Access to energy in health care facilities

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Photo credit: Eight19
Launched by the UN Secretary General in 2011, Sustainable Energy for All seeks to mobilize action in support of three-interlined objectives to be achieved by 2030:

1. **Ensuring universal access to modern energy services.**
2. **Doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.**
3. **Doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.**
Decision to focus first on making evident the linkages between energy, poverty reduction and sustainable development

First two years of focus on energy for women's and children's health

Energy in homes

Energy in health care facilities
Rationale

Health Care Facilities with No Electricity Access

- Uganda (2007): 58%
- Tanzania (2006): 50%
- Guyana (2004): 38%
- Sierra Leone (2012): 35%
- Ghana (2002): 31%
- Nigeria (2011): 30%
- Kenya (2010): 26%
- Zambia (2005): 20%
- Rwanda (2007): 18%
- Ethiopia (2008): 14%
- Namibia (2009): 4%
- Egypt (2004): 1%
- Gambia, The (2004): 0%

Source: WHO/IHE database.
Importance of energy to health services
(in particular access to electricity)

- Easier recruitment and training
- Better staff morale
- Continued medical education

- Prolonged opening hours
- Wider range of services
- Better functionality of medical devices

- Improved cold chain
- Laboratory testing
- E-health

- Better communication
- Improved records management

- General hygiene improved
- Enhanced safety
- Staff and patient sense of security and safety

Opportunity associated with sustainable energy solutions

Off-grid Solutions

Grid Extension

Hybrid Solutions

Energy Efficient Equipment
Energy for women's and children's health (key focus areas)

- Address key structural and market barriers limiting access to modern energy technologies
- Reframe energy planning so that it is more central to health systems policy and planning
- Expand evidence base on linkages between access to energy in health care facilities and health service delivery outcomes
- Monitor and measure the energy access situation in health care facilities
Current state of activities

- Technical consultation on energy access in health care facilities (24-26 March 2015)
  1. Define a minimum/core set of indicators for use in measuring and monitoring access to energy in HCF
  2. Agree on a conceptual framework for linking energy access to health services delivery
  3. Identify knowledge and research gaps

- Formalization of the HIO operational structure and programme of work (by summer 2015)
Possible linkages

- Monitoring and tracking
  - Development of joint indicator frameworks for inclusion in health survey instruments
  - Joint piloting of the use of the above indictor frameworks

- Research
  - Expanding the evidence base on impacts on health services and on health outcomes
  - Evaluation of the effectiveness of the above interventions

- Interventions
  - Joint intervention packages that address both access to energy and water and sanitation in a health care facility setting