



**SAFE Humanitarian Working Group Monthly Conference Call
Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2018**

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

SAFE Working Group Updates

SAFE Workshop & Conference 2019

- The Alliance has confirmed funding for a SAFE Workshop & Conference in 2019. The date and location are to be determined, but it not be until April, at the earliest, in order to leave time for planning.
 - Ideally the event can be timed to complement another event relevant to the sector.
 - The location will still be somewhere in Sub-Saharan Africa, since it is still the region where most of our stakeholders are to be found. However, the Alliance also has 2019 funding for an additional, smaller event that can be held elsewhere, e.g. southeast Asia.
- Given the growth and increasing diversity of actors attending the workshop each year, the goal is to “upgrade” the SAFE Workshop in 2019 to a SAFE Workshop & Conference.
 - It is envisioned as a week-long event, with 2 days assigned for just the workshop/training portion with limited participants (beginners to the sector, field teams etc.), and 2-3 days of higher-level conference proceedings (panels, breakout sessions, etc.) open to anyone.
- ***Members to discuss ideal dates, locations, key topics, themes, and indicate interest in planning.**

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

- UNITAR and the other members of the GPA Steering Group are working on translating the [GPA Framework document](#), a set of 60+ recommendations, into a cohesive Work Plan. This is being done in coordination with various stakeholders.
 - Revisions to the workplan are invited from now through the **December 14**. However, the review & drafting period is likely to be extended into January.
 - To receive updates on the process or participate in any of the workstreams, [sign up for the GPA mailing list](#).

UN Energy

- Update for our sector: [UN-Energy](#), the United Nations’ mechanism for inter-agency collaboration in the field of energy, has recently undergone a leadership transition.
 - The body was originally formed in 2004 as a subsidiary of the Chief Executive Board, reporting to the High-Level Committee on Programmes; however, it has been relatively inactive in recent years, and did not focus on humanitarian issues.
 - It is a collective of UN agencies working on energy that includes FAO, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, UN Foundation, and others. More of a facilitation body than an implementing body.



- Recently (June 2018), UN Energy was re-established with two co-chairs – Achim Steiner of UNDP and Rachel Kyte of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL). Their job is to make sure anything related to the UN and energy happens in a much more coordinated way.
 - At this point, it's unclear what form this will take. UN Energy might serve as a platform for coordination. It does look like they may choose several sectors to focus on, including humanitarian.
 - The development was announced at the World Health Organization (WHO)'s [Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health](#) (October 30 – November 1) in Geneva.
- Think there's a potential for collaboration with SAFE WG, but we will have to wait and see.
- The UN Energy Secretariat sits at UN DESA.
- No clear answer yet on how this development will impact the GPA.

2018 Wrap-up

- Next Meeting is December 12th. Preview of topics to be discussed by Steering Committee (Associate members welcome to listen):
 - 2019 Co-chair elections
 - Role of the SAFE WG in 2019 in the context of GPA, SEforAll, other overlapping initiatives, including but not limited to:
 - Update of Terms of Reference?
 - Update Advocacy strategy?
 - Capacity & support issues

Events

This portion of the agenda was skipped in November to allow more time for the guest presentation.

Guest Presentation –

Sanitation, Lighting, and Gender-based Violence (GBV) in Camps

Presenter: Rachel Hastie, Oxfam

Presentation slides and preview version of the study will be circulated to the members. The following notes are summary only and should be read in concert with those materials.

- Research was launched under the Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF).
- Goal: **Assess how lighting in or around sanitation facilities affects the risk of gender-based violence in camps.**
- Case studies: Nigeria, Iraq, Uganda, Bangladesh (Cox's Bazaar, Rohingya population)
- Products given: handheld solar lights in Nigeria, installation of fixed solar wall lights in Iraq and of solar lamp posts in Uganda
- Went back after some time and carried out endline
- Overall findings:
 - Lighting is part of a larger framework
 - Lighting has been provided in a very ad hoc manner; no coordination



- FAO comment: Highlights the need to refer to the local SAFE working group (notably for Nigeria, Uganda and Cox's Bazaar)
- One of the worst places is the big Rohingya camp. "Illuminated sticks" were observed as one solution people were using.
- Most of the standards (e.g. the Sphere Handbook) talk about "adequate" lighting, but this isn't defined.
- Access to lighting as gendered – females, elderly and displaced people seem to have less access.
 - FAO comment: "Minimum standards on Gender for SAFE programming" in North East Nigeria states: Ensure that the most vulnerable women and adolescent girls have equal access to SAFE interventions as do men and adolescent boys.
- Too many donors see lighting as a "nice to have," unless you can present it as a safety issue.
- Women going out after dark are seen with suspicion, especially in Iraq
- Large-scale cheap production of solar devices. Linked to mobile phones. Sources of light were really important – especially to men. Women were not really able to engage in economic activity.
- 3k -5k lights planned for Rohingya camps
- Danish Refugee Agency implemented good practices in Rhino camp in Uganda – community ownership of the lighting solution helped to keep it safe from theft and/or damage.
- Gave 2 lights to each household in some households in Rohingya camp; one

Q&A

- UNHCR: Very useful, especially for actual guidance, but also because UNHCR's project in Tanzania is good case study – useful application of such research. Three points to get back to:
 - Lack of standards; which is why UNHCR is working on guidance
 - Poor coordination between humanitarian actors; example of Cox's Bazaar. Source of constant questioning. Tendency of humanitarian actors to think they will find the best technological solution.
 - People feel safer when they have control over the lighting – link between level of community ownership and sustainability of the project. But when you are in the field it's very hard to advocate for this. Does Oxfam have more extensive research on this?
 - Rachel: This issue is interesting when considering public lighting. IOM put in street lighting and people in the community were responsible for each lamp. One of the stories people had told Rachel: a thief had come to steal the battery from one of the lights, and the people around had been prepped already, so they ran and got the lighting group, who chased off the thief. "This is our light." Children may throw stones at it.
 - No public lighting allowed in Nigeria, and people who had handheld were told by the military to hold them down because they might be shocked by drones that assumed them to be military/combatants.
- FAO: Has UNHCR looked at the Lighting Global standards?



- UNHCR is now using the [Lighting global quality standards](#), but they are not (yet) mandatory. They are good for quality but can be bad for market development. It's smarter to have a diversification of products to displaced people because of the different needs
- Rachel: problem we found was that local traders stock really poor quality lights. Local traders suffer quite heavily when humanitarians flood the market with free products. They welcome the idea of a voucher program so they could provide better quality products to the refugees
- Re: the Rohingya situation, FAO is working with IOM, WFP, and UNHCR to roll out LPG stoves in the camps.

Organizational Updates

NOTE: Members were asked to submit updates by email this month to leave more time for the guest presentation.

GIZ

- GIZ has recently been commissioned by the German Ministry to conduct a cooperation program with UNHCR addressing several issues, energy included; energy window in two country contexts. Not the full global spectrum of countries.
 - 6 million Euro budget for three years.
 - Partnering with UNHCR Geneva, but implementation will be in the two countries.
 - Covering both institutional and household energy; camp infrastructure. Connecting community entities

Clean Cooking Alliance (formerly Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves)

- As of October 2018, the Alliance has changed its name and logo to the Clean Cooking Alliance. The new name better reflects our focus on the entire clean cooking value chain (users, stoves, fuels, etc.) as opposed to just cookstoves. You can learn more in our [press release](#).
- The Alliance hosted the first [Clean Cooking Investment Forum](#) on November 5-6 in Kigali. Although the event focused on market development, the Alliance's humanitarian team hosted a humanitarian session to raise awareness and discuss challenges and solutions in fostering collaborations on clean cooking between the humanitarian, development, private, and financial sectors. Roughly 50 people attended of the Forum's overall 250. Most represented NGOs or small cooking businesses, reflecting the need to pull in more investment stakeholders.
- The Alliance went on two site visits in November -- one to Rwanda and one to Ethiopia -- to view our Humanitarian Clean Cooking Grantee projects with Inyenyeri and the Gaia Association, respectively. The trips were very positive and extremely valuable for learning. Kathleen will follow up individually with some members on potential collaboration and/or lessons.



FAO

- FAO continues to work on solar powered irrigation. Recently completed a training on the solar irrigation toolbox in Kenya and commissioned three pumps in North East Nigeria.
- Work on the Rohingya situation in Cox’s Bazaar is ongoing.
 - The Energy and Environment Technical Working Group (EETWG) in Cox’s Bazaar recently published a [map on planting / reforestation efforts](#) in the area on Reliefweb.

Oxfam

- Oxfam has published all the materials from the Global Solar and Water Initiative on EnergyPedia, including the recent [Solar Pumping Toolkit](#).

Practical Action (in absentia)

- Two weeks ago during the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum Practical Action (on behalf of the Moving Energy Initiative) held the first regional discussion around energy needs for refugees in West Africa. The panel discussion was great as it led some West Africa key leaders from government, regional agencies, and private sector to think about challenges and opportunities to meet the needs of over 2.6M displaced people in the region.
- Practical Action has released a French-language version of the *Prices, Products and Priorities* report ([here](#)).
- More material about our work in Burkina is also out on our website, but it will be launched later on.

Chatham House (in absentia)

- The Moving Energy Initiative hosted a Voices of America (VOA) town hall event in Kakuma taking place today. This is the first VOA broadcast from a refugee camp, and it focuses on energy! We will be disseminating outcomes over the next weeks.
- Several papers due out in the next few weeks.
 - *Costs of Fueling Humanitarian Aid* should be online next week along with the toolkit which shows how humanitarian agencies how they can get started, make savings on and improvements to their own energy use— many of the SAFE members helped with research.

Actions Planned

Who	What
ALL MEMBERS	SAFE workshop – suggest ideal dates, locations, key topics, themes, and indicate interest in planning/co-sponsoring. Send all emails either to Kathleen (kcallaghy@cleancookingalliance.org) or to the group.
Steering Committee Members	Come to December meeting prepared to discuss 2019 co-chairship of the Working Group and other issues concerning next year.



List of Participants

Meeting Chair: Kathleen Callaghy, Clean Cooking Alliance

* = Moving Energy Initiative (MEI) consortium member

Organization	Name
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Clean Cooking Alliance	Kathleen Callaghy, Jescinta Izevbigie
COOPI-Cooperazione internazionale	Emanuela Cappuccini, Federico Remonada
Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)	Florent Eveillé
International Lifeline Fund (ILF)	Alison Filler
United Nations Foundation	Luc Severi
UNHCR	Julie Gassien
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Engineers without Borders	Elizabeth Joyce
World LPG Association	Michael Kelly
Oxfam	Asenath Ndegwa, Rachel Hastie
GIZ	Inga Bucholz
Project Gaia	Chido Munangagwa
<i>Guests</i>	
Johns Hopkins University	Anita Shankar, Naira Kalra
<i>Apologies</i>	
Chatham House*	Glada Lahn
Practical Action*	Mattia Vianello