



Join the Energy in Humanitarian Settings deep dive session

Thursday, May 3rd
11:45-13:00

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Global Plan of Action

For Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement

The Global Plan of Action (GPA) is a sector movement for an integrated energy approach to enhance and support humanitarian response through sustainable energy solutions in situations of displacement.

While achieving SDG 7 relies on countries' policies, plans and programmes, and will be led by countries for their citizens, displaced people are not an explicit part of these plans and tend to be neglected. Often, they live in isolated areas or informal settlements along-side communities who are sometimes left-behind in development planning and less likely to be a priority. Energy planning tools, technical guidelines, business models, and procedures already exist to support humanitarian assistance in delivering sustainable energy. Working in partnership across humanitarian and development organisations is critical to delivering this.

The Global Plan of Action was initiated at the January 2018 Energy for Displaced People conference, where a multistakeholder group of practitioners laid the groundwork for the GPA. Five working groups were initiated and are currently in the process of formulating the action plan. It will be contributed to the review process of the Sustainable Development Goal 7 at the 2018 High Level Political Forum. To conduct these efforts, a group of practitioners from IOM, UNHCR, UNITAR, GIZ, the Moving Energy Initiative, Practical Action, WFP, UNDP, UNEP-DTU, The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, and the UN Foundation are steering the initiative.

The Global Plan of Action aims to:

- **Create a collaborative and inclusive framework** for unified action regarding improved energy access for displaced people.
- Foster an **open and strategic dialogue** between experts from energy, development and humanitarian aid
- **Support** the Sustainable Development Goal 7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Paris Agreement, New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the Agenda for Humanity.
- **Pool and generate awareness** of existing resources, evidence, initiatives and ongoing efforts in the sector
- **Share and develop best practices**, based on concrete evidence and proven examples of how energy solutions improve the situation in the field, also in respect of new business models and investments
- **Mobilise and strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships** involving governments, the private sector, aid and development organizations, civil society and academia; emphasizing cross-sectoral approaches that can simultaneously accelerate progress on energy access and other sustainable development goals
- **Formulate recommendations on energy standards and practices** that organizations can apply to reduce ecological footprint and increase operational efficiency and sustainability
- **Mobilise resources** for the achievement of the above aims

How to support?



Champion the Global Plan of Action initiative in your organization



Join a working group



Become a partner and pledge to deliver concrete action



Provide political support to the Global Plan of Action



Become a Resource Partner by Making a financial contribution

Vision

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

“The share of renewable energy in the humanitarian relief system is increased substantially and energy efficiency in humanitarian operations is improved.”

Why do we need the GPA?

There are more displaced people who are at risk and providing energy is part of the solution to help them: High Forced Migration Trends: 65.6 million people are displaced from their home from conflict; 25 million per year due to natural disaster.

The vast majority of displaced people do not have access to reliable or sustainable energy: 90% refugees in camps have no electricity access, 80% rely on solid fuels for cooking causing 20,000 premature deaths, poor health conditions and high risk of sexual and gender based violence.

Humanitarian response runs on polluting and expensive fossil fuel solutions: For powering hospitals, water supply, schools, admin offices the humanitarian actors predominantly use diesel generators. It is estimated that UNHCR pays 60 million USD annually just for diesel.

Meeting commitments to ‘leave no-one behind’ means including displaced people: Displaced people are unlikely to be part of plans and programs to implement SDG 7 (Sustainable Energy for All) at national level.

The Humanitarian System is under-pressure and under resourced: Humanitarian organizations have very little capacity to design and implement energy interventions and funding and technical assistance is inadequate.

Protecting refugees and providing durable solutions requires sustainable energy: Ensuring reliable modern energy services is necessary to protect and assist displaced people more effectively and economically. Energy is essential to grow businesses, escape poverty, support their families, create healthy homes, and give their children the energy they need to flourish.

Working groups

The following five working groups are in action to develop the concrete recommendations of the Global Plan of Action



Timeline



Partners



Interested in partnering with the Global Plan of Action? Email: energy@unitar.org