



**SAFE Humanitarian Working Group Monthly Conference Call  
Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2018**

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

## SAFE Working Group Updates

### Introduction to New Members

- [UN Women](#), DRC Country office. Awa Ndiaye Seck and Elizabeth Cook.
  - Greetings from Kinshasa. UN Women has been very active in supporting women in economic empowerment, as well as helping them to access better conditions for cooking. Activities are limited, but we were very happy to get in touch with the Alliance, be part of the SAFE Working Group and listen to what we're doing. In the Kasai region we cannot overlook the issue of Ebola – current victims and those who are living with the virus.

### Introduction to New Participants & Guests

- Julie Gassien (UNHCR) – Formerly worked in the energy office in Chad; joined UNHCR's HQ office in July to work on the nexus between energy and protection issues. Julie works on protection risks, particularly GBV, many of which are related to lack of energy access. Julie will be in Tanzania in a couple of weeks to look at ongoing interventions with the SAFE WG there.
- Linda Boll (Shell Corporation, guest) – Linda oversees Shell's global energy access programs and has spoken to some SAFE members already. Shell is potentially interested in becoming involved in the humanitarian energy space and is currently conducting background research to see where they can add value.
- Aimee Jenks (UNITAR, guest) – Coordinates the activities of the GPA Steering Group (see below)

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

- Status: 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.
  - UNITAR will send the current draft Work Plan to the GPA Steering Group by the end of next week and subsequently to the five working groups – Coordination & Planning, Policy & Advocacy, Innovative Finance, Technical Expertise & Capacity Building, and Data & Evidence Monitoring – in early October.
  - The intention is for the Work Plan to be a locally-driven initiative, aligned with (and contributing to) existing country policies and commitments such as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and the Paris Climate Agreement.
  - **\*All members requested to suggest in-country contacts who may be helpful in this process – people to whom we can start communicating about the GPA.**



- Upcoming [introductory webinar](#) about the GPA on September 25<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the Energy Access Practitioner Network and the Clean Energy Solutions Center. Good opportunity for new people to learn what it's all about.

### SAFE Workshop / Conference

- There will be no global SAFE Workshop in 2018 due to insufficient funding; however, one is now tentatively planned for early 2019.
  - \*Members requested to provide any ideas on potential dates, locations, and themes.
  - Project Gaia suggests to host it in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and would be happy to help.

### SAFE Curriculum Handbook

- The Alliance is assessing the level of effort it would take to produce a full SAFE training curriculum with a “training of trainers” element so that other organizations can hold their own SAFE workshops locally.
  - \*Volunteers requested to help with this scoping phase, as well as suggestions for similar documents to model on (e.g. WFP SAFE Handbook). What should such a curriculum include?
  - The Alliance will coordinate closely with the GPA Training & Capacity Building group to ensure no duplication.
  - UNHCR is working on guidance that could be a tool for end users on community lighting and cooking – probably digital, and easy to use for a non-practitioner.
    - Peer review is a vital part of this process. We need a way to consult actors in the same area to ensure we are not duplicating. There are many different actors, like the GPA, institutions, academics, etc.
    - Julie volunteers to be part of the SAFE Curriculum’s process.
    - \*UNHCR & Lighting Global to connect on the nature of the lighting part of UNHCR’s tool. Does it look at big machines, smaller ones, generic? UNHCR is not sure yet, but they will at least be doing solar street lights.
    - Oxfam’s humanitarian unit is conducting a study assessing whether community lighting actually impacts GBV incidents. UNHCR is already in touch with them.
  - Mercy Corps finally acquired funding to hire someone to develop a training geared towards humanitarian practitioners, specifically with an eye towards reducing protection risk. It might be deployed in some sort of web version.
    - WFP is thinking along similar lines. Not necessarily gender, but a training package for designing sustainable delivery models. WFP and UNITAR are working together on this since Raffaella and Aimee are leading the GPA Technical Expertise and Capacity Building group.
    - \*Alliance, UNHCR, WFP, Mercy Corps & UNITAR to follow up on these activities offline.
  - WLPGA has detailed materials for training end-users to cook with LPG, if the envisioned tools come down to this level. They deal with the challenge of training people who are used to burning firewood for cooking, and getting them used to a fuel they can’t see or touch.



- End user training is definitely a part of what the GPA group Technical Expertise and Capacity Building group will be looking at.

## Events

**AidEx Nairobi Conference**, September 12- 13, 2018, Nairobi, Kenya

**United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Week**, September 18-30, New York City, USA

- The [Global Compact on Refugees](#) will be launched at UNGA, and it includes some language on sustainable energy.
  - UNHCR was approached to communicate about it, but sadly cannot attend.
  - **\*UNCHR to share the relevant chapters of the Compact that discuss energy.**
- The [Business Fights Poverty Group](#) (BFD), who have a focus challenge on inclusive [self-reliance](#), entrepreneurs and private-sector responses to refugee crisis, are writing a report on business models for humanitarian energy. The final product will be launched at an invite-only lunch session on Business and Refugees at UNGA.
  - The paper concerns private sector responses to refugee crises, and the authors interviewed Practical Action, Chatham House, and others on the topic.
  - The paper is part of BFD's Challenge on Business and Refugees with support from Pearson and in partnership with UNHCR, Mercy Corps, Business Call to Action, Innovest Advisory and Thomson Reuters Foundation. It aims to strengthen the foundation for effective partnerships to improve refugees' wellbeing and educational and livelihood opportunities so refugees can thrive, not just survive.

**[Global Plan of Action: Mainstreaming Sustainable Energy Solutions in Displacement Settings](#)**,

WEBINAR, September 25<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Washington DC time.

**[World LPG Forum](#)**, Houston, TX, USA, October 3-4.

- UNHCR has become an observer member of WLPGA, and there will be a humanitarian-related session. UNHCR has been invited, but may or may not be able to attend. **\*WLPGA and UNHCR to follow up offline.**

**[Clean Cooking Investment Forum for East Africa](#)**, November 5-6, Kigali, Rwanda.

- The Alliance is hosting this event. While humanitarian is not a specific focal point of the event, the Alliance intends to incorporate it into talking points for one speaker, in order attract investors already interested in this area and follow up on it during the networking sessions.
  - ILF and Project Gaia may attend.

## Organizational Updates

### UNHCR



- As noted above, UNHCR is working on a guide for cooking energy for inexperienced practitioners to help them build useful projects. Megan Gerrard, former SAFE WG member from the Women’s Refugee Commission, consulted with UNHCR to produce the tool.

**WFP**

- WFP will shortly send out a survey on SAFE activities to its country offices, will share results once received and analyzed.
- WFP will develop a brief to share in a few weeks. Other members’ feedback on the brief would be welcome.
- WFP is also looking at different kinds of assessments for field practitioners to complement the training package, e.g. needs assessments, market scoping, etc. **\*Members requested to provide any examples & templates they are aware of.**

**E4I (Moving Energy Initiative)**

- *Recap:* E4I is conducting a landscaping study that will address how the issue of humanitarian energy has changed in the sector since the Moving Energy Initiative started doing its work three years ago. What are the remaining gaps and opportunities?
  - The study will be short; should be complete by November. It could serve as a good “state of the sector” summary at the next SAFE Working Group meeting.

**Project Gaia**

- Project Gaia continues to implement its project in two Assosa-region camps in Ethiopia, bringing ethanol and charcoal briquette interventions to the refugees and host community. The goal is 2000 of each type of stove & fuel intervention to the refugee households. Phase I will distribute free stoves and fuel to particularly vulnerable households. The second phase is commercial distribution, in which refugee cooperatives will produce and sell the stoves and fuels, and other refugees will purchase them using vouchers from UNHCR. In this way PG hopes that the project will become self-sustaining over the long term.

**Actions Planned**

Who	What
ALL MEMBERS	Suggest in-country contacts who may be helpful in the process of raising awareness about the GPA at the field level and developing or reporting activities that align with it. Email Kathleen or <a href="mailto:info@safefuelandenergy.org">info@safefuelandenergy.org</a>
ALL MEMBERS	Next SAFE workshop will occur in early 2019. Please share your thoughts on potential dates, locations, and themes. What should we make sure to include this time? Email Kathleen or <a href="mailto:info@safefuelandenergy.org">info@safefuelandenergy.org</a>



Alliance, UNHCR, WFP, Mercy Corps, UNITAR, and any other interested members	Follow up on existing and/or planned SAFE-related training curricula.
UNHCR	Share the relevant chapters of the Global Compact on Refugees that discuss energy
UNHCR & WLPGA	Follow up on WLPGA Forum attendance

## List of Participants

**Meeting Chair:** Kathleen Callaghy, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

\* = Moving Energy Initiative (MEI) consortium member

Organization	Name
<i>Steering Committee</i>	
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (the Alliance)	Kathleen Callaghy, Maria Jolly
International Lifeline Fund (ILF)	Alison Filler
Mercy Corps	Shanti Kleiman
Practical Action	Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Julie Gassien
United Nations Foundation (UNF)	Luc Severi
World Food Programme	Raffaella Bellanca
<i>Associate Members</i>	
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	Inga Bucholz
Energy 4 Impact*	Laura Patel
Lighting Global	Nicole Bouris
Project Gaia	Chido Munangagwa
UN Women, DRC	Awa Ndiaye Seck, Elizabeth Cook
World LPG Association (WLPGA)	David Tyler
<i>Guests</i>	
Shell Corporation	Linda Boll
UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	Aimee Jenks