Accelerating electrification of healthcare facilities with sustainable energy

MS information session – 21 September 2022
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.
Health & Energy Platform of Action - HEPA

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**;
- Promoting the development of **global and country implementation roadmaps**;
- 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.

[https://www.who.int/initiatives/health-and-energy-platform-of-action](https://www.who.int/initiatives/health-and-energy-platform-of-action)

HEPA Conveners: in cooperation with:
High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy

Two priority areas:
- Electrification of healthcare facilities
- Clean cooking

Energizing Health
A Strategic Roadmap to promote healthier populations through clean and sustainable energy

The links between energy and health have never been more important today. The climate crisis, which is increasingly severe, and current projections for health. Clean and sustainable energy in this context, are two key areas for technological and health solutions.

Some 3 billion people are exposed daily due to the lack of access to clean cooking. Air pollution from cooking is a major cause of cancer and premature deaths, affecting children especially. Electrification of healthcare facilities, on the other hand, can improve access to medical technologies. This is especially relevant in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where digital tools and telemedicine can help to reach communities.

At the same time, an estimated 1.5 billion people lack access to electricity. Many of these people live in rural areas and are affected by widespread power outages.

The High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy aims to address these challenges by implementing strategies that target both electrification and clean cooking.

1. Electrification of Healthcare Facilities
   - Consider clean cooking and access to electricity in healthcare facilities two priorities.
   - Electrification can enhance access to medical technologies and improve health outcomes.

2. Clean Cooking
   - Promote clean cooking solutions and technologies that improve air quality.
   - Clean cooking can help to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases.

International Organizations
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- World Bank
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance
- Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL)
- Afmet Health Africa
- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA)
- International Network on Gender & Sustainable Energy (ENERGA)

Ministries
- Ministry of Energy, Ghana
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India
- Ministry of Energy, Kenya
- Ministry of Energy and Mines, Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Ministry of Health, Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Ministry of Health and Population, Nepal
- Ministry of International Development, Norway
- Ministry of Health, Rwanda
- Ministry of Energy, Sierra Leone
- Ministry of Health & Sanitation, Sierra Leone
- Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain

Global Champions
- Ms Samira Bawumia, Second Lady, Ghana
- Dr Kandeh Yumkella, Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone
Energizing Health - A Strategic Roadmap to promote healthier populations through clean and sustainable energy

endorsed by the High-level Coalition on Health & Energy on 9 June 2021

Six Priority Actions

- Consider electricity access and clean cooking development priorities
- Dramatically increase public and private investments
- Provide the necessary human and financial resources to design and implement clean energy plans
- Develop tailored policy and financing schemes
- Increase intersectoral cooperation
- Facilitate collaboration between public, private, and non-governmental actors

www.who.int/initiatives/health-and-energy-platform-of-action
Sustainable energy for healthcare: looking beyond SDG3 and SDG7
Importance of electricity for health services

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

Medical Services

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

Administrative and logistics

- Better communication
- Improved records management

Staff recruitment and retention

- Easier recruitment and training
- Better staff morale
- Continued medical education

Disease prevention and treatment

- Cold chain
- Laboratory testing
- E-health

Health and safety

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

E-health
Accelerating electricity access in HCFs through sustainable energy

Key activities

- Health & Energy Platform of Action
  + Advocacy and communication material
  + Cooperation with other WHO Departments
  + Development of strategic documents (e.g. Strategic Roadmap to promote healthier populations through clean and sustainable energy)

- Global assessment of electricity in HCFs

- Techno-economic analyses

- Country support & partnerships
The ‘Energizing health - Accelerating electricity access 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 November 2022, intends to:

- **Draw attention** to the lack of electricity (and of reliable electricity) in HCFs and on the opportunities provided by 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).