' transition to clean energy for better health.



## Objective 2: Promote development of global or country implementation roadmaps

Comprehensive roadmaps with short-, medium- and long-term goals are critical for countries to initiate, scale up and sustain actions on clean energy access for the health of the global community. Sound assessment and understanding of the energy and health situation at national, regional and global levels are essential to guide the formulation, implementation and sustainability of roadmaps. Through its second objective, HEPA members join forces to better understand the status of energy access and health; identify opportunities in which best practices on enabling frameworks can be applied; and support countries developing and executing cohesive country roadmaps for accelerating the implementation of clean cooking solutions and health care facility electrification. Achieving better health, gender equality, climate and other benefits should guide all stages of developing and executing the roadmaps.

### Advancing the global understanding of drivers, challenges and opportunities for clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities

Insights and evidence provide the foundation to design and implement country roadmaps to maximize health and other benefits by delivering clean and sustainable energy. HEPA members have collaborated with each other, country governments and others to develop a rich body of data and evidence to characterize the state of affairs at national, regional and global levels.

The International Energy Agency (IEA), IRENA, the United Nations Statistics Division, WHO and the World Bank collaborated with each other and more than 30 other organizations as part of the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group, many of whom are also part of HEPA, to provide the international community a better understanding on where each country, region and the world stand on reaching the targets of SDG 7, including access to clean cooking, and enhancing cooperation to accelerate access. Since 2013, the annual tracking SDG 7 reports (formerly known as the Global Tracking Framework), including the most recent 2022 release, have garnered tens of thousands of engagements each year. Current trends suggest that unless rapid action is taken to scale up clean cooking, the world

will fall short of the universal access target for clean cooking by almost 30%, achieving only 72% of the population in 2030. To ensure no one is left behind, the political commitment, and financial incentives must be prioritized in all access-deficit countries to achieve the universal target of SDG 7.

The World Bank also contributed to the understanding of energy access in households through producing reports such as characterizing primary household energy for cooking and heating in 52 developing economies and documenting and comparing the drivers, barriers and opportunities for transitioning to improved cooking solutions and modern energy cooking services.

More reports are in development in the clean cooking arena covering topics such as the state of access to clean and improved cooking technologies in educational institutions in sub-Saharan Africa, challenges and opportunities to advance clean cooking goals in this often-overlooked sector, and taxes and subsidies as policy instruments to catalyze the acceleration of clean cooking access. On the electrification of health care facilities front, *Energizing health: accelerating electricity access in health-care facilities* was launched in January 2023. The publication provides a comprehensive and up-to-date view of the national, regional and global state of electricity access in health care facilities and provides a benchmark against which progress in electrifying health care facilities can be measured.



The report outlines the key actions and investments required to electrify facilities. Further, the publication highlights lessons and best practices on enabling frameworks to accelerate electricity access in health care facilities (see **Box 3**).

The existing and upcoming status reports are key to filling knowledge gaps in clean cooking and health care facility electrification to enable the development of national strategies to advance these priority areas of action. By providing decision-makers in the health and energy sectors with timely and targeted insights and innovations related to energy access, energy finance, gender equality, climate resiliency and other areas, HEPA members help empower them to take action. Where possible, data and evidence in these reports are disaggregated by gender, urban/rural areas,

household socioeconomic status and health care facility type. HEPA members pay special attention to ensure that national governments and other stakeholders have the best available information to design country roadmaps that leave no one behind so all can equitably reap the health benefits of living in a neighbourhood where homes and nearby health care facilities are equipped with clean, sustainable and reliable energy.

### Box 3. Launch of the new global status report on electrification of health care facilities



Launched in January 2023, the report *Energizing health: accelerating electricity access in health-care facilities* is the first-of-its-kind global status report. The report was developed by WHO, the World Bank, IRENA and SEforALL, with technical support from Duke University, the University of North Carolina and the World Resources Institute and technical contributions from SELCO Foundation. It provides an authoritative, comprehensive and up-to-date view of the state of electricity access in health care facilities worldwide. The report takes stock of available data on health facility electrification in LMICs, taking into account the multi-dimensional nature of electricity access, including its reliability, affordability and quality. It also provides insights about supportive policy frameworks, effective business models, and technical and economic aspects of both grid-based and decentralized electrification solutions. It draws attention to the lack of reliable electricity supply in health care facilities in LMICs, highlights the opportunity to provide better health services by powering health care facilities

with decentralized clean energy solutions and informs evidence-based decision-making by serving as a benchmark against which progress in electrifying health care facilities can be measured. As a key outcome of this report, WHO established a database on electricity access in health care facilities via its Global Health Observatory, which can inform and guide countries towards understanding and addressing electricity gaps.



The report features real-world examples to illustrate key success factors and lessons, with an eye toward scaling up or transferring lessons to other contexts. Drawing on quantitative evidence and novel case studies, it offers recommendations for diverse stakeholders, including clinic administrators, regional and national planners, donors, civil societies and private companies, on effective means to accelerate provision of reliable power for health care facilities.

## HEPA partners coordinate with each other and others offering technical expertise to provide in-country support on health and energy assessments, strategies, plans and policies

HEPA members actively worked together and with other stakeholders to support governments in the

coordination of technical support and intersectoral cooperation on country assessments, strategies, plans and policies to accelerate clean cooking access and health care facility electrification. With technical expertise and insights in the health, energy, climate, finance, development and other fields, HEPA members provided support in accelerating access to clean energy for better health. Below are examples of joint activities and synergies among HEPA partners and others to provide in-country support.

### Country assessment and technical support (examples below)



#### ON CLEAN COOKING

- Assessments of the current status on the nexus between gender and energy and provision of policy recommendations to mainstream gender within energy interventions in **Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.**
- Evaluation of household energy context and identification of key energy and health stakeholders at national level using the Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool (HEART) in **Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kenya, Nepal, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda and Togo.**
- Market assessments of electric cooking with key opportunities, challenges and recommendations identified to scale up electric cooking in **Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda and Uganda.**



#### ON HEALTH CARE FACILITY ELECTRIFICATION

- Electrification of health care facilities through decentralized solar systems and building on the Cold Chain Equipment Optimization Platform in **Somalia.**

- Health-energy assessments across 40 sample health facilities, as well as key stakeholder consultations and meetings with government and external health and energy experts in **Burkina Faso.**

### Country roadmap development

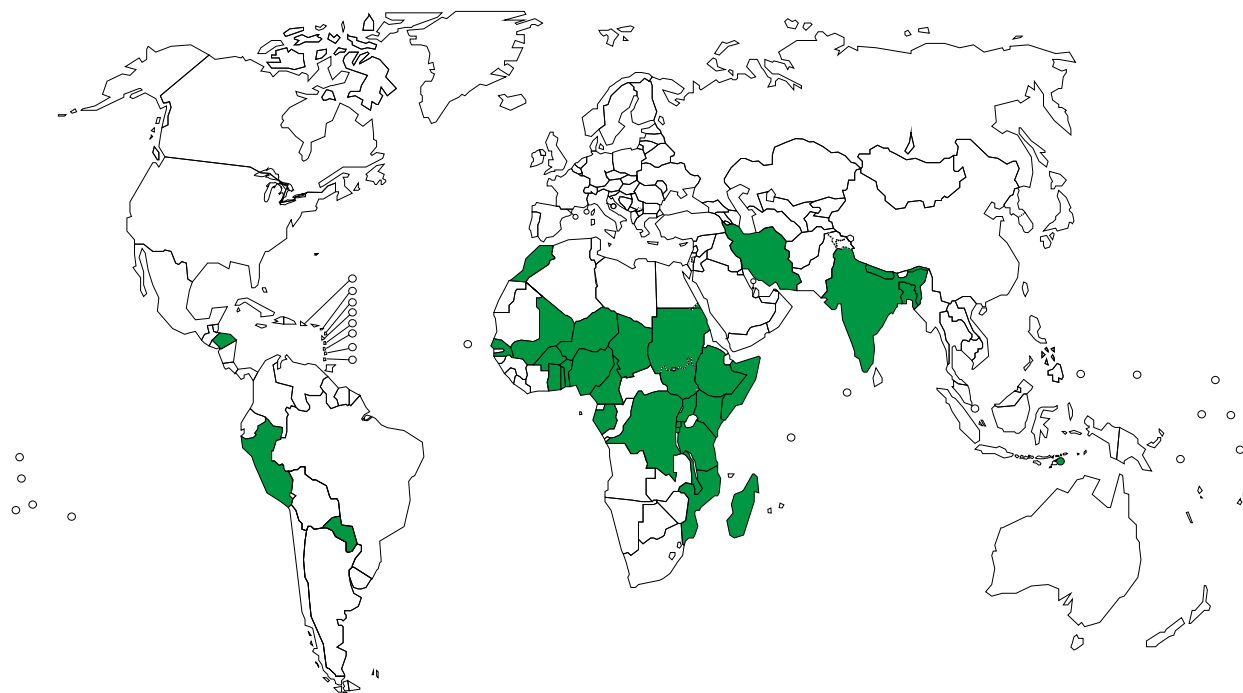


#### ON CLEAN COOKING

- Development and implementation of national standards for clean cooking solutions in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and Togo.**
- Development of energy access programmes focused on modern energy cooking solutions that meet end users' needs and support local market systems in **Bangladesh, Benin, Chad, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and United Republic of Tanzania.**



## Countries (in green) where HEPA partners are working together on the ground



Top | A woman cooking on a traditional open fire stove in Thailand.  
© AdobeStock/Southtownboy Studio Bottom | A woman using an improved cookstove in Kenya. © Clean Cooking Alliance/Nick Wambugu

Top | A woman going through labour supported by midwives with flashlights in Sierra Leone. © Panos/Sven Torfinn  
Bottom | Medical consultation in an electrified hospital in Thailand.  
© WHO/Ploy Phutpheng



In-country support projects are ongoing and more are in planning to further scale up equipping homes and health care facilities with clean, reliable energy for health. On clean cooking, HEPA members have been working with each other and alongside national governments in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mali, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria and Rwanda to assess the situation and legal environment on household energy, air pollution and health, estimate the health, social, economic and environmental costs of household air pollution, map relevant stakeholders who could engage in actions, incorporate the core questions on household energy use into national surveys and censuses, and identify opportunities to use market-based approaches to advance clean cooking adoption in displacement settings.



Information gathered from these efforts and through utilizing guiding resources such as the Clean Cooking Systems Strategy, Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit and *Setting national cookstoves voluntary performance targets* enable HEPA members to further work with these and other countries to develop, implement and monitor focused, measurable and ambitious plans of action

so that key health and energy stakeholders are engaged to create a stronger enabling environment for achieving universal access to clean cooking.

HEPA partners are continuously engaged in helping existing countries and identifying new ones to power health care facilities, improve health and reduce climate changing emissions. IRENA, in collaboration with country ministries, is conducting technical assessments of energy needs in the health care system and provision of technical designs and cost estimates including recommendations to optimally electrify facilities through renewables in Mali, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe. Following the launch of the *Electrification of health facilities in Zambia: action plan*, Power for All, in collaboration with the Government of Zambia and others, established a multistakeholder coalition in a major bid to solarize all rural health centres in the country and will be implementing a Call to Action to make significant progress towards SDGs 3, 7 and 13 by 2030. Power for All, along with its government partners in India, is also engaged in implementing a visionary policy that undertakes a bold approach to utilize renewable energy to ensure energy access and enhance health services.



Mother and daughter cooking with gas in India. © AdobeStock/Gajendra









Country assessments, technical support and roadmap and business case development are also in planning for dozens of other countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, India, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Areas of action include rural electrification by off-grid, renewable energy systems, sustainable clean energy procurement in the health sector and provision of sustainable renewable energy services through energy-as-a-service approaches. There are also plans for UNITAR/GPA to work with countries such as Bangladesh to create and deliver energy capacity building curricula for humanitarian staff to support the development of sustainable energy solutions for health care facilities in displacement settings so that these vulnerable communities are not forgotten when it comes to ensuring they also have access to reliably electrified health care facilities.

### Pioneer tools for in-country support to advance health and energy policy and programmatic planning

To support countries develop and implement actionable agendas, HEPA members have developed innovative, adaptable tools to inform and guide policy and programmatic planning in the health, energy, environment and other sectors. The following tools enable stakeholders to evaluate each course of action and conduct comprehensive cost-benefit analyses. Policy planners can also calculate the cost of scaling up initiatives and assess the implications on health, and social and environmental and climate change.



#### ON CLEAN COOKING

- **Access to Modern Energy Cooking Services: Players and Initiatives Database** is part of the knowledge products under the World Bank's flagship report *The state of access to modern energy cooking services* developed by ESMAP, in close collaboration with Loughborough University MECS programme and CCA. As part of research efforts to gain a deeper understanding of the supply-side ecosystem of the cooking sector, this qualitative database takes stock of cooking players across the globe, as well as cooking initiatives taking place at a national, regional and global level. 
- **Clean Cooking Explorer**, in partnership with the World Resources Institute, Alternative Energy Promotion Center, Nepal Open University, Kartoza and KTH Royal Institute of Technology, is an online, open-source, interactive spatial platform that supports decision-making, promotes effective planning, expands clean cooking markets and enables data-driven coordination to accelerate clean cooking access throughout countries. The platform is currently available for Ghana and Nepal. 
- **Clean Cooking Planning Tool** is based on the analytical framework and consolidated country database developed for *The state of access to modern energy cooking services*. The tool is designed to help energy planners, decision-makers, programme developers and research-ers visualize potential transition pathways to universal access to clean cooking solutions by 2030.   

- **Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit** provides tools that countries and programmes can use to develop policy action plans for expanding clean household energy access and use. Based on expert input with contributions from HEPA members, the toolkit is intended to help professionals and policy-makers in the health and other sectors implement the recommendations found in the *WHO guidelines on indoor air quality: household fuel combustion*.   






## ON HEALTH CARE FACILITY ELECTRIFICATION



- **Global Electrification Platform** is an open access, interactive, online platform covering 58 countries that allows for an overview of different electrification investment scenarios, including those that account for electrifying health care facilities, to achieve universal electricity access by 2030.



- **HOMER Powering Health Tool** helps sizing energy systems to power health care facilities. This tool focuses on locations where there is no access to the grid, or where the grid is unreliable or intermittent. The tool allows users to enter energy needs of a health care facility manually, based on actual equipment use at the facility, or by selecting one of four tiers of health care facility (district hospital, rural hospital, small inpatient facility or rural dispensary) and manually adjusting the quantity, load and usage hours.



## ON BOTH TOPICS

- **Nigeria Integrated Energy Planning Tool** is a new data-driven interactive tool powered by extensive geospatial modelling and layers of data, and for the first time covers electrification, clean cooking and productive use. It provides actionable intelligence for the government and private sector stakeholders to deliver the least-cost access to electricity and clean cooking in Nigeria. The **Malawi Integrated Energy Planning Tool**, covering cooking and electricity in Malawi, was launched in October 2022 and there are further plans to expand this tool to cover cooking in Rwanda.



Additional interactive tools are in development to empower countries take a proactive role in accelerating access to clean and sustainable energy for health. These tools, integrating the latest databases and best practices, are adaptable to

needs and will support health, energy and other stakeholders to make the best-informed decisions possible for identifying and designing targeted, cost-effective approaches for redoubling efforts on clean cooking and electrifying health care facilities.



A laboratory technician using a microscope in a health centre in Ethiopia. © Alamy Stock Photo/Joerg Boethling



## Objective 3: Demonstrate leadership by identifying significant actions and initiatives with relevant stakeholders

Achieving clean and sustainable energy for all by 2030 requires accelerated actions and ambitious initiatives from health, energy and other stakeholders. Through its third objective, HEPA brings together the leadership and expertise from partners working in these areas to facilitate enabling policy environments and catalyse actions for reaching a clean, climate-safe and healthy future.

### UNITAR/GPA working with displaced populations to improve access to clean energy and safeguard their health

There is a critical gap in clean energy access in humanitarian settings and UNITAR/GPA ensured that displaced populations are included in dialogues when identifying actions to ensure that refugees and internally displaced people are not left behind in the clean energy transition.

Through the training on Energy Delivery Models (EDMs), UNITAR/GPA demonstrated their commitment to improve the sustainability of energy interventions and health of vulnerable populations in displacement settings by strengthening the network of health and energy experts working in the field. Additionally, a webinar series on cooking energy was organized in collaboration with GIZ Energy Solutions for Displacement Settings and UNHCR focusing on delivery models, market-based approaches and demand- and supply-side support mechanisms for promoting clean cooking solutions in displacement settings. Moreover, UNITAR/GPA is developing a Humanitarian Energy Data Platform with a specific focus on data gathering on powering health care facilities in displacement settings.

To expand the effort on energy access and electrification of health care facilities in displacement settings, UNITAR/GPA is working with partners on data and capacity building activities. With the SELCO Foundation, an Energy-Health Toolkit for Humanitarian Response is being developed to provide practical guidelines for energy needs assessment and implementation for

practitioners developing solarization programmes for health care facilities. A landscape report is also being prepared in collaboration with UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration, highlighting the criteria for selecting candidate facilities for solarization. In partnership with UNDP and NORCAP, GPA has developed a Multi-Partner Trust Fund on Decarbonising Humanitarian Energy. With initial funding of approximately €22 million from the German Federal Foreign Office, the programme will focus on transitioning from diesel-powered generators to renewable energy systems in humanitarian settings in the Sahel Region. It will consider solarization of power systems for health care centres, schools and other community facilities in these settings. Together, these efforts will ensure that the health of displaced populations is prioritized by removing barriers to clean energy access in humanitarian settings.

### UN DESA helped put advancement of clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities on the global roadmap

UN DESA, as the Secretariat of UN Energy, helped develop a global roadmap issued by UN Secretary-General António Guterres that sets an ambitious timeline to ensure that by 2025 500 million more people gain access to electricity and 1 billion more people gain access to clean cooking solutions.



With stakeholders working in energy and other cross-cutting fields such as health and development, the global roadmap will combine transformative leadership, strengths and resources to develop impactful actions that effectively address the energy poverty challenges and improve health.

## United Arab Emirates and IRENA launched a new initiative to provide access to energy for clean cooking

In collaboration with the Nama Women Advancement Establishment, the United Arab Emirates and IRENA have launched Beyond Food, a new joint initiative that aims to provide people in communities in low-resource settings around the world with crucial access to sustainable energy for cooking. The initiative established the Beyond Food Clean Cooking Platform to foster cooperation and coordinated actions in promoting the deployment of clean cooking solutions.



A woman cooking with a traditional stove in a camp in Somalia. © WHO/Ismael Taxta

## Objective 4: Conduct advocacy and outreach at all levels of engagement related to the Sustainable Development Goals

Robust and targeted outreach efforts are critical to enhance stakeholder awareness, strengthen political engagement and share technical tools and knowledge in the health and energy arenas. Through its fourth objective, HEPA promotes members' contributions to advocacy in various media so that accelerated actions to improve clean energy can be mobilized to their fullest capacity for realizing a healthier and more sustainable future for all.

### Over 20 high-level leaders and champions joined the Coalition, promoting the way for a clean, sustainable and healthy future for all

Ministers of health and energy, heads of international organizations and senior representatives from civil society institutions joined the Coalition, convened by WHO's Director-General in the framework of HEPA.



In June 2021, the Coalition unanimously endorsed *A Strategic Roadmap to promote healthier populations through clean and sustainable energy* (the Strategic Roadmap on Health and Energy), with the following priority actions and recommendations:

- Consider clean cooking and access to electricity in health care facilities as two development priorities essential to protect public health.
- Dramatically increase public and private investments in electrifying health care facilities and in clean cooking.
- Provide the necessary human and financial resources to design and implement clean energy plans and sustainable delivery models tailored to the needs of the health sector and households.
- Develop tailored policy and financing schemes, able to unlock the potential of clean and sustainable energy solutions and to address health sector needs.
- Increase cooperation between the energy and

health sectors and collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.

- Facilitate collaboration between private, public, and nongovernmental actors.

The Coalition convened for the second time in October 2022 and many more global leaders and champions joined the cause. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, again chaired the meeting to discuss and identify concrete actions to accelerate clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities, building on the priorities identified in the Strategic Roadmap on Health and Energy. In the framework of this second meeting, a Call to Action was endorsed to increase climate resilience of health care facilities and air quality through sustainable energy, urging the international community to make every effort to accelerate clean and sustainable energy access for health care facilities and households.



### Awareness raising on health, energy and other related SDGs through harnessing the power of workshops, webinars and other multimedia tools

Strategic communications underpin all HEPA members' work to reach millions worldwide, raising awareness on health and energy interlinkages and related issues on environment, climate change and gender, sparking actions to initiate change, and keeping the momentum going.

### Workshops and webinars



Thousands of people tuned in to the webinars and workshops organized by HEPA members to learn about the latest evidence-based tools, resources and best practices critical to drive progress on clean cooking access and health care facility electrification. At these events, interactive discussions with diverse actors across multiple areas of priority in the SDG agenda took place and inspired new bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

For example, the 2021 webinar series *Transitioning to clean cooking*, coordinated by WHO and CCA under HEPA, engaged and informed over 1500 policy-makers, donors, investors and other decision-makers from both the energy and health sectors about the latest global, regional and national trends on clean cooking access, and tools and resources. These included the WHO Household Energy Assessment Rapid Tool, Benefits of Action to Reduce Household Air Pollution Tool and Household Energy Policy Database and the World Bank/ESMAP first comprehensive, self-paced online course on clean cooking titled *The hidden side of energy access: understanding clean cooking*.

In 2022, PIVOT collaborated with the United States Agency for International Development and others to host a virtual training on policy, trade and market opportunities for bioethanol as a clean cooking fuel, which raised awareness on international standards, regulations and best practices for bioethanol fuels and their adoption and usage in Africa. These knowledge resources are key to inform clean cooking solutions where they are most urgently needed and identify cost-effective policies and programmes to advance clean cooking in order to maximize health and other benefits on the ground.

Many practical lessons, insights and resources on electrifying health care facilities have been communicated to governments, donors and investors to support their efforts. IRENA, SEforALL, WHO and the World Bank collaborated on workshops and webinars, sharing different delivery models and programme design approaches for electrifying health care facilities, electrification strategies that harness public, private and philanthropic efforts, and on the importance of ensuring the operation, maintenance and related financing and incentives required are structured over the long haul.

The presence of HEPA at COPs has grown tremendously. Over the past three COPs, HEPA partners organized and participated in hundreds of events in the health, SDG 3, SDG 7 and other pavilions, placing clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities at the forefront of the climate negotiations. At the COP27 Health Pavilion in 2022, CCA, Gavi, IRENA, MECS/University of Loughborough, SELCO Foundation, UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank collaborated with Member States, including Liberia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda and Somalia and other stakeholders to showcase concrete actions, projects and programmes HEPA partners have undertaken to accelerate energy access in health care facilities including the deployment of cold chains and improving clean household energy within the most vulnerable communities.



Corridor of operation rooms in a hospital in Peru. © WHO/NOOR/Sebastian Liste



## Videos, newsletters and other outreach efforts

⚙️ The HEPA network came together to produce a series of videos in the six official UN languages and a flyer, which explain the close linkages between health and energy and their impacts on populations and raise awareness about the missions of HEPA and the Coalition to accelerate clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities (see **Box 4**).

⚙️ Furthermore, HEPA has a dedicated webpage, with the relevant details about the platform and the Coalition, including its vision, a full list of all HEPA and Coalition members, background documents as well as technical and communications resources. The HEPA Knowledge Platform additionally provides recent publications, a monthly newsletter as well as events and other updates from the HEPA network. Since the launch of HEPA, more than 400 people have subscribed to its monthly newsletter to keep abreast of the latest contents, tools and opportunities from partners.

HEPA partners also leverage the diverse media landscape such as blogs and factsheets to translate tools and knowledge to a variety of audience. The World Bank blog *Better energy access starts with better data* and SEforALL's *Powering healthcare impact factsheet* are notable examples where tools to collect quality household energy data and evidence on the impact of powering health care facilities on health and other SDGs are synthesized to call for increased activity and investments on research and data availability that can inform policy-makers and project implementors.

HEPA members serve as strong advocates for the importance of accelerating access to clean energy for health, environment, gender, climate and other benefits through a variety of channels. Interactive workshops are in planning to enhance the adoption of clean cooking solutions. There will also be workshops and products to promote understanding on electrification of health care facilities and how this is critical to advance health. Together, HEPA members are committed to reach, inspire and connect a vast network of people to take part in helping make clean energy accessible to everyone for a healthier and safer future.



A woman cooking with an improved cookstove in India. © Clean Cooking Alliance/Bhumesh Bharti



## Box 4. HEPA advocacy and outreach

The HEPA network is dedicated to bringing awareness, building political support and commitment around clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities as well as promoting the work of the global platform and the High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy.

To get this message across widely to all levels, the HEPA Secretariat produced joint outreach materials to strengthen the political profile, explain the close linkages between health and energy and their impact on populations, as well as highlight actions needed to accelerate clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities. Recent materials include:

### Videos

- Access to clean cooking to avoid indoor air pollution – High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy
- Clean and sustainable energy: HEPA – accelerating access to clean cooking
- Clean and sustainable energy: HEPA – accelerating access to electricity in health care facilities
- Electricity in health-care facilities – High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy:



**Flyer: Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)**

**HEPA monthly newsletter (to subscribe)**



A mother cooking on an electric stove in Guatemala. © WHO/Karin Troncoso



## Objective 5: Promote an interdisciplinary approach and engage a variety of stakeholders at global, regional and national levels

The world is healthier and more sustainable when the health and energy sectors coordinate. As effective coordination among multisectoral stakeholders is key to enabling the health and energy sectors from all levels to work better together, HEPA has sparked and deepened collaborations across the extended network of stakeholders through its fifth objective. In this ecosystem, HEPA partners can share lessons learned, leverage joint goals and efforts and explore synergies to maximize the health impact of transitioning to clean energy.

### Proactive engagement among HEPA members for optimal coordination of health, energy and other cross-cutting activities

Since May 2021, the HEPA Secretariat has held monthly meetings to keep members abreast of events, activities and developments within the platform so stakeholders can align efforts and explore synergies to maximize efforts for accelerating clean energy for health. With CCA, SEforALL and Power Africa as co-Chairs, the HEPA Secretariat also began to hold bi-monthly thematic calls in 2022 on clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities to facilitate deep dives on technical matters and activities related to these themes. The establishment of focused thematic working groups serves as an opportunity for HEPA members to exchange information on their in-country work to synergize efforts on the ground, identify opportunities to collaborate and maximize impact.

Recognizing the importance of communicating HEPA members' work to various audiences, CCA spearheads quarterly meetings, gathering communications experts from the platform to better exchange ideas on awareness raising and facilitate coordination in advocacy efforts on clean cooking and health.

### Knowledge sharing for rapid, targeted actions on delivering clean, sustainable and reliable cooking solutions to homes and power to health facilities

HEPA members contributed to exchanging knowledge and best practices to support the health and energy sectors work together more effectively. The HEPA Secretariat launched a Knowledge Platform page in April 2021 to enable sharing of updates on global, regional and country activities and provide open-access information on all HEPA members' work. It hosts past events and resources and is updated on a regular basis. CCAC's online resource library and SEforALL's Powering Healthcare Knowledge Hub host hundreds of resources, created by them, partner countries and organizations, on mitigating short-lived climate pollutants through clean household energy and powering health care facilities. They are widely available for policy-makers, researchers and educators. Further, CCA's Market Strengthening Information Portal hosts curated information on clean cooking markets, trends and business models targeting investors, donors and policy-makers to support decision-making for investment and to develop an enabling environment for clean cooking. These knowledge platforms and more to come, such as one that UNITAR/GPA is in the process of developing, centralize resources so that the health and energy sectors can synchronize better, identify and promote best practices to tackle the global clean energy gap head on and advance health.





# HEPA outlook

A doctor in a vaccination centre in Guinea. © WHO/Sean Hawkey

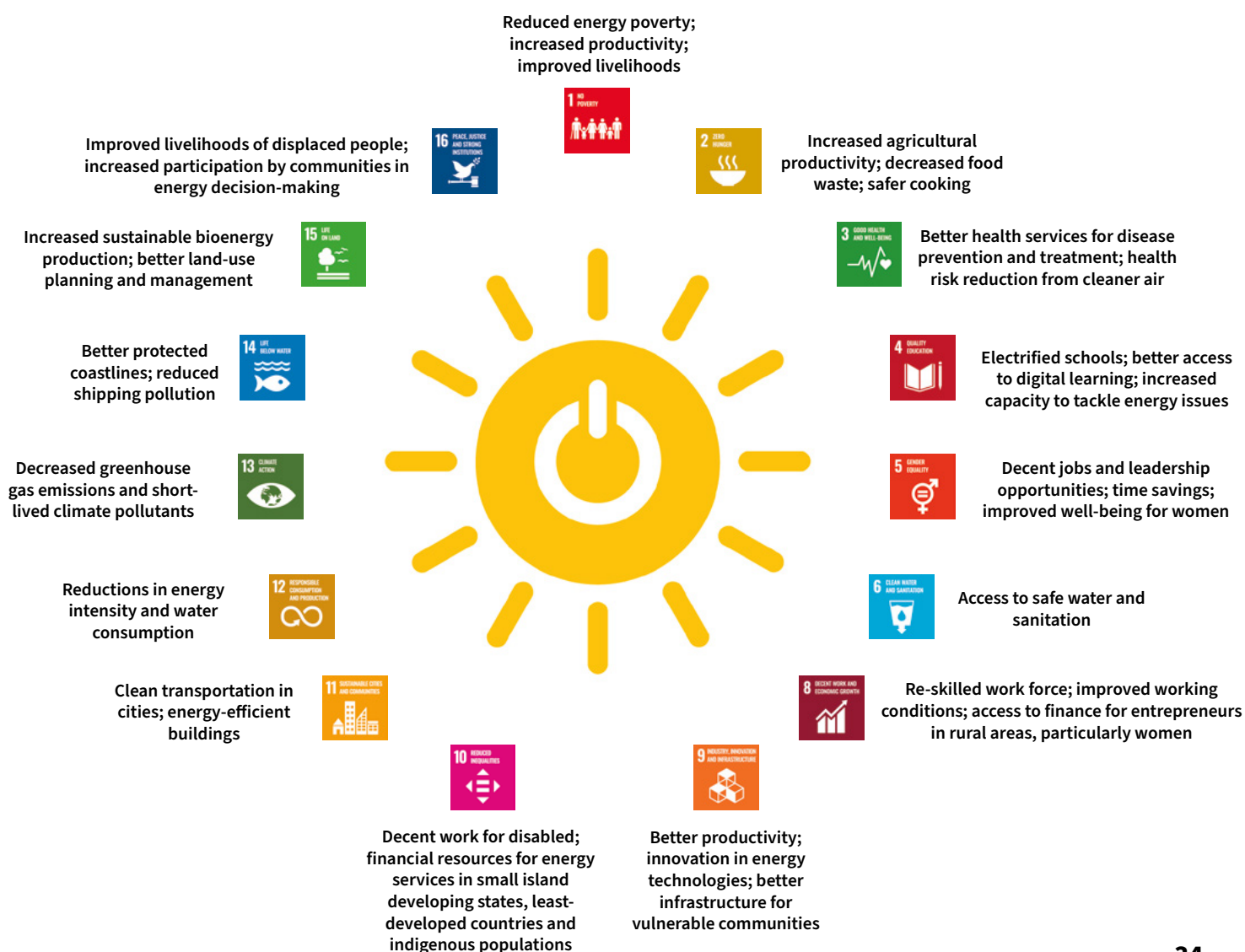


The vision of HEPA is a world where the poorest populations' health and livelihoods are improved through the adoption of clean and sustainable energy. Yet, around one third of the world's population still relies on polluting fuels and cooking technologies, resulting in an estimated 3.2 million premature deaths each year from household air pollution (1). In addition, hundreds of millions of people globally are served by health care facilities without adequate electricity, dramatically hampering the quality, accessibility and reliability of health services delivered (2). Accelerating access to clean cooking in homes and electricity in health care facilities are key development priorities that can save millions of lives and prevent disease and disability. As highlighted in this report, the High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy plays an important role in building cooperation between the health and energy sectors. The Coalition and many other leaders are committed and action to effect the HEPA vision.

Great progress has been made towards tackling the links between health and energy and other cross-cutting issues, but there is still a long road ahead. The need is more urgent than ever to ensure that clean cooking and electrification of health care facilities continue to be considered as priorities to protect public health, to dramatically increase public and private investment in clean energy sources, to provide the necessary human and financial resources, to increase cooperation between the health and energy sectors, and to facilitate collaboration between public, private and nongovernmental actors. It is the ongoing commitment, effort and engagement of key decision-makers and stakeholders from health, energy and other sectors that will enable the growth and vision of HEPA going forward so that access to clean energy is a right for a healthier world.



## Examples of energy as an enabler of sustainable development



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# Resources



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