

MAY 2021

SEforALL and the Decade of Action

100
SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
FOR ALL
DAYS REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I'm pleased to provide this update on Sustainable Energy for All's (SEforALL) activities for the period 5 February to 15 May 2021.

This year is undoubtedly a pivotal year to put the world on track to achieve affordable, clean energy for all by 2030, along with net zero by 2050. With countries looking for strategies to recover from the pandemic, and with two major global energy and climate fora happening this year, 2021 can be transformative for the energy transition.

This is the time for countries, development organizations, businesses and other stakeholders to commit and act. Our new campaign asks them to Be Bold, and we are giving them concrete opportunities to put this message into practice. The UN High-level Dialogue on Energy in September will be a catalyst for long-term, ambitious commitments to Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7), particularly its Energy Compacts.

We also want COP26 to be a platform for countries to commit to clean energy to help them reach their development and climate goals, and we are helping them build a roadmap for this through our work on the Energy Transition Council.

Much of our work over the past 100 days has focused on these advocacy and diplomacy efforts, but we also continue to provide countries with targeted solutions to help them achieve their energy goals. And as always, we continue to publish innovative and practical data and research to guide the actions of SDG7 stakeholders, most recently on sustainable cooling – an area of even greater importance in the time of COVID-19.

I hope you enjoy reading about these highlights from the past 100 days.



DAMILOLA OGUNBIYI

CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for SEforALL and Co-Chair of UN-Energy

100 Day Highlights

CALLING ON EVERYONE TO BE BOLD FOR SDG7



On 16 March, we launched a new, year-long campaign called Be Bold to drive ambitious action towards SDG7. Be Bold was created because 2021 is a pivotal year for the clean energy transition given the need for COVID-19 recovery and with two major opportunities for action happening later this year: the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy and COP26.

Be Bold is about giving everyone – governments, businesses, development and financial institutions, and everyday citizens – a set of actions to help realize affordable and clean energy for all.

The campaign asks citizens who support the clean energy transition to become members of the SDG7 movement through a new dedicated **Be Bold website**. These members will be engaged throughout the year with shareable, digital content they can use to attract others to the movement, building a critical mass of SDG7 supporters that will help advocate for action from decision-makers.

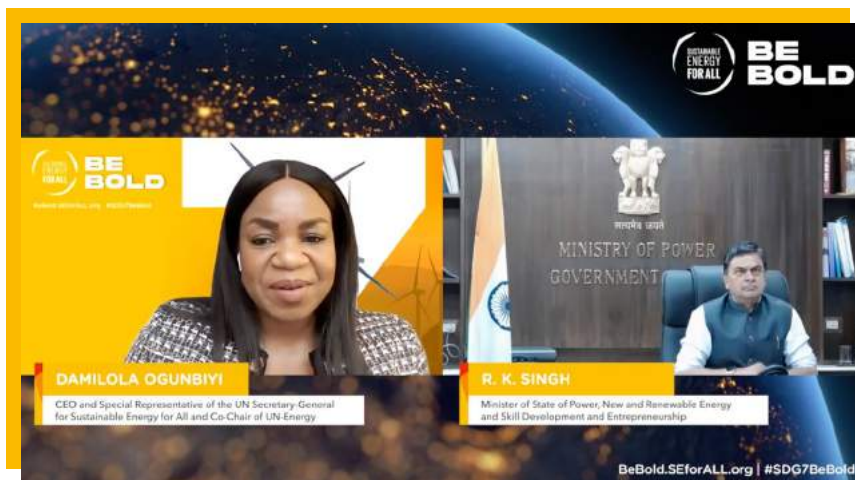
Importantly, Be Bold will promote the same actions sought by the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy. Specifically, Be Bold will call on businesses, governments and other organizations to make commitments through the Dialogue's Energy Compacts.



As part of the ongoing campaign, we are launching a series of Bold Conversations featuring interviews between our CEO and global leaders of the energy transition who are considered Global Champions of the upcoming High-level Dialogue on Energy. These interviews have focused on specific country ambitions and plans for supporting SDG7 and climate progress through their engagement in the Dialogue and COP26.

The series of interviews will be released in the coming months and will feature several national ministers, among other influential figures.

Interviews will be featured on the Be Bold website and our [YouTube channel](#).



BOLD CONVERSATIONS

COMING SOON

SHAPING THE UN HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY

We have been continuing and growing our leadership role in the planning and promotion of the High-level Dialogue on Energy, which was formally launched on 10 March during an online event where over twenty ministerial-level “Global Champions” from UN Member States issued a call to action to achieve affordable, clean energy for all by 2030.

Along with our UN-Energy partners, we secured the commitment of these Global Champions to contribute to the Dialogue’s desired outcomes. First, in becoming Global Champions, these countries have agreed to develop their own Energy Compacts. These are voluntary commitments from Member States and non-state actors, such as companies, regional/local governments, NGOs, and others.

We are also coordinating the Technical Working Groups of the Dialogue, which are developing roadmaps for actions needed by 2030 to achieve SDG7 across the five themes of the Dialogue: Energy Access; Energy Transition; Enabling



SDGs through Inclusive, Just Energy Transitions; Innovation, Technology and Data; and Finance and Investment. Each of the countries who have agreed to be Global Champions are aligned to one of these themes.

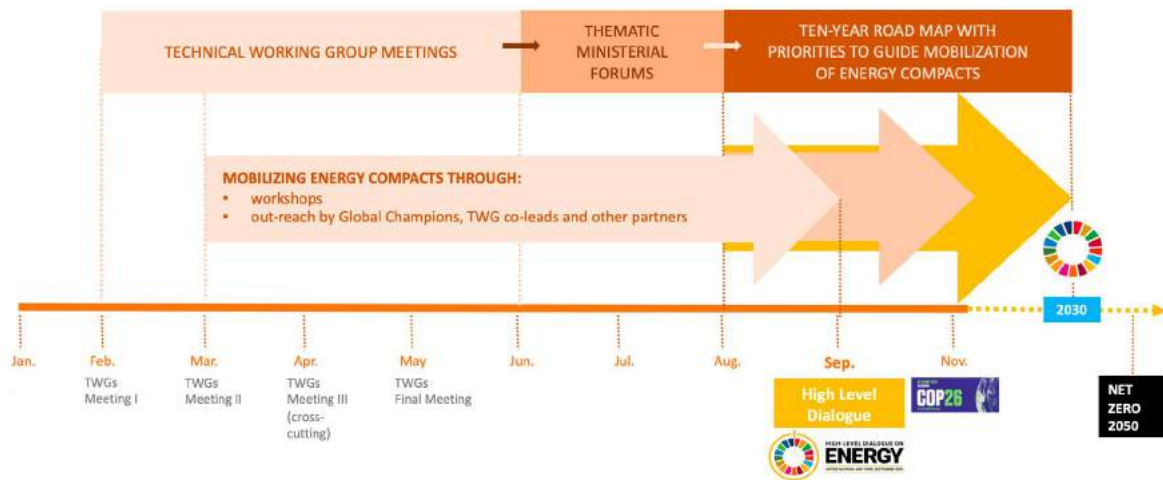
The first round of meetings of the five Technical Working Groups were successfully conducted in late February/early March, and the second in the middle of April. These meetings brought together over 150 multi-stakeholder experts from the public sector, private sector, civil society, academia, and financial institutions.



High-level Dialogue on Energy Technical Working Groups on Energy Access (left) and Enabling SDGs through Inclusive, Just Energy Transitions (right)

Source: Earth Negotiations Bulletin

ESTABLISHING ENERGY COMPACTS



One of the most important outcomes of this year’s UN High-level Dialogue on Energy will be Energy Compacts. These voluntary commitments from a wide set of stakeholders will be a unique platform for action and collaboration on SDG7 in the lead up to 2030.

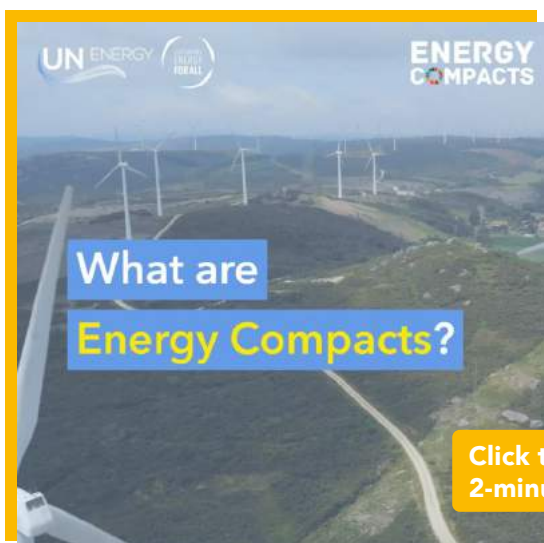
When these stakeholders commit to a compact, they must include the specific actions they will take to support progress on SDG7 with specific targets that will be monitored. Importantly, an Energy Compact allows stakeholders to elaborate on how their actions on SDG7 also support other SDGs, the Paris Agreement, and Net-Zero Emissions by 2050. Therefore, the

ENERGY COMPACTS

actions detailed in Energy Compacts can be aligned to countries’ Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement.

In the last 100 days, SEforALL and UN-Energy have developed the Energy Compact templates that will be used to capture commitments and begun promoting them to the various stakeholders they target. This is being done through a series of customized informational workshops.

Energy Compact workshops are ongoing and open to interested organizations. A schedule of upcoming workshops can be found [here](#).



Click to watch the 2-minute explainer

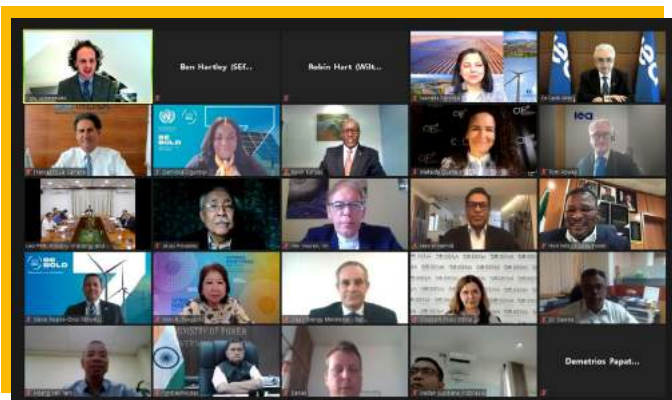
ENGAGING COUNTRIES THROUGH THE ENERGY TRANSITION COUNCIL

The Energy Transition Council (ETC) was established in September 2020 and is one of the key initiatives of the UK COP26 Presidency for promoting and supporting ambitious clean energy transitions in developing countries. Our CEO is the council Co-Chair and we are directly involved in supporting the council's overall strategy for engaging an initial 12 countries: Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Laos, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam.

Working with the UK COP26 Presidency, which is the Council's Secretariat, we helped design the latest Ministerial meeting in April, involving representatives from all the ETC's countries. The series of Ministerial meetings are intended to secure continued high-level political support for a clean energy transition – expressed in national policies and plans – and to identify country needs for support for achieving their objectives, while positioning the ETC as a valuable platform that can connect

them with this support. For the April meeting, we conducted a private finance and investment survey for Africa (Egypt, Kenya, Morocco and Nigeria) that served as data points to inform discussion at the meeting.

We have also been facilitating specific country dialogues. The focus for these dialogues is to bring together nationally relevant political, technical, financial, and private sector decision-makers around the specific objective of collaborating on building a national pathway for a clean energy transition. In the past few months we've supported dialogues in Egypt, Kenya, Morocco and Nigeria by facilitating engagement with the national governments and working with the local UK representatives to ensure relevant stakeholders for clean energy development participated.



COP26 Energy Transition Council



FORGING A NEW POWERING HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIP

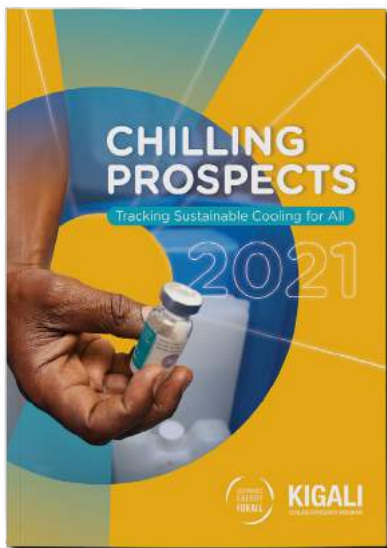
Building on our ongoing collaboration with Power Africa, and through a two-year, USD 1 million grant funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), SEforALL and Power Africa have launched a new initiative to support African governments and the donor community to coordinate and assist national health facility electrification efforts.

The partnership was announced on 31 March, and various projects are already underway, including research promoting a service-based

model to advance long-term sustainability of health facility electrification interventions.

As part of this partnership, we will ramp up our country-level support on healthcare electrification by advising governments and their development partners in a select number of countries. This advisory role will be informed by new data work to better understand where current healthcare electrification efforts are located and the impact they have on local health services.

NEW SUSTAINABLE COOLING FOR ALL RESEARCH



On 5 May, we released the fourth edition of our ground-breaking **Chilling Prospects report** during a global virtual launch event.

This research tracks immediate health and safety vulnerabilities for people who do not have access to cooling. It's an issue that has been thrust into the energy transition conversation thanks to the thought leadership of our Sustainable Cooling for All programme.

This year's report gives special attention to impacts of COVID-19 on cooling access and needs. With COVID-19 pushing a further 50 million people worldwide into poverty, this means the number of people at high risk because of a lack of cooling has grown to 1.09 billion. Reaching these populations with vaccines poses a major problem without cold chains to preserve vaccines during their distribution. *Chilling Prospects* therefore offers a timely and urgent call for collaboration on developing sustainable cooling solutions that will enable an equitable vaccine rollout.

By profiling a variety of sustainable cooling solutions being developed around the world, *Chilling Prospects* also highlights inspirational examples for stakeholders to follow.

In addition to the main report's release, throughout March and April we released a series of short, informative Knowledge Briefs on specialized cooling topics, including one on **off-grid cooling appliances**, one on the **gender-based impacts of a lack of cooling**, and another on **tracking investment in cooling**.

INSPIRING AND EMPOWERING YOUTH



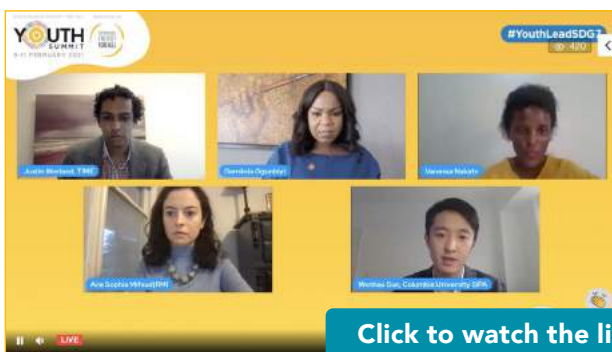
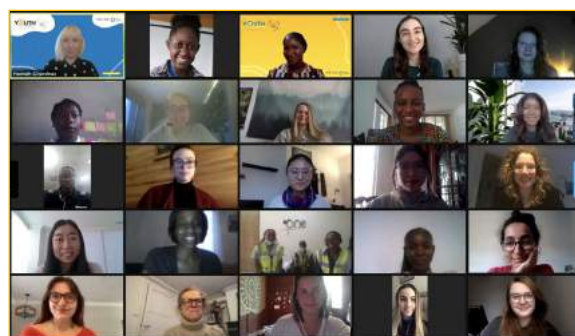
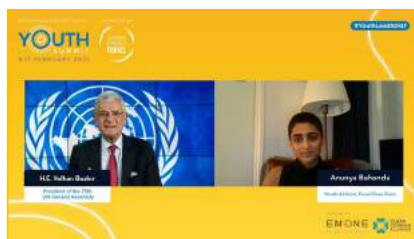
Hosted by SEforALL in partnership with the Clean Cooking Alliance and EM-ONE Energy Solutions, the first-ever, virtual **SEforALL Youth Summit** was held 9-11 February and was organized by youth, for youth. More than 2,000 delegates from over 120 countries registered to discuss topics including gender equality, industrialization and clean cooking access to support progress on SDG7 and the Paris Agreement.

In addition to talks from high-profile speakers, a highlight of the Summit was the Troubleshooting for SDG7 innovation competition, which called for youth-led technology or policy ideas to support SDG7 progress. Launched by SEforALL ahead of the event, 133 proposals from representatives of 42 countries were received,

and three finalists from Cameroon, Nigeria and China were identified by a panel of judges. The team from Nigeria were announced as the winners and received USD 2,500 funding to support their innovation.

A virtual career advisory and academic fair involving 30 organizations also connected youth delegates with experts and universities from around the world to discuss energy-related opportunities and courses.

The outcomes of the three-day Summit are feeding into our work on the UN High-Level Dialogue on Energy, with youth representatives from the Summit invited to participated in the Dialogue’s Technical Working Groups.



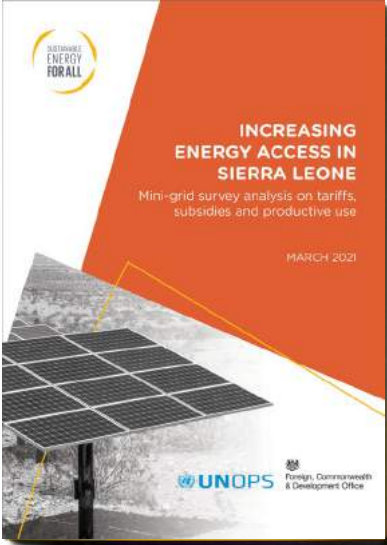
[Click to watch the live sessions of the SEforALL Youth Summit](#)

ADVISING ON MINI-GRIDS IN SIERRA LEONE

With only 26 percent of Sierra Leone’s population having access to electricity, the country has a long way to go to achieve universal access by 2030. But the government is intent on rapidly scaling access in the coming years and asked SEforALL to support in this push.

Mini-grids will play a key role in providing electricity access to off-grid populations, which is why the Sierra Leone government is looking to adjust its policy and regulatory frameworks to foster greater participation from mini-grid businesses. In collaboration with the UK government’s Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and UNOPS, we began advising the Ministry of Energy by helping them identify an optimal tariff and subsidy structure for mini-grids that will allow the sector to flourish.

Our recommendations are captured in the report **Increasing Energy Access in Sierra Leone**, published 11 May.



Source: GreenMax Capital Advisors Inc.

SUPPORTING NIGERIA'S SOLAR PLANS

At the request of the Nigerian government, and in collaboration with All On, we developed two tailor-made solutions to support private sector participation in the government's Solar Power Naija project, which seeks to establish 5 million new solar connections across the country. This work has been ongoing since 2020, but major outputs were delivered to the government and its partners in the last 100 days.

With support from the Rural Electrification Agency, we used geospatial data to determine the best sites for solar home system deployment across the country. The government then used this data to assign allotments to companies approved under Solar Power Naija, with the requirement that companies provide at least 20 percent of their energy connections to their allotted zones. Using the geographic, energy and consumer data, we also built a data platform that helps approved companies identify opportunities, inside and outside their zones, for developing projects.

The platform will continue to be updated to reflect the ongoing off-grid deployment across Nigeria, thereby offering up-to-date data that will guide business decisions from companies participating in the Solar Power Naija project. It will allow the government to see exactly which populations are being served by new projects to ensure equitable distribution of new connections.

The government also requested the support of SEforALL and All On in analysing the potential to increase local content in the off-grid solar value chain and growing the local solar industry.

After analysing the strengths and weaknesses in the existing solar component value chain, we developed an **economic model** that simulates the impact of key private and public sector levers on socio-economic indicators, such as product price, jobs created, GHG emissions, etc. The publicly accessible model can be used by companies and the government to explore how they can support further localization and achieve the targets set under Solar Power Naija.



Looking ahead to the next 100 Days



Our key priorities and expected outputs in the next 100 days include:

- Continuing to promote the **UN High-level Dialogue on Energy** and coordinate its Technical Working Groups to continue to meet and develop their SDG7 roadmaps. Working with our partners, we'll also be pushing all SDG7 stakeholders to commit to Energy Compacts ahead of the dialogue. The schedule for upcoming Energy Compact information workshops and Technical Working Group meetings is available [here](#).
- The **COP26 Energy Transition Council** will continue to engage with countries, and we will facilitate that engagement by helping organize a second round of dialogues for Egypt, Kenya, Morocco and Nigeria. We're also helping to design the latest Ministerial meeting to be held in July.
- In partnership with the Shell Foundation, SEforALL is embarking on an ambitious new project to accelerate universal energy access with a **One Country Strategy** in Rwanda. Working closely with the Rwandan government, this project will focus on establishing a clear roadmap to accelerate action towards universal energy access, unifying collective efforts and mobilizing resources to fill funding gaps.
- In the coming months, we'll be releasing research co-produced with the World Bank on innovative **business models for powering healthcare facilities** in resource-constrained settings.
- We're continuing to work with Nigeria and Sierra Leone on developing their **integrated energy plans** with a specific focus on enabling COVID-19 vaccine rollouts.
- Mini-grid projects in Sierra Leone and Madagascar supported by the **Universal Energy Facility**, a results-based financing facility we manage, are expected to begin construction this summer, and we will continue to work with our implementation partner GIZ to advance the project applications for mini-grid developments in Benin. We're also working with partners on an ambitious business plan to scale up the facility for Waves 2 and 3, including an expansion of the mini-grids programme and operationalizing stand-alone solar systems for productive use.

To stay up-to-speed with our work, follow us on [Twitter](#) or subscribe to our [monthly newsletter](#). Also [follow](#) our CEO Damilola Ogunbiyi, recently named one "**25 badass women shaping climate action in 2021**."

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