

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



3 IN 10

PEOPLE
GLOBALLY USE
HARMFUL,
POLLUTING
COOKING FUEL

733

MILLION PEOPLE
GLOBALLY
LACK ACCESS TO
ELECTRICITY.
75% OF THEM
LIVE IN SUB-
SAHARAN AFRICA.

74%

OF THE
SDG TARGETS
REQUIRE
ENERGY TO
COMPLETE

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

Repositioning access to clean and affordable energy as a human right may counter the governing global economic system that profits from fossil fuel consumption.

NOTICING

Fossil fuels have detrimental effects on human and environmental health, with climate change causing an estimated 5 million deaths globally every year. Additionally, household pollution from burning biomass causes cardiovascular and respiratory problems, with an estimated 4.3 million deaths each year. The war in Ukraine is driving up global energy prices and increasing energy insecurity.

INTERPRETING/EMPATHIZING

Compassionate action requires energy. Most of the time when we use energy, we don't realize its economic, environmental, and social impacts. SDG7 is intertwined with many other goals. Energy is needed for running lifesaving medical equipment, doing schoolwork at night, producing and storing food, and running successful businesses. We simultaneously need to accelerate electrification in energy-poor countries, while also reducing global consumption of fossil fuels.

TAKING ACTION

Compassionate action requires energy that does not, itself, lead to greater suffering. Accelerating and scaling inclusive energy transitions across emerging economies will power economic progress for a sustainable future. Collective action platforms, like the [Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet](#), deliver transformational programs for people across the developing and emerging world that creates millions of new jobs and avoids billions of tons of greenhouse gases. Through a combination of grid-based renewables, mini-grid, and rooftop solutions, underserved communities can access clean energy at an affordable cost. Engaging these communities in the design of energy projects ensures they feel seen and heard and their interests represented.



“THE URGENT NEED FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MODERN ELECTRICITY AND THE OPPORTUNITY IT BRINGS COMES AT THE SAME TIME HUMANITY MUST UNITE TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS BEFORE THE DEVASTATION OF GLOBAL WARMING BECOMES IRREVERSIBLE.”