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2014-2024 United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The 2014-2024 United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All offers a both timely and unique opportunity for all stakeholders to gather around a common platform to take further action to effectively move the world towards sustainable energy for all. Stakeholders have started to work with the UN towards a more coordinated global plan of action in which activities will complement each other and synergies will be realized that will help move forward the overall objectives of sustainable energy for all. The Decade programme will also focus on those synergies that can be realized due to the strong nexus that exists between energy and other development factors including water, food, health, education, gender and poverty.

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I. **INTRODUCTION**

1. Recognizing the importance of energy as a critical factor in sustainable development, the General Assembly in its resolution 65/151decided to declare 2012 the “International Year of Sustainable Energy for All.” Many initiatives by Member States and international organizations were undertaken during this year to create, at all levels, an enabling environment for the promotion of access to energy and energy services and the use of new and renewable energy technologies.

2. Stressing the need for a coherent, integrated approach to energy issues and the promotion of synergies across the global energy agenda for sustainable development, the 2012 General-Assembly in its resolution 67/215 decided to declare “2014-2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All.” The General Assembly further indicated this Decade “to be promoted through all sources of energy, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980.”

3. Also, this resolution invited the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, a report on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (hereafter referred to as the Decade) for submission to the General

Assembly at its sixty-eighth session. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

II. ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4. Energy is inextricably linked to most global challenges. Access to energy sources has been a major driver in industrialized countries and emerging economies. Energy facilitates eradicating poverty, increasing food production, providing clean water, improving public health, enhancing education, addressing climate change, creating economic opportunity, and empowering youth and women. Although there was no specific MDG relating to energy, energy is widely recognized as a pre-requisite to the achievement of the MDGs and sustainable development, as emphasized by numerous international debates including the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), the MDG+10 Summit, and the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development.

5. Yet, 1.3 billion people — nearly one in five globally — continue to lack electricity. Forty five per cent of the world's population — 3.2 billion people — still rely on wood, charcoal, animal or crop waste or other solid fuels to cook their food and heat their homes. The "energy-poor" suffer the health consequences of inefficient combustion of solid fuels in inadequately ventilated buildings - killing nearly four million

people a year, most of them women and children[1] - as well as the economic consequences of insufficient power for productive income-generating activities and for other basic services such as health and education. In particular, women and girls in the developing world are disproportionately affected in this regard.

6. Where modern energy services are plentiful, the challenge is different. Emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from fossil fuels are contributing to changes in the Earth's climate, to the detriment of those who depend on the planet's natural systems for survival. Climate change threatens food and water security for hundreds of millions of people around the world, undermining the most essential foundations of local, national, and global stability. Competition for scarce resources is increasing, exacerbating old conflicts and creating new ones. As lands degrade, forests fall, and sea levels rise, the movement of people driven from their homes by environmental change may reshape the human geography of the planet.

7. The transition to sustainable energy systems provides perhaps one of the largest global economic opportunities of the 21st century – particularly important at a time when countries are looking to improve economic performance and create sustainable jobs and employment

[1] Lim SS. et al. A comparative risk assessment of burden of disease and injury attributable to 67 risk factors and risk factor clusters in 21 regions. The Lancet, 2012.

opportunities. Despite tremendous progress, barriers still exist to promoting sustainable energy solutions, especially given the need for a dramatic change in the pace and scale of how this issue is addressed on the ground. Action is needed in areas ranging from finance, to technology development, to policy and regulatory innovation, to improved business models and governance structures.

The need for a global transformation of energy systems

8. A global transformation of the way energy sources are produced and consumed is needed to provide sustainable energy for all, to satisfy rapid growth in energy demand, particularly in many developing countries and emerging economies, and to diminish the negative impacts of climate change. Modern energy services stand at the center of global efforts to induce a paradigm shift towards green economies, poverty eradication and ultimately sustainable development.

9. The goals that need to be achieved to promote human wellbeing depend on progress in the global transformation of energy systems. Societies all over the world will not be able to advance their sustainable development goals unless extraordinary changes are implemented in the way energy sources are produced and used, and measures are

implemented to secure access to affordable sustainable modern and clean energy systems.

10. Record investments are needed to propel innovation, development and commercialization of environmentally sound technologies. Ample cooperation and actions are needed to substantially increase the contribution of these technologies to the world's energy systems and to guarantee modern energy services to everyone.

III. INDUCING CHANGE

11. The global conversation about energy and sustainable development is already fully underway. The last several years have seen an increasing recognition and re-affirmation that energy is central to virtually everything we do, in many fora, including the Rio+20 and the UN General Assembly.

12. Momentum is growing. Many countries and regions such as Africa, the European Union, the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and most recently the Asia and the Pacific Energy Ministers' Forum have endorsed sustainable energy for all as a political priority through explicit declarations and commitments to action. Hundreds of leaders from other

countries, businesses, civil society organizations and international organizations have also come forward with concrete commitments.

13. Representatives of Members States interested in energy formed a *Friends of Sustainable Energy for All*, an informal group of some 30 Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in New York, to promote effective dialogue on energy issues.

14. Responding to the heightened call for action on energy, the Secretary-General has taken a number of steps, including the Secretary-General Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change (AGECC) in 2009, and the launch of the Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative (SE4ALL) in 2011.

15. More broadly, the Secretary-General convened the High-level Panel on the Post 2015 development agenda, which recognized the importance of energy in the post 2015 agenda. The UN system also took the lead in organising multi-stakeholder thematic consultations globally in support of the discussions on the post 2015 agenda, which also called for sustainable energy for all as a potential global goal as well as the creation of a global network on sustainable energy for all to help continue dialogues with a wide array of stakeholders on energy issues.

The International Year of Sustainable Energy for All

16. In 2010, the General Assembly, recognizing the importance of energy for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, declared 2012 the "International Year of Sustainable Energy for All" (A/RES/61/151). The resolution requested, inter alia, the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant agencies within the United Nations system and UN-Energy, to organize and coordinate activities to be undertaken during the Year, while encouraging all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of addressing energy issues, including modern energy services for all, access to affordable energy, energy efficiency and the sustainability of energy sources and use, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels.

17. Consequently, a number of global and regional events and initiatives were launched in order to raise further awareness of the issue.[2] The observance of the Year was very successful. It created global awareness of the importance of energy for sustainable development and has brought the issue to the top of the agenda of decision makers at the national and international levels. Furthermore, it has sparked unprecedented

[2] Please see the report of the Secretary-General on the 2012 International Year of Sustainable Energy for All (A/67/314) for additional information on activities undertaken during the Year.

commitments for actions that promise to advance long-term solutions to critical energy issues. The Year also served as a platform for building partnerships among Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, the private sector, civil society and other actors. It has provided an effective forum for the sharing of experiences and good practices to build more inclusive national energy sectors that will improve access to sustainable energy.

The Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative

18. In 2011 the Secretary-General of the United Nations launched the initiative "Sustainable Energy for All" that seeks to identify and mobilize action by all stakeholders in support of a major global transformation of energy systems. The initiative has the goal of achieving sustainable energy for all by the year 2030 through the achievement of three major objectives: (1) ensuring universal access to modern energy services; (2) doubling the rate of improvement in energy efficiency; and (3) doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.[3]

19. To guide the work of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, the Secretary-General appointed a High-level Group of distinguished global leaders from around the world. The Group produced a Global Action

[3] United Nations, *Sustainable Energy for All: A Vision Statement by Ban Ki-moon Secretary-General of the United Nations,* New York, November 2011.

Agenda (A/67/175) during 2012, which provides a concrete strategy for engagement by all actors across different sectors of society. It also aims to help countries and stakeholders create their own pathways toward sustainable energy for all, based on technology choices that are appropriate to their unique national and local circumstances.

20. In September 2012 the High-Level Group published a report summarizing their work[4] and the Secretary-General appointed a Special Representative and Chief Executive of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative. Furthermore, an Advisory Board for this initiative was formed and is being co-chaired by the UN Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank. A three-tiered structure is now guiding, overseeing and supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative. The structure includes the Advisory Board, an Executive Committee and a Global Facilitation Team. Regional and thematic hubs are also being created to further support the necessary work. In addition, a Global Tracking Framework, a joint initiative of the World Bank, the International Energy Agency and 15 other global organizations, was launched to establish baseline energy data to ensure accountability and transparency.

[4] United Nations, *The Secretary-General's High-Level Group on Sustainable Energy for All: Report of the Co-Chairs,* New York, September 2012.

21. The initiative is succeeding in catalyzing significant commitments to sustainable energy by governments, the UN system, multilateral development banks, private sector and civil society, including over 70 developing states partnering with the initiative, while developed countries, civil society and businesses announced commitments in the tens of billions of dollars.

22. The Clean Energy Ministerial has also endorsed SE4ALL. Participating governments account for more than 75% of global energy consumption, 80% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 90% of global clean energy investment.

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

23. The outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference, the "Future We Want", recognized "the critical role that energy plays in the development process, as access to sustainable modern energy services contributes to poverty eradication, saves lives, improves health and helps provide for basic human needs."[5]

24. Member States at Rio+20 emphasized the need to address the challenge of access to sustainable modern energy services for all, in

[5] A/RES/66/288. The Future We Want – Outcome Document of the Rio+20 Conference.

particular for the poor, who are unable to afford these services even when they are available. They emphasized the need to take further action to improve the current situation, including by mobilizing adequate financial resources, so as to provide these services in a reliable, affordable, economically viable and socially and environmentally acceptable manner in developing countries.

25. It was recognized that improving energy efficiency, increasing the share of renewable energy and cleaner and energy-efficient technologies in the global energy mix are important for sustainable development, including in addressing climate change.

26. Commitments announced at the Rio+20 Conference[6] include the following:

- More than 70 developing countries are now working with the initiative, with more coming on board;
- More than US $50 billion has been pledged in support of the SE4ALL objectives from the private sector and investors;
- Tens of billions of dollars have been committed by multi-lateral development banks in Asia, Europe and Latin America;

[6] United Nations, *The Secretary-General's High-Level Group on Sustainable Energy for All: Report of the Co-Chairs,* New York, September 2012.

- Hundreds of actions have been catalyzed and commitments have been made in support of the three core objectives;
- Commitments to support energy access will provide more than one billion people with access to modern energy during the lifespan of the initiative; and
- New public-private partnerships are forming on transport, energy efficiency, solar cooking, finance and energy access for the poor.

Energy and the post-2015 Framework

27. The report on the "Initial Input of the Secretary-General to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals" in December 2012 presented a summary of the responses from 63 Member States to a questionnaire asking them to identify priority areas for the definition of the SDGs[7]. Energy was ranked among the three main priorities. The results of this exercise reflect the high level of importance that Member States place on the issue of energy.

28. The UN Development Group, through the end of 2012 and the beginning of 2013, led efforts to catalyze a "global conversation" on a new development framework post-2015 through a series of over 80

[7] A67/634, UN GA, "Initial Inputs of the Secretary-General to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals" 17 Dec 2012, New York, USA
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/67/634&Lang=E

national consultations and 11 global thematic consultations. The global conversation was meant to stimulate discussions with all stakeholders, share experiences from current initiatives and foster a shared vision on the necessary actions. One of the 11 major thematic consultations was on "energy."

29. The energy consultation aimed to facilitate an open worldwide dialogue with all stakeholders on how energy should be integrated into the post-2015 global development framework. The consultations considered a broad range of priority issues under the following four critical areas: universal access to modern energy services, increased use of renewable energy, increased energy efficiency and the energy development nexus. The energy nexus focused on how to promote integrated energy solutions that can produce multiple development dividends, especially in the areas of poverty, water, food security, gender, health, education and environmental sustainability. The energy consultation called for a global goal on sustainable energy for all and the creation of a global network to help continue dialogues with a wide array of stakeholders on energy issues.

30. In addition, the High-level Panel on the Post 2015 Development Agenda convened by the Secretary-General strongly recommended the integration of energy in the post 2015 agenda. The final report from this

Panel included an illustrative, dedicated, global sustainable development goal on energy.

IV. TOWARDS A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

31. In the Rio+20 Outcome Document, Member States pledged their determination "to act to make sustainable energy for all a reality and, through this, help to eradicate poverty and lead to sustainable development and global prosperity." The declaration by the General Assembly of the 2014-2024 United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All offers a both timely and unique opportunity for all stakeholders to gather around a common platform to take further action to effectively move the world towards sustainable energy for all.

32. Although this first report on the Decade focuses on existing activities and plans for the near future by Member States and international organizations, an integrated programme is being developed for the long-term. Stakeholders have started to work with the UN towards a more coordinated global plan of action in which activities will complement each other and synergies will be realized that will help move forward the overall objectives of sustainable energy for all.

33. To assist stakeholders in this pursuit, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Sustainable Energy will be responsible for the overall coordination and organization of the activities for the Decade, supported by UN-Energy, SE4ALL partners, and in collaboration with the UN system and other relevant stakeholders.

34. The Global Action Agenda of the SE4All initiative will chart a way forward by providing tangible entry points for all stakeholders to take action, linking individual, national, regional and global efforts towards pursuing specific energy objectives. The United Nations will serve as a convening platform where key stakeholders from both developing and developed countries can mobilize bold commitments, foster new public-private partnerships, and leverage the significant investments needed to make the transformative changes necessary in the world's energy systems.[8]

35. The 11 Action Areas and the High Impact Opportunities already identified by the Global Action Agenda of the SE4All initiative will provide a framework for organizing collaborative efforts across all relevant sectors and for driving progress and catalyze change.

[8] United Nations, *Sustainable Energy for All: A Global Action Agenda,* New York, April 2012.

36. The Decade programme will focus on synergies that can be realized due to the strong nexus that exists between energy and other development factors including water, food, health, education, gender and poverty. The Decade will also promote more sustainable energy options in industrialized countries in line with the global nature of the energy challenge.

37. Global support will be necessary to enhance communication and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned from experiences all over the world. In line with General Assembly requests for enhanced accountability and in order to document progress, a Global Tracking Framework has been developed to establish the baseline and means to record progress on access to energy, energy efficiency, and renewables. Also, activities should be planned to be able to track the changes, the progress and the rate of implementation of programmes supporting the Decade. The Global Tracking Framework of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative can play an important role in facilitating the monitoring of progress.

38. Building on the submitted contributions to this report, activities in support of the Decade involving a variety of stakeholders – including nongovernmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other

relevant stakeholders –will also be essential to securing effective progress towards defined goals.

39. The General Assembly Resolution 67/215 asks the Secretary-General to prepare a report to the 68th session. Under the leadership of the newly appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General, such a report will be prepared on a biannual basis in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders and drawing, among others, on inputs of the Global Tracking Framework being prepared in consultation with several institutions under the leadership of the World Bank and IEA. Annual meetings will be undertaken by UN Energy and will build on regional consultations involving stakeholders, carried out in cooperation with the UN Regional Commissions. These consultations will contribute to the exchange of lessons learned, progress in implementation, and exchange of knowledge.

40. The national, regional and global efforts of the Decade should facilitate the following positive outcomes:

- Catalyze actions at all levels to transform the world's energy systems towards an equitable and sustainable future: all stakeholders should lead the way by example, setting their own goals and targets on energy and the nexus with other development factors; establishing proactive

policies, regulatory frameworks, and incentives to spur innovation and investment; facilitating the building of market structures to deliver sustainable energy solutions and services over time; dramatically scaling-up bottom-up solutions; expanding capacity building; promoting partnerships; enhancing R&D; and spreading best experiences and lessons learned.

- Create an enabling environment for a significant increase in investment in the world's energy systems: the IEA estimates that nearly $1 trillion in cumulative investment is needed to achieve universal energy access by 2030.[9] In addition to this, massive investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency are necessary in order to reach the global energy goals of SE4ALL.

- Catalyze overall investment in the world's energy systems: Public-private partnerships will be key to mobilizing the massive investment needed for the global transformation of energy systems. It will be essential to use public investment in order to leverage the private investment that is required to achieve this transformation. Hence there is a need for mega-partnerships such as SE4ALL.

[9] IEA, *World Energy Outlook 2012: Executive Summary*, p. 7.

- Increase support for research and development: governments and the private sector will need to support R&D efforts to drive technological innovation and reduce the cost of clean energy technologies, steadily allowing the reduction of costs for clean energy technologies and making these alternatives increasingly attractive economically all over the world.

- Continue to expand the global consultations with all stakeholders in both developing and developed countries: civil society, businesses, youth and governments should continue a dialogue in order to ensure that the perspectives of all stakeholders are appropriately captured and fed into the Decade programme, the post-2015 development framework and other relevant processes.

- Create more incentives for a change in behaviour to manage and allocate resources in a more sustainable manner: the Decade activities should promote sustainable energy production and consumption so that energy resources are used in a more equitable manner.

- Expand data and statistical programmes in developing countries: more work is needed on energy integrated targets, indicators and definitions, and on identifying data-needs to capture the many dimensions and inter-linkages and to ensure national relevance and

measurability. The Global Tracking Framework can provide support in this respect.

- Expand and increase partnerships and commitments: the Decade actions and programmes should seek to expand current partnerships and secure new partnerships and commitments for interim goals by 2024 and beyond.

- Enhance dissemination of knowledge, commitments and solutions: the Decade should provide a platform for governments and non-governmental actors to disseminate knowledge and to show case and announce contributions and solutions that accelerate the ultimate goal of sustainable energy for all.

V. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBER STATES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

41. Ambitious goals and challenging programmes and projects are already taking place, or are being planned or considered in support of the Decade programme, the SE4All initiative, and the post-215 development agenda. Nevertheless, it is clear that many Member States and national and international organizations are still in the process of developing

specific plans for the long-term including the time period ending in 2024. It is expected that these plans and programmes will be further defined during 2014, the first year of the Decade.

Member States

42. Many Member States have already expressed their support for a strong implementation programme during 2014-2024, the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All. Member Sates consider the Decade as a major platform that will help to accelerate the necessary transformation of the global energy systems.

43. Several partners have supported the immediate start-up of the Global Facilitation Team that will manage the SE4ALL Initiative, these include **Austria, Denmark Germany, Norway, Sweden, the EU Commission, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, UNIDO, UNDP, UNOPS, the MPTF Office, World Bank, UN Foundation and the UN Energy members.**

44. **Austria** provides the office facilities for the SE4ALL Global Facilitation Team in Vienna and has contributed staff to this team. The government hosts the biannual Vienna Energy Forum, bringing together heads of State, ministers, energy experts, representatives of international

and non-governmental organizations, academia, civil society and the private sector in order to discuss energy for sustainable development, and has supported the objectives of SE4ALL.

45. The **Republic of Belarus** has planned the commissioning in the coming years of 160 additional sites generating power from renewable energy, 38 biogas facilities, and construction and restoration of 33 hydropower stations. The national programme for development of local and renewable sources of energy for 2011-2015 includes the construction of wind installations (440-460 MW), 126 heat pumps and geothermal energy with total capacity of 8.9 MW and 172 solar water heaters and solar plants. Under the existing assessments, the implementation of the above programmes will result by 2015 in a two fold increase of the use of renewable sources of energy.

46. **Brazil** aims to accomplish universal energy access by 2014, using not only conventional electrical grids but also hybrid systems, to ensure energy access to 1.7 million people as part of the national Energy for All programme to reduce social inequity and stimulate development opportunities. Moreover, Brazil’s total investment in renewable energy for the next 10 years will reach $235 billion.

47. **China** has made major national investments in energy supply to support the sustainable economic growth of recent years. China is the fourth largest producer of wind energy, with 24 GW installed capacity, and aims to have 100 GW of wind power capacity by 2020. China has committed over $67 billion in investments in renewable energy. To promote national development China has also prioritized access to energy for remote areas in Western China.

48. **Denmark** has contributed to the SE4All initiative including through financial contributions to the ESMAP technical capacity and through a strong focus on Energy Efficiency linked to the UNEP Risø Centre, which will focus on tracking, knowledge management and implementation support related to energy efficiency.

49. **France** supports the objectives of the SE4ALL, in particular, through the French Agency for Development (AFD). Its strategy includes the use of 2 billion Euros for developing countries for renewable energy and energy efficiency for the next three years. AFD intervenes through co-finance and project identification as part of European contributions for SE4ALL. In parallel, France is working to put in place a fund for study and technical assistance to raise levels of research and expertise to institute SE4ALL plans of actions in African countries and to support development of sustainable energy projects. Public institutions and sector

operators will receive capacity building and training through this facility. Further, the Fonds Français pour l'environnement mondial created a 5 million Euros window of support for the development of innovative sustainable energy projects in Africa. For the future and in relation to the Decade, France recognizes that the energy access problem is one of the most difficult ones for developing countries.

50. To improve diversification of the energy mix, **Lithuania** introduced biofuel exchange markets, is planning a LNG terminal that will begin operations in 2014, increased imports of internationally generated electricity, and is implementing the EU legislative package for the gas sector. Lithuania shares the importance of reaching the three objectives of SE4ALL globally and therefore contributes to international funds which finance energy efficiency and renewable installation projects in developing countries. Lithuania strongly supports the actions taken by the IAEA to improve the existing system of international nuclear safety regulations.

51. **Mexico** hosted the regional dialogue on SE4ALL in March 2013 in Merida. Involving government, business and civil society, this consultation called on energy to be fully integrated into the post MDG framework and emphasized the importance of energy access as a means to promoting development. Mexico has launched an ambitious rural

electrification programme and is expanding the use of solar energy and other forms of renewable energy in off grid locations while increasing on grid electricity from renewable energy sources.

52. The **Morocco** energy strategy includes creating a diverse mix of reliable and competitive technologies, mobilizing renewable energy and other natural resources, promoting energy efficiency and effective integration into the regional energy system. The target share of renewable energy in the electric supply is 42% by 2020. An institute of solar energy has been established, as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency networks, within institutes of higher education.

53. **Norway** believes that the Decade should support the post-2015 development agenda and in particular the effort on sustainable development goals and targets. The Decade provides an opportunity to set up a number of interim goals and milestones to be reached by 2024, supporting the final goals of SE4ALL by 2030. These goals can be pursued by securing additional commitments, greater involvement by the private sector and by new public-private partnerships specifically arranged for this purpose. Members States should use the Decade as a platform to highlight and disseminate success stories, lessons learned, best practices and solutions.

54. The **Philippines** has regulations that promote the exploration, development and utilization of renewable energy sources. These regulations provide the private sector various fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. The Philippines is currently implementing projects using feed-in-tariffs and is supporting the acceleration of energy efficiency and conservation programmes.

55. The **Russian Federation** commends the Decade resolution and intends to contribute to the development of international cooperation in the energy sector. It considers the formation of a multilateral legal framework for international cooperation under the auspices of the UN to be a priority for the Decade. Russia has introduced several important initiatives of regional and global dimension including the St. Petersburg Declaration and Plan of Action on Global Energy Security of 2006, and was co-founder of the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation. The country provided $30 million in financial assistance to energy poor countries in 2007, launched and funded the Global Energy Efficiency 21 Project for 2009-2012, and developed and submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy at UNECE the concept of the project "Rendering Assistance to the CIS Member Countries in the Successful Implementation of the Global Action Plan". The country will also promote the development of a convention on international energy security. At the national level, the country has created the necessary legal

and institutional framework for the successful solution of problems in energy efficiency. The State Program "Energy saving and energy efficiency for the period up to 2020" has been approved with federal expenditures expected to reach 7 billion rubles for the period of 2011-2013.

56. **Saudi-Arabia** will install at least 70 stations nationwide to measure the ability to produce electricity from the sun, wind, geothermal and waste sources, and plans to attract about $109 billion to create a solar industry that will generate a third of its electricity by 2032, or about 41,000 megawatts.

57. **South Africa**, working through the national utility ESKOM, has increased its focus on providing electricity to rural people and those living in poor areas. Eskom has been very successful in electrification connecting 4.07 million households to the grid and providing non grid access (PV) to a further 6,000 households through the Eskom/Shell Joint Venture.

58. Initiatives and activities undertaken by the **United Arab Emirates** (UAE) at the international level include: establishment by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) of a concessional loan programme of $350 million for renewable energy in developing countries, in

partnership with IRENA; establishment by the ADFD of the UAE-Pacific Partnership Fund, which allocates $50 million in grant funding for renewable energy projects in developing Pacific island countries between 2013 and 2018; completion of a grant-funded 15 MW solar PV plant in Mauritania, which is the largest solar PV plant in Africa, and execution of a grant-funded 6 MW wind project in the Seychelles by Masdarin 2013; installation of 600 small-scale solar systems in remote communities in Afghanistan and establishment of the Zayed Future Energy Prize for clean energy innovation and deployment by Masdar; provision by the ADFD of over $135 million in concessional finance for energy access, renewable energy, and energy efficiency projects in developing countries between 2000 and 2011; investment by Masdar of $540 million of venture capital in next-generation clean energy technologies; provision of significant voluntary financial support to IRENA; and UAE is a founding member and key technical and financial contributor to the Global Renewable Energy Atlas. Initiatives and activities undertaken by the UAE at the national level include: the launch of Masdar City, a clean technology center and model for urban sustainability; establishment of the first renewable energy targets in the Middle East; the opening of the world's largest CSP plant, the 100 MW Shams 1 by Masdar in 2013; and establishment of 30% demand reduction target by 2030 for the Emirate of Dubai.

59. The **United States** supports the principles and aspirational goals of the Global Action Agenda of the SE4All initiative presented at Rio+20 through existing and planned activities across a broad range of U.S. Government agencies. The United States is providing substantial grant, loan, and loan guarantee resources, from both Congressionally-appropriated funds and under loan and loan guarantee authorities, of about $2 billion for clean energy, to help advance the SE4ALL initiative. Major activities since Rio+20 include: (i) Technical assistance for improving enabling environments such as leading two partner missions to help develop SE4ALL Country Action Plans, the Low Emissions Planning capacity building initiative to support low emissions planning and clean energy implementation in 20 countries; and the Global Bioenergy Partnership to promote the sustainable development of bioenergy in West Africa; (ii) Participation in clean energy technology partnerships such as the Clean Energy Ministerial; the USAID Powering Agriculture: An Energy Grand Challenge for Development and the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves,; and (iii) Financing and mobilization of private capital through the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Export-Import Bank, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, the USAID Development Credit Authority, and the U.S. Department of Treasury. In its recently unveiled Power Africa Initiative, the United States committed $7 billion over five years in order to create access to

electricity. This commitment is flanked by an additional $9 billion pledged by the private sector.

Multilateral organizations

60. The **European Union** and its Member States have been fully supportive of the Decade. Domestically, EU leaders have committed to transforming Europe into a highly energy-efficient, low carbon economy by 2050. The Europe 2020 targets are to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20% below 1990 levels, produce 20% of energy from renewables and increase energy efficiency by 20%. Europe's Agenda for Change highlights the access to secure, affordable, clean and sustainable energy services as a key priority. The European Commission made a strong commitment to sustainable energy by 2030 at the EU Sustainable Energy for All Summit in 2012. The EU notes that increasing energy sustainability by diversification, affordable prices, legal basis and energy dialogue with third countries are priority areas for future consideration. The EU has already mobilized more than half a billion Euros for rural and off grid energy solutions and technical assistance. Ensuring strong engagement with the private sector, local authorities and civil society in its activities and governance will also be crucial, as they have a key role to play in the setting up of national policy frameworks that incentivise investment in sustainable energy.

61. The **World Bank** Group has committed to doubling the leverage of its energy financing and to providing technical assistance to several SE4ALL opt-in countries. The Bank Group is also supporting initiatives in partnership with the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP). For example, the Bank Group has launched a global SE4ALL Technical Assistance Program, with US$15 million from ESMAP. Another new initiative is the Renewable Energy Mapping Program which will produce the maps needed by governments and project developers to identify renewable resource 'hot spots' at a national scale. The Bank Group has also launched a Global Geothermal Development Plan to better manage and reduce risks of exploratory drilling and deliver power to millions. This plan's initial target is to mobilize US$500 million. This complements the Bank Group's financing for geothermal development, which has increased from $73 million in 2007 to $336 million in 2012. Partners in the World Bank-led Global Gas Flaring Reduction agreed to a fourth phase of its work, which has already helped reduce gas flaring by 20% worldwide since 2005. On the analytical side, the World Bank Group led a team of experts from 15 agencies to produce the *Sustainable Energy for All Global Tracking Framework Report*.

62. SE4ALL stakeholders and the Members of **IRENA** have designated IRENA as the SE4ALL Hub for Renewable Energy. To date IRENA has

directly supported SE4ALL activities such as the Global Tracking Report, has established seven High Impact Initiatives, and has contributed to discussions defining the modalities for the Initiative. One of IRENA's contributions is REMAP2030, a roadmap designed to demonstrate possible pathways and priority actions for meeting the aspirational target of doubling the share of renewables in the global energy mix. To complement the work undertaken by SE4ALL, IRENA is making available its resources and tools to advance the deployment of renewable energy. While IRENA is specifically tasked with focusing on the Initiative's renewable energy goal, the Agency's work also spans a wide range of activities relevant to the regional Hubs for Access and the thematic Hub on Energy Efficiency. Therefore IRENA is establishing institutional relationships with each of the SE4ALL Hubs to contribute to the overall effort of the SE4ALL Initiative, enhance the flow of information and foster mutually beneficial relationships.

63. The **AfDB** has made an institutional commitment to SE4ALL and has been active in national dialogue processes in opt in countries. Activities have included the preparation of strategic SE4All related documents; the facilitation of opt-ins of African countries and country action; the mobilization of financing; and the participation in SE4All events.

64. The **ADB**'s main activities regarding SE4ALL include: the preparation of strategic SE4All related documents; the facilitation of opt-ins of Asian countries and country action; the participation in country scoping missions and the mobilization of financing through energy sector lending and technical assistance.

65. The **IADB**'s main activities regarding SE4ALL include: working together with UNDP, the preparation of 19 national reports on energy and development (gap analysis) to identify opportunities for country level actions. The IADB, through its sustainable energy programme, has committed to the mobilization of financing and has prioritized energy in its regional strategy.

UN System

66. Many UN organizations that are member organizations of the UN-Energy are already involved in efforts that support the Decade and have announced additional commitments.

67. **UNDP** will ensure that the Decade's activities are linked to national development priorities of developing countries in the context of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, future sustainable development goals, the follow up actions of Rio+20 and the on-going climate change

discussions under UNFCCC. UNDP will, in collaboration with key partners, provide technical advice to develop specific sustainable energy solutions especially related to bottom up/decentralised energy options. UNDP will continue with the on-going work to give technical assistance targeted to expanding “bottom-up” approaches to specific demand sectors such as education, health, agriculture, youth employment, small enterprises, and rural and urban housing.

68. **WHO** considers the Sustainable Energy for All initiative as a landmark opportunity to reduce the enormous disease and death burden associated with the lack of access to clean, modern energy solutions, and inefficient energy use. Significant health co-benefits can be derived from transitions to clean renewable energy sources in the workplace, the community and the home, making health an indicator of progress towards all SE4ALL goals. Tracking improved access to clean and sustainable energy by households and health care facilities, reduced exposure to, and disease burden from, outdoor and indoor air pollution, as well as occupational risks in the energy sector, can serve as valuable health indicators of progress on SE4ALL.

69. **UNEP** will support the Decade by engaging in multi-stakeholder partnerships and promoting the Global Tracking Framework. The Energy Efficiency Hub, initiated by the Government of Denmark as a satellite to

the UNEP Risø Centre, will focus on tracking, knowledge management and implementation support related to energy efficiency. In addition, UNEP will strengthen regional efforts and capitalise on its energy-related GEF portfolio. UNEP will initiate the development of renewable energy sustainability criteria, building on work by the International Resource Panel, and promote an integrated approach to the SE4ALL objectives, which will allow harnessing mutual benefits and synergistic effects between access, efficiency and renewables. UNEP will contribute to knowledge sharing and awareness raising, through: UNEP Flagship publications (e.g.,Global Environment Outlook); Communication and outreach activities including multimedia campaigns; Networks (regional networks of climate change officers, the Climate Technology Centers and Network, support to the Clean Energy Solutions Network), and the biannual International Renewable Energy Conference, facilitated by REN21.

70. **FAO**'s multi-partner programme on "Energy Smart Food for People and Climate (ESF)" represents its commitment to the implementation of the SE4ALL initiative. FAO has prominent roles in two High Impact Opportunities (HIOs) of the SE4ALL Global Action Agenda: Chairing of the Steering Committee of the HIO on "Sustainable Bioenergy"; and Co-chairing the HIO on "Water-Energy-Food Nexus". The food-energy-water or climate-land-energy-water-development nexus is an important

element to consider in achieving food security and sustainable development. ESF seeks to address these challenges by working towards the SE4ALL goals at all stages of the agrifood chain. Examples of activities include: developing a robust and cost effective water-energy-food nexus assessment package; improving energy efficiency at different stages of the agrifood chain; and improving access to affordable modern energy services to reduce food losses.

71. **UNESCO**'s strategy will build on its achievements with emphasis on renewable energy and priority objectives focusing on: (i) education and capacity building; (ii) sharing of best practices and scientific and technological knowledge; and (iii) promoting related energy policies and setting of standards. The objectives of UNESCO's activities are implemented under the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme. UNESCO's strategy includes assistance to Member States to take concrete actions through effective policies and institutional frameworks toward enhancing the use of renewable energy technologies. UNESCO's contribution serves as a catalyst to projects with a multiplier effect and can leverage additional funding. As an example, a Renewable Energy Futures for UNESCO Sites Initiative was launched to promote the use of UNESCO biosphere reserves and World Heritage sites as field observatories on the sustainable use of renewable energy sources.

72. Potential contributions of **WMO** and its partners to the energy issue will be to implement and sustain the land-based, marine-based and space-based observing programmes that will inform decision-makers on energy potential at various sites. WMO's programmes, such as the World Climate Programme including the World Climate Research Programme and co-sponsored bodies like Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, mobilize the scientific community which contributes to climate-change studies and assessments and improves the understanding on long term trends of climate-dependant energy demands at the global level. Furthermore, WMO's Commission for Climatology provides world leadership in promoting expertise and international cooperation in climatology. The Global Framework for Climate Services will provide an opportunity for WMO and partnering agencies to address issues related to user requirements for climate information related to the energy sector, will identify and, with support from donors and sponsoring agencies, address the observational, research and information and forecast production needs that will serve to improve climate services to the energy sectors.

73. **UNCDF** CleanStart is UN Capital Development Fund's innovative approach to poor households' access to sustainable, low-cost clean energy. CleanStart aims to support low-income households and micro-entrepreneurs to have access to modern energy through microfinance. It

seeks to support at least 2.5 million people to benefit from cleaner and more efficient energy by 2017. CleanStart will support up to 18 financial service providers in six countries in Asia and Africa to provide microfinance for clean energy solutions. It will also work towards building a sustainable supply chain for energy technologies or services chosen for lending. CleanStart is implemented by the UN Capital Development Fund in close cooperation with GEF. A total of $60 million will have been lent over the life of the programme, with the potential to reduce over 300,000 tonnes of CO2. Based on an initial investment of $26 million, CleanStart could leverage an additional $49.5 million by collaborating with other actors or programmes in refinancing ($30 million), energy value chain development ($18 million), and carbon financing ($1.5 million).

74. **IFAD** can enhance its participation in the rural energy sector given its strong link with microfinance institutions. IFAD needs to place additional value on ‘strengthening entrepreneurial and business skills and the promotion of private investment’ by providing better access to finance for rural people. An example (a US$500,000 grant in the pipeline) is a solar powered drip irrigation systems in Benin.

75. The **UNECE** sub-programme on Sustainable Energy, through its Committee on Sustainable Energy (CSE) and subsidiary bodies, will

continue to provide member States with a platform for international dialogue and cooperation. The UNECE action will focus on issues related to: energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, and the UN framework classification. The CSE will continue its energy security dialogue. The UNECE contribution to the Decade will be developed along the objectives and areas of work indicated by the agreement among member States of April 2013.

76. **UNCTAD** Programmes and activities relevant to the SE4ALL initiative have been summarized as energy commodity development and greening international trade. The energy commodity development programme includes *inter alia*: reducing information asymmetry for increased energy access and efficiency; promoting natural gas in the global energy mix; increasing local participation for reducing energy poverty; contract negotiation for balanced accrual of returns and improved access to energy services; mitigating the impact of energy price volatility for universal access to energy; and trade, competition and investment policy for energy development. Green International Trade refers to commodities supply chains on clean energies. CO2 embodied in international trade and carbon foot print goods transportation leads to difficulties to effectively decarbonise economies. In this context, global standards that go beyond greenhouse gas emission accounting are

necessary: for example, agrifood standards should integrate computation of the “environmental footprint” from “farm to fork”. Two activities in this programme include fuel efficiency and sustainability principles of freight transport, and the Biofuel Initiative.

77. One main objective of **ESCAP** is the facilitation of consensus to promote regional cooperation to enhance energy security and sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific. The Asian and Pacific Energy Forum held in the Russian Federation in May 2013 was the first intergovernmental ministerial conference on energy under the UN framework. The meeting resulted in the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific, and the Plan of Action on Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Energy Security and the Sustainable Use of Energy in Asia and the Pacific, 2014-2018. ESCAP, with funding support from IFAD and the United Nations Development Account, is implementing a multi-year project to widen access to modern energy services for rural communities through Pro Poor Public Private Partnership. The project is developing national and local capacities to attract private sector investment in rural energy access with the locally available renewable energy resources.

78. **UNDESA** will continue playing a key role in the coordination of activities of UN-Energy and will support the implementation of the Decade. As the UN-Energy Secretariat, UNDESA has coordinated the participation of member organizations in the post-2015 consultation on energy and on SE4ALL activities. UNDESA is also supporting the effort towards a global transformation of energy systems and is leading a public-private partnership on Minimum Electricity Access that promotes electrification in rural isolated communities with stand-alone systems. UNDESA is also preparing a survey of international cooperation activities in rural areas and is organizing a global conference on capacity development for Rural Sustainable Energy Access in Ethiopia in December 2013. UNDESA will foment and promote cooperation among UN agencies for the implementation of programmes supporting the Decade and the energy nexus with water, health, food security, agriculture, gender, and education.

79. **UNIDO** is involved in the delivery of technical assistance, capacity building and policy advice in support of access by developing countries to clean and efficient energy for productive use. UNIDO stands ready to support the implementation of the Decade by focusing on tangible actions and concrete initiatives enabling the global transition to a "greener" model of industrialization and economic growth. UNIDO will support Member States through initiatives that support the development

of national Industrial Energy Efficiency Action Plans, promote and support dissemination of energy management systems, standards and best policies and practices in energy audit and management. UNIDO is the SE4All lead organization in energy efficiency and renewable energy standards, and works with GEF and ISO on these topics as a High Impact Opportunity.

Non-governmental organizations

80. The **UN Foundation** Energy Access Practitioner Network draws together businesses, investors, and civil society organizations working to deliver sustainable energy services to communities and households in areas with no access to electrical grids. With more than 1,300 members, the Practitioner Network focuses on market-based sustainable energy applications, emphasizing mini- and off-grid solutions, and catalyzes energy service delivery to achieve the objective of universal energy access by 2030. As part of the SE4ALL initiative, the UN Foundation is leading an effort with WHO and UN Women to link energy access and women's healthcare. This multi-disciplinary initiative will bring together partners from the energy and health sectors, government, business and civil society to develop and deliver decentralized, sustainable energy solutions to remote areas. The UN Foundation will help remote health facilities obtain the electricity and power the medical equipment they

need to improve women's health, and drive progress toward universal energy access. The Global Partnership for Energy-Efficient Buildings is a public-private partnership aimed at helping policy makers implement policies and programmes that increase investment in energy-efficient buildings. The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves works to enhance access to modern energy services by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions.

81. **Practical Action** published the *Poor people's energy outlook 2013* which focuses on the contribution that improved energy access can make to vital community services such as health, education and infrastructure services including water and street lighting. Practical Action's approach to achieving universal energy access focuses on total energy access, considering who has access to energy across households, businesses and in the community, and how that energy is used.