



SAFE Humanitarian Working Group Monthly Conference Call Meeting Minutes, February 15th, 2017

*Names, acronyms, and *action items are summarized at the end of the document*

SAFE Working Group Updates

- **Election of new co-chairs**

- The Steering Committee has not yet made a decision, so the announcement will be postponed to the March meeting.

Events

Recent

- **EUEI-PDF [Enlightening the Migration Debate: The Importance of Sustainable Energy Access](#) – January 31st, Brussels, Belgium**

- *Recap:* EUEI-PDF held this event last month. The aim was to explore interlinkages between sustainable energy access and migration. On the one hand, to discuss the role that energy access plays in tackling the root causes of migration; on the other, to identify better solutions for energy access in humanitarian settings. GIZ coordinated the event. Several SAFE members, including Chatham House, GIZ, WFP, FAO, EAPN and others attended.
- CH: EUEI are producing a working paper or document that captures the discussions. They're using it as a prompt to get internal support for working on this issue.
- GIZ: They sent around the draft study before the workshop for public comment; we can share it if anyone would like to comment. The event was very interesting and a good opportunity to meet members of the [SAFE] network personally.
 - It's a long way to argue that energy can prevent migration. There are some linkages, but it's not a direct argument.
 - CH: The second half of the workshop, where we discussed what can be done with energy once migration has happened, was more relevant for us.
- Alliance: Were there any direct links to humanitarian energy issues, or any takeaways for the SAFE WG?
 - CH: Nothing direct; we mainly consolidated a lot of what we know already. It will be more interesting to see what the next steps are.
- EAPN: There was a clear difference between first and second half of the workshop.
 - The first half set the scene, describing some of the problems that exist and debating the role of energy access in migration.
 - The second half: There was an acknowledgement that resources are missing, such as holistic planning – i.e. planned interventions versus immediate relief. There is a constant lack of financial and human resources, especially at the implementation level, and that includes on lighting, cooking, and power.



- UNHCR highlighted this [in their presentation], noting that it took a long time to acknowledge that this is a very important subsector, which should get more attention.
- GIZ: They did mention of involvement of the private sector, but the knowledge about how to do it, and what the private sector needs, is still missing.

Upcoming

- **SET4Food [Training for Innovation Brokers for Energy](#)** – February 27- March 3, Milan, Italy
 - COOPI: We had more than 70 applications and selected 25 of them. Possible participants are now 22, but some may not be able to attend due to difficulties in obtaining visa.
 - 70% of participants are from NGOs; 30% are from UN agencies. 50% are coming from African countries. 45% are working at the field level in technical role. Most are working on energy-related issues, but have not had any previous training on energy until now.
 - The objective is for participants acquire more competences, in this way strengthening the response capacity of their organizations in energy-related interventions.
- **Alliance Webinar: [Evaluating Fuel Pathways to Prioritize and Scale Cleaner Options](#)** – March 1, 8:00 AM Eastern Standard Time (EST)
 - The Alliance recently launched a new tool, the [Fuel Analysis, Comparison & Integration Tool \(FACIT\)](#), which enables users to compare the economic, environmental, and social and gender impacts of various fuel types throughout the value chain – i.e. from production to processing, distribution, and use.
 - FACIT is a potentially useful decision support tool for humanitarian practitioners trying to determine the best fuel for a cooking intervention, though likely more at the coordinator or project manager level.
 - The webinar will introduce the tool, as well as an [accompanying report](#) that provides a snapshot of impacts resulting from the production of 11 different cooking fuels, including liquid and gas, as well as a range of biomass such as wood, agricultural residue, and bamboo.
- **Sustainable Energy for All ([SE4All](#)) Forum** – April 3-5, New York City, USA
 - EAPN, Mercy Corps, Chatham House, the Alliance, and GIZ are planning to attend. Radha from the Alliance will speak, and EAPN will launch its annual survey. The UN Foundation will also be present.
 - EAPN: This is a large event of about 1000 guests. It has an ambitious program that goes beyond the off-grid space and includes industry and efficiency.
 - * Request to all members to stay in touch about planned activities in and around the SE4All Forum, including opportunities to get SAFE into the agenda.

2017 Work Plans

Recap: In an effort to develop a coordinated SAFE WG work plan for 2017, members were asked to develop and share their respective organizations' work plans with the group. High level summaries are



below. * Organizations who did not submit work plans are requested to do so at their earliest convenience.

The SAFE WG operates along 6 strategic pillars. Members were asked to describe their activities in these categories:

- 1) Coordinate the sector and share information
 - 2) Commission research and build evidence
 - 3) Provide technical support, guidance, and tools for implementation
 - 4) Build human resource capacity
 - 5) Advocate for the sector
 - 6) Mobilize resources
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- **Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)**
 - The Alliance has activities in every pillar in 2017 but is focusing most heavily on building capacity, research, and advocacy.
 - Building capacity
 - The Alliance is again planning to host this year's SAFE workshop, probably in Nairobi, late June or early July. Logistical and financial support from other members is welcome and needed.
 - The Alliance will administer the Energy Expert Roster that was launched last year and plans to host at least one expert deployment to a situation which needs analysis – e.g. which technologies or fuels to select, which distribution approaches, etc.
 - Advocacy: The Alliance will continue to push for the formalization of energy in humanitarian strategies and funding mechanisms, looking for new approaches in this area. Updating the SAFE WG 2020 Advocacy strategy will contribute to this process.
 - Research
 - The Alliance will publish its monitoring and evaluation (M&E) baseline study on the use of improved cookstoves in five of Rwanda's refugee camps. The analysis shows that refugees who used the Save80 stove experienced tangible benefits over those using three stone fires.
 - This is one of the only studies showing that cooking interventions can have positive effects in humanitarian settings. Continuing to build the evidence of this is critical to convincing donors and policymakers that SAFE is worth their time and attention.
 - The Alliance will publish an M&E analysis of a stove and pellet pilot project by Inyenyeri and UNHCR in Kigeme camp, Rwanda. The project is one of only a few cases where a market-based approach has been used in humanitarian context – a test case of how well this can work.
 - GIZ: Are there highlights from the pilot? Does the approach work?
 - Alliance: It is early stages and our analysis is pending, but Inyenyeri reports that the approach is working very well and the refugees are pleased. There is a waiting list of 500 people in the camp who would like to sign up.



- The Alliance’s analysis will look at the social and livelihood impacts of the project on the refugees, then the fuels team will conduct an assessment of the project’s environmental and financial sustainability.
 - We want to be careful of saying that an approach which works in this case could work elsewhere. Every context is very specific. For example, refugees are allowed to work in Rwanda. This is often not the case elsewhere. We do want to figure out what the conditions for a successful program are.
- **Energy Access Practitioner Network (EAPN)**
 - Coordination
 - EAPN will continue to facilitate introductions, convene events, and share knowledge among its 2500 members. Many are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that are not represented on this call and who could possibly join SAFE.
 - Research
 - EAPN will launch the results of its 2016 membership survey at the SE4All Forum.
 - Another survey will be conducted later this year, and we are open to including a more robust humanitarian section. Some questions were included in the 2016 survey, but only a few due to time and resource constraints. Expanding in 2017 will help tell the story: who is doing what, where are the gaps.
 - Advocacy
 - EAPN will host themed networking events quarterly in Washington DC. They help to get donors and implementers in the same room, and can be organized around milestones (e.g. report launches).
 - Alliance: Potential to have them in other locations besides DC?
 - EAPN: The events are fixed and only in DC, but EAPN is always open to organizing side events at other major gatherings we are attending, including the SE4All Forum.
 - Coordination
 - EAPN is in conversation with COOPI since the 2016 SAFE workshop about the energy community of practice (ENERGYCop) platform that is under development. Working to see how we can open up the membership of the community, amplify messages, and facilitate introductions to organizations who might be interested in joining.
 - Lines are always open – we are here to help.
- **COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale**
 - COOPI is an NGO with projects in many sectors; we have other energy projects besides SET4Food, but we’ll focus on that for the work plan.
 - Building capacity: IBEs training.
 - Research: We will also realize some research and scientific papers that we will be published by the end of the project – based on all the outputs.
 - Tools & guidance: Decision-making package for supporting humanitarian implementers on energy projects (M&E tool, impact analysis framework, needs assessment tool that was already created in the previous phase of SET4food)



- Main objective of SET4Food is to enhance collaboration among humanitarian actors active in the energy sector. This will be done also through the EnergyCoP.
 - EnergyCoP is envisioned as a one-stop-shop for tools, resources and knowledge sharing related to energy access in humanitarian context. It will link to other relevant websites and key initiatives dedicated to energy and/or humanitarian response and will aim to enhance coordination and knowledge sharing among actors from different sectors and organizations involved in energy activities for humanitarian purposes. After conducting a survey with the interested actors involved in the energy sector, we have reached the stage of designing the platform. Now we are working on the content and structure of both the interactive community and the space resources and tools sharing. Community – a space to advice, discuss and contribute to find solutions for issues related to access to energy and energy technologies in the humanitarian context.
 - Alliance: All the SAFE Co-Chairs (Alliance, FAO, WFP) are involved in the development process, and the intention is for management of the platform to pass to SAFE after the project. We are very excited for this opportunity, as it is difficult to connect people through the current website. The new space will allow members to connect with each other.

- **International Organization on Migration (IOM)**
 - Alliance: IOM is a unique SAFE partner, since it focuses on powering rather than cooking or lighting, and specifically powering as it related to the WASH sector. Their work is an opportunity to collaborate more closely there.

 - In partnership with Oxfam and the Norwegian Refugee Commission (NRC), IOM is leading the Solar-Water Initiative, which is working to mainstream the use of solar technology in water business. IOM is the only organization in the SAFE WG working on this – please contact us if anyone else is doing similar work.

 - Building capacity:
 - IOM is working with WASH coordination groups and existing training centers in East Africa to develop courses on solar water pumping.
 - The training package can be made available through disasterready.org.

 - Research
 - IOM has some budget to conduct evaluations of existing solar pumping systems (both in and outside of camps) installed prior to 2010 to look at long term sustainability. These would be conducted at the county/community level.

 - Technical Assistance
 - IOM will develop tools for solar pumping technical design and economical evaluation for the Global WASH cluster, to be made available for free by the end of 2017.
 - IOM is running a technical support hotline for anyone who wants to share knowledge or ask questions. We are committed to answer within 3 days.

 - Coordination



- Water professionals from the UN and NGOs are forming a solar pumping technical working group in Nairobi. They will meet on a bi-monthly basis and report to the wider Regional WASH group.
- Advocacy
 - IOM is lobbying internally to the chairs of the Solar-Water Initiative to raise the profile of energy activities in their work, as well as to donors (especially ECHO) for inclusion of solar energy issues in their strategic documents at the regional and country level.
- **UNHCR**
 - Lots going on in 2017. Quick summary of activities:
 - UNHCR Energy & Environment is focusing on technical support in 2017.
 - 10 countries of focus
 - Large programs with the IKEA Foundation
 - We have two large project proposals out, including one to the Green Climate Fund.
 - One waste management programme that includes solar energy
 - On resources:
 - Developing a guide on solar water pumping. * Follow up with IOM
 - Developing a guide on community lighting
 - Analyses in Ethiopia
 - Partnerships with Schneider Electric and Euro Electric.
 - Getting into green micro-financing.
- **Moving Energy Initiative (represented by Chatham House)**
 - MEI has released a [call for proposals](#) for organizations to do low carbon energy projects in displacement settings (due February 25th). Projects will take place in Kakuma camp, Kenya; Goudoubou camp, Burkina Faso; and Jordan. Funding amounts are between £50,000 to £200,000 UK.
 - Alliance: As an MEI partner, will UNHCR be on the selection committee?
 - CH: They will be involved in the assessment phase. UNHCR will not be applying for any projects.
 - ILF: Is the focus of the initiative more on the methodology of providing energy in a sustainable way versus the technology itself?
 - CH: The methodology should be the focus.
 - Alliance: Is the focus of the RFP on promoting private sector engagement?
 - CH: It's more on promoting partnerships between the private sector and humanitarian organizations. That will be highly encouraged.
 - Upcoming Activities
 - MEI will be implementing small projects in the three proposal locations and will report on results at the end of the year.
 - MEI will conduct research on developing local markets, restructuring infrastructure management contracts; and the energy use of humanitarian organizations themselves.



- On technical support, MEI will produce a guide for how humanitarian organizations can capture energy data in future, including energy in urban settings.
- On advocacy and partnerships, MEI will continue to spread the word at events throughout the year.
 - There is an energy and water working group forming in Jordan. MEI will work to align with this work in Jordan. * Collaborate with IOM.

Organizational Updates

- **GIZ**
 - Will contribute work plan information during the March call.
 - GIZ is restructuring internally and the poverty-oriented basic energy services program (HERA) will be closing, but GIZ will continue to work in this area.
- **MercyCorps**
 - Mercy Corps will submit its work plan in June, when the new budget period starts.
 - The next issue of [Boiling Point](#) magazine will go out in May. The University of Edinburgh is the host editor, and the theme is improved cookstoves. There is also a place for news items if anyone wants to submit.
- **International Lifeline Fund**
 - ILF continues to work on its Burundi program in partnership with WFP. Phase 4 will launch soon, with the goal to distribute low cost (below \$5) firewood stoves to 6000 households, as well as institutional rocket stoves. 2000 household stoves were produced in 2016 with the community members and over 200 Institutional stoves will be built in 2017.

Actions Planned

Who	What
ALL	Notify and coordinate with the WG if your organization plans to attend the SE4All Forum.
Steering Committee members (Associate members optional)	Please complete annual work plans (if not done already) and share with the Co-Chairs at the earliest convenience.
Organizations working on solar water pumping	Contact IOM to collaborate on this issue
UNHCR & IOM	Connect on solar water pumping guidelines
Chatham House & IOM	Connect on Energy & water working group in Jordan.

List of Participants

Meeting Chair: Kathleen Callaghy, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves



Organization	Name
<i>Co-Chairs</i>	
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Jonas Bervoets
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)	Kathleen Callaghy
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Energy Access Practitioner Network (EAPN)	Luc Severi
International Lifeline Fund (ILF)	Vahid Jahangiri, Allison Filler
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Virginie Viaene
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Chatham House (CH) <i>*Moving Energy Initiative (MEI)</i>	Owen Grafham
Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)	Semira Tesfamicael, Cristina Sonzogni
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Anja Rohde
Joint OCHA/UNEP Environment Unit (JEU)	Kati Wenzel

Apologies

Organization	Name
World Food Programme (WFP)	Daphné Carliez
Practical Action <i>*Moving Energy Initiative (MEI)</i>	Mattia Vianello