



SAFE Humanitarian Working Group Monthly Conference Call Meeting Minutes: May 11, 2016

SAFE Working Group Updates

Welcome to new members

- Project Gaia
 - Project Gaia promotes clean cookstoves that are powered by alcohol fuels – fuels that are clean, safe, and efficient. We help communities become energy independent by establishing locally-owned microdistilleries.
- Gaia Association
 - The Gaia Association is the Ethiopian extension of Project Gaia. We mainly work with UNHCR on providing ethanol and ethanol-fueled cookstoves to refugees – mainly Jijiga camp and (last year) in Asosa.
 - Happy: Does Gaia have any projects in Nigeria?
 - Alex: Yes, we are partnering with local oil companies to develop ethanol supply chains and jump start the clean cooking market there.

IASC Reference Group Status

- Recap for new members: The SAFE WG is applying to the UN Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) to become a formal Reference Group for the coordination of energy-related assistance humanitarian crises, similar to the existing reference groups for protection and gender. This would make energy a formal part of the UN humanitarian system.
- There have been delays in this process, but we are still pushing on it, and the IASC has put us back on the agenda. Their preference is for us to join with the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU) to form a single Reference Group covering both Energy and Environment.
- The IASC will host a meeting in October where the SAFE WG and the JEU will share our joint work plans.

Events

- **Women Deliver, May 16-17, Copenhagen**
 - Women Deliver is a gender conference in Copenhagen. It usually focuses on women's health, but now it is branching out to topics that include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
 - The Alliance is attending to talk about energy and gender; we will host a side event and a booth.
 - The UN Foundation board meeting will also take place in Copenhagen at the same time, which includes Alliance Executive Director Radha Muthiah and UNF's President Kathy Calvin. Both were given talking points on energy.

- **World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), May 23-24, Istanbul**
 - Communications update from the Alliance (Kathleen)
 - Reminder to provide the Talking Points we sent around previously to any delegates you may know who are attending the Summit. They are in direct response to the themes of the High Level Leaders' Roundtables and Special Sessions, and explain how and why energy is relevant in these contexts.
 - Both the SAFE Working Group and the Alliance will have booths at the Summit, at the Exhibition Fair and Innovation Marketplace respectively. We are looking for volunteers to help staff the SAFE booth, as well as any cooking, lighting, or powering products to display.
 - The SAFE Side Event, "Why Energy Matters" will take place 1:00-2:30 pm on Tuesday.
 - UNF will host a private sector breakfast on Tuesday morning.
 - UNHCR's Innovation Team and +Social Good are hosting a [Google Hangout](#) tomorrow on (May 12) with the SAFE Working Group Co-Chairs (Corinne, Daphne, and Andreas) and Paul McCallion from UNHCR, focusing on energy access and energy poverty in advance of WHS. The panel will be moderated by Virginie Viaene at UNHCR.

- **The ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS), June 17-19, Geneva**
 - HAS provides an opportunity for UN Member States to address challenges and operational and normative progress on the humanitarian policy agenda. This year's is focused on "the future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness." It will include a high-level interactive panel, a number of side event, and an informal event on the transition from relief to development.
 - Does the SAFE WG want to try to send some representatives this year and get energy into the agenda?

- **Smart Villages, West Africa Regional Workshop, May 23-25, Accra**
 - More information on the [SAFE website](#)

- **World Bank Action Learning Event "Upscaling Mini Grids for Least Cost and Timely Access to Electricity Services," May 23-27, Nairobi**
 - Practical action will be there – Mattia will share the details with the group.

Guest Speakers

- **Happy Amos, Youth for Safe Energy, Nigeria**
 - Happy: I am the team lead for Youth for SAFE Energy Nigeria, as well as a clean cookstove manufacturer in Nigeria. My company, Roshan Global, spent time with IDPs in Nigeria and went back one year later to discover the impact of cookstoves on their lives. We were the only people who had gone there (Abuja). So we formed Youth for SAFE Energy.

- We taught IDPs in Adama state to make stoves
 - Advocacy: emails, chats, national campaigns and radio shows in Nigeria
 - Twitter chat on 19th Abuja time, 5pm
 - Petition on Change.org – include energy access as a cluster. Would like to ask partners to sign it and take it up to the OCHA office for us.
 - Youth for SAFE Energy is a baby organization – we create awareness and involve ourselves in being part of teams that help displaced people in Nigeria, and we’re looking for partners.
 - 3 million IDPs
 - Roshan stoves use wood and charcoal
 - Charcoal – 50-60% efficient, uses less charcoal, cooks faster, can be used inside.
 - We are very interested in ethanol, and helping women to produce and sell ethanol. Would like to connect with Project Gaia.
 - Monthly year production is about 300 cookstoves
- **Martha Thompson and Amy Smith from D-Lab (MIT, Boston)**
 - Amy: D-Lab is currently working on Rethink Relief, which brings together engineers, designers, NGO workers, students and refugees to co-design and co-produce prototypes of tools and technologies based on problems that refugees identify. We have wanted to develop this work in refugee camps. We have a yearly summit, most recently in Padere, N. Uganda.
 - D-Lab has recently received a Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) grant to do innovation work around GBV, and we are interested in incorporating the energy component.
 - Focusing on cookstoves and lighting (equally), and livelihood energy-to-power technologies.
 - Also alternative cooking fuels, as well as agriculture waste based charcoal.
 - Motorcycle as a mechanism for powering agricultural activities – wide range of opportunities.
 - Energy is critical in people’s lives
 - Cookstoves design Summit – August of this year
 - Martha: We want to empower refugees to create and implement their own solutions but also impact providers – enter into a different kind of dialogue. One thing we have found as Rethink Relief, doing work on training – it’s great for sparking innovation, but how to we follow up?
 - Pilot projects in two or three areas – possibly Dadaab and areas of urban displacement. What are the situations we need to adapt to?
 - Happy: What you are doing is quite interesting – appealing because bringing adapting to new technology can be difficult, but working with the community goes a long way. However, I have heard only East Africa in your plans and what happens to West Africa? ☺ Any interest in small scale partnership?
 - During the initial phase, we’re focusing in these specific areas – but we are open to other areas and D-lab does have several projects in West Africa.
 - Paul: Do you have a lot of innovation ideas available on website; and ideas on increasing payment access to solutions?
 - Yes, e.g. Solar lighting project in Morocco

- Technologies are very much on a local level
- Andreas: There are synergies here with FAO's farmer-fuel curriculum, and also the Dmitra clubs.

Organizational Updates

Focus: New tools, reports studies or assessments that can be shared with the group.

- **World Food Programme (in absentia)**
 - WFP is looking to hire someone for the SAFE program in Sudan. Daphne will circulate a TOR tomorrow.
 - WFP will follow the social media calendar for WHS.
- **UNHCR**
 - Paul: no new guidelines or publications.
 - Virginie: UNHCR's SAFE Advisory Board meeting is on May 23rd; we will send the final agenda when we receive it.
- **Women's Refugee Commission**
 - WRC's research report on persopis as a fuel source for refugees in Dadaab (collaboration with WFP) will be released soon.
 - Andreas: This is interesting, as FAO is also doing persopis project
- **Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Japan**
 - Joined SAFE after the Nepal earthquake last year.
 - We want to introduce cookstoves and solar lights in non-food item (NFI) kits
- **Mercy Corps**
 - Update on Mercy Corp's humanitarian capacity-building initiative (for our internal staff and everyone else interested in it)
 - Associated with Disasterready.org
 - While there is a reasonable amount of SAFE-related webinars and materials, the amount of open-source e-learning resources on this is extremely low. Does UNHCR have any?
 - So we've decided to develop more materials – both MC-specific modules, and specific modules on gender, cooking, heating, lighting, and fuel.
- **Practical Action**
 - Launch of the Moving Energy Initiative (MEI)'s website is next week, May 19, with a couple of documents around cooking and private sector engagement, as well as a number of toolkits and summaries of energy surveys from Dadaab and Goudoubo (Burkina)
- **Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves**

- In partnership with the Government of Canada, the Alliance is designing a comprehensive, costed national five-year integrated clean cooking program in Haiti. Toward this goal, the Alliance will work with key government ministries, in-country partners, influential Haitian stakeholders, local champions, donors, manufacturers, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, investors and other counterparts.
 - Katherine Arnold is transitioning onto the Haiti project for at least the next 6 months, so Kathleen will take over coordination of the SAFE WG and related activities.
- **Project Gaia**
 - No particular updates. We will be attending WHS and the Carbon Summit in Cologne later that week.
- **Gaia Association – no updates**
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
 - FAO is finalizing technical handbook on assessing food fuel supply and demand in displacement settings; this has been delayed.
 - Guidance note on SAFE – linked to the framework for action on food security in protracted crises. It contains a CSF-endorsed set of principles (fits with sustainable development on GBV)
- **GIZ**
 - Anja will finalize a factsheet on energy and humanitarian settings from the point of view of GIZ and share it with the group.

Actions Planned

Who	What
EVERYONE	Contact Kathleen (kcallaghy@cleancookstoves.org) regarding WHS if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Your organization, or a partner, is sending delegates to WHS that will attend the High Level Roundtables or Special Sessions, and might be willing to include talking points on energy access in their remarks or commitments. ● You have delegates attending WG ● You have lighting, charging, or powering products that we can feature at the SAFE WG Exhibition Fair booth.

List of Participants

Meeting Chair: Andreas Thulstrup (FAO)

Organization	Name
<i>Co-Chairs</i>	
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Andreas Thulstrup
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)	Kathleen Callaghy
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)	Corinne Hart
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Mercy Corps	Elena Trifea
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Paul Quigley
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Virginie Viaene
Women's Refugee Commission (WRC)	Sandra Krause
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Anja Rohde
Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) – Japan	Oriol Lopez
Project Gaia	Alex Milano

Guests

Organization	Name
Practical Action	Mattia Vianello
Youth for Safe Energy, Nigeria	Happy Amos
D-Lab	Martha Thompson, Amy Smith

Apologies

Organization	Name
Energy Access Practitioner Network	Yasemin Erboy Ruff
World Food Programme	Daphné Carliez
World Vision (WV) Kenya	Joan Sang