



SAFE Humanitarian Working Group (SAFE WG) Monthly Conference Call Meeting Minutes February 12, 2018

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

SAFE Working Group Updates

Welcome to new participants

- Fatou Giwa, Deputy Representative for UN Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), joined the call for the first time. UN Women was founded in 2010 and works in five pillars – enhancing women’s economic empowerment, ending violence against women, increasing women’s leadership and participation, engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes, and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women DRC is based in Kinshasa and does a lot of humanitarian work with refugees and IDPs in Goma and Bukavu. Fuel access among women there is a big issue – they need to have better and cheaper access. UN women joins today’s call as a guest, but is interested in joining the SAFE Working Group in future.

Co-Chair Elections, 2018

- Co-Chair responsibilities, per the SAFE WG Terms of Reference:
 - The SAFE Working Group chairs are responsible for managing and coordinating the Working Group, which includes leading discussions, organizing meetings, and drafting group documents including strategies, terms of references, agendas, and meeting minutes.
 - Chairing organizations also manage roles and responsibilities for joint deliverables, follow up on deadlines with members, and promote information sharing among members. Chairs serve as the main points of contact for all members of the SAFE Working Group.
 - Additional note: The above responsibilities can be divided between co-chair organizations as needed per their capacities.
- Nominations
 - The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves volunteers to continue in its current Co-Chair role for 2018, and continue to support the SAFE web platforms (SAFE website, ENERGYCoP, Twitter, email).
 - No other nominations have been recorded at this time, but internal discussions are ongoing.
- ***Additional nominations and the election of a new co-chair will take place via email among the Steering Committee members over the next few weeks, and will be announced at the March meeting.**



New Membership Application & Profile

- The Alliance has circulated a draft of a new application form / member profile for SAFE WG members. As discussed during the in-person meeting in Nairobi, this form is meant to gather more detailed information about each Working Group member's area(s) of expertise and particular contributions to the working group, so that we can better plan activities and accommodate external requests for expertise on specific issues.
- Feedback Discussion:
 - The form will be for existing members as well as new applicants. Once finalized, all existing members will be asked to fill out a new profile. The draft indicates which parts of the form will be public on the SAFE Website.
 - The majority of new questions on the form are for the purpose of data collection and coordination of activities versus assessing fitness for membership. In principle, any organization with an interest in humanitarian energy programming who can fulfill the requirements for their membership tier (Steering Committee or Associate) is eligible to join. Steering Committee members are additionally required to be fuel and technology neutral. In assessing whether to admit an organization as a member at either level, the Co-Chairs (for Associate members) or the Steering Committee (for Steering Committee members) consider the organization's potential contributions to the goals of the SAFE WG.
 - ***Please submit any additional comments on the form to info@safefuelandenergy.org by COB Feb 23rd.**

Global Plan of Action (GPA) for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement

- On January 15-16, 120 delegates from UN agencies, donors, private companies, and civil society gathered at the GIZ Representation in Germany to launch and participate in the development of a global, multi-stakeholder plan of action on energy access for displaced people.
- Summaries of the event proceedings are available in an [MEI press release](#) and [Alliance newsletter article](#). Photos, presentations, and background documents are available from UNITAR on [Dropbox](#).
- The event was supported by the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and organized by a team consisting of UNHCR, IOM, UNITAR, GIZ, the Moving Energy Initiative, Practical Action, the Alliance, and UNF.
- Over the next several months, a steering team consisting of the agencies who organized the conference (see above) is leading the first stage of development for the GPA. Within this, technical leads have been identified to coordinate activities and input for the plan across the five working areas that were addressed in Berlin:
 - Planning and Coordination – Lead: Kathleen Callaghy, the Alliance
 - Policy and Advocacy – Lead: Owen Grafham, Chatham House
 - Innovative Finance – Lead: Ben Good, Energy4Impact
 - Technical Expertise and Capacity Building – Lead: Aimee Jenks, UNITAR
 - Data, Evidence and Monitoring – Lead: Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen, Practical Action
- Participation in the five working areas, or the steering team, is open to all. General inquiries can be sent to energy@unitar.org.



- Development of a full plan at this level will take several years. In recognition of this, the organizing team is planning two interim outputs are planned for July 2018:
 - A **high level political document** advocating the need for a Global Plan of Action addressing energy access for displaced and crisis-affected people and for formal commitments to make it successful. This document will contribute to the review of [Sustainable Development Goal \(SDG\) 7](#) and will be launched at the [High Level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#) in July 2018.
 - A **working-level roadmap** to serve as the base (outline) for an effective Global Plan of Action. Using this roadmap and a series of key actions as identified through the working groups initiated in Berlin, the Global Plan of Action will be developed.
- Discussion:
 - There will be plenty of opportunities for input into the GPA. It is a living document that will go through many stages.
 - The GPA is being developed in alignment with the goal of SDG 7 – affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Right now is a good time to be pushing for a recognition of this need in humanitarian contexts.
 - Proceeding to concrete actions will be a challenge.
 - Organizations that have been involved with the SAFE Working Group for many years, including ILF, the World Food Programme, and the Women’s Refugee Commission, are being consulted to learn from their previous efforts and challenges in advancing this issue at the policy level. The organizing team has been very open to feedback.
 - The intention is for the GPA to align (and not conflict) with existing related global agreements beyond SDG 7, including the [Agenda for Humanity](#) and the [Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework \(CRRM\)](#).

Ongoing Emergencies

Bangladesh – Rohingya refugees

- UNHCR, IOM, FAO, and WFP have been collaborating with the Bangladesh government to assess possible cooking solutions for the refugees, with an emphasis on approaches that reduce the rapid environmental degradation in Cox’s Bazaar due to using wood for cooking and building shelters. The Alliance has been participating in the process and provided technical advice to the organizations and the government. There is general preference at this point for a liquid petroleum gas (LPG) stove and fuel intervention. UNHCR, IOM, FAO and WFP are developing a proposal to fund such a project. The Alliance has reviewed and provided comments.
 - The joint proposal is great news in terms of coordination among agencies and is built around the added-value of each.
 - A few donors have demonstrated interest for the proposal based on its joint and coordinated nature.
 - Several assessments on the cooking and wood fuel situation in the camps were conducted by IOM, FAO, UNHCR, WFP and other agencies last year. (These can be found



on [ENERGYCoP](#) – search keyword “Bangladesh”) While they all focused on slightly different things, they are more or less aligned.

- An assessment of possible cooking solutions was conducted by Paul Quigley (UNHCR) in October/November 2017, with a final recommendation to do an LPG intervention. For now this is still internal.
- Prior to the full-scale LPG intervention, FAO will implement a small pilot distribution, funded by the government of Ireland.
- An Energy and Environment Working Group (EEWG) has been established to coordinate activities. The group reports to the shelter cluster. A SAFE Coordinator, Benoit Mazy, has been hired and is working with this group. The group provides information on current and planned activities in the field, assessments being done and coordinate on particular topics (CRH briquettes for instance)
 - Currently, the group is coordinating activities around cooking and the environment; not all energy-related interventions in the camps. These interventions depends on other clusters.
 - The original intention was to establish a local SAFE Working Group, but it was deemed necessary to expand the mandate to include environment since many issues overlapped (e.g soil erosion due to deforestation and disaster preparedness).
 - ***Organizations interested to become members of the EETWG can send an email to eetwgcoord.cxb@gmail.com and Benoit.mazy@wfp.org.**
- GIZ currently considering providing solar lanterns in the camps and has also been approached for stoves. Inga and Florent will follow up to coordinate between FAO and GIZ.

Puerto Rico – Hurricane Maria Relief

- Mercy Corps is entering its second phase of energy assistance (see January meeting minutes for full details). The first stage involved distribution of some pico-solar products with Total. Mercy Corps has a report on those received. Phase II focuses more on energy infrastructure.

Events

Global SDG 7 Conference, February 21-23, 2018, Bangkok

- UNITAR and the Alliance are co-hosting a side event on the Global Plan of Action on February 21st from 8:30-10:00 am. GIZ will attend.
- The Alliance is hosting a plenary session on February 21 from 1:10 – 2:40 entitled *Clean cooking solutions: Turning up the heat to accelerate progress on SDG7*. Thomas Fohgrub from UNITAR will participate in the panel to talk about humanitarian settings and talk about the Global plan of Action.

Side Event on High Tech for Humanitarian Aid: EU Industry Day, February 23, Brussels

- The Moving Energy Initiative has been invited to give a presentation on energy. Seeking innovative responses from companies.



Sustainable Energy Forum for East Africa, March 19-21, Kigali

- No specific focus on humanitarian, but we are looking for opportunities to insert it.
- Some FAO in-country FAO staff will join, although their focus is development. A few colleagues from FAO working in development will join. UNHCR will be there representing the Jordan project, and some colleagues from GIZ-Endev can probably attend.
- MEI's advisory committee is interested in being involved. Suggest asking Practical Action about whether and how to feature humanitarian.

Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll) Forum, Lisbon, May 2-3

- Energy in Humanitarian settings will be featured in a Deep Dive session on May 3rd from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm. The Alliance and UNF have suggested the names of high-level panelists to SEforAll.
- Last year's forum brought together more than 1000 people. MEI held a dedicated session on energy and humanitarian as a side event.

InterAction Forum 2018, June 12-14, Washington DC

- The Alliance applied for and was granted a space to host a panel entitled "*Leaving No One Behind: Advancing Energy Access in Humanitarian Crises.*" This will be the first time this issue is addressed at the InterAction Forum. Any partners present in DC, please let the Alliance know if you would like to participate.

High Level Political Forum (HLPF), July 9-18, New York City

- SDG 7 will a point of focus at HLPF this year.
- The working level roadmap of the Global Plan of Action (see above) is planned for launch at HLPF. UN DESA is partnering and has reserved a spot in the agenda for this. See recent [policy brief](#) for more information. The brief will be revised based on public consultation.

Organizational Updates

COOPI

- As part of [Sustainable Energy Technologies for Food Security in Humanitarian Contexts](#) (SET4food) initiative, COOPI has launched a [Call for Case Studies](#) to select significant examples of sustainable energy actions in humanitarian settings. **Deadline for Applications is March 2nd 2018.** The best case studies will be awarded in a ceremony during a special event organized by the SET4food initiative, in the spotlight of relevant humanitarian and development international organizations, donors, and private sector companies. The award event will be held in Milan - Italy, on 12 April 2018.

FAO

- FAO will hold an event on solar irrigation in 12-13 April in Rome. A session on solar storage is also foreseen.



- The woodfuel supply and demand assessment jointly led by FAO and UNHCR in the South of Chad (Goré) will be published in the coming weeks
- FAO and UNHCR will jointly assess the woodfuel supply around camps in Uganda and Kenya
- A joint FAO – UNHCR – WFP woodfuel supply and demand assessment will be performed in three locations in Nigeria
- The North-Eastern Nigeria SAFE working group just published the [minimum standards on Gender for SAFE programming](#).

Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

- Awardees for the Alliance’s new Humanitarian Clean Cooking Fund (HCCF) are now public. The Alliance will issue a formal announcement at the end of the month. Two projects will take place this year:
 - Gaia Association will conduct a two-pronged stove and fuel intervention in Sherkole and Bambasi camps in Ethiopia – ethanol fuel with the CleanCook stove, and charcoal briquettes with the Obamastove. The two-pronged approach was envisioned because Gaia found in the pilot project that refugees preferred to use both simultaneously – adjusting for different kinds of cooking or supply shortages when needed. Gaia will launch businesses to both assemble and sell stoves and the charcoal briquettes in the camp, employing refugee and host community members as sales agents and assemblers. UNHCR will soon launch a cash program in the camps that will provide refugees with a voucher they can use to purchase fuel.
 - Inyenyeri will scale up an intervention in Kigeme camp, Rwanda, where refugees will use cash transfers to purchase Inyenyeri fuel pellets and, in exchange, Inyenyeri will lease them a Mimi Moto stove. In the pilot version of the project it was found that while refugees enjoyed the stove, most had difficulty purchasing more than the minimum amount of pellets per month, which was not enough for their needs. Berkeley Air Monitoring Group will conduct a kitchen performance test (KPT) to help determine how many pellets each household would need to cover all of its cooking needs. UNHCR will use this information to help decide on an appropriate amount for the cash transfer. The IKEA Foundation is also funding the project.

ILF

- ILF has completed the first round of a project with Oregon State University using fuel sensors to assess decision-making features on cookstove adoption. Second phase in the coming months.
- Recently finished a mission on Burundi. ILF is on track to produce 57,000 stoves efficient wood-burning stoves in partnership with WFP. Also potentially 1000 institutional stoves. The project is completely ground-up – the community has been engaged in the project and adoption is very high. A third-party assessment on adoption
- Third party assessment on adoption – over 98%



Moving Energy Initiative (shared by Chatham House)

- Published a new study on January 30th, [Prices, Products and Priorities: Meeting Refugees' Energy Needs in Burkina Faso and Kenya](#)
- We continue our cooperative in GPA; also thinking of ways to reach out to major donors to get their engagement and support on the plan.
- USAID Mastercard smart communities workshop in Nairobi. Owen will be attending. We will continue our involvement and see what it brings.
- April workshop in Jordan – UN NGOs government, sharing lessons and experience. Approval on solar water heating for hospitals in northern Jordan

Mercy Corps

- Probably participating in Kenya workshop with regional staff and certainly participating in the Uganda one, which should be coming up in April
- The Diesel2Solar concept to shift one UNHCR office from running a generator to purchasing electricity from a solar system is gaining internal support and falls within a broader initiative, that includes connectivity for refugees, under the Smart Communities Coalition (led by USAID Power Africa and MasterCard).

Actions Planned

Who	What
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Submit any additional Co-Chair nominations to info@safefuelandenergy.org by March 5 th
ALL MEMBERS	Submit any additional comments on the new membership form/profile to info@safefuelandenergy.org by COB Feb 23rd.
Any interested organizations	Apply to SET4Food's Call for Case studies by March 2. Call for Case Studies

List of Participants

Meeting Chair: Kathleen Callaghy, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

Organization	Name
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Florent Eveille
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)	Kathleen Callaghy
United Nations Foundation	Luc Severi
International Lifeline Fund (ILF)	Vahid Jahangiri, Alison Filler
Mercy Corps	Raffaella Bellanca
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Madeleine Marara



COOPI-Cooperazione Internazionale	Cristina Sonzogni
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Chatham House (representing Moving Energy Initiative)	Owen Grafham, Glada Lahn
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Inga Buchholz
<i>Guests</i>	
UN Women, DRC Representation	Fatou Giwa