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ANNUAL  
REPORT

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

2 0 1 8



A N N U A L  
R E P O R T

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

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# INTRODUCTION

## Our Mission

Our mission at Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) is to empower leaders to broker partnerships and unlock finance to achieve universal access to sustainable energy – as a contribution to a cleaner, more just and prosperous world for all. We work with leaders in government, the private sector and civil society to drive further, faster action toward the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7), which calls for universal access to sustainable energy by 2030, and the Paris Agreement, which calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to limit climate warming to below 2 degrees Celsius.

Achieving these goals will require a radical rethink of the way we produce, distribute and consume energy. SEforALL is at the heart of this foundational shift to ensure no one is left behind.

## Our Approach

Drawing on data and evidence, we identify a critical path to success in achieving SDG 7. Certain areas of this energy transition demand more urgent, focused action. Our work addresses the need to have all energy stakeholders—business, government, consumers and NGOs—aligned on and committed to these areas so that real progress can be made.

We empower energy decision-makers by marshaling evidence, benchmarking progress, amplifying

the voices of the energy poor, telling stories of success, and connecting stakeholders to one another. The combination of these activities enables greater attention and resources to reach the speed and scale necessary to achieve SDG 7.

## 2018 Highlights

Our approach to delivering SDG 7 and the influence we are having on the sustainable energy transition are reflected in the following highlights of our 2018 activities:

- The fourth SEforALL Forum was held in Lisbon, Portugal in May 2018, and brought together over 800 leaders from business, government and civil society around the theme of “Leaving No One Behind” in the energy transition.
- Design meeting of the SEforALL Electrification Accelerator, a group of 30 executive-level representatives from diverse private sector enterprises who will collaborate to build a common voice for pushing governments and investors to support universal electricity access in Africa.
- Publication of the second annual *Energizing Finance: Understanding the Landscape* report, providing a systematic analysis of finance flows for electricity and clean cooking access to benchmark progress and identify shortfalls.
- Launch of a flagship sustainable cooling report, *Chilling Prospects*, during the High-level Political Forum at UNHQ in New York in July 2018.
- New work evolved responding to demands for addressing the relationship between energy access and health, as well as the energy needs of displaced populations.
- New strategic partnerships formed with businesses, international organizations, foundations, universities and UN agencies.

# FOREWORD



**A**t last year's 2018 SEforALL Forum I had the privilege of standing on stage in my hometown of Lisbon, Portugal to deliver opening remarks to hundreds of attendees involved in the sustainable energy movement. Given the setting, the Forum had great personal and professional significance for me. It helped me reflect on why I am so passionate about sustainable energy, and how this passion has translated into my role as Chair of the Administrative Board at SEforALL.

I have always believed in the importance of clean, affordable energy to support human development,

which is why EDP is developing sustainable energy solutions and projects in rural and remote areas of Africa, and, in addition to the work performed as part of international partnerships and alliances, we approved an investment of 20 million Euros to be implemented by 2022. We want to lead by example in bringing power to the 1 billion people around the world who lack electricity access.

As a leader in the private sector, I also want to heed the call of UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who has urged greater commitment from businesses towards SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement. For these reasons, the decision to join SEforALL as Chair was an easy one.

The Board was extended to include representatives from the financial sector, Mexico and the SEforALL Funders. Its mandate's main priorities include reinforcing SEforALL as a global platform and international not-for-profit international organization with a special partnership with the UN; and establishing SEforALL as the marketplace and global hub for sustainable energy, attracting the role of critical sectors as a catalyst to deliver action towards SEforALL's goals, including by promoting action-oriented-partnership projects for the delivery of affordable, clean and reliable energy services for displaced persons and refugees. My service on the Administrative Board is just one example of the cross-sector action that SEforALL facilitates. Business, government and civil-society must work together to deliver sustainable, affordable and reliable energy to all.

SEforALL seeks to be a preeminent platform to enable and mobilize action by aligning a wide range of stakeholders on a critical path towards achieving both SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement. These two sets of targets cannot be treated separately if we are

to ensure that no one is left behind in the sustainable energy transition.

Above all, SEforALL has shown great discipline in focusing attention on issues that are the most salient to SDG 7, particularly around financing gaps for electrification and clean fuels.

Moreover, SEforALL's network of partners is growing, reflecting greater reach and influence. Its close ties with the UN, including through SEforALL CEO's role as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Sustainable Energy for All, gives SEforALL unique access to world leaders and decision-makers.

Meanwhile, SEforALL was able to garner further financial support from philanthropies and government donors, one of several targets defined under its 2018 business plan.

SEforALL's team was also expanded, bringing on new capacities that will position our organization to achieve its strategic goals in the years to come.

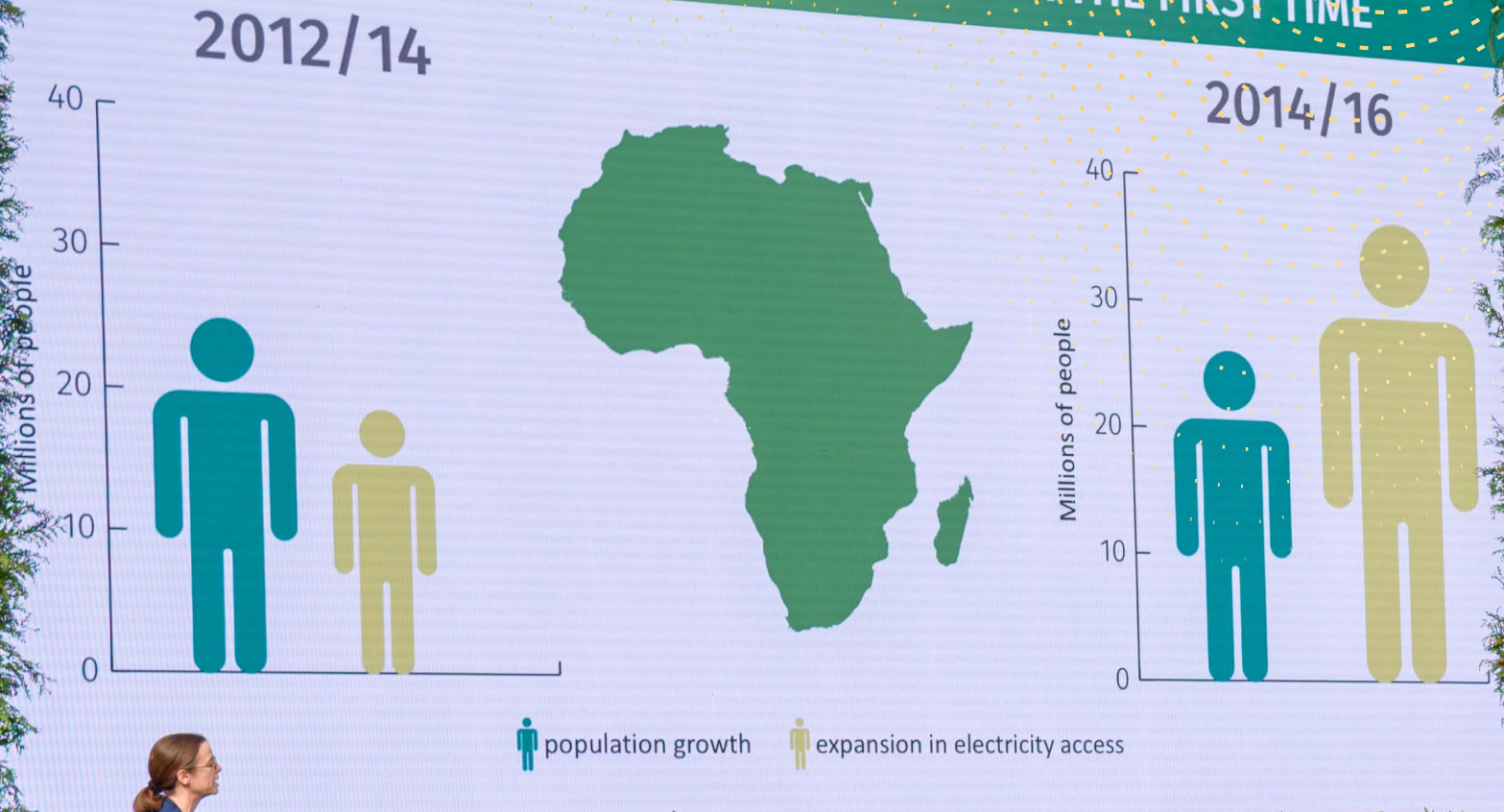
We still have a long way to go, but based on last year's Forum, and the wide range of activities summarized in this Annual Report, our shared vision is becoming a reality.

I look forward to expanding on these successes through my continued involvement as Chair, and I encourage you to engage with SEforALL to support the push towards SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement.

Sincerely,

**António Luís Guerra Nunes Mexia**  
Chair of SEforALL's Administrative Board and  
Chief Executive Officer of EDP  
(Energias de Portugal)

# ALTHOUGH 1 BILLION PEOPLE STILL LACK ELECTRICITY WORLDWIDE, AFRICA'S ACCESS DEFICIT BEGAN TO FALL FOR THE FIRST TIME





# A CRITICAL PATH TO DELIVERY

**H**ow do we meet the particularly urgent need for providing energy to those who currently lack access to electricity and to clean cooking? How can we expand sustainable energy services to meet rising demand from the world's growing population? And how do we do this while decarbonizing and ensuring no one is left behind? These are the fundamental questions behind delivering SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement. And they present a monumental challenge, especially given the 2030 deadline for achieving all the SDGs and the mid-century target for net-zero carbon emissions.

Getting there requires alignment across society—businesses, financiers, consumers, governments and NGOs—along a “critical path”.

The critical path prioritizes actions with the biggest potential impact towards SDG7 targets with a focus on policy, financing, and data and evidence. It highlights where shifts in policy frameworks and financial flows are required most to address needs in 20 countries that represent 80 per cent of the

global energy access deficit. It is informed by data and evidence, through seminal reports such as *Tracking SDG 7: The Energy Progress Report*, the Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) and insights gathered through our own flagship publications, such as *Energizing Finance* and *Chilling Prospects*.

Launched at the 2018 SEforALL Forum in Lisbon, *Tracking SDG 7: The Energy Progress Report* provided the latest global stock-take on progress towards the energy targets as set out in SDG 7. The report showed that the world remains off track to meet the 2030 goal and provided further evidence of where leaders should focus their efforts. It underpinned the growing urgency for delivering affordable, reliable and clean energy services to the one billion people who still lack access to electricity, including 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa, and three billion who lack access to clean cooking fuels and technologies.

SEforALL used the Forum to raise the visibility of this report that represents the internationally agreed process for tracking SDG 7. The report's insights are the launching point for how we engage energy leaders, who then contribute their own perspectives to help us sharpen the global community's focus on issues critical to SDG 7. Our global network of partners and our close ties with the UN give us a unique vantage point for supporting the sustainable energy movement—including how it connects with other policy areas and humanitarian efforts. As our network and body of knowledge grow, so does our ability to mobilize the global community.

Our 2018 efforts were driven by insights from partnerships and research. Above all, we learned that there is an increasing gap between those countries on track for their populations to achieve access to electrification and those that are off track.



We learned that clean cooking solutions require an even stronger and more urgent commitment by the global community, and the same can be said of sustainable cooling. Therefore, we strengthened and prioritized interventions to address these challenges. We also extended our work on helping the

world understand the financing it needs for delivering sustainable energy for all, including investment in gender-based strategies. Finally, we targeted efforts to address specific issues and countries that need greater movement along the critical path to SDG 7.

## Focusing Effort

### Electricity for All in Africa

Across Africa, an estimated 600 million people, including two out of three people in Sub-Saharan Africa, do not have access to electricity. This prolonged energy access gap will profoundly compromise achievement of the SDGs on poverty and inequality (SDG 1), education (SDG 4), public health (SDG 3), gender equality (SDG 5) and climate change (SDG 13), among others.

SEforALL's Electricity for All in Africa intervention prioritized engagement with private sector partners throughout 2018 to understand what is holding them back from addressing the electricity access gap at both speed and scale. We restructured the Electrification Accelerator, a group of 30 executive-level representatives from private sector enterprises operating in Africa. They committed to working with governments and investors with one common voice to drive for better policy, better planning, better project pipelines and better investment opportunities.

The 2018 SEforALL Forum marked a watershed moment for bringing attention to bear on electricity access gaps in Africa. During the Forum, the SEforALL Africa Hub, hosted by the African Development Bank, convened over 20 SEforALL country-level representatives to discuss challenges in implementing their Sustainable Energy for All Action Agendas. Unlocking finance and attracting private sector engagement were deemed to be top priorities.

With the same objectives, we supported regional partners such as the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, and the East African Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in convening regional stakeholders and engaging relevant private sector stakeholders and financiers.

In addition to our work with the private sector, we initiated ongoing dialogues with country focal points in the Sahel region to identify unique energy sector challenges in the contexts of instability and extreme vulnerability to climate change, and to support the design of donor-led assistance projects in the region.

SEforALL is using the insights from its work in 2018, combined with important lessons learned from both our *Energizing Finance* research series as well as policy and regulatory gaps from the RISE database, to further focus our activities in 2019. As a priority intervention for the coming years, we will strongly advocate for integrated electrification planning approaches at the highest political level. And we will support partners to unlock finance and accelerate private sector engagement in addressing the electricity access gap in Sub-Saharan Africa.

### Clean Fuels for All

Clean cooking presents an even more significant energy access gap, especially in Africa and Asia. Approximately three billion people around the world still do not have access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, causing significant carbon emissions and health risks. An estimated 25 per cent of black carbon emissions come from residential cooking, heating and lighting, while in many Asian and African countries, residential use can account for as much as 60-80 per cent of black carbon emissions.

Strengthening integrated market development for clean fuels to help reverse this troubling trend became a focal point for SEforALL in 2018. At the SEforALL Forum, we brought together leaders from associations representing different fuel sources to foster collaboration and discuss strategies for expanding markets for clean fuels. We then connected this "Lisbon Group" with a range of public



and private sector players to help inform Rwanda's clean cooking strategy. The lesson learned from these meetings is that bottom-up, country-specific approaches are needed to prioritize clean cooking agendas and address the challenges and opportunities of developing markets in local settings.

These lessons learned have further shaped our work for 2019, where our aim is to create more well-defined markets in three countries by bringing in different public and private actors from across different sectors, including those dealing with appliances, clean fuels, financing, distribution and supply chains.

### **Shifting the Narrative, Driving Action**

#### **Sustainable Cooling for All**

Sustainable cooling is an area where we achieved significant impact in 2018. Cooling is often overlooked in discussions around energy transitions, but our efforts helped draw new attention to its importance.

Our Cooling for All intervention aims to identify and overcome the challenges to, and seize the opportunities of, providing access to affordable, sustainable cooling solutions for all. The challenge is about more than air conditioners. In a warming



world, fresh food, safe medicines and protection from heat is a right, not a luxury.

In 2018, SEforALL convened its Global Panel on Access to Cooling to identify the challenges and opportunities of providing cooling for all and to guide the production of the flagship report *Chilling Prospects: Providing Sustainable Cooling for All*. The panel, consisting of eminent experts from industry, philanthropy, academia and civil society, also assisted with data collection and validation, and served as a communications channel to amplify the work of Cooling for All.

The *Chilling Prospects* report, produced in partnership with and supported by the Kigali Cool-

ing Efficiency Program, was launched during the High-level Political Forum at UNHQ in New York on 16 July 2018. The event was attended by 120 people, including high-level representatives from the Governments of Rwanda and the Marshall Islands, as well as industry leaders.

The report identified over 1.1 billion people globally who face immediate risks to their health and productivity from a lack of access to cooling—in buildings, food cold chains and medical cold chains. It further identified 2.3 billion at risk of purchasing an inefficient cooling device, potentially driving increased energy demand and dangerous greenhouse gas emissions.

The launch generated 263 news articles across 34 countries in six languages, reaching an estimated audience of 300 million people. The key findings from the report were further disseminated during the World Bank fall meetings, the Global Cooling Innovation Summit and at COP24.

Ultimately, *Chilling Prospects* highlighted a blind spot for development and climate change practitioners – that access to cooling in a warming world is an issue of equity that underpins the ability of millions to realize the SDGs. Momentum has continued to build around this new narrative, driving global focus on the imperative for countries to have national cooling plans and strategies.

To support the expanding Cooling for All work and in response to the report's recommendation, SEforALL now hosts the Cooling for All Secretariat. The Secretariat will act as a coordinating platform for focused responses among partners, as a data and knowledge hub, and as a tool to promote awareness of access to cooling.





## Gender

Including women and the poorest people in society in efforts to achieve universal access to sustainable energy services is a necessity if we are to achieve SDG 7. Our knowledge of and engagement around gender considerations in the energy transition was enriched in 2018. As an overarching theme, SEforALL embeds gender considerations into all its work.

Our efforts included incorporating gender disaggregated data into significant energy reports. SEforALL advised the Multi-Tier Framework for Measuring Energy Access (MTF) and the Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) teams on the importance of this issue. Both now include gender specific indicators.

SEforALL continued to elevate the importance of women in the energy transition through the Peo-

ple-Centered Accelerator, a group of more than 45 partners focused on empowering women and reaching the most marginalized communities in the 'last mile' of the energy transition. SEforALL hosts the Secretariat for the Accelerator and leads several of its activities.

In 2018, we brought all Accelerator partners together to co-produce the 2019-2021 workplan, setting the strategic vision for this intervention moving forward. Efforts to help unlock finance from private and public sources for gender-smart, socially inclusive approaches in the energy sector are at the heart of this strategy.

The Accelerator produced two key outputs in 2018. First, the Accelerator, with support from Energia, launched an interactive platform called Faces of Energy to help connect governments, business,

non-profits, financiers and others engaged on gender equality, social inclusion and women's empowerment in energy. Second, the Accelerator published the *Levers of Change: How Global Trends Impact Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Access to Sustainable Energy* report. The report provides evidence of how women are often not given an equal chance to take advantage of key global trends.

Partners of the Accelerator also engaged in discussions at the 2018 SEforALL Forum and the UN's High-level Political Forum, drawing attention to

female empowerment as an integral part of ensuring the sustainable energy transition leaves no one behind.

Towards the end of 2018 the Accelerator began an analysis of successful social protection programs in six countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Evidence from these case studies will build the capacity of Accelerator partners to engage with country-level decision-makers through advocacy workshops, promoting the development of gender appropriate energy policies and strategies.





## Energizing Finance

The *Energizing Finance* research series is one of SEforALL's core knowledge products, used to inform activities across our work streams.

Developed in partnership with Climate Policy Initiative, *Energizing Finance: Understanding the Landscape 2018* is the second report in the *Energizing Finance* series, which focuses on 20 developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia with the world's largest energy access gaps—the high-impact countries (HICs). The series delivers a critical understanding of how much finance is being directed to energy access, where it is coming from and how it is being channeled. Through the highlighted trends, clues are offered for the global community on how it may better target energy access finance in future years if the world is to meet SDG 7 by the 2030 target.

The 2018 report built on the 2017 edition and identified the following trends:

- Finance for electricity remains dramatically short of that required to meet SDG 7 by 2030.
- Finance commitments for electricity continue to evidence a geographical imbalance in their distribution, with Sub-Saharan Africa falling further and further behind.
- An increase in the finance commitments to off-grid solutions is an encouraging sign, but investments remain a small portion (1.3 per cent) of the total finance commitments tracked.
- In the countries tracked, finance commitments for coal plants have almost tripled since 2013-2014, growing from \$2.8 billion (USD) to \$6.8 billion.
- Finance commitments for access to residential clean cooking solutions have fallen since the previous reporting period of 2013-14 with just \$32 million in finance per annum on average for clean cooking tracked in this year's report, less than 1 per cent of the amount needed.



The report's findings urge government leaders, especially in countries where the shortfall in finance commitments is greatest, to identify the appropriate policy settings, financial instruments and business model innovation required to achieve sustainable, last-mile electricity access.

In 2019, SEforALL will continue the *Energizing Finance* research series with an updated *Understanding the Landscape* report to track evolving trends in finance commitments. In addition, SEforALL will develop a new *Taking the Pulse* report to allow for deeper analysis of the financing needs of market players in countries with high energy access deficits. These analyses will involve case studies from five countries: Madagascar, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines and Uganda.

## Expanded Work

In 2018, SEforALL joined a consortium with the Climate Action Network International, Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G) and Mission 2020 to support increasing financial flows to low-carbon development in Southeast Asia, specifically Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Shifting Financial Flows to Invest in Low-Carbon Development in Southeast Asia (SHIFT SEA) is supported by the local expertise of three in-country organizations and backed by the German government.

The consortium met during COP24 in Katowice, Poland, where SEforALL brought its knowledge and insights around sustainable energy finance to bear, helping the partnership establish its planned in-country activities for 2019. These include assessments of international financial institutions' investment flows into the target countries and capacity-building workshops with local policymakers.

SEforALL also initiated work in 2018 on sustainable urban mobility through consultations with several key partners to develop a scoping study in 2019. This work will be conducted in two phases. First, we will define the scope of the problem. Then, we will identify options for the global community to ensure that energy efficient mobility is accessible to all, especially poor urban dwellers in Africa and Asia that rely on multiple public or shared transportation options (trucks, buses, minivans, matatus, tuk tuks, etc).

SEforALL continued to provide input and guidance on the framework document for the Least Developed Countries Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative (LDC REEEI). This included providing data visualization on the SDG 7 body of evidence in the LDC context in support of their climate negotiation strategy at COP24.





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ALWAYS BE AT ZERO  
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# NEW FOCUS AREAS

**S**EforALL is focused on driving progress towards SDG 7. But energy is intertwined with several other SDGs. If SDG 7 is expected to “leave no one behind,” work across sectors, and SDGs, is needed. Therefore, we began developing new interventions in 2018 on Energy and Health and Energy for Displaced People.

## **Energy and Health**

Health clinic equipment requires power: from vaccine refrigeration to ultrasound machines to lights needed for night-time health care and surgery. Yet tens of thousands of health centers across low- and middle-income countries lack electricity.

Energy access and health care is a nexus issue, which is not owned outright by one agency or one sector; it falls between the cracks and requires a multi-sectoral approach to tackle the problem at scale and in a sustainable way. Recognizing the need for a neutral platform for convening, facilitating and amplifying action at all levels, SEforALL began an intervention in 2018, joining forces with the UN Foundation to build on its existing Energy and Health initiative.

This included organizing a Partner Working Session at the 2018 SEforALL Forum in Lisbon on the energy and health nexus. We also used critical moments and events in 2018 to deliver key messages on the centrality of electrification of health clinics via decentralized renewables for good health outcomes. This was the case at the Global Health and Climate Roundtable at the September 2018 Global Climate Action Summit and at the World Health Organization’s conference on air pollution in November 2018.

Looking ahead, we are taking a two-pronged approach to bring about the systemic changes necessary to achieve universal electrification of health facilities by 2030. We will collect, aggregate and disseminate data to make the case for action, and convene partners to increase awareness and drive prioritization and high-level political will.

## **Energy for Displaced People**

The number of people forced from their homes has doubled globally in the past two decades, reaching a total of 65.6 million in 2017. A third of these people live in refugee camps and communities that have little or no electricity nor access to clean cooking fuels. In addition to the refugees living in camps, people in the surrounding host communities are also affected by energy poverty, heightened by the influx of refugees.

In 2018, SEforALL began forging strategic relationships with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the humanitarian community and the private sector to identify workable energy access solutions for both electricity and clean cooking in refugee camps and host communities. SEforALL was also invited to join the Global Plan of Action for energy and displaced people convened by the UN to identify sound approaches for private sector participation in the provision of electricity and clean cooking solutions to displaced populations.

Moving forward, we will build guidelines for energy access for displaced people with the intention of large-scale replication across multiple countries that must address the challenge of displaced people. These guidelines will be based on an initial study of concrete challenges facing three specific refugee camps. This will be made possible by engaging our network of humanitarian partners who are already providing support to these communities.



# BRIDGING WORLDS

**S**EforALL is uniquely positioned at the intersection of three major policy spheres: climate change, energy and international development. We help global leaders understand and appreciate the linkages between these spheres by bridging partnerships and creating dialogue. Through our diplomatic efforts, we help decision-makers understand the far-reaching and cross-cutting benefits of sustainable energy.

Much of our sustainable energy diplomacy stems from our strong working relationship with the UN. Our CEO Rachel Kyte continued to serve as the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative (SRSG) for Sustainable Energy for All. This created several opportunities for SEforALL to contribute to the UN agenda on energy.

In 2018 Rachel Kyte and Achim Steiner, Administrator of the UN Development Programme, were appointed Co-Chairs of UN-Energy to help ensure

cohesion across the UN system on energy. They co-chaired the first principals meeting of UN-Energy in 2018, with a resulting work program in development expected in 2019.

In July 2018, Kyte accompanied a joint mission of the UN, African Union and Government of Sweden to the Sahel region as part of her mission to support the UN system. She continues to work closely with senior UN leadership to identify opportunities on renewable energy in the Sahel as one of the priority areas for the Secretary-General.

Kyte and other senior members of SEforALL identified and engaged in strategic opportunities throughout 2018 to deliver messages on the critical path to achieving SDG 7 by 2030. This included attending Davos and participating in speaking opportunities and bilateral meetings to ensure the message on leaving no one behind in the energy transition was delivered to global leaders. It entailed delivering a major address to G20 energy ministers on energy efficiency; convening events during the UN's High-level Political Forum to elevate attention to SDG 7 success stories and drive momentum; and working at the highest levels during COP24 to focus negotiations on the shared promise of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement to leave no one behind.





## BUILDING A MOVEMENT

**T**he critical path to SDG 7 and the Paris Agreement shapes our work. But our efforts alone cannot ensure these targets are met. We help others realize the value that comes from pursuing the critical path through active engagement with a broad network of energy stakeholders. In 2018, this engagement meant convening energy leaders, showcasing success stories and forging new partnerships. The result: a sustainable energy movement whose sum is greater than its parts.



## 2018 Sustainable Energy for All Forum

The SEforALL Forum is our flagship event and the best example of our power to convene leaders around SDG 7.

The 2018 SEforALL Forum was held 2-3 May 2018 in Lisbon, Portugal, where more than 800 attendees from government, business, civil society and international organizations participated in a range of sessions around the theme of “Leaving No One Behind”.

The event was a launchpad for the latest report benchmarking progress on SDG 7, the *Tracking SDG 7: Energy Progress Report*. The report revealed that we are not yet on track to achieve the 2030 goals on any indicator, and that institutions, financial markets and development finance are far behind where they need to be to achieve the speed and scale required for SDG 7.

In this context, participants in the 2018 SEforALL Forum came together in a series of interactive sessions to discuss and develop new strategies for delivering sustainable energy access for all. For inspiration, we showcased the sheer diversity of the sustainable energy movement: a growing cohort of ministers, companies, NGOs and grassroots entrepreneurs making strides with innovative and successful approaches

that we can learn from and replicate in other countries and markets to achieve scale.

These examples helped illustrate the importance and impact of focusing efforts on those traditionally unprovided with energy services. A resounding conclusion from the 2018 SEforALL Forum was that reaching ‘last-mile’ energy consumers first is good for everyone—by prioritizing bringing sustainable energy to those who are hardest to reach, we can drive faster innovation across policy, business models and finance that ultimately benefits everyone.

The event also featured a ‘marketplace’ where our partners could reconnect but also encounter people that they would not normally meet. This sparked new collaborations and ventures directed at SDG 7.

Crucially, the diverse leadership, new approaches, new partnerships and new finance evident in Lisbon were projected into the UN High-level Political Forum reviewing SDG 7, among other global goals, in July 2018. The Forum also provided meaningful input to the discussions on how to support member states to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and raise ambition in the Paris Agreement process for climate action in the lead up to the UN Secretary-General’s Climate Summit in September 2019.

Communication efforts were also essential in maximizing the impact of the 2018 SEforALL Forum. 870 news articles were published in 67 countries with an estimated global reach of just under 223 million. This included coverage in 26 high-impact countries. We conducted 35 Facebook Live broadcasts of interviews, discussions and announcements from SEforALL partners, which reached an estimated audience of 33 million globally. And we achieved 105 million Twitter impressions, with the 2018 SEforALL Forum hashtag trending number one on Twitter in Portugal.





## Seven for 7

On 16 July 2018 in New York City, SEforALL, in partnership with Ashden, held *Seven for 7*—a celebration of leadership on SDG 7. Timed to coincide with the UN High-level Political Forum on the SDGs, which for the first time included a formal review of progress towards SDG 7, the event highlighted examples of success that can be replicated to help us deliver SDG 7 on time. UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed delivered a keynote address, and leaders in finance, government, business and entrepreneurship—from India, Tajikistan, Kenya, Mexico, Saint Lucia, Europe and the United States—

who are driving action on SDG 7 were recognized. The honorees were Odón de Buen, Director-General, National Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy, Government of Mexico; Dr Gale Rigobert, Minister for Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development, Government of Saint Lucia; the DOEN Foundation (Netherlands); the RE100 campaign of leading companies; and Ashden winners Angaza (US and Kenya), Ecozen Solutions (India), and Pamir Energy (Tajikistan).

This successful event will be replicated on the sidelines of the UN Secretary-General's Climate Summit in September 2019.



## Strength through Partnership

In 2018, SEforALL continued its work with a network of government, business and civil society partners to accelerate action. We finalized new partnerships with ALER (the Lusophone Renewable Energy Association), the Clinton Foundation, Danfoss, the International Gas Union, the Johns Hopkins University Initiative for Sustainable Energy Policy (ISEP), REN21, Schneider Electric, Total, the World Resources Institute and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and Industrial Development Organization.

We continued to support national action through our Regional Hubs, each of which includes the relevant

leading development bank and UN regional economic organizations, to support sustainable energy deployment at the national level. In 2018, our Regional Hubs continued to support development of national Action Agendas (AAs) and Investment Prospectuses (IPs) to connect investors to projects. We finalized a new Regional Hub for the Middle East, co-convened by ESCWA and the Islamic Development Bank. This partnership will work with international financial institutions and other stakeholders to accelerate energy efficiency in the Middle East.

SEforALL's Africa Hub continued work to improve investment prospectuses in several African countries. During the 2018 SEforALL Forum, the Africa Hub held a joint workshop on financing the investment pipeline, providing an opportunity for government representatives, businesses, civil society and development partners to assess progress on clean energy investment, as well as to identify measures to mobilize finance for sustainable energy.

SEforALL further defined our partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on a Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Hub. Together with the Latin-American Energy Organization (OLADE), UNDP, ECLAC and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), we organized the IDB LAC Hub's third *Energy Week* in Montevideo, Uruguay. Finally, SEforALL and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) jointly hosted a session at the Asia Clean Energy Forum held in Manila, the Philippines.

We also supported collaboration among SEforALL's Energy Efficiency Accelerators—a series of public-private partnerships designed to accelerate the pace of action through targeted sectors and geographies—including by convening a meeting during the 2018 SEforALL Forum between the Energy Efficiency Accelerators and our Regional Hubs.





# STORYTELLING TO INSPIRE

Communications remains at the heart of SEforALL. Through our storytelling, media engagement, social media and events, we provide a platform to share success stories from across the SDG 7 movement.

## Getting the data and evidence out

Ensuring the latest data reaches leaders to inform action and policy decisions is pivotal to meeting SDG 7 by 2030. SEforALL's communications ethos is to focus on people, and the impact that sustainable energy access has for all.

The two flagship reports from SEforALL during 2018—*Chilling Prospects* and *Energizing Finance: Understanding the Landscape*—provided data on energy access finance and sustainable cooling that focused decision-makers on where they need to act to help improve the lives of vulnerable populations at risk from lack of access.

Outreach was supported by targeted media engagement that prioritized high-impact countries with the largest gaps as identified by each report, as well as top-tier business and policy publications. Stories in trade media also helped to get the data to a broader audience.

An ongoing challenge for many journalists working in developing countries is access to quality data and research on energy access. To help address this, in 2018 SEforALL supported the Voices of a Brighter Future competition run by the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS).

Journalists from least-developed countries submitted stories on how sustainable energy is positively affecting communities in their countries, with seven winners selected from Bangladesh, Benin, Haiti, Malawi, Senegal, Togo and Yemen. The winners were sponsored to attend the 2018 SEforALL Forum and their journalistic achievements recognized on the plenary stage.

## Communications reach

From op-eds in CNBC Africa outlining a better path for Africa's energy future, to live interviews on BBC World TV discussing the urgency for addressing global energy and climate goals, our media engagement focused on reaching decision-makers at strategic moments to support SDG 7 progress.

Coverage throughout the year appeared in influential publications such as the Financial Times, The Economist, CNN International, TIME Magazine and Jeune Afrique, and on media networks such as CNN International, Reuters, Radio France and Al Jazeera (Arabic). In 2018 alone, 3,250 news articles were tracked referencing SEforALL and/or our CEO Rachel Kyte, with an estimated monthly average reach of just over 114 million. The releases of our *Energizing Finance* and *Chilling Prospects* reports drew widespread media attention, generating a combined audience reach of approximately 600 million people globally.

Our social media platforms continued to share daily news, data and stories of success to a combined audience across LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook of just



under 130,000 people globally. Social media highlights included a “Twitter Takeover” on International Women’s Day 2018, with targeted posts that pushed for greater SDG 7 gender equality through a series of animations, quotes and video messages from leading women in the energy sector.

2018 saw an increase in our storytelling, with regular stories profiling inspiring leaders and work from

across the SDG 7 movement. These stories boosted the work of the movement and ranged from new business innovations to in-depth features on how female entrepreneurs are accessing finance. We also started a regular Partner Spotlight feature on our website showcasing how SEforALL partners across business, the UN and civil society are working to close energy access gaps quicker.





## FINE-TUNING OUR ENGINE

### Growing Our Team

**T**he SEforALL team continued to grow in 2018 in response to increasing numbers of requests from the UN and other partners for support efforts towards SDG 7. Our staff grew from 31 to 35 occupied staff positions, with most of those based at our headquarters in Vienna, Austria and a few at our satellite office in Washington, DC, United States.

Several key leadership positions were also filled over the course of the year, including a Director of Partnerships, Chief of Staff, and Director of Policy and Programs. With these key positions filled, we are well-positioned for further growth, as outlined in the 2019 workplan and budget.



## Strengthening Governance

2018 was the second year of SEforALL's full operation in Austria as an independent, not-for-profit international organization under Austrian law.

Rachel Kyte continued to lead the organization as CEO, with overall guidance for strategic direction and policymaking from the Administrative Board. The Board met four times in 2018, with the Chair hosting the annual meeting of the Board in May at EDP's headquarters in Lisbon on the margins of the 2018 SEforALL Forum.

SEforALL also strengthened its governance through the Board's decision to establish a Funders' Council. The Council is comprised of SEforALL's Funding Partners and provides advice and recommendations to the CEO and the Board. The Terms of Reference of the Funders' Council was drafted in consultation with SEforALL's Funding Partners and adopted by the Administrative Board at its annual meeting in Lisbon. The Chair of the Funder's Council also serves as a member of the Board.



## Board Members

**António Luís Guerra Nunes Mexia, Chair**  
*Chief Executive Officer,*  
*Energias de Portugal (EDP)*

**Elizabeth M. Cousens, Vice-Chair**  
*Deputy Chief Executive Officer,*  
*United Nations Foundation*

**Harish Hande**  
*Co-Founder,*  
*SELCO India*

**Steve Howard**  
*Co-Chair,*  
*We Mean Business and*  
*former Chief Sustainability Officer,*  
*IKEA Group*

**Daniel Klier**  
*Global Head of Sustainable Finance,*  
*HSBC*

**Rob Maclver**  
*Infrastructure Adviser,*  
*United Kingdom Department for*  
*International Development (DFID)*

**Gerard Penning**  
*Senior Executive,*  
*Royal Dutch Shell*

**Leonardo Beltrán Rodríguez**  
*Deputy Secretary for Planning*  
*and Energy Transition,*  
*Secretariat of Energy (SENER), Mexico*

**Zouera Youssoufou**  
*Managing Director and CEO,*  
*Dangote Foundation*

**Rachel Kyte, Ex Officio Member**  
*Chief Executive Officer,*  
*SEforALL, and Special Representative*  
*of the UN Secretary-General for*  
*Sustainable Energy for All*

## Additions to the Board

The Administrative Board is chaired by António Mexia, CEO of EDP, and vice-chaired by Elizabeth Cousens, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of UN Foundation. António Mexia's vision, since the beginning of his chairmanship, has been to strengthen and improve geographical balance and sustainable energy expertise on the Board. The Board expanded to ten members in 2018, with two new members appointed in March – Daniel Klier, Global Head of Sustainable Finance at HSBC, and Gerard Penning, senior executive at Royal Dutch Shell.

In May 2018, Rob Maclver, from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), was appointed by the Funders' Council as its Chair and was automatically appointed as a member of the Administrative Board to represent the interests of the Funders' Council.

## Enhancing Our Funding Partners

SEforALL is dependent on its funding partners to accomplish its goals and is grateful for the generous support and commitment that these organizations have made over the years. In 2018 SEforALL's work was funded by a mix of public and philanthropic resources, with event costs partially offset through sponsorship from the same sectors and from private companies. SEforALL worked over the year to diversify and broaden its funding base to ensure we continue to grow in line with our Business Plan and the requests for assistance coming from our partners.

In 2018, SEforALL secured its first major multi-year foundation support, from IKEA Foundation, which joined the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Wallace Global Fund and the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program in SEforALL's group of philanthropic supporters.



# OVERVIEW OF 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

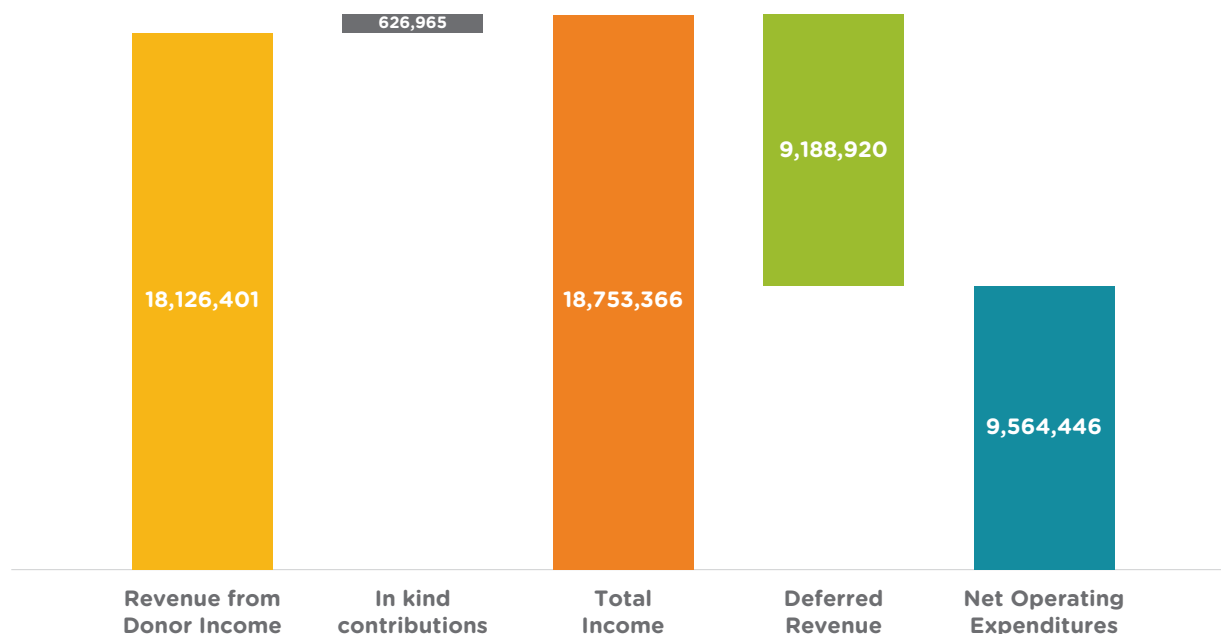
**S**EforALL's 2018 Financial Statements were subject to a full financial audit, conducted by KPMG. This is the third year that SEforALL, as an independent Quasi-International Organization (QIO) established under Austrian law, has undergone an audit. The 2018 Financial Statements and audit report reflect our second full year of operation as an independent QIO and are available on the SEforALL website. In this re-

port, we provide an overview of the 2018 Financial Statements.

In the financial year to 31 December 2018, SEforALL received \$18.1 million (USD) of revenue from donors and \$0.6 million of in-kind contributions. Of the total income of \$18.8 million, \$9.2 million was deferred until future periods, with the balance of \$9.6 million offsetting net operating expenditures.

**Figure 1**

2018 Income and Utilization



Of the 2018 income of \$18.8 million, 46 per cent was from government or public sources, and 54 per cent from private sources including international organizations and foundations.

**Figure 2**

2018 Sources of Income

- Private
- Public

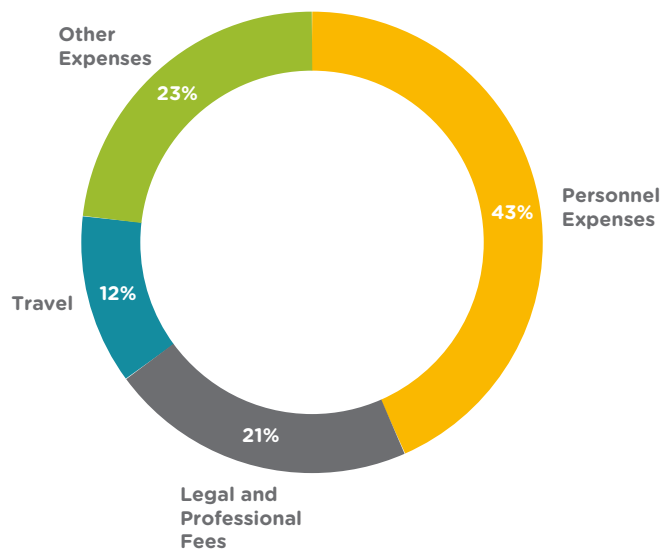


The total net operating expenses of \$9.6 million includes \$4.1 million for personnel expenses, \$2.0 million for legal and professional fees that includes consultancy contracts, \$1.1 million for travel, and

\$2.2 million for other expenses such as rent, communication costs, foreign exchange adjustments and support costs charged by the organizations that manage SEforALL funds.

**Figure 3**

2018 Expenditure Categories



# 2018 ANNUAL MONITORING REVIEW

**S**EforALL's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework is a tool to assess and improve SEforALL's organizational performance. Below is an overview of the 2018 interventions that

are included in the 2018 Monitoring Review, which will be completed in May and available on SEforALL's website.

2018 Work Streams	2018 Interventions
Energy Efficiency First	Cooling for All Energy and Transport
Leave No One Behind	People-Centered Accelerator Energizing Finance Research Series Energy Access Dividend Energy and Health Electricity for All in Africa Build and Strengthen the Electricity Accelerator Clean Fuels for All SHIFT
Sustainable Energy Diplomacy	High Level Engagement, UN Engagement, SRSG
Foundational Work	
Body of Evidence	Tracking SDG 7, RISE, MTF, SEforALL Heat Maps Knowledge Strategy
SEforALL Forum	SEforALL Forum in Lisbon

# 2018 PARTNERS

## Funding Partners



## Proud Partners



## Delivery Partners



## People-Centered Accelerator Partners



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## **Vienna Headquarters**

Andromeda Tower, 15th Floor  
Donau City Strasse 6  
1220, Vienna, Austria  
Telephone: +43 676 846 727 200

Website: [www.SEforALL.org](http://www.SEforALL.org)

## **Washington, DC Satellite Office**

1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20006 USA  
Telephone: +1 202 390 0078

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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