



**SAFE Humanitarian Working Group (SAFE WG) Monthly Conference Call
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2018**

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

SAFE Working Group Updates

Welcome New Participants

- Nicole Bouris, Lighting Global (LG)
 - Lighting Global has been a SAFE member for some time and has always been philosophically aligned with the work SAFE is doing, but recent capacity challenges made it difficult to participate for some time. LG is now re-engaging with Nicole as its representative.
 - NOTE: As a global multi-lateral platform, Lighting Global is represented on the SAFE Working Group by Nicole, based in the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and Sam Grant at the Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP), which administers Lighting Global's product database.
 - As the go-to organization in the matter of off-grid solar devices, LG works to create and enable markets in the off-grid sector, thus LG may be of great value to the SAFE Working Group initiative, in two ways:
 - Guidance to UN agencies'/INGO's/NGO's procurement processes;
 - As refugee camps are untapped market places, Lighting Global's work will inform the SAFE Working Group on best practices for market penetration and sustainability.
 - LG has been working with UNHCR since 2014, the process stalled until 2017, when they re-initiated their effort to adjust the technical requirements. The [latest tender](#) that went out had LG certificates as one of the qualification and acceptance requirements for products. See page 4 and annexes.
- Margherita Fanchiotti, UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit (JEU)
 - Joining as a new representative for the JEU.
- Elizabeth Joyce, Engineers without Borders USA (EWB-USA)
 - See membership updates below.
- Aimee Jenks, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
 - Joining as a guest
- Ruchi Soni, UN Foundation (UNF)
 - New member to UNF's energy team; filling in today for Luc Severi.

SAFE Working Group Updates

Membership Updates

- Engineers without Borders USA (EWB-USA) has joined the SAFE Working Group as an Associate member. See their new [membership profile](#).

- EWB-USA is a non-profit organization that partners with organizations and communities worldwide to provide engineering support for a variety of projects, including energy, WASH, sanitation, and agriculture.
 - Past and current work includes 60+ energy projects, including but not limited to solar photovoltaic and solar hot water systems, rural electrification and mini-grids, biogas, solar lighting, cooking fuels and fuel alternatives, energy in building design, and energy efficiency in mechanical and electrical systems.
 - EWB-USA wants to share knowledge and expertise to order to improve the practical delivery of fuel and energy projects and programs in humanitarian settings. We also wish to stay informed of concerns, gaps, trends, or needs in the sector so that we can best support our partners and clients.
- Practical Action is now part of the Steering Committee, as decided by popular vote among the existing Steering Committee members.

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

- *Recap:* A steering group consisting of the UNHCR, UNITAR, IOM, GIZ, the Alliance, UNF, Practical Action, and the Moving Energy Initiative is leading the development of a Global Plan of Action with the vision to provide every person affected by conflict or natural disaster with access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services by 2030.
 - The steering group oversees smaller working groups that are developing five key working areas of the GPA: Planning & Coordination; Policy, Advocacy, and Host Country Resilience; Innovative Finance; Technical Expertise, Capacity Building, and Training; and Data, Monitoring, Evidence, and Reporting.
 - Learn more at <http://onlinelearning.unitar.org/global-plan-of-action/>
- The Steering Group will soon release a 30 page document for public and expert comment.
 - This is a “working level roadmap” of the GPA; it provides an overview of the sector, key challenges, and recommended short, medium, and long-term actions / solutions for stakeholders to take. It will be presented at the High Level Political Forum in July.
 - Instructions will go out to the SAFE Listserv and other communities for how to participate in the comment process.
- NORCAP has released an TOR for the employment of a dedicated coordinator to assist GPA efforts going forward. Applications are due 5/27 and may be found [here](#).

Working Group Membership

- The Terms of Reference for the SAFE Working Group (i.e. terms of participation for member organizations) are due to be updated, but this is on hold as most of the Steering Committee members are heavily engaged in the GPA at the moment.
- In the meantime, the Alliance continues to work to update membership information for current SAFE WG members and re-engage inactive partners.
- ***All members who have not yet submitted updated profiles, do so as soon as possible.**

National Working Groups

- National SAFE working groups (or similar bodies for coordinating humanitarian energy assistance) now exist in Bangladesh, Uganda, South Kivu (Democratic Republic of Congo), Northeast Nigeria, Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh), Burundi, Kenya, and possibly Ethiopia (TBC).
- The Alliance and FAO have been engaging some of them to get their input on the Coordination and Planning chapter of the GPA 30-page document.
- SNV reached out on behalf of the Kenya group to ask if it would be possible for them to have a page on the SAFE website. The Alliance supports this idea and will discuss with all of the local working groups as possible.

Energy Expert Roster

- *Recap:* Recognizing the need for technical and programmatic support and capacity building for energy initiatives in humanitarian settings, the Alliance recruited for and launched the [SAFE Energy Expert Roster](#) in late 2016.
- Several members of the original 15-person roster have now moved on to other positions (leaving roughly 8 active members), but the Alliance has not done another round of recruitment because we have been developing a partnership with [NORCAP](#), the Norwegian Refugee Commission (NRC's) expert deployment capacity, which manages most of the humanitarian expert rosters that exist. The goal is that NORCAP would eventually "adopt" the SAFE Energy Expert Roster, as it has more expertise, resources, and capacity in this area than the Alliance.
- The Alliance and NORCAP submitted a joint proposal to the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) for the establishment of an energy expert roster within NORCAP.
 - The proposal has been provisionally approved, and NORCAP is moving forward with an assessment phase of the project to determine where humanitarian energy expertise is most needed, as well as what kind of skills. An TOR for an 8 month contract to do the assessments will be released soon. It will be shared to the SAFE Listserv.
 - Ruchi (UNF) has done similar initiatives in the past and would be happy to assist.

Events

Recent Events

[Sustainable Energy for All \(SEforAll\) Forum](#), Lisbon, May 2-3

- UNF: Overall, the event had a very nice turnout – 900 people from 100 countries. Big increase in the number of countries since 2017.
- Energy in Humanitarian Settings was featured in a Deep Dive session at SEforALL on May 3rd from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm. It featured a high level panel including:
 - Sheila Oparaocha International Coordinator and Programme Manager, Energia (moderator);
 - Hon. Simon D'Ujanga Minister of State for Energy, Uganda;
 - Andrew Harper Director, Division of Programme Support and Management, UNHCR;
 - Michael Keating, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Somalia, United Nations (also founder of the Moving Energy Initiative);

- Tara Nathan Executive Vice President, Public Private Partnerships, MasterCard, who spoke about the [Smart Communities Coalition](#) that MasterCard has launched with USAID; and
- Andreas Spiess CEO, SolarKiosk.
- The Deep Dive session even being included in the program was remarkable, as it is the first time that humanitarian issues have been formally recognized at the Forum. The panelists generated a sense of urgency and passion on this issue. The GPA was highlighted by Andrew Harper, as well as the Alliance and Practical Action, who participated in the Q&A. Lots of people came up afterwards to ask about the GPA and how to get involved.
- There may be a summary of the Forum coming out, but it will probably be a while.

Vienna Energy Forum, May 14th-16th Vienna, Austria

- The SAFE WG has tried participating in this event in the past, but no distinct outcomes yet
- ***If any members attended this year, please notify the co-chairs**

Upcoming Events

Innovate4Climate, May 22-24, 2017, Frankfurt, Germany

- Suggested as a potential avenue for SAFE, but no direct link this year known.
- ***If anyone plans to attend this year, please notify the co-chairs**

Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) 2018, June 4-8, 2018

- No direct link for humanitarian this year, but might be a good future tie-in, especially with the Rohingya situation in Bangladesh.
 - Jem at UNF used to Coordinate ACEF in a previous job, and may have contacts that would be helpful.
- ***If anyone plans to attend this year, please notify the co-chairs**

InterAction Forum 2018, June 12-14, Washington DC, USA

- *Recap:* The Alliance will host a panel entitled “*Leaving No One Behind: Advancing Energy Access in Humanitarian Crises.*” This will be the first time that energy access in humanitarian settings is addressed at the InterAction Forum. Any SAFE WG members who will be in DC at that time are welcome, although registration is expensive.
- Speakers for this session are now confirmed: Dan Wolf from ILF, David Nicholson from Mercy Corps, and Kathleen Auth from USAID / Power Africa to talk about the Smart Communities Coalition.

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

- *Recap:* The working level roadmap of the GPA (see above) is planned for launch at HLPF. UN DESA is partnering and has reserved a spot in the agenda for this.
- The GPA Steering Group produced a Policy Brief on Energy in Situations of Displacement, which is available [here](#) (Policy Brief #17, page 135).

Organization Updates

Lighting Global

- LG recently had a call with UNITAR to understand the GPA, and Nicole has joined the Technical Capacity working group.
- IFC has released a new study, [Kakuma as a Marketplace](#). Large camps like this are untapped marketplaces because aid is not available for all of the services, and one of these services is energy.
- Had a call with Pawame, a member of the Smart Communities Coalition. They are trying to enter Kakuma camp and provide a social impact for the refugees and host communities by employing them as salesmen and sales women and letting them sell the products to their neighbors. This is a practical demonstration of what the study reports.

Alliance

- Humanitarian Clean Cooking Fund grantee projects continue – Inyenyeri in Kigeme Camp, Rwanda, and the Gaia Association in Asosa, Ethiopia. Both projects rely on the UNHCR country office rolling out a cash-based transfer program for the refugees to purchase the cooking solution, but UNHCR's process is delayed in both locations.
- The Alliance and the International Center for Research on women has published a report assessing Inyenyeri's pilot program to bring biomass fuel pellets and Mimi Moto stoves into Kigeme camp, Rwanda.
 - It concludes that while the refugee customers enjoyed the Mimi Moto and experienced several benefits, the solution was too costly for them to pay for in the long term. UNHCR and Inyenyeri plan to address this challenge in UNHCR's upcoming new cash transfer program.
- The Alliance's new CEO has started. Dymphna van der Lans brings 25 years of experience managing and leading global development, energy, and climate initiatives in the non-profit and private sectors. She was previously CEO of Clinton Climate Initiative. More information [here](#).
- Kathleen recently had a discussion with Nordica MacCarty at Oregon State University, which has an entire program dedicated to humanitarian energy. There is potential to follow up with other engineering labs and programs in the US and elsewhere to discuss what engineers can do.
 - EWB-USA would be interested in participating in this.

IOM

- IOM is finalizing the products of the Global Solar WASH initiative. It's a good lead-in to extending the project for another two years.
- IOM is searching for funds to expand energy activities past solar water pumping, including lighting and powering. A concept is in development to hire a dedicated global energy person at IOM for this purpose.
 - LG will be focusing on solar water pumping and refrigeration – interested to learn more.
 - ***IOM & LG to follow up on potential collaboration.**

WFP

- Raffaella has joined WFP quite recently. Interesting operation and energy efficiency program. Hybridized systems in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia. Component of efficiency that counts several smart innovations.

- Writing strategy on SAFE that will develop on WFP's side. WFP wants to look at more than food – assess what WFP's SAFE initiative has been and what it can be.
- There is an update planned for the WFP SAFE Handbook, but it will not happen soon and it's not clear yet who will do it.

Action Items

Who	What
Chatham House, Energy4Impact, FAO, Project Gaia, GIZ, ICEED, Mercy Corps, MSF, UNEP/OCHA Joint Unit, and WFP	Submit updated SAFE Membership profiles to Kathleen as soon as possible.
ALL MEMBERS who were not present on this call	Notify co-chairs if you attended / are planning to attend the Vienna Energy Forum, Innovate4Climate, or ACEF 2018
LG & IOM	Follow up bilaterally on common activities.

List of Participants

Meeting Chair: Kathleen Callaghy, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

Organization	Name
<i>Co-Chairs</i>	
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance)	Kathleen Callaghy, Krista Riddley
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Illaria Sisto
International Organization on Migration (IOM)	Alberto Llarío
UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit (JEU)	Margherita Fanchiotti
United Nations Foundation	Jem Porcaro, Ruchi Soni
World Food Programme	Raffaella Bellanca
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Engineers without Borders USA (EWB)	Elizabeth Joyce
Lighting Global	Nicole Bouris
Project Gaia	Chido Munangagwa
<i>Guests</i>	
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	Aimee Jenks

Apologies

Organization	Name
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Inga Bucholz
International Lifeline Fund (ILF)	Vahid Jahangiri, Alison Filler

