



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

ENERGY ACCESS
PRACTITIONER NETWORK

The Importance of Standards in the Energy Access Context

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SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

Sustainable Energy for All Initiative

1.3 billion people worldwide are without access to electricity, and a billion more have only intermittent access. **2.8 billion** people lack access to clean cooking solutions.

In response, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched a new initiative in 2011 by the same name, calling on governments, businesses, and civil society to make commitments to action to accomplish **three objectives** by 2030:



ENSURING
universal access
TO MODERN ENERGY
SERVICES.



DOUBLING THE GLOBAL
RATE OF IMPROVEMENT IN
*energy
efficiency.*



DOUBLING THE SHARE OF
renewable energy
IN THE GLOBAL
ENERGY MIX.

The UN General Assembly Member States have unanimously declared 2014-2024 as the **Decade of Sustainable Energy for All.**



Energy Access Practitioner Network

- As part of Sustainable Energy for All, the United Nations Foundation launched a global **Energy Access Practitioner Network** in 2011, with rapid growth to 1,200 members.
- The Network focuses on **market-based sustainable energy applications**, emphasizing mini- & off-grid solutions, and **catalyzing energy service delivery at country level** towards the achievement of universal energy access.
- It promotes adoption of new technologies, advocacy around supportive regulatory and policy environments for off-grid, **innovative financial and business models** & disseminating best practices.
- Operates as a “**network of networks**”.



Practitioner Network & standards

- Cost of accessing international standards & certification schemes often prohibitive for practitioners with limited resources, **stunting market growth**.
- Poorly developed/implemented standards can increase **total cost of ownership** to the consumer & can damage the reputation of the technology.
- Without standards or installation and maintenance guidelines, energy products may be unsafe, perform poorly, and fail quickly in a young market.

The practitioner network's Standards Working Group focuses on:

- Ensuring renewable energy and energy efficiency technology deployment is **possible, safe, affordable and practical**
- Providing support around **local capacity building**
- **Harmonizing the quality** of decentralized energy service provision globally.

