Importance of electricity for health services

- Use of power-dependent medical devices and appliances
- Wider range of services
- Prolonged opening hours

- Medical Services
  - Staff recruitment and retention
  - Use of power-dependent medical devices and appliances
  - Wider range of services
  - Prolonged opening hours
  - Easier recruitment and training
  - Better staff morale
  - Continued medical education

- Administr ation and logistics
  - Better communication
  - Improved records management

- Health and safety
  - General hygiene improved
  - Enhanced safety
  - Staff and patient sense of security and safety

- Disease prevention and treatment
  - Cold chain
  - Laboratory testing
  - E-health

- Staff recruitmen t and retention
  - Easier recruitment and training
  - Better staff morale
  - Continued medical education

- Electricity
Lack of electricity in healthcare facilities

1 billion people globally are still served by healthcare facilities without electricity.

About one in four HCFs in SSA with no access to electricity, particularly in rural areas.

Even when electricity is available, it is often not reliable.
Growing role of decentralized solar systems

**Cost** Cost of PV and batteries has decreased dramatically in the past decade. Solar systems represent the most economically viable options to electrify HCFs in most isolated and rural areas over the lifetime of the system.

**Speed** Off-grid solar solutions are significantly faster compared to grid connected options, with stand-alone systems being deployed in a few days.

**Reliability** In several cases, grid-connected power supply is unreliable and subject to interruptions (HCFs often rely on backup diesel generators to maintain power). Diesel generators are dependent on fuel supply (and cost variations), unlike PV systems.

**Climate resilience** Decentralized solar energy increases climate resilience of HCFs compared to diesel generators (which are vulnerable to fuel supply shortage) and to unreliable grids.
Key activities

- Health & Energy Platform of Action
- Global assessment of electricity in HCFs
- Techno-economic analyses
- Country support & partnerships

+ Preparation of advocacy and communication material (e.g. videos, fact sheets, flyers)
+ Cooperation with other WHO Departments
+ Development of strategic documents (e.g. Strategic Roadmap on Health and Energy)
The Health & Platform of Action (HEPA) aims to increase cooperation between the health and energy sectors to accelerate electrification of HCFs and access to clean cooking.

Key HEPA objectives:

- Mobilising political commitment, support and resources, and finding ways of encouraging new public and private commitments from the energy and health sectors, climate change action and other arenas;
- Promoting the development of global and country implementation roadmaps for the priority areas of action;
- Demonstrating leadership by identifying significant actions and initiatives with relevant stakeholders, with the overall objective of generating action and maximizing impact on the ground;
- Conducting advocacy and outreach related to relevant SDGs;
- Promoting an interdisciplinary approach, engaging a variety of stakeholders at the global, regional and national level and building on existing initiatives, while avoiding duplication of efforts, fostering alignment and creating strong synergies.

HEPA Conveners:
Global Assessment of Electricity in HCFs

The ‘Global Assessment of Electricity in Healthcare Facilities’ report aims to provide an authoritative, comprehensive, and up-to-date view of the state of electricity access in healthcare facilities.

The report, to be published in June 2022, intends to:

- **Draw attention** to the lack of electricity (and of reliable electricity) in HCFs in low-income and lower-middle income countries and on the opportunity to provide better health services by powering HCFs with clean and sustainable energy solutions.
- **Provide a benchmark** against which progress in electrifying healthcare facilities can be measured.
- Highlight lessons and best practices on **enabling frameworks** to accelerate electricity access in healthcare facilities
- **Identify key actions and investments** required to achieve universal health facility electrification.

The report will build on a WHO database under development, which will include multiple indicators (access to electricity, access to reliable electricity, electricity sources, etc.).

Report partners: WHO, World Bank, SEforALL, IRENA
Techno-economic options for electrification of HCFs

Analysis of techno-economic options for electrification of healthcare facilities in low resource settings, based on sustainable energy solutions

- Support the development of **energy needs assessments** in HCFs, taking into consideration different types of facility and services provided.
- Identify the most appropriate **design** options to provide decentralized sustainable energy systems in HCFs.
- Highlight pros and cons of different options, including in terms of **costs, feasibility, long term sustainability**.
- Support different **implementation phases** (planning & assessment, implementation, monitoring & evaluation).
Country support - Somalia

Supporting Somalia WHO Country Office on electrification of HCFs based on solar systems

1st phase (ongoing):
- Development of **energy needs assessments** in 20 HCFs

Next phases:
- **Design** of solar energy systems;
- Identification of **costs**;
- Project **implementation**.
Country support

Cooperation with GAVI and UNICEF to provide solar energy to HCFs

- Leverage on the bundling approach carried out by GAVI/UNICEF for the procurement and deployment of solar driven refrigerators in the framework of the CCEOP

- Expand from solar refrigerators to solar for essential health services

Gavi has installed solar refrigerators in ~35,000 health facilities since 2017

Techno-economic analyses and delivery model options currently under development