



# 2025 GLOBAL FORUM REPORT

12-13 MARCH 2025 **BRIDGETOWN. BARBADOS** 



# FOREWORD

The world stands at a critical crossroads. We must act boldly and urgently to end energy poverty, advance sustainable development, and build a clean, resilient energy future.

That's why SEforALL, together with the Government of Barbados, hosted over 1,300 participants at the **2025 Global Forum** in Bridgetown. This year's Forum focused on ensuring a **just and equitable energy transition** while spotlighting the leadership and innovation of countries like Barbados and others across the Global South.

This sixth Forum—and our first in Latin America and the Caribbean—marked a major milestone. Key outcomes included the **Barbados Declaration**, the launch of the **USD 500 million DRE Facility**, the unveiling of the **Barbados Energy Transition and Investment Plan**, new **Energy Compacts**, and stronger support for **Mission 300** in Africa.

The Forum reaffirmed that real progress happens when we think and act across sectors, geographies, and communities. As we push toward 2030, SEforALL is committed to building the political momentum, partnerships, and financial flows needed to deliver energy access and climate action at scale.

We're grateful to **Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley**, the Government of Barbados, and all our partners for making the 2025 Forum a success.

Let's keep going – together. The future we want is within reach, if we have the courage and will to create it.

### DAMILOLA OGUNBIYI

CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, and Co-Chair of UN-Energy



# **ABOUT THE FORUM**

The **SEforALL Global Forum** is the leading global event on sustainable energy access and transition.

In 2025, over two days in **Bridgetown**, **Barbados**, the Forum brought together leaders from government, business, finance, and civil society to drive action at the intersection of **energy, climate, and development**.

Under the theme **"Sustainable Energy for Equity, Security and Prosperity"**, the Forum focused on ending energy poverty and advancing a just, inclusive energy transition especially for **developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**.

# **KEY OUTCOMES 1 2 3 4 5**



# Global leaders call for greater action

High-level leaders, including H.E. Mia Mottley, the Prime Minister of Barbados, H.E. Julius Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone; H.E. Doto Biteko, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Tanzania; Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General; Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC; H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, COP29 President and Representative of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Climate Issues; H.E. Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago, COP30 President-Designate; Wale Edun and Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Nigeria; and Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group; called for urgent action to move from pledges to implementation.

Their message: achieving **universal energy access by 2030** and a **just, equitable energy transition** requires bold, coordinated effort – now!



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The world as it stands today is confronted by a difficult reality: across the Global South, we have millions of people who lack energy. We cannot continue with business as usual, as lack of energy access is at the core of national, regional and global instability. We must redouble our efforts to reverse this.

### **MIA AMOR MOTTLEY**

Prime Minister, Barbados

Energy is essential for the prosperity of every economy, fosters social transformation and ensures climate resilience. However, energy access is a challenge for millions in Africa. The urgency to close the gap is more critical than ever, and we must intensify our efforts to ensure everyone is included in this global energy revolution.

> JULIUS MAADA BIO President, Sierra Leone

2025 is the turning point, the solutions exist, the technology is here, and the economics are favourable. But time is running out, with just 5 years to 2030, to close the energy access gaps and halve emissions if we are to stay within the 1.5°C degree target, the urgency for bold collective action cannot be overstated.

### **AMINA J. MOHAMMED**

United Nations Deputy Secretary-General International support and partnerships are essential, and everyone needs to play their part to ensure the energy transition. This year is critical as countries need to submit their nationally determined contributions, which must be ambitious and actionable. This is necessary if we are to achieve our climate targets.

> MUKHTAR BABAYEV COP29 President

The Forum comes at a critical moment in our global energy transition. Now more than ever, we must catalyse the actions and investments needed by countries to achieve their energy access, climate and development goals.

### **DOTO BITEKO**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Tanzania

Energy is at the centre of COP30. We will ensure energy is included in the negotiations, the Action Agenda and the Presidential Meetings. We have an opportunity to centre climate action in our global discourse and use COP30 later in the year to accelerate the achievement of our global climate goals. We urgently need a just transition, and I am glad that we get inspiration from SEforALL and Damilola.

> AMBASSADOR ANDRÉ CORRÊA DO LAGO COP30 President-Designate, Brazil

# KEY OUTCOMES 1 2 3 4 5

# **Global Ministerial Momentum**

Ministers from 28 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific came together at the Forum to reaffirm their commitment to a just and equitable energy transition.

At two high-level Ministerial gatherings, they endorsed a **Call to Action** and **Global Communiqué** urging more ambitious climate plans, fair climate finance, stronger local capacity and job creation, and faster deployment of clean technologies—especially in **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** and the **Global South**.



•••) MORE INFORMATION HERE

# KEY OUTCOMES 12345

# **Over \$500 Million in New Commitments Mobilized**

- USD 500M DRE Nigeria Fund: Launched by NSIA, SEforALL, ISA, and Africa50 to finance mini-grids, solar home systems, commercial power, embedded generation, and energy storage in Nigeria.
- USD 20M for Sierra Leone Energy Access: The EU, UNOPS, and SEforALL announced results-based financing via the Universal Energy Facility to expand rural mini-grid electrification.
- South Asia, and the Indo-Pacific.
- ✓ USD 3.5–5M for e-Cooking in Sierra Leone: Backed by the Forward7 Clean Cooking initiative, GeCCo, MECS, and UK Aid to drive clean cooking solutions aligned with Sierra Leone's energy roadmap.



MORE INFORMATION HERE

# KEY OUTCOMES (1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

# **Driving Clean Energy Investment and National Action**

Several major initiatives were announced to accelerate clean energy transitions and unlock finance:

- Barbados ETIP Launched: Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley and SEforALL unveiled Barbados' Energy Transition and Investment Plan, charting a path to net-zero by 2035.
- Pakistan ETIP Announced: SEforALL and the Government of Pakistan will codevelop a national roadmap for clean energy transition.
- Formula E Joins Energy Compacts: The first global sports body to commit to net-zero and advancing energy access under the UN-led initiative.
- GFANZ Caribbean Chapter: A new hub to mobilize private capital and address clean energy investment barriers in the region.
- SEforALL-OLADE Partnership: A regional collaboration to strengthen energy policy, regulation, and tariffs across Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Africa Renewable Energy Manufacturing Financiers' Collective: A new platform to connect financiers and manufacturers, unlocking green finance and scaling local renewable energy industries.



# KEY OUTCOMES 12345

# **Celebrating Energy Heroes**

The 2025 Energy Heroes Awards honoured seven outstanding changemakers and innovators from across Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa. These individuals and organizations are transforming the sustainable energy landscape through innovation, financing, and technical solutions.





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# **KEY STATISTICS**

# Attendance



**Countries Represented** 

### Sessions



## Engagement



## Media Exposure



# **PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS**

The programme was solutions-focused and designed to provide a pathway to equitably transitioning energy and transforming lives. It also incorporated cross-cutting themes of finance, gender and youth.

The thematic areas that guided the conversations included:

- **Leaving no one behind:** Harnessing the required shifts and initiatives to ensure everyone benefits from the just and equitable transition
- 2 **Empowering the future:** Prioritizing training and skills development to equip the energy leaders of tomorrow and ensure youth and women have a meaningful role in the transition
- **Financing the transition:** Modernizing global financial systems to better support and unlock opportunities in the 21st century transitions
- 4 **Reigniting cooperation:** Fostering collaboration that equally benefits all regions and their transitions toward a more secure energy future
- **5 Driving ambition:** Accelerating global advocacy and commitments on the road to net-zero and 2030
- **6 Leveraging innovation:** Mobilizing the right technologies and capacity to scale solutions that enable economic development and energy transitions



# The Core

The Forum's central stage set the scene for a confluence of visionary leaders – from statespersons and emerging youth advocates to industry trailblazers and philanthropic pioneers – to exchange ideas, spark meaningful dialogue, and forge a collective vision for a sustainable future.





## SDG7 Innovation Zone

The Forum had a dynamic display of cutting-edge solutions and transformative technologies that are shaping a sustainable energy future and ensuring the achievement of universal energy access.

# The Exploration Pods

A series of "think tanks" where participants, partners and SEforALL delved into targeted discussions, collectively navigated through pressing challenges, fostered breakthrough insights, and devised innovative solutions for a sustainable energy future.



## Let's Talk About Energy Podcast

At the Forum, SEforALL spotlighted the bold leaders and innovative thinkers driving the clean energy revolution across the globe. Through candid conversations, the podcast provided ideas and solutions to accelerate the shift toward sustainable, inclusive, and resilient energy systems.



### SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL

# **OUR CONTINUED IMPACT – BEYOND THE FORUM**



# USD 1.4 trillion in UN-Energy

Compact commitments coordinated by SEforALL, of which over USD 200 billion has been mobilized or deployed in finance pledges through the UN- Energy Compacts



# 34,000+ new energy access connections, which across 30 countries have electrified... 950 health facilities 30 education centers 3,800 business and institutions



**450+** network of partners

Over 8.5 million people now have improved access to clean energy



**100+ countries** supported through our initiatives and programmes



by SEforALL in catalytic finance to power distributed renewable infrastructure, support countries' energy transitions, and build sustainable industries and markets



**7.6 MWp** installed in solar PV capacity and

**17.5 MWh** of battery storage installed



# SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FORUM PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS





# **ABOUT SEforALL**

Sustainable Energy for All is an independent organization, hosted by UNOPS, with a global mandate to accelerate progress on the energy transition in emerging and developing countries. We work at the intersection of energy, climate, and development. We collaborate with governments and partners worldwide to end energy poverty, accelerate the deployment of renewable energy solutions, and combat climate change.

Our vision is a world where everyone, everywhere, can lead a dignified life on a healthy planet, powered by sustainable energy. We promote this vision by pushing for higher ambitions, stronger policies, greater finance flows, increased localization and green jobs, and faster results toward an energy transition that leaves no one behind.



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