



Call to Action to increase climate resilience of health-care facilities and increase air quality through sustainable energy

High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy

The COVID-19 pandemic, the current energy crisis, and ongoing climate emergency have demonstrated the need to put the climate-energy-health nexus high on the political and international agenda.

The linkages between climate, energy access and health are clear. Ensuring access to safe, clean, affordable and reliable energy in health-care facilities and households protects the health of people in vulnerable situations, while also combatting climate change, increasing energy security and advancing the effective enjoyment of the human rights to a healthy, clean and sustainable environment.

The absence of reliable electricity in health centers and the use of dirty fuels for cooking have a dramatic adverse impact on the health of our people and planet.

Hundreds of millions of people globally are served by health facilities without electricity, limiting access to essential and lifesaving medical devices and dramatically hampering the quality, accessibility and reliability of health services delivered. In addition, the health sector overall is responsible for 4.4% of global carbon emissions.

At the same time, around one third of the population worldwide still rely on polluting fuels and technology combinations to meet their basic daily energy needs for cooking. The resulting household air pollution leads to 3.2 million premature deaths each year from noncommunicable disease and pneumonia and is the largest source of black carbon, responsible for around half of black carbon emissions globally.

To address these issues in an impactful way, as High-level Coalition on Health and Energy, we have identified some priority actions, articulated in the Strategic Roadmap to promote healthier populations through clean and sustainable energy. These actions are:

- 1) consider clean cooking and access to electricity in health-care facilities two development priorities essential to protect public health;
- 2) dramatically increase public and private investments in electrifying health-care facilities and in clean cooking;
- 3) provide the necessary human and financial resources to design and implement clean energy plans and sustainable delivery models tailored to the needs of health sector and households;

- 4) develop tailored policy and financing schemes, able to unlock the potential of clean and sustainable energy solutions and to address the health sector needs;
- 5) increase cooperation between the energy and health sectors and collaboration with all relevant stakeholders; and
- 6) facilitate collaboration between private, public, and non-governmental actors and promote community engagement.

Building on these priorities, we believe that COP27 offers a great opportunity to synergize efforts to protect public health while mitigating climate change and building the resilience of the health system, therefore saving millions of lives.

We urge the international community gathering at COP27 to make every effort to accelerate clean and sustainable energy access for health-care facilities and households.

We stand ready to work with all partners at COP27 and beyond to accelerate action to ensure a healthy, clean and safe future for all.

SIGNATORIES

Ministries

Dr Matthew Opoku Prempeh, Minister of Energy
Ministry of Energy, Ghana

Dr José Manuel Matheu, Secretary of State for Health
Ministry of Health, Honduras

Mr Erick Tejada Carbajal, Secretary of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Mines, Honduras

Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India

Mr Arifin Tasrif, Minister for Energy & Mineral Resource
Ministry for Energy & Mineral Resource, Indonesia

Dr Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Indonesia

Ms Monica Kathina Juma, Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Energy, Kenya

Mr Daovong Phonekeo, Minister of Energy & Mines
Ministry of Energy & Mines, Lao People's Democratic Republic

Dr Bounfeng Phoummalaysith, Minister of Public Health
Ministry of Health, Lao People's Democratic Republic

Dr Enkhbold Sereejav, Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Mongolia

Dr Bhawani Prasad Khapung, Minister of Health & Population
Ministry of Health & Population, Nepal

Ms Liesje Schreinemacher, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Coordination
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

Ms Anne Beathe Tvinneim, Minister of International Development
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

Dr Daniel Ngamije, Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Rwanda

Dr Austin Demby, Minister of Health & Sanitation

Ministry of Health & Sanitation, Sierra Leone

Mr Alhaji Kanja Sesay, Minister of Energy

Ministry of Energy, Sierra Leone

H.E. Ms Teresa Ribera, Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Spain & Minister for the Ecological Transition

Ministry for the Ecological Transition & Demographic Challenge, Spain

Ms Carolina Darias San Sebastián, Minister of Health

Ministry of Health, Spain

Dr Victor da Conceição Soares, Minister of Petroleum & Minerals

Ministry of Petroleum & Minerals, Timor-Leste

Dr Odete Maria Freitas Belo, Minister of Health

Ministry of Health, Timor-Leste

International Organizations

Dr Seth Berkley, Chief Executive Officer

GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance

Mr Francesco La Camera, Director-General

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Ms Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO & Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Co-Chair of UN-Energy

UN Energy / Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

Ms Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Mr Achim Steiner, Administrator

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Ms Catherine Russell, Executive Director

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Mr Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General

World Health Organization (WHO)

Mr Charles Okeahalam, Chair

Amref Health Africa

Ms Dymphna van der Lans, Chief Executive Officer

Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA)

Ms Sheila Oparaocha, Director

International Network on Gender & Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA)

Dr Rajiv J. Shah, President

The Rockefeller Foundation

Mr Harish H. Hande, Chief Executive Officer

SELCO Foundation

Global Champions

H.E. Ms Samira Bawumia, Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana

Dr Kandeh Yumkella, Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone

The High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy is convened by the Director General of the World Health Organization under the framework of the Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)



Health and Energy
Platform of Action