



# SEforALL Leadership Council: Terms of Reference

MARCH 2021

## Background

1. Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) is an international organization that works in partnership with the United Nations and leaders in government, the private sector, financial institutions, civil society, and philanthropies to drive faster action towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) – access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030 – in line with the Paris Agreement.
2. With a unique mandate from the United Nations to drive action on SDG7, SEforALL works to deliver impactful solutions to accelerate progress to SDG7, focusing on new partnerships, data, finance and implementation, and complemented by high-level advocacy.
3. On 10 December 2020, SEforALL's Governance Board approved the establishment of a Leadership Council to help solicit political, institutional, and funding support for SEforALL.
4. Whilst SEforALL works closely in partnership with the United Nations and whilst SEforALL's CEO serves as a Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG), Leadership Council members will not be designated as UN appointees.

## Scope & purpose

5. The Leadership Council brings together a small group of diverse and distinguished leaders from the private sector, public sector, international development institutions, philanthropy, royal family offices, and civil society to provide advisory services, conduct high-level advocacy for action on SDG7, and to assist in mobilizing resources for SEforALL and its partnerships.
6. Leadership Council members do not assume governance or contractual responsibilities related to SEforALL's work. Council members bring consultative expertise on key relationships and specific areas of need and act as ambassadors for the organization.
7. Leadership Council members are expected to help:
  - a. Raise global awareness with key stakeholders, particularly within international donor communities, aiming to put energy at the heart of the global development agenda and draw the international community into a dialogue on the need for

universal access to sustainable energy and the linkages between sustainable energy and climate action, women's empowerment, inequality, poverty, and global health,

- b. Build relationships between SEforALL and key stakeholders, including governments, foundations, financial institutions, and the private sector,
  - c. Mobilize finance and new funding for the work of SEforALL and its partnerships,
  - d. When requested and when appropriate within United Nations' rules and guidance, provide advice and support to SEforALL's CEO/SRSG on strategy relating to UN-Energy, COPs, SEforALL campaigns, initiatives and high-level events.
8. Leadership Council members work alongside SEforALL's Governance Board and its CEO in soliciting advocacy and funding support for SEforALL's work.
  9. Leadership Council members—individually or as a group— may be invited to attend meetings of the organization's Governance Board and Funders' Council.

## Selection process

10. Leadership Council members are initially selected by the CEO and the Chair of the Governance Board. The Chair of the Governance Board is automatically appointed as a Leadership Council member.
11. A Chair or co-Chairs of the Leadership Council may be selected among invited Council members by the Governance Board Chair and CEO. The Chair or co-Chairs will assist in the development and coordination of the Council.
12. Council member selection will take account of:
  - a. Scope of international network and influence relevant to sustainable development,
  - b. Capacity to mobilize interest in and resources for sustainable energy and climate solutions, and
  - c. Readiness and availability to devote time for meetings and occasional travel to advocate for SEforALL.



13. The Leadership Council will be established with due consideration to diversity including balance of gender and representation from Global 'South' and 'North' nationalities.
14. SEforALL will conduct due diligence on prospective candidates, with oversight by the CEO and Director of Resource Mobilization.

## Composition & term

15. The Leadership Council will initially comprise approximately ten to twelve members, including Chair and co-Chairs.
16. Members are expected to serve for three years, renewable for up to two consecutive periods. In exceptional cases membership can be extended further.
17. The Leadership Council will meet twice yearly via video conference and (subject to lifting of COVID-19 restrictions), annually in person. SEforALL will provide background materials on its mission, strategy, progress updates and annual workplans. Members will regularly receive briefs on current activities of SEforALL.
18. SEforALL offers support to Leadership Council members in bilateral meetings and calls and arranges for participation in high-level international fora.
19. SEforALL may arrange media support for the Leadership Council members during official engagements, for example, interviews and op-eds.

## Travel & events engagement

20. Events and engagements organized by SEforALL can help to create visibility and awareness for specific campaigns and strengthen policy dialogue in high-impact countries<sup>1</sup>. The members will receive necessary support during their participation in SEforALL-related events.
21. Leadership Council members will also be available for direct consultations with the CEO, joining the CEO at high-level events, if needed, and helping to secure invites to high-level events, such as the World Economic Forum and UN General Assembly.

## Financial remuneration

22. Appointment to the Leadership Council is on an honorary basis and no remuneration is offered or implied in relation to acceptance of the role.
23. SEforALL may in only exceptional circumstances cover travel costs or daily subsistence allowance (DSA) when a member is

travelling on behalf of SEforALL. Engagements involving travel will primarily be planned by mutual consent around existing commitments.

## Termination

24. The decision of a Leadership Council member to step down from their role shall be accepted if the Council member is no longer able or willing to carry out the role. Council members may be asked to step down if they engage in any activity deemed by SEforALL to be incompatible with their status or with the purposes and principles of SEforALL.

## Contacts

25. The Leadership Council will be supported by SEforALL's Resource Mobilization team.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.seforall.org/data-stories/seforall-analysis-of-sdg7-progress-2020>