Terms of Reference for SEforALL Cooling for All Evaluation 2021.

1. Background

Launched in 2011 as a UN initiative by then UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) has focused on sustainable energy and ensuring that an energy goal (SDG7) was included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). After its establishment as an independent international organization in 2016, its activities expanded to include global agenda-setting on SDG7 and taking a leading role as a convener and knowledge agent in the global energy community.

Since January 2020, SEforALL's new CEO, Damilola Ogunbiyi, has led the organisation. Under her leadership, SEforALL's 3-year Business Plan was developed and launched in September 2020. The 2021-2023 Business Plan has reshaped the organization's structure and active interventions. In this same effort, all interventions have been captured under SEforALL's new 2020-2023 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework. In this context, SEforALL has strategically chosen to strengthen global agenda-setting while expanding its activities to an engagement model that prioritizes data-driven decision-making, partnerships with high-impact countries and implementation on the ground.

While a number of multi-year programmes are still active under the 2021-2023 Business Plan, SEforALL is now working closely with High Impact Countries[1] to provide country-driven support, tailoring SEforALL's offerings to the needs of each country, such as customized Policy and Regulatory Frameworks and Integrated Energy Planning. For the first time, SEforALL is directly supporting implementation of new sustainable energy connections on the ground through Results-Based Financing (RBF) under its Universal Energy Facility (UEF). Ongoing initiatives, such as global agenda setting through Policy and Regulatory Toolkits; Advocacy and Communications work; SEforALL Forum; Energizing Finance; and a close relationship with the UN continue. Multi-year energy sub-sector programmes, such as **Cooling for All**, Clean Cooking, Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Development and Powering Healthcare are also included in the 2021-2023 Business Plan.

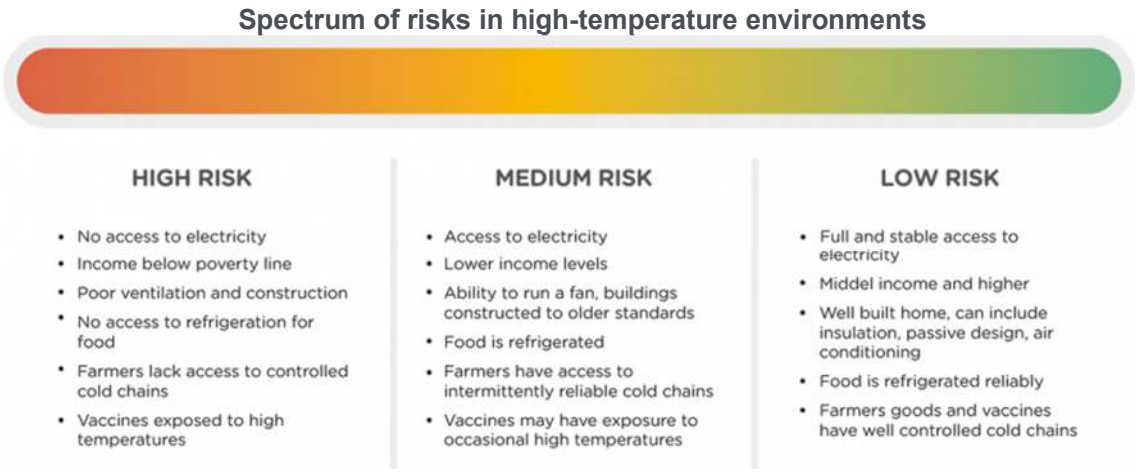
2. Cooling for All

The Cooling for All programme's mission is to generate the evidence, partnerships, policy and business solutions necessary to provide sustainable cooling for all and to reduce the energy demand needed to achieve this.

As governments across the globe respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme heat continues to increase, threatening immediate public health and safety, as well as the long-term economic recovery from the pandemic. Intolerable levels of heat and humidity, previously forecast for mid-century, were already occurring prior to 2020, and more than doubled in their frequency between 1979 and 2017.

1 High-impact countries are defined as 20 developing countries, that together are home to nearly 80 percent of those living without access to sustainable energy.
For electricity, the high-impact countries (HICs) are: Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo (DR), Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Korea (DPR), Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Yemen.
For clean cooking, the high-impact countries (HICs) are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Congo (DR), Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea (DPR), Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam.

Global Access to Cooling in 2020



Existing forecasts are also being challenged, and current projections are that intolerable heat will become worse without drastic action to combat climate change, including in seven South Asian countries that are home to 1.5 billion people where the number of days with extreme heat could rise from 45 days annually now to 78 days in 2050.

Analysis for 2020 shows that across 54 high-impact countries, 1.02 billion people among the rural and urban poor remain at high risk. A further 2.2 billion lower-middle income people pose a different kind of risk: they will soon be able to purchase the most affordable air conditioner or refrigerator, but price sensitivity and limited purchasing options mean they favour devices that are likely to be inefficient, threatening energy systems and resulting in increased GHG emissions.

Significantly higher rates of poverty and malnutrition are expected following changing situations in 2020. Taken together with the challenges of social and physical distancing during extreme heat, 2020 has highlighted the need to deliver sustainable cooling as a means of underpinning the recovery from the pandemic, as well as achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

3. Evaluation Purpose and Use

SEforALL's Monitoring, Evaluation and learning (MEL) Framework includes an external, organization-wide outcomes-focused evaluation every two years. The next evaluation will be undertaken in 2021, covering the period 2018-2020. An evaluation of Cooling for All will take place in parallel with this overall evaluation, complementing it with a narrower and more in-depth focus on this particular programme. It is expected that the Cooling for All evaluation will link to the overall evaluation, both providing analysis and insights and also incorporating relevant information to and from the overall evaluation.

The purpose of the Cooling for All evaluation is to generate learning from a retrospective assessment of what's worked well, and what's been more challenging for the programme from 2017 to 2020, including key learning. Evidence generated from the evaluation will be mapped to SEforALL's Theory of Change to track Cooling for All's contributions to outcomes. The evaluation will also consolidate learning from Phase 1 and 2 (as outlined in section 4 below) to ensure Cooling for All's results contribute to effective implementation of SEforALL's 3.0 2021 – 2023 Business Plan.

The evaluation will provide information for the Cooling for All programme management and staff to use evidence generated to make informed decisions about changes necessary in design and/or

implementation to optimise the achievement of intended results over the next few years. It will also provide information for reporting on progress to Cooling for All's donors and other stakeholders as well as contributing to the evidence base to support the maintenance and expansion of the Cooling for All programme.

4. Evaluation Focus and Scope

The evaluation scope will include the four phases of Cooling for All over the time period July 2017 until May 2021, as below:

Stages of Cooling for All:

1. Cooling for All Phase 1: July 2017 to July 2018
   (*Lead: Ian Crosby*)
   a. Launch of the Global Panel on Access to Cooling
   b. Access to Cooling, first of its kind research and analysis
   c. Launch of Chilling Prospects (1st edition)

2. Cooling for All Phase 2, stage 1: July 2018 to November 2019
   (*Lead: Vacant)*
   a. Launch of Cooling for All Needs Assessment
   b. Chilling Prospects (2nd edition)

3. Cooling for All Phase 2, stage 2: November 2019 to July 2020
   (*Lead: Brian Dean*)
   a. Launch of #ThisIsCool
   b. Chilling Prospects (3rd edition)
   c. End of SEforALL 2.0

4. Cooling for All Phase 2, stage 3: July 2020 to May 2021
   (*Lead: Brian Dean*)
   a. Launch of Cooling for All Solutions Assessment
   b. Chilling Prospects (4th edition)
   c. SEforALL 3.0

Across each of these phases and stages, there were also a number of smaller projects (knowledge briefs, partner support, strategy support, recent focus on COVID-19 vaccines, etc.) which may also be included.

By the time this evaluation begins in 2021, SEforALL will have completed an annual internal monitoring report for each ongoing initiative in 2020 outlining the progress made towards the 2021 – 2023 Business Plan. Relevant information from this report can be used to inform this evaluation.

5. Evaluation Criteria and Key Questions

Given the purpose of the evaluation is for both learning and accountability, the criteria selected are consistent with the four OECD-DAC criteria of *relevance*, *effectiveness*, *impact and coherence*. The following are some initial key evaluation questions:

Relevance

- How well did the programme align with the needs of the sector/other initiatives?
- To what extent did any new or existing initiatives value the support they received from SEforALL?

Effectiveness

- What worked well in contributing to the intended Cooling for All outcomes?
- What was less successful in contributing to these intended outcomes?
- What was the value of investments (financial/other) in access to cooling initiatives?
- How much finance was leveraged for/by (other?) initiatives supported by the programme?
- To what extent has gender been addressed as a cross-cutting issue?

Impact

- To what extent did Cooling for All catalyse new initiatives and to what extent were the outputs of the Cooling for All programme helpful to other organizations in fundraising, development, and implementation of other initiatives?
- To what extent have the Cooling for All programme outputs (e.g. first report) provided the evidence or technical justification for action by other initiatives or organizations?
- What evidence is there on change in the number of people at risk of heat related stresses, including the categories of: thermal comfort, food supply chains and medical supply chains?
- To what extent did Cooling for All's work influence the opinions or perspectives of senior leaders in the development space on the issue of cooling?
- What other changes can be plausibly linked to Cooling for All activities?

Coherence

- To what extent were the Cooling for All activities aligned or connected with the efforts of other organisations?
- Were there any synergies with other initiatives? If so, how did this work and what were the benefits?
- Are Cooling for All's activities well aligned with SEforALL's 3-year Business Plan and on track to achieve the intended outcomes?

The evaluation questions will be further developed and refined by the evaluation team during the inception phase.

6. Evaluation Approach and Methodology

It is expected that a theory-based, integrated mixed-methods approach is likely to be the most appropriate for answering the evaluation questions given the nature of the programme. A detailed evaluation design will be developed by the evaluation team in consultation with the Cooling for All staff and the SEforALL MEL Team. The evaluator's ideas about approach and methods, based on their experience and expertise, are encouraged.

It is desirable that this evaluation would dovetail with the overall evaluation of SEforALL being conducted in parallel. In which case there may be opportunities for data sharing and other efficiencies in the use of evaluation resources.

7. Deliverables:

- **Contract signed and on-line kick-off meeting:** Mid/End March 2021
  - Discussion with the programme lead and MEL lead.
  - Documents supplied; information access and list of key internal contacts provided.
  - Discussion on external stakeholders, introductions, etc.

- **Delivery of Inception Report:** *2 April 2021*
  - Evaluation design and implementation plan, including details of qualitative and quantitative methods, data collection, data analysis clearly set out in an evaluation design matrix.
  - The rationale for selection of the approach and methods must be explained.
  - Any existing and anticipated limitations must also be explained.

- **Evaluation implementation:** *5 April - 30 April 2021*
  - Ongoing communication with the SEforALL Cooling for All and/or MEL Team, for guidance with document analysis, access to stakeholders, and scheduling meetings/interviews, etc.

- **Presentation of initial evaluation findings:** *Week beginning 3 May 2021.*
  - Presentation discussion and of initial findings with the Cooling for All and MEL Teams.
  - Responses to initial findings, including clarification and correction of any factual errors and/or missing evidence.

- **Delivery of Draft Evaluation Report:** *17 May 2021.*
  - Cooling for All Team to respond with comments in 3 weeks – *11 June 2021*.

- **Final Evaluation Report submitted:** *25 June 2021.*
  - The Evaluation Report will be presented to key stakeholders in a slide deck format by the Cooling for All Team (in a webinar / published on website/ other media?)

- **Evaluation Presentation:** *7 July 2021 (alongside the SEforALL overall evaluation)*
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Deliverable	Timing	Date
Inception Report	2 weeks after contract signed	2 April 2021
Presentation of Initial Findings	4 weeks after approval of Inception Report	3-7 May 2021
Draft Evaluation Report	2 weeks after initial findings presented	17 May 2021
Final Evaluation Report	Circulated for comment and revised	25 June 2021
Evaluation Presentation	2 weeks after Final Evaluation Report	7 July 2021

Payment Schedule:

Deliverable	Percentage	Date
Inception Report	25%	2 April 2021
Draft Evaluation Report	25%	17 May 2021
Final Evaluation Report	25%	25 June 2021
Evaluation Presentation	50%	7 July 2021

8. Evaluation Team Competencies

It is expected this evaluation will require a team of at least two people. The requirements set out below apply to the evaluation team leader. Other team members may have relevant but less experience.

- Lead Evaluator - Masters level post-graduate qualification in evaluation, social sciences, international relations, political science, development studies, economics, energy, engineering or climate science. Other relevant qualifications may also be considered along with significant relevant experience.
- 10 years demonstrated relevant experience in monitoring and evaluation, including experience in undertaking evaluation of advocacy and influencing initiatives, partnerships, innovation and systems change, programme design and implementation.
- Knowledge and experience of evaluations in the energy sector
- Demonstrated experience of programme evaluation at an international level, including qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Language skills: high level of competency in both written and spoken English
- A demonstrated track record of conducting evaluations in the international development space with professionalism, integrity, respect and impartiality when drawing conclusions and interacting with all key stakeholders.

Desirable Skills and Experience:

- Demonstrated experience working in clean energy market development in Africa and Asia; knowledge and understanding of these markets including factors such as barriers to implementation, policy and regulatory environments, access to finance, political will and support, etc.
- Recent experience of working with the UN system, multilateral organisations and donors.
- Experience in evaluating programmes led by international organizations similar to SEforALL.
- Language skills: competency in a second language in addition to English.
- Demonstrated experience delivering substantive evaluations in the energy sector.

Proposals will be assessed using the following criteria:

- Relevant evaluation skills, knowledge and experience of the individuals in the evaluation team.
- Prior experience in successfully undertaking evaluations of similar nature and scope.
- Evaluation design including the rationale for choice of approach and methods.
- A work approach that's likely to be effective in the current COVID-19 environment.
- Project management and stakeholder engagement experience.
- Limitations /risk identification and mitigation for the evaluation.

9. Timeline

The evaluation is expected to start in March and be completed by July 2021.

10. Evaluation Management

The evaluation will be managed by the Cooling for All Team. Quality assurance of the evaluation process and products will be done jointly by the MEL team and Cooling for All team.

All deliverables will be approved by Brian Dean, Head of Energy Efficiency and Cooling.