



Executive Summary

The Global Plan of Action Framework

For Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement

Today, over 134 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance due to conflict, natural disasters, and other complex global challenges. Access to fuel and energy is critical to essential activities such as cooking meals, heating shelters, cooling vaccines, charging mobile phones, and powering humanitarian operations.

Current energy practices in situations of displacement are often inefficient, polluting, unsafe, expensive and inadequate for displaced people, harmful to the surrounding environment, and costly for implementers. Given the complex nature of humanitarian situations and the challenges of integrating sustainable energy solutions into the humanitarian program cycle, there is a need for systemic actions to mobilise resources, build capacity, raise awareness, and use the opportunity for energy solutions to enhance positive impact in sectors such as health, protection, food security, and WASH.

This *Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement (GPA)* is a non-binding framework that will provide concrete actions for accelerated progress towards the vision of “safe access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services for all displaced people by 2030.” Its mission is to equip all stakeholders with the capacity to mainstream sustainable energy solutions into programming and implementation, with the goal of delivering improved protection, dignity, and energy-related social, environmental, and economic benefits to displaced people.

The GPA is the result of extensive consultation among humanitarian and development organisations, the private sector, governments, academia, and other stakeholders involved in the provision of fuel and energy to displaced people. It is a contribution to the review process of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) and is intended to align with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the Agenda for Humanity, and other international initiatives such as the Paris Agreement. It seeks to strengthen and coordinate, rather than duplicate, existing initiatives working to improve energy access in situations of displacement, including the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) Working Group, UNHCR’s Global Strategy for SAFE, WFP’s SAFE initiative, the Moving Energy Initiative, the Smart Communities Coalition and others.

This document comprises the first part of the GPA – the Framework. Section I provides a brief overview of the current state of energy in situations of displacement and identifies five major challenges that must be addressed in order to improve the current situation. Each challenge is addressed by one of five GPA Working Areas. In Section II, the major challenges are broken into smaller components across the five Working Areas and examined in further detail. Each Working Area outlines a specific vision, assesses existing and potential solutions, and provides numerous recommendations as a basis for defining actions. The key challenges and main recommendations are as follows:

Planning and Coordination:	
<i>Energy is not a formal priority in humanitarian assistance</i>	
i.	Formally recognize sustainable energy access as a priority within the humanitarian system.
ii.	Foster ‘bottom-up’ collaborations and engagement on energy and environment interventions between displaced people, host community members, local experts and energy product/service providers
iii.	Build energy activities into other humanitarian assistance priorities

<p>Policy, Advocacy and Host-Country Resilience: <i>Displaced people are often not included in national or international energy-access agendas</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bring displaced people into the SDG 7 agenda and the Global Tracking Framework with a clear link to the response and resilience agenda ii. Encourage and support the design and implementation of response and resilience plans, including attention to energy priorities and energy linkages with other priorities such as housing, water supply, environment, food security and health iii. Foster national-level dialogue to enable successful sustainable energy-access interventions at the country level. Provide examples of how clean energy investment and self-reliance create a virtuous circle of beneficial change
<p>Innovative Finance: <i>Energy in displacement settings is under-funded</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Conduct further data, mapping and research on the different types of projects or parts of the value chain that require financing, the instruments that would be best suited to each, and how they can be developed through discussions with different stakeholders ii. Hold discussions with donors to identify potential sources of funding to test out new financing instruments, with an emphasis of coordinating investment approaches and exploring more innovative financing options iii. Design a financing facility or financial instruments that could be used to support energy investments in displacement settings
<p>Technical Expertise, Capacity Building and Training: <i>Expertise and capacity to implement humanitarian energy solutions is limited</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Build in-house capacity of staff at the field and international level to plan for multi-year interventions and energy strategies and to implement projects ii. Develop tailored training packages according to stakeholders' capacity needs iii. Create or adopt a common repository to exchange knowledge, discuss issues and receive support from peers and experts
<p>Data, Evidence, Monitoring and Reporting: <i>Data on humanitarian energy needs and solutions is limited and not widely shared</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Integrate energy indicators into planning and assessment tools for the humanitarian sector, in collaboration with Working Area I ii. Harmonize and standardize the types and forms of data collected to enable comparison and to facilitate effective monitoring and evaluation iii. Design and deliver of holistic monitoring, evaluation and learning tools for humanitarian energy programmes, with ways to share data and best practices between the humanitarian, development and private sectors

Following the release of this document at the High Level Political Forum in July of 2018, a support structure in the form of a coordination body and steering group will coordinate the development of the second part of the GPA – a Work Plan for the next two to three years that translates the Framework into concrete actions with clear roles, responsibilities, and timelines. The Work Plan will be developed until end of 2018 in a consultative process. *Further information about the GPA and how to support it can be found at: <http://onlinelearning.unitar.org/global-plan-of-action/>*