

SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY  
FOR ALL



# SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL **FORUM 2018**

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND



THE  
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL  
**FORUM**  
LISBON, PORTUGAL · MAY 2-3, 2018



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# Foreword

Reflecting on our 4<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Energy for All Forum, I am delighted we were able to host almost 900 people in Lisbon, with a true mix of government, private sector, civil society and many forms of finance from nearly 100 countries – all actively engaged and providing their experience of on the ground action towards Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7).

This year's Forum marked a shift in the discussion; the sustainable energy systems of the future are no longer just about electrons, but about energy as a set of services that deliver prosperity, reliable health care, education, and business opportunities. We understand now that the energy systems of the future are so fundamentally different from the energy systems of the past that they require a reimagining of the institutions, business models, financing and partnerships necessary to deliver SDG7 on the timeline laid out.

The Forum provided the launch pad for the latest report benchmarking progress on SDG7, the *Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report*. It is striking that on every indicator we are not yet on track to achieve the 2030 goals. On most we are moving in a positive direction, but nowhere near fast enough. On access to clean cooking globally we are standing still, despite some countries forging ahead. The absolute number of people without clean cooking access has barely moved in over a decade.

More alarming is that the report also noted the number of people in Sub-Saharan Africa without clean cooking access has grown by 275 million in some half-dozen years – to 860 million in 2016, up from 585 million in 2010.

At the Forum, we began addressing some of the barriers to clean cooking access. We were able to bring together the leaders from associations representing different fuel sources to form a basis for ongoing collaboration. The aim of this, informally titled the "Lisbon Group", is to help those countries where there is a political commitment to close the clean cooking gap by focusing on building markets for clean fuels.

The thermal economy was also a focus of the Forum. Too often ignored, we heard loud and clear that cooling is no longer seen as a comfort issue per se. Access to efficient, clean cooling (hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) free) can directly determine people's life chances, health outcomes, and productivity as well as company business models. It's not an issue of air conditioning for the middle class – it's an emerging issue of survivability on a warming planet that is not adequately addressed and has implications for climate, energy and development.

Finance was the one universally highlighted missing link. Finance seems to be falling behind the leading edge of the energy transition. We will need to consider how to change the traditional ways of thinking about infrastructure finance and look to unlock approaches that create markets rather than projects. Incumbents both in the power sector and the finance sector are struggling to adapt to the new realities but it is clear from those at the Forum that there is cause for optimism.

Beginning with an inspiring video message from UN Secretary-General António Guterres, the United Nations system was well represented at the Forum. Of note was the drive, led by the World Health Organization, on health and energy and the mobilization around electricity and clean fuels access for refugees and displaced persons, in support of faster action by UNHCR.

Through the Forum, we were able to showcase a growing cohort of ministers, CEOs and other leaders making strides with innovative and successful approaches that we can learn from and replicate in other countries and markets to achieve scale.

We heard many stories of inspiration in the partner working sessions which allowed us to delve deeper into many high priority areas. I was also delighted to hear how the marketplace provided such a powerful opportunity for our partners to meet with old friends but more importantly meet with people that they would never normally meet. This has inspired new collaborations and new ventures that in time will deliver real benefits for people around the world.

The theme of this year's Forum was "Leaving No One Behind". We are committed to ensuring that the insights provided at the Forum will help guide the energy transition so that no one is left behind. The sustainable energy movement has come a long way and is maturing. As the Tracking SDG7 report showed, we are not on track. Yet there are many, many reasons to be hopeful and many passionate business and political leaders and communities seeing results.

The diverse leadership, new approaches, new partnerships and new finance evident in Lisbon will be projected into the UN High Level Political Forum reviewing SDG7, among other global goals, in July. It will also provide meaningful input to the discussions on how to support member states to implement their NDCs and raise ambition in the Paris Agreement process for climate action, including the unique opportunity of the UN Secretary-General's head of state Climate Summit in September 2019 where he will ask for renewed commitments to lead. I took three key messages away from Lisbon:

- The fundamental shift in the way we can provide energy services (renewables, integrated, electric mobility, new business models, new financial products) is well underway and institutions, financial markets and development finance are behind where they need to be to drive this at speed and scale.
- If we focus on those traditionally unserved with energy and design services for them we will catch those in between, today underserved and without reliable, affordable and clean energy. Focusing on the last mile first is good for everyone, whether it be for electricity services, clean fuels for cooking or solutions for cold chains and cooling.
- While international meetings of energy dignitaries, traditional energy companies and their financiers are not diverse, there is real diversity in the movement providing solutions to communities in the developed and developing worlds and we need to embrace that and build on it to be successful in achieving the global goals.

The movement you could see and feel in Lisbon is something that couldn't have come together without the generous support of our Forum sponsors and the support and engagement of our many partners over the years. This support ensures SEforALL continues to underpin that movement. From global convening, analysis of the data and evidence, to filling the gaps and supporting governments, we are responding to the demand for an engine room to build speed and scale.

Thank you to all – sponsors, speakers, delegates and partners – who made the event a success and helped to progress the movement in such a dynamic direction.



**Rachel Kyte**

Chief Executive Officer and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All



# 7 Forum Takeaways

**1. There is progress on most of the SDG7 objectives, but nowhere near fast enough to achieve universal energy access goals by 2030.** The *Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report* launched at the Forum highlighted that progress on clean cooking access has been largely flat, despite tangible gains observed in a handful of countries. The absolute number of people without clean cooking access has barely moved in over a decade, as population growth outpaces progress on clean cooking.

**2. We see that political commitment and inclusive strategies to provide universal and reliable access to electricity pay off.** The Forum showcased that there is a growing cohort of ministers, CEOs and other leaders making strides with innovative and successful approaches that we can learn from and replicate in other countries and markets to achieve scale.

**3. Institutions, financial markets and development finance are behind where they need to be to drive the energy transition at speed and scale.** The traditional ways of thinking about finance needs to be reconsidered; approaches that create markets rather than projects need to be unlocked. This is the fundamental issue to be addressed.

**4. The sustainable energy systems of the future are no longer just about electrons, but about energy as a set of services that deliver prosperity, reliable health care, education, and business opportunities.** The energy systems of the future, flexible and distributed by nature, will be fundamentally different from the energy systems of the past: they require a reimagining of the institutions, business models, financing and partnerships necessary to deliver SDG7 within the time-frame required.

**5. Cooling is no longer seen as a comfort issue but is now recognized as an emerging life issue.** Access to efficient, clean cooling can directly determine people's life chances, health outcomes, and productivity as well as enhance company business models.

**6. The most vulnerable groups, including last mile populations, refugees and displaced persons, require tailored assistance programs.** There are now modern, clean and reliable energy solutions as well as social services for these consumers that can help poverty alleviation, reduce inequality and foster sustainable development.

**7. The sustainable energy movement has come a long way and is maturing.** The fundamental shift in the way we can provide energy services (renewables, integrated, electric mobility, new business models, new financial products) is underway.





Knowledge into Action  
POLICY MATTERS

# Key Statistics and Comments

OVER  
**800**  
ATTENDEES

57% MALE,  
43% FEMALE

*"The BEST event I have been to ... really slick design, planning and organization before, during and even after."*

*Toby Peters, Professor of the Cold Economy, Birmingham Energy Institute*

**159**  
SPEAKERS  
(59 MAIN PROGRAM,  
100 PARTNER WORKING SESSIONS)

**16**  
PARTNER WORKING SESSIONS

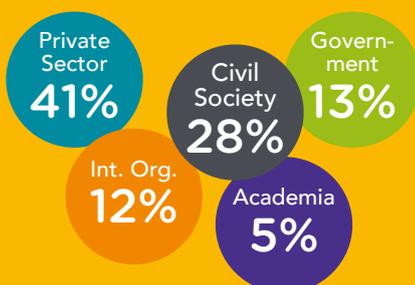
**83**  
COUNTRIES



**38**  
PARTNERS

**16**  
SPONSORS

TYPES OF  
ATTENDEE



**80%**  
RATED THE FORUM NETWORKING EXCELLENT OR VERY GOOD

*"Just been at the #SEforALLforum where there was not one all-male #panel."*

*Tweet from Reuters Foundation journalist Megan Rowling*

## LEVEL OF ATTENDANCE



\*With 58 at CEO / Chair level

*"This year's event was one of the best so far. The presence of all key Energy Access players was a great opportunity to develop impactful synergies contributing to achieving SDG#7. Total is proud to be fully part of the SEforALL community and committed to making this partnership a success."*

*Philippe Cabus, Managing Director, Total*

# 105

MILLION  
TWITTER  
IMPRESSIONS

# #1

TRENDING ON  
TWITTER IN  
PORTUGAL

# 35

FACEBOOK  
LIVE  
INTERVIEWS

*"The International Copper Association was proud to sponsor the SEforALL Forum. The advancement of SDG7 is of great importance to ICA and its members, and we continue to look to SEforALL to drive momentum towards important energy goals. The Forum itself provided an outstanding opportunity to learn and share best practices, and to expand upon existing partnerships while building new ones."*

*Steven Kukoda, Vice-President, International Copper Association*

ALL PANELS  
WERE  
**GENDER  
BALANCED**

**870**  
NEWS  
ARTICLES IN  
**67**  
COUNTRIES

*"I was encouraged by the passion (at the Forum). I'm going back to Ghana with that passion."*

*Hon. Hajia Alima Mahama,  
Minister of Local Government  
and Rural Development, Ghana*

## ATTENDEE SURVEY

**96%**

WOULD RECOMMEND  
THE SEFORALL FORUM  
TO OTHERS.

**96%**

SAID THAT THEY FEEL  
MOTIVATED TO ACT  
ON WHAT THEY HAVE  
HEARD OR LEARNT AT  
THE FORUM.

**71%**

STATED THAT  
THE EXTENT OF  
MEETING OTHERS WITH  
WHOM THEY WILL  
COLLABORATE GOING  
FORWARD WAS HIGH  
OR SIGNIFICANT.

**65%**

RATED THE STRATEGIC  
INSIGHTS OR NEW  
KNOWLEDGE OFFERED  
AS EXCELLENT OR  
VERY GOOD.

**50%**

ANSWERED THAT  
THE PEOPLE THEY MET  
AT THE FORUM WERE  
PEOPLE THEY WOULD  
HAVE NOT MET  
OTHERWISE.

The preliminary monitoring findings of the 2018 SEforALL Forum will be augmented with more in-depth analysis and monitoring that will be published in 2019 as part of the 2018 Annual Monitoring Review.

# Forum Insights



The Sustainable Energy for All Forum is about marshaling the evidence, benchmarking progress, connecting partners, telling stories and amplifying voices to catalyze the sustainable energy for all movement to advance the SDG7 goals. We have collected the insights of the leaders from across the world and summarized what we learned below:

## Day 1: Overcoming Challenges

António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, captured the mood of the Forum in his opening video address when he said: "Let us invest in the future, not the past," reiterating that "Energy is the golden thread that links all of the SDGs."

Setting the tone for the two-day Forum, António Mexia, Chair of the Administrative Board of Sustainable Energy for All and CEO of EDP Energias de Portugal said, "It is not a question of money or technology (solar, wind,

storage). Technology is each day more and more in our favor. There are many successful examples in Asia, in Latin America, and now in Africa."

Rachel Kyte, CEO and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, added "We are standing at the cusp of a revolution. This is one of the most exciting moments to be doing what we are doing"

### Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report

Despite encouraging signs, the SDG7 Energy Progress Report launched at the Forum by the International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, United Nations Statistics Division, World Bank and World Health Organization made clear we are not on track to meet the SDG7 objectives. Key findings:

- In 2016 87% of the global population had access to electricity, while 1 billion people (13%) still lack access to modern energy services.
- By 2030, based on current trends 675 million people, largely in rural Sub-Saharan Africa, will still be without access to electricity.
- Clean cooking access has barely changed; in 2010, 58% of the global population had clean cooking, in 2016, it was 59%.

Forum attendees heard that political commitments and inclusive strategies to provide universal access to electricity pay off. For the first time, the electrification access gap started to decline in Sub-Saharan Africa (compared to population growth), largely because of accelerated progress in East Africa, due mostly to off grid solar and electric grid expansions.

At least 30 million people in the developing world now have a solar home system. But encouraging stories remain concentrated in a handful of countries: Kenya, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, Fiji, Rwanda and Uganda.



The report's most disappointing finding is the continued failure around clean cooking fuels and technologies and its devastating health consequences. New data released at the Forum by the World Health Organization shows that 3.8 million people die each year as a result of household exposure to smoke from dirty cookstoves and fuels, with a significant share being due to use of traditional biomass fuels for cooking.

Due in part to digitalization, economies are moving towards less energy intensive activities. The next frontier is freight transportation and air conditioners. Fast-growing AC demand is a key reason why cooling is the largest driver of new energy demand in emerging economies.

### The Wake-up Call

In responding to the findings of the SDG7 Energy Progress Report, Rachel Kyte suggested that energy is no longer a matter of talking about electrons only, it's about job creation, prosperity and public health. Successful countries put energy efficiency first. This is the most sensible intervention for countries with large growing needs. She asked, 'Why is it not always a top government priority?'

### Knowledge into Action - Policy Matters

A ministerial level panel discussed what policies are working to achieve SDG7 and climate goals.

The panel highlighted that renewable and energy access incentives need to be aligned with reduced fossil fuel energy incentives. Governments also need to diagnose market failures and design incentives to target underserved communities and markets.

Integrated planning is key to success. Governments need to develop on-grid and off-grid regulatory approaches that are integrated and complementary. Action plans should set ambitious concrete goals that include interim targets and performance assessments. Small states are a ripe opportunity for trying new approaches and getting quick results, and then applying the lessons to larger markets.

## Deep Dive Sessions

### Electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa

Shegun Adjadi Bakari, Advisor to the President of the Togolese Republic, said “In Togo, electricity for all means prosperity for all. It is not just about access to electricity, it is also about economic development and growth. Togo is capitalizing on state-of-the-art technologies and strongly supports new business models with strong private sector involvement.”

Good data on household consumption patterns is critical to develop adequate sustainable energy services. Andrew Herscowitz, Power Africa Coordinator, said, “Do not develop grid power without understanding actual consumers’ needs and habits. Similarly, solar home systems are great, but you still cannot cook with them.”

It was clear that there is a need to anticipate market distortions, such as the need to factor in GDP losses and economic burdens from fossil fuel subsidies.

Philippe Miquel, CEO of Engie, Western and Central Africa, explained that the thinking has evolved: the least cost option is now a mix of off-grid, mini-grid, and grid. Thanks to big data, smart systems can now be developed, bringing together numerous small producers. Batteries remain very expensive for most.





## Clean Cooking for All

Static progress on access to clean cooking fuels and technologies was the most sobering trend by far in the SDG7 Energy Progress report. Clean cooking gains from 2014 to 2016 were only 0.5% annually.

Cameroon has doubled its clean cooking numbers since 2006 and about 20 percent of the population is now using LPG stoves; by 2030, it hopes to be at 50 percent. Ghana is also promoting a national strategy based on sustainable biomass and LPG. The international funding community needs to step up in supporting countries with the biggest clean cooking access gaps.

## Cooling for All

More than 150 million refrigerators are sold every year, yet in developing countries penetration rates are still low. In the next 15 years, the number of refrigerators in Africa will double, to one billion. Nearly half the food today is wasted in Africa because there are no cold chains, including refrigerators, in place.

Nithya Ramanathan, CEO and Co-Founder, Nexleaf Analytics, highlighted that cooling is also about health, such as refrigeration for vaccines and medicines. "Vaccines are some of our most cost-effective development tools and can prevent millions of deaths," she said. Cooling is also critically important for hospitals in the developing world, where cooling is needed for hygiene and to keep mothers and children safe during child birth.

A clear message from this session was that industry is strongly committed to providing sustainable cooling. Industry has efficient solutions that are available, but skills, training and awareness are needed to achieve market scale.

## Interactive Lunch - Addressing SDG 5 and 7: Gender Inclusive Investing in Clean Energy

*Hosted by Calvert Impact Capital*

Calvert Impact Capital showcased the vast opportunities at the intersection of gender and energy. Speakers highlighted that targeting women will have a significant impact, since they account for half the world's population, and are more apt to live in energy poverty. The Shell Foundation emphasized that typical approaches to gender equity are in terms of board and management diversity, but a gender lens applied to product design, marketing, channel strategies and associated financial impacts are not as well understood. Calvert's portfolio has found that investing with a gender lens produces a stronger performance in terms of sales growth and return on return on assets. "Gender can be a risk mitigant."

## Disruptive Voices: Innovations that are driving change

Per Heggnes, CEO, IKEA Foundation, set out his commitment to supporting innovative energy solutions in remote areas and humanitarian settings, such as funding the first solar power plant in a Jordanian camp hosting 50,000 refugees in 2017.

## Voices of a Brighter Future

Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), introduced the winners of 'Voices of a Brighter Future', a competition for journalists from least developed countries covering electricity access issues. The winners were: Kossi Balao (Togo); Sèna Libla (Benin); Moussa Ngom (Senegal); James Chavula (Malawi); Florida Zossoungbo (Benin); Safia Mahdi (Yemen); Abu Siddique (Bangladesh); and Milo Milfort (Haiti).

## Closing Day Remarks

Wrapping up the first day, Rachel Kyte stressed a leadership cohort of countries now have ambitious targets; some LDCs are putting efficiency at the heart of their efforts; and energy is being talked about in a "smarter way," such as how reliable electricity benefits health care delivery and school productivity.



# Day 2: Scaling Solutions

## The Wake-up Call

The second day of the Forum began with a wake-up call from Michael Liebreich, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Liebreich Associates who highlighted that the world has embarked on a transformational clean energy/transportation transition.

He said all trends are now in favor of EVs, including battery costs dropping by 70% in the past five years. More trucks and buses are going electric, too. In Shenzhen, China there are now 60,000 EVs and 700 electric buses.

The next frontier beyond power is heat, cooling, industry and agriculture. He said that energy access is now a key theme: We've got stories, leadership, successful countries. We are seeing business going to scale, pushing into the millions. The next step is the hundreds of millions.

## Knowledge into Action

Day 2 of the Forum had three distinct Knowledge into Action sessions: Part 1 on SDG Enablers - Mobile, Technology and Finance; Part 2 on Utility of the Future; and Part 3 on Cooling. Large utilities alone cannot keep up with the pace of change. We used to live in a linear, centralized world; now we live in a circular, interconnected and more decentralized world. The audience heard that utilities are an integral part of the energy transition, but they need to adapt their business models to follow the pace of change.

Cost is not the issue any more. The level of renewable energy integration is now the key question. The future will be modular, with multiple plug-and-play installations. Small mini-grids may be built and operated by small utilities at the beginning, and then scaled up. This calls for new models for de-risking project financing.

Digitalization is essential to manage system complexity in terms of assets, people or markets. Increasing skill sets and training young generations is key to the transition towards digitalized systems and local value chains.

In the Cooling session, the audience heard about the challenges of keeping vaccines cool from production to final delivery in the 'last mile.' They also heard that in India, lack of cooling results in 30% of agricultural production rotting before it reaches its first storage point.



## Disruptive Voices: Innovations that are driving change

Lorien Gamaroff, CEO, Bankymoon, explained that energy access is not only about infrastructure, but also about payment systems. He explained how, through the use of cryptocurrency you can reduce the cost of transactions, increase security and convenience, and allow payments for energy to be processed anywhere in the world.

Cathy Zoi, President, Odyssey, said that attaining significant growth towards SDG7 requires new machinery, including open and secure software platforms.

Donald Sadoway, Professor of Materials Chemistry, MIT, described how his study of large-scale aluminum smelters, that consume colossal amounts of power, had inspired him to explore how to “run smelters in reverse” as a solution to the elusive goal of large-scale energy storage. He concluded, “batteries for Africa must be built in Africa by Africans using African resources.” and called for facilitative changes in investment rules and tax codes to unleash more patient capital.





## The Deep Dives

### Energy in Humanitarian Settings

Speakers noted that refugee camps provide a unique ecosystem for testing out innovative energy services due to their high density, significant energy budgets and responsibility to serve surrounding host communities. The opportunity is to link short-term emergency relief with long-term development planning.

### Financing the Transition

A different approach is needed beyond the traditional model of only focusing on financing. That means holistic approaches encompassing, not just financing, but also regulatory frameworks, institutional capacity and political will. This argument implies that multinational development banks need to take on more risk, cooperate frequently and find additional creative solutions.

## Catalyzing Decentralized Renewable Energy Markets

Speakers focused on prioritizing energy and discussed the need to: understand the market; focus on rural economies; involve public finance through subsidies (no longer a bad word), for instance; work with the private sector; set policies; use integrated planning; and have long-term plans. Projects in Kenya and Nepal were highlighted regarding last-mile delivery; the importance of promoting women to positions of leadership in business; the opportunity of mixing energy projects with tourism; the importance of capacity building; and the use of results-based financing to create markets.

## Interactive Lunch - Blended Finance for SDG7: Mobilizing Commercial Finance to Achieve Universal Energy Access Across Sub-Saharan Africa.

The more complex the structure, the fewer capital providers will be attracted. It was recognized that capital may not be the problem. What is missing is regulatory and policy certainty for capital to be deployed. There is a gap in really early stage equity and soft capital and development finance institutions are more risk averse than they should be.





## Closing Session

Hajia Alma Mahama, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Ghana, stressed the need to empower women and support them in becoming entrepreneurs, both in the area of clean cookstoves and more broadly across the energy sector.

Naoko Ishii, CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF), spoke of leaving Lisbon with hope and seeing the “glass half full,” even though SDG7 is not on track. Upendra Tripathy, Interim Director-General, International Solar Alliance, underlined the importance of using a mix of financial support and creating bankable projects. Expanding on his company’s gender equality journey, Bjarni Bjarnason, CEO, Reykjavik Energy, called on boards to put pressure on CEOs to advance gender equality.

# PARTNER WORKING SESSIONS

An important part of the Sustainable Energy for All Forum is the space given to our partners in the Sustainable Energy for All movement to organize partner working sessions to advance specific issues and partnerships. Here is a sample\* of what was discussed:

## Day 1

### **The Energy Access Dividend - Data that Informs and Influences**

*Organized by Power for All and SEforALL*

There was a call to simplify and harmonize reporting mechanisms used to measure impacts on individual lives and sustainable development. The session highlighted close linkages between energy and health and how talking to either sector in isolation will not solve intersection issues that arise.



\* Summaries provided by Partner Working Session organizers.

## Data that Drives SDG7: Emerging Findings from the Global Energy Access Survey

Organized by the World Bank Group

Participants discussed how the multi-tier framework (MTF), which uses binary data, is a tool that can be integrated into national statistics and planning since it is results-focused and evidence-based and can feed into policy. Drawing attention to a WHO report showing that three million die every year from household pollution, there was a call for guidelines to define how health hinges on sustainable energy.

## Green Transport: Vote for a Clean and Efficient Transport Future

Organized by the FIA Foundation and REN21

There was strong agreement that the transport sector and energy sector must be coupled. There needs to be supportive policies and joint planning between the transport and energy practitioners to deliver the right regulations so that the market can adapt and offer consumers better choices. It was noted that in some countries the arguments for green transport are driven by health. In emerging economies, infrastructure decisions made today can lock-in the infrastructure that is necessary to decarbonize the transport sector.





### **Clean Cooking Fuels for All: Moving Beyond the Improved Stove**

*Organized by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, The Global LPG Partnership, Hivos Foundation, SNV Netherlands Development Organization, World LPG Association, Zambia Energy and Environmental Organization (ZENGO), Free the Marginalized Women Advocates*

The complexity of the sector and the lack of de-risking instruments and impact investors was highlighted. The session called for: investing in learning for all stakeholders, patient investors with long-term commitment to scale up, and moving from giving away free technologies toward funding disruptive innovations, and supporting systemic solutions.

A holistic market system approach that is not tied to one fuel or technology, exploring low-hanging fruits, working on “less than perfect” intermediate solutions, and using results-based financing to scale up is required.

### **Enabling Jobs with Energy: Opportunities, Challenges and Ongoing Activities**

*Organized by the Africa-EU Energy Partnership*

The importance of involving local communities and modifying donor agreements to support local contracting and technology transfer was highlighted as an enabler to give more opportunities to youth and enable young entrepreneurs to access funding. Participants discussed boosting the capacity of women in the energy sector, supporting entrepreneurs in scaling up their businesses, and how energy could bring jobs to the most remote areas where unemployment is high. A strong regulatory framework and an enabling environment, that can successfully engage with the private sector and promote employment, provide jobs that improve livelihoods.

## Advancing Mini-Grids through Partnerships

*Organized by the Mini-Grids Partnership*

The session aimed to provide greater clarity and consensus on the key barriers to the growth of the mini-grid sector (e.g. industry fragmentation, need for better coordination, disjointed/slow-moving enabling environments, challenging business models, and a lack of financing/funding). There was also a focus on increasing awareness about tools available to developers/practitioners (e.g. Mini-Grid Partnership, Green Mini-grid Help desk, Odyssey data analytics tools, policy toolkits). A new secretariat, led by the UN Foundation, will be organizing a working group for a 'State of the Mini-Grids Market Report'.

## Last Mile First: Maximizing the Impacts of Energy Access on the SDGs

*Organized by the Alliance of Civil Society Organizations for Clean Energy Access, CAFOD, International Institute for Environment & Development, Overseas Development Institute, SNV Netherlands Development Organization*

Topics discussed include linking distribution of solar pumps for farmers with income generating activities; promoting value-added services for remote villages, such as eco-tourism and ICT hubs; and exploring ways to address the challenges of cross-subsidization as a mechanism to provide affordable energy for the poorest consumers. Kenya's decision to electrify all primary schools and health centers, which led to the rapid electrification of adjacent rural areas, was also highlighted.





## Unlocking Energy Efficiency Finance for High-Impact Areas

*Organized by the International Copper Association*

It was noted that developing countries lack efficiency standards for products and that financial institutions should make such standards a prerequisite for receiving energy financing. Panelists described how two SEforALL initiatives, District Energy in Cities and the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, are working to make projects bankable.

Representatives from development banks described efforts to finance energy efficiency projects, noting that even when money is available, it is often left on the table, sometimes due to risk perceptions by those who are eligible to adopt new technologies. Emphasis on standardization through governance structures, so that developing countries do not end up with rejected

appliances that fail to meet other countries' standards, was noted.

## Bioenergy for Africa: Catalyzing Improvements in Biomass Data for Better Policy and Resource Management

*Organized by the Sustainable Bioenergy Accelerator and IRENA*

The audience heard that a key enabler of technology development is capacity building. Regional centers may be well positioned to organize the data collection and build capacity. Speakers also highlighted how existing technologies, including biomethane, ethanol, waste management or efficient use of wood products and residues can meet requirements in the mid-term. There is no urgent need for revolutionary technologies.

## Day 2

### Promoting Gender Integration through Policy Reform

*Organized by The Clinton Foundation, IUCN and Power Africa*

The audience heard a call for gender budgeting, pointing to examples of supportive policy frameworks for female participation and representation in the energy sector. Regional experiences in Africa and Arab countries were highlighted, including ECOWAS in West Africa.

### Driving Industrial Energy Efficiency through National Efforts

*Organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Carbon Trust*

There were a number of key takeaways from the session. Pursuing a culture change in industry, championed by management, is essential to achieve and sustain improvements. Energy management systems are also valuable. Clear policies, voluntary or mandatory, are essential to drive action and demonstrating results at all levels is essential to inspire further action. To create

a pipeline of projects and scale up investment, companies need tools to de-risk energy efficiency projects. Securing accessible and properly structured finance tailored to the needs of industries, especially SMEs, is also crucial to achieve scale. Countries should pursue national programmes with balanced elements related to each of the above.

### Energizing Finance: Barriers and Opportunities to Unlock Finance for Energy Access

*Organized by the Climate Policy Initiative, the Hivos Foundation and Practical Action*

Panelists addressed why many funds committed to energy access have not been allocated and how to free up this blockage. They identified difficulties such as; meeting conditions to qualify for a loan, the amplification of barriers for women, and a focus on blended finance that does not always work for areas most in need. Interest accrual and results-based financing frameworks that enhance the quality and professionalism of the sector was recognized.





### Cooling for All - Creating Markets for Sustainable Cooling Solutions

*Organized by Danfoss and SEforALL*

The audience heard that satisfying the huge unmet global demand will require approaches that address needs across the value chain. The contribution of district cooling solutions in reducing energy demand in cities, especially when combined with thermal storage, was highlighted. They also cited data showing that centralizing cooling can lead to 30% reductions in energy costs, creating investment opportunities in renewables and significantly reducing the use of high-polluting refrigerants. Participants noted that like any utility, district cooling requires a regulatory framework, which will need to be based on comprehensive planning and the formulation of targets to raise political visibility and attract private sector participation.

### From Words to Actions: How are Businesses Delivering Sustainable Energy Solutions?

*Organized by EDP Energias de Portugal S.A.*

In the working session, "From Words to Action," diverse businesses (energy, telecommunications, commercial banking and a mini-grid operator in remote East Africa regions) discussed and analyzed how they are delivering sustainable energy solutions to help achieve universal energy access. A number of common denominators were identified by the multi-sector panelists to speed and strengthen efforts, including: resilient and transparent government regulatory frameworks, access to finance, and stronger collaboration among utilities to aggregate value and consolidate investments. The session also showcased synergies that exist between the power sector, telecoms and private finance to accelerate SDG7 activity.



**Empowering Women: Pathways for Up-Scaling Women-Centric Approaches to Energy Access**

*Organized by ENERGIA, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Solar Sister, Value for Women, Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management.*

The audience heard that the “last mile” should be defined holistically using three criteria: poverty level, remoteness and energy access. It was noted that assuming all last-mile populations are rural leaves out many living in dense urban slums that lack access to energy and are unlikely to achieve it soon. By tweaking language to reach users (women) rather than (men) of a product one company was able to reduce the number of technical support calls by 33%.

**Energy and Health: Building Bridges**

*Organized by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and UN Foundation*

Evidence on the impacts of renewable energy products on indoor air pollution was highlighted; a similar data revolution is needed on the impact energy/power can have on the quality of health care delivery. The Achilles heel remains sustainability, both on the indoor air pollution side (long-term adoption of clean cooking solutions and sustained behavior change) and on the health care delivery side (long-term performance and O&M challenges of energy solutions in public institutions). New delivery and service models with a greater emphasis on long-term sustainability may attract more investment to both areas of energy and health, and there was a common understanding that both the private and the public sector have an important role to play in providing these solutions at scale. Intersectoral planning is needed at all levels to coordinate and effectively plan action on ‘energy and health’.

## Accelerating City Action for Global Impact

*Organized by Building Efficiency Accelerator, District Energy Systems Accelerator and the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency*

Business and municipal representatives from six city efficiency initiatives shared their activities and lessons. A key message included performance-based energy codes are possible and can save a lot of energy at low cost (26% greenhouse gas reduction at 1% margin cost or less).

## Building Capacity and Coordination around Energy Systems Planning and Modelling

*Organized by the UK Department for International Development*

Speakers emphasized the need to incorporate planning for energy services, not just for kilowatt hours; engaging with users and organizations on the ground to identify technologies that offer the most value for money; integrating a range of energy solutions to address environmental, social and technological challenges; incorporating transport and other relevant sectors; and promoting simple, modular and interoperable solutions to encourage scaling.



# Making Connections

Business-as-usual solutions are not delivering results fast enough on the SDG7 goals. New collaborations and innovations are urgently needed to accelerate progress. At the heart of the SEforALL Forum is the desire to connect people at all levels of the SDG7 movement to build partnerships that will drive bigger, faster gains.

## The Marketplace

Integral to the Forum was the Marketplace, which was set up for partners to broker partnerships and showcase their work on sustainable energy. Over two days, 19 partners created an exciting environment that sparked new contacts and conversation. Partners who showcased their work included: Longi Solar, OFID, IRENA, EDP, SEforALL Energy Efficiency Accelerators, Building Efficiency Accelerator, United for Efficiency, Total, SEforALL People-Centered Accelerator, Danfoss, Ashden, Power Africa, REN21, World Bank Group/ESMAP, WLPGA, GLPGP, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, GOGLA and the International Hydropower Association. The Marketplace was formally opened by Suleiman Jasir Al-Herbish, Director General of OFID.

## Partnerships

Five new Partnership Agreements were signed with SEforALL during the Forum, along with a Sponsorship Agreement and an Aide Memoire. Delivery Partnership Agreements were signed with Danfoss, Total and REN21; a Middle East Regional Hub Agreement with the Islamic Development Bank; a Proud Partnership Agreement with ALER; a Sponsorship Agreement with OFID; and an Aide Memoire with the International Solar Alliance.

## Forum Sponsorship

The SEforALL Forum Sponsors are a group of partners that help deliver the Forum through financial support and by making it possible for participants from developing countries to attend the event. There were four Gold level Sponsors, one Presenting Sponsor and seven Silver level Sponsors. Our sponsors also took part in





the overall program through their direct participation in various sessions, as well as organizing some of the Partner Working Sessions. The EU was the largest contributor to this year's Forum and as a strategic partner and funder of SEforALL helped design a Partner Working Session. EDP, as a Delivery Partner of SEforALL and the presenting sponsor of the Forum, played an important role in planning the Forum and by hosting numerous meetings at its headquarters. Facebook provided communications support through its Facebook Live studio. OFID and the African Development Bank helped provide financial support for travel and accommodation of delegates from Africa. Our Silver Sponsors hosted and organized part of the Partner Working Sessions during both days and participated in key sessions throughout the Forum. The Silver Sponsors were International Copper Alliance, Building Efficiency Accelerator (Johnson Controls, WRI), Longi Solar, Danfoss, Total and Power Africa.

## A Catalyst for Action

After the Forum ended, more than a dozen off-site meetings were held across Lisbon to ensure that momentum created by the Forum was seized on to generate bigger gains. The SEforALL team organized the following meetings: the **People-Centered Accelerator** organized by Accelerator partners which included ECREEE, The Clinton Foundation, ENERGIA, Practical Action, Value for Women and the Calvert Foundation; the **SEforALL Hub and Accelerator Collaboration Workshop** organized

by the SEforALL Global Team; **The 5th Annual Sustainable Energy for All Africa Workshop** organized by the African Development Bank and the SEforALL Africa Hub; **Sustainable Energy in Somalia** organized by the Somali Ministry of Energy; and the **Guinea Bissau Sustainable Energy Investment Workshop** organized by ALER – the Lusophone Renewable Energy Association, in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Industry in Guinea Bissau, UNIDO and ECREEE, and supported by the Global Environment Facility.

Other events included: **Community of Champions** organized by USAID/ Power Africa, World Bank/ ESMAP, the Shell Foundation and GOGLA; **MTF Cooking Discussion** organized by the World Bank, WHO and Endev; **Energy Planning Roundtable** organized by DFID; **Building Efficiency Accelerator** organized by BEA Partners; **District Energy Accelerator** organized by UN Environment; and **Global Plan of Action: Sustainable Energy Solutions for Situations of Displacement** organized by UNITAR, UNCHR, IOM, GIZ, the Moving Energy Initiative, Practical Action, the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and the UN Foundation.

## Exercising Diplomacy

During the Forum, SEforALL's CEO and UN SRSG of Sustainable Energy for All used the gathering of diverse leaders to hold a series of meetings and convene different groups of organizations and individuals to advance the SDG7 agenda.

As an example, SEforALL brought together leaders from competing associations representing different clean cooking fuel sources to form a basis for collaboration to build clean fuel markets and help countries close clean cooking access gaps. This "Lisbon Group" was first put to the test in closed-door meetings with the Rwandan ministerial team to provide input on their draft Clean Cooking Fuels Action Plan.

Meetings were also held with high-level representatives of the World Health Organization and UN's High Commissioner for Refugees to identify ways SEforALL

could support faster action on health and energy and the mobilization on electricity and clean cooking access for refugees and displaced persons.

Discussions were also held with; Schneider Electric on job creation in the decentralized renewable energy sector; the International Hydropower Association on the importance of hydropower to delivering sustainable energy for all; ALER on promoting renewable energy in Portuguese-speaking countries; and with the European Commission on the EU's leadership and investment in sustainable energy.



# Amplifying Voices

Communications was at the heart of the Forum, with the communications campaign in the buildup, during and after the event focusing on sharing the evidence of success – and challenges – to a global audience.

Strategic engagement with participants ahead of the event was a key element to help achieve this. Delegates received weekly newsletters that included blogs, speaker announcements and video content, all with the aim to share key information ahead of the Forum to ensure everyone was able to maximize their time in Lisbon. For those that were not able to attend the event in person, all the main plenary sessions were broadcast live and available to watch on the Forum website, with recordings available on the SEforALL YouTube channel, as well as regular interviews with leading energy experts from business, policy and civil society being broadcast from the Facebook Live Studio.

The Forum was the platform for the SDG7 movement to share the latest news and evidence on SDG7 action to a global audience, with nine announcements made by SEforALL and partners. All of the announcements were highlighted across social media, media activity and also through live Forum outputs, including the Facebook Live Studio.

## MEDIA

Just under 30 journalists registered for the Forum, with a mix of online, print and broadcast outlets attending the event. Press conferences, media briefings and 1:1 interviews all took place during the three days, connecting media to keynote speakers and partners making announcements.

A preview interview with Thomson Reuters and Rachel Kyte, CEO and UN Special Representative for Sustainable Energy for All, was done the week before the Forum, with the article – **Power-for-All push risks leaving out Africa's poorest – official** – appearing several days ahead of the event. The article was published on Reuters and syndicated across multiple publications, helping build up and amplify momentum in the final few days before the Forum.

The *Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report* was the headline announcement of the Forum, with its official

launch on the first day. The nine announcements made at the Forum included Levers of Change, a new report from SEforALL and ENERGIA on global gender equality and social trends, new partnership announcements and other report launches from SEforALL partners.

Media Partners for the 2018 Forum were **Connect-4Climate, Devex, Energy Live News** and the **Energy Industry Times**. EDP Energias De Portugal, SEforALL partner, also worked with Journal de Negocios as a media partner in support of the Forum.

Through these announcements and engagement with the media, coverage generated during the Forum and in the month following that referenced the event, resulted in:

- **870 news articles** across national, international and broadcast media—with strong results in Portugal, North America, Ghana, India and the United Kingdom.
- Through this engagement and coverage, we reached an **estimated global audience of just under 223 million**.
- Publications attending the Forum included: **Reuters, Devex, Thomson Reuters Foundation, The Beam Magazine, Ghana Online and Journal de Negocios**.
- Coverage was generated in **67 countries** - This included coverage in **26 high-impact countries** – as defined by the SEforALL Heat Maps.
- News was **reported in 15 different languages**.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media was a key part of the Forum communications strategy—allowing the event to engage a large online global audience outside of Lisbon and share all of the latest evidence and data under the theme of 'Leaving No One Behind'. Announcements, content and interviews with leading energy experts were shared live from the Forum using the dedicated Forum hashtag #SEforALLforum.

## TWITTER

One of the primary social media platforms used for the Forum was Twitter, with the SEforALL account @SEforALLorg used as the main channel to share all Forum news, updates and live content.

For posts in the month leading up to and during the Forum that included the hashtag #SEforALLforum, Twitter engagement resulted in

- The #SEforALLforum hashtag and content generated **over 105 million Twitter impressions** with **tweets tracked in 130 countries**
- **Tweets appeared in 12 different languages**
- During the event, the **#SEforALLforum hashtag started trending in Europe, and was first in Portugal.**
- During the two days of the Forum alone, **tweets from @SEforALLorg generated 224,000 impressions globally, from over 60 tweets posted by the SEforALL account.**
- Some of **the biggest influencers to use #SEforALLforum included:** @UN, @UNDP, @UNFoundation, @UNFCCC, @AntonioGuterres, @GlobalGoals,

Several highlight tweets are shown below.



## FACEBOOK

As part of a partnership with Facebook, a pop-up Facebook Live Studio was created at the Forum, hosting live interviews, discussions and announcements from the Sustainable Energy for All Facebook page with SEforALL partners and leading energy experts.

This engagement in the Facebook Live Studio, as well as posts from SEforALL and partners on Facebook using #SEforALLforum, resulted in:

- **35 Facebook Live interviews** were recorded in the Forum Live studio
- Videos on the SEforALL Facebook page were viewed for just under 19,000 minutes, with over 23,000 video views
- Posts across Facebook using #SEforALLforum **reached an estimated audience of just under 33 million globally**
- **230 posts** were tracked that used the #SEforALLforum hashtag
- **Posts appeared in five languages:** English, French, Somali, Portuguese and Spanish.
- Some of the largest and most **influential Facebook accounts to use #SEforALLforum included:** Schneider Electric, UN Foundation, Connect4Climate, Thomson Reuters Foundation, Global Goals for Sustainable Development and OFID



### SDG Live Zone

The Forum hosted an SDG Live Zone again, helping facilitate announcements and highlight priority conversations / themes from the Forum. The sessions were pre-recorded and the hosted on the SEforALL YouTube page.

Just under 10 sessions were held, with programming going on during all breaks from the main agenda. This included several announcements from the UN Foundation, ENERGIA, as well as conversations on sustainable cooling access and the need for greater gender equality in the sustainable energy sector.

### Voices of a Brighter Future Competition

The Voices of a Brighter Future competition was a highlight of media activity ahead of the Forum, and a key factor in engaging media from least developed countries. Ran by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries,

Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UNOHRLLS), SEforALL supported the competition to engage and support journalists from these countries to attend the event.

The competition had journalists from LDC countries share their stories on how sustainable energy is positively affecting communities in their countries. Seven winners were selected by a high-level panel ahead of the Forum, so they could come to Lisbon to be able to access greater knowledge on the latest SDG7 progress, how it mattered to their countries, newly released data and evidence, as well as forming new connections and interview opportunities with leading energy experts.

The winning stories, from Yemen, Togo, Malawi, Benin, Senegal, Haiti and Bangladesh, were also featured across UN channels. The competition was supported by the Government of Norway, Sustainable Energy for All and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation

# WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SPONSORS OF THE 2018 FORUM

## Gold



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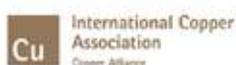


Uniting against Poverty

## Presenting



## Silver



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The 2018 Sustainable Energy for All Forum was also supported by IKEA Foundation and Omidyar Network.

## MEDIA PARTNERS of the 2018 FORUM



## The Partners

Africa-EU Energy Partnership – Alliance of Civil Society Organisations for Clean Energy Access – Building Efficiency Accelerator – CAFOD – Calvert Impact Capital – Carbon Trust – Climate Policy Initiative – Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency – Department for International Development, UK – District Energy Systems Accelerator – ENERGIA – Energias de Portugal – FIA Foundation – Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves – Hivos Foundation – International Copper Alliance – International Institute for Environment & Development – IUCN – Mini-grids Partnership – Overseas Development Institute – Power Africa – Power for All – Practical Action – REN21 – Solar Sister – Stichting Nederlandse Vrijwilligers (Netherlands Development Organisation) – Sustainable Bioenergy Accelerator – The Clinton Foundation – The Global Impact Investing Network – The Global LPG Partnership – United Nations Foundation – United Nations Industrial Development Organization – United States Agency for International Development – Value for Women – Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management – World Bank Group – World LPG Association – ZENGO.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## METHODOLOGY

**MEDIA NUMBERS:** The media monitoring period took place between May 2 – June 1, 2018. Media sources used to gather impact data come from Meltwater media monitoring service and SEforALL internal research. Data included refers to the Forum with either direct mentions of the event, mentions of SEforALL or SEforALL-related activity to the event, or reference to the launch of ‘Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report’, which was launched at the event. The estimated audience reach is the monthly online unique visitors to each outlet, from data made publicly available by those publications at the time of reporting (data is not provided by all outlets, and therefore not available for each item).

**SOCIAL MEDIA NUMBERS:** The social monitoring period took place between April 6 – May 8, 2018. Only posts on Twitter and Facebook that used the #SEforALLforum hashtag have been counted. Impressions and data were calculated using Meltwater, Facebook Insights and Twitter Analytics. Any posts that did not include the hashtag have not been counted.

## ABOUT SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL

As a global platform, Sustainable Energy for All empowers leaders to broker partnerships and unlock finance to achieve universal access to sustainable energy, as a contribution to a cleaner, just and prosperous world for all. We marshal evidence, benchmark progress, amplify the voices of our partners and tell stories of success and connect stakeholders.

For more information, please visit [SEforALL.org](http://SEforALL.org)

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