



Convened by



Supported by



Conference

“Energy for Displaced People: A Global Plan of Action, Linking Sustainable Humanitarian Response and Long-term Development”

*GIZ Representation, Berlin, Germany
15-16 January 2018*

Vision

*Every person affected by conflict or natural disaster has access to affordable,
reliable, sustainable and modern energy services by 2030*

Context

Access to energy in the modern world is seemingly a basic human right, yet 1.1 billion people still live without access to electricity and more than 3 billion people are still cooking without clean fuels or efficient technologies. Of that population, those who have been displaced from their homes due to conflict or natural disaster are particularly vulnerable. Currently, over 128.6 million¹ people need humanitarian assistance in the world today. Of the displaced people who are living in camp settings, around 90% are without electricity access and 80% rely on solid fuels for cooking. In the midst of responding to humanitarian crises, access to safe, reliable, and clean energy for crisis-affected people can be difficult to achieve. With a shortage of funding as well as limited policies

¹ See Global humanitarian Overview 2017: https://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/GHO_2017.pdf

and practice on sustainable and clean energy provision within the humanitarian sector, current energy practices are often inefficient, polluting, unsafe for the users and harmful to the surrounding environment. Yet the benefits serve other humanitarian needs. Safe and sustainable access to fuel and energy in these settings means that children can have light after dark to do homework, life-saving medical supplies can be refrigerated, entrepreneurs can create small businesses with electricity and women and girls need not risk their health and safety to collect fuel, cook meals or navigate public areas at nighttime.

With the advent of Sustainable Development Goal 7 the international community agreed to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” through the following targets by 2030:



- 7.1 ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- 7.2 increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- 7.3 double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- 7.a enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology
- 7.b expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries

Achieving these goals relies on countries’ policies, plans and programmes, and will be led by countries for their citizens. Displaced people exist in a grey area, unlikely to be part of government plans to scale up energy access. With over 80 percent of displaced people living in developing regions, often facing similar conditions of energy poverty to their host communities, there is a huge opportunity for the humanitarian sector to work in support of country goals. Therefore, there is a specific need for a streamlined action plan around sustainable energy access for displaced people.

On January 15-16 in Berlin, the planned conference *Energy for Displaced People: A Global Plan of Action, Linking Sustainable Humanitarian Response and Long-term Development* will unify governments, the UN system and other key stakeholders to develop a strategic global plan of action for the provision of sustainable energy in humanitarian response settings in pursuit of global energy access by 2030. The conference will focus on five strategic area: planning and coordination, innovative finance, policy, capacity building and monitoring. Attendees will develop realistic and appropriate aims and next steps within working groups for each area. Convening global actors in this sector and building on the momentum of ongoing energy initiatives in humanitarian settings, this conference will serve as a connecting point for streamlined action so that every person affected by conflict or natural disaster is equipped with sustainable energy.

Objectives of the Global Plan of Action

- ❖ To create a collaborative and inclusive framework for unified humanitarian action regarding improved energy access for displaced people.
- ❖ To pool and generate awareness of existing resources, evidence, initiatives and ongoing efforts in the sector.
- ❖ To share and develop best practices, based on concrete evidence and proven examples of how energy solutions improve the situation in the field.
- ❖ To mobilise and strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships involving governments, the private sector, aid organizations, civil society and academia, emphasizing cross-sectoral approaches that can simultaneously accelerate progress on energy access and other sustainable development goals.
- ❖ To formulate recommendations on energy standards and practices that humanitarian organizations can apply to reduce ecological footprint and increase operational efficiency and sustainability.
- ❖ To engage existing and new partners in providing solutions, technologies, business models and investments that scale-up access to clean and affordable energy in humanitarian and development settings.
- ❖ To foster an open and strategic dialogue between global energy actors, development and humanitarian communities centred around energy, Sustainable Development Goal 7 in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the Core Responsibilities of the Agenda for Humanity.
- ❖ To develop an advocacy plan to mobilize resources for the achievement of the above aims.

Specific Objectives of the Berlin Conference

1. Develop an outline for a global plan of action for improved energy services in humanitarian settings. This should include a roadmap to achieve the aims by 2030 – with milestones for the next five years. Target date to launch the Global Plan of Action: July 2018.
2. Set out roles and responsibilities for developing the Global Plan of Action, including the creation of working groups mandated to address each of the strategic themes, coordinated by a steering committee.
3. Review existing mechanisms of engagement between humanitarian and development agencies, governments, NGOs and the global businesses community, identify gaps, and establish new mechanisms for increased collaboration as needed.
4. Deliver and disseminate a conference report highlighting the outcomes of the discussions, key achievements of the conference, outlining long-term targets and objectives with relevant strategic follow-up actions.



TARGET AUDIENCE

The organisers invite:

- practitioners involved in humanitarian and development work;
- experts from donor countries, development banks and other financial institutions;
- representatives from the private sectors and
- partners from academia

to attend the conference and jointly develop ideas for the global plan of action.

ENSURING SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR DISPLACED PEOPLE

Main Elements of Global Plan of Action (2017-2030)

Agenda Themes

Strategic areas for discussion towards creating a Global Plan of Action

The conference will focus on several strategic breakout sessions for the purpose of enabling participants to jointly develop their sub-topic areas. For each strategic area, challenges and opportunities will be discussed and recommendations will be developed to achieve relevant follow-up action for positive change.

1. Planning and Coordination – Emergency and Protracted Crisis

To transition from current unsustainable energy production and consumption methods to clean solutions in humanitarian operations, streamlined and comprehensive energy planning, programming and management is needed in emergency and protracted responses.

Actions in this area will focus on developing models for effective coordination of energy supply and demand in humanitarian aid and development, including through comprehensive approaches to energy planning that involve all possible stakeholders. Mainstreaming sustainable energy access for displaced people into international, national and humanitarian agendas will be a priority. A first step will be to identify and convene key actors in an appropriate forum so that they can exchange information and establish terms and conditions for cooperation and coordination. This strategic area will focus on:

- Integrating sustainable energy solutions into humanitarian operations
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships – enhancing opportunities
- Energy assessments and informed decision making
- Coordinated strategies and effective communication and collaboration across sectors
- Building in appropriate incentives for country managers and field staff
- Stakeholder identification and engagement of all actors from outset
- Engaging the displaced and host communities we are trying to assist at each step

2. Policy, Advocacy and Host Country Resilience - Supporting National and Local Development Plans

To effectively ensure safe and sustainable energy access in complex conflict or disaster settings, an enabling policy environment on the local and national level is essential.

Actions in this area include creating national plans (or regional/local plans where appropriate) with supportive policies and regulatory frameworks that create the right environment for long-term investments, develop institutional capacity to implement policy change, and use government procurement and other mechanisms to incentivise market transformation. Advocacy actions will include a broad set of coordinated interventions directed at placing sustainable energy access high on the humanitarian and development agendas, to secure international and national commitment and mobilize necessary resources. Innovative strategies, tools and materials will be developed to ensure proper dissemination of results achieved, provide up-to-date information on progress,

support behaviour change and showcase best practices for scaled-up action. This strategic area will focus on:

- Displaced people and host community integration, local development planning
- Government engagement: institutions and ways of working
- Supporting host country institutions and markets
- Advocacy, communications and policy development
- Donor engagement, engaging international development audiences

3. Innovative Finance: Public, Private and Public-private Models of Delivery for Sustainability

Renewable energy solutions are economically viable and more sustainable than traditional fossil fuel solutions but the high upfront costs very often hinder the implementation of these solutions. To mitigate this financing gap, sustainable business models are needed to accelerate investments that maintain a long-term approach, both by leveraging public funds more effectively and by developing sustainable capital markets.

This strategic area includes approaches and instruments to mobilise the amount of capital required, to direct that capital to the appropriate priority opportunities, and to reduce the risk of private investments in sustainable energy solutions in humanitarian settings e.g. through the targeted use of philanthropic and public capital and the engagement of local financial institutions. Actions in this strategic area will focus on exploring new delivery models that can bring down costs through scaling up demand, developing appropriate and innovative payment models, and supporting technology innovation through actions such as funding for research and development, pilot demonstration of projects with a potential for replicability and knowledge transfer. This strategic area will focus on:

- Walking the last mile – private sector models for rural low income families
- Access to finance for infrastructural investments such as mini-grids
- Innovative financing for low cost energy items
- Understanding cash based assistance and local market formal and informal economies
- Matching public & private investments

4. Technical Expertise, Capacity Building and Training

With severe shortages of energy expertise in the humanitarian system, specialized technical capacity is essential to develop and deliver programmes of high quality.

This strategic area will include actions related to equip governments, companies and organisations with the relevant skills and knowledge to efficiently plan, manage and monitor energy interventions; build strong local institutions and promote local technical expertise, including by recruiting national staff. Capacity building programmes and training will be based on prior needs assessments, local and traditional knowledge, and lessons learned in previous interventions. This strategic area will focus on:

- Engaging relevant and appropriate technical expertise
- Developing/ensuring the long-term capacity and technical skills

- Local capacity building and training
- Raising awareness about energy use amongst humanitarian and development actors
- Creating employment opportunities for displaced populations and host communities through productive use of energy

5. Data, Evidence, Monitoring and Reporting

Facilitating collective access to data of high quality, streamlined analysis and evidence-based policy options is vital to objectively inform countries and all stakeholders in their decision-making on policy, implementation or monitoring of progress.

Actions under this strategic area will focus on developing standardized processes for collection and reporting of disaggregated data on fuel use, energy practices and costs. The priority will be to specify and define the necessary data requirements, and to develop practical processes for effectively capturing and analysing the data. Lessons learnt and best practices will be documented and widely disseminated, to provide quality information that can help future planning and programming. This strategic area will focus on:

- Data essential for analysis of options and demonstrating the needs
- Evidence base for directing needs and making decisions
- Meaningful and measurable indicators of performance and impact
- Responsible reporting – failures and learning
- Reporting and use of knowledge to inform decision-making

Cross Cutting Themes

Several cross-cutting themes will also be explored, including:

- Age, Gender and Diversity
- Protection, GBV and Vulnerability
- Environmental Sustainability
- Health

Preliminary Overview of the Agenda

Day 1

09:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:30	Opening (speakers tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- State Secretary, German Federal Foreign Office- Kelly T. Clements, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees- IOM representative- Nikhil Seith, UN Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director, UNITAR
10:30-11:00	Current challenges, latest data and options for ways forward
11:00-18:00	Working in groups to develop ideas, aims and concrete next steps for the global action plan along the five strategic areas
19:00	Close of day and networking evening hosted by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy

Day 2

9:00-13:00	Continuation of group work from day 1
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	Summary of results of working groups and brainstorming to create skeleton Global Action Plan - further development of actions to be worked on over following 6 months, setting out possible roadmap of targets and action, agreeing timelines, establishing working groups, possible technical workshops, using existing platforms for information sharing etc.
16:00-17:00	Public launch of new initiatives, reports and photos
17:00	Reception (tbc)