



LET THERE BE LIGHT
INTERNATIONAL

SDG7 Energy Compact of Let There Be Light International

A next Decade Action Agenda to advance SDG7 on sustainable energy for all, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

SECTION 1: AMBITION

1.1. Ambitions to achieve SDG7 by 2030. [Please select all that apply, and make sure to state the baseline of each target]

(Member States targets could be based on their NDCs, energy policies, national five-year plans etc. targets for companies/organizations could be based on their corporate strategy)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7.1. By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.	<p>Target(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Deliver SDG7-focused social safety-net programming to benefit 1.5 million people in sub-Saharan Africa (2) Improve maternal and infant health for 100,000 women and babies through our Safe Births + Healthy Homes solar social safety-net programming (3) Catalyze and support the inclusion of SDG7 into core programming of 30 NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa to amplify SDG interlinkages and programmatic outcomes <p>Context for the ambition(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 860 million people lack access to electricity. Approximately 1 in 4 health clinics in sub-Saharan Africa lack electricity. (2) In many off-grid communities in sub-Saharan Africa, women continue to deliver in the community with a traditional birth attendant (TBA) or alone at home. High levels of unattended births are correlated with poor maternal and infant health outcomes. Furthermore, resource-constrained off-grid communities often use kerosene and candles in unventilated spaces for light, adding to disease burdens for and household accidents involving vulnerable infants and children. (3) Grassroots NGOs often work in siloed spaces and lack awareness about the enabling potential of energy access to achieve anti-poverty, women's health, educational, and development goals.
<input type="checkbox"/> 7.2. By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.	<p>Target(s):</p> <p>Time frame:</p> <p>Context for the ambition(s):</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7.3. By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.	<p>Target(s):</p> <p>Time frame: 2021/22-2025-26</p> <p>Context for the ambition(s):</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7.a. By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.	<p>Target(s): Let There Be Light International will partner with international research and development organizations to develop and test solar technology to benefit pre-market households and those at greatest risk of being left behind in the energy transition including those who live in extreme poverty in resource-constrained settings and identify as elderly, disabled, caregivers, students, and new mothers.</p> <p>Time frame: 2021-2030</p> <p>Context for the ambition(s): Most energy access programming focuses on market-based approaches which often leaves those in greatest need at risk of being left behind. When energy access is excluded from social safety net programming and exclusively paired with entrepreneurship through PAYGO or Rent-to-Own models, many vulnerable populations remain in the dark.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7.b. By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island	<p>Target(s):</p> <p>Time frame:</p> <p>Context for the ambition(s):</p>

developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programs of support.

1.2. Other ambitions in support of SDG7 by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. [Please describe below e.g., coal phase out or reforming fossil fuel subsidies etc.]

Target(s):
Time frame:
Context for the ambition(s):

SECTION 2: ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE AMBITION

2.1. Please add at least one key action for each of the elaborated ambition(s) from section 1. [Please add rows as needed].

<p><i>Description of action (please specify for which ambition from Section 1)</i> <u>7.1 Ambitions</u></p> <p>(1) 1,500,000 people will have access to safe lighting at home and/or in their local health clinics Let There Be Light International commits to increasing our solar social safety-net programming impact from a current goal of 21,000 homes with a safe pico light to 60,000 homes by 2030. Furthermore, we pledge to increase our solar-electrification and ongoing systems support of 54 rural health clinics to a total of 120 off-grid clinics with basic solar-electrification systems by 2030.</p> <p>(2) 100,000 new mothers and infants will have access to safe lighting during delivery and after the critical birth event for infant care at home. 50 frontline health clinics in sub-Saharan Africa will offer Safe Births + Healthy Homes (SB+HH) programming to improve maternal and infant health outcomes in rural communities. SB+HH is LTBLI's signature maternal and infant health project that recognizes the need for electricity and light at both the critical birth event as well as during infant care in the home. Safe Births + Healthy Homes incentivizes attended births by donating a pico solar light to new mothers who deliver at an electrified health clinic with a trained birthing attendant. SB+HH combines the solar-electrification of off-grid health clinics with the donation of a solar light to new mothers who deliver at participating clinics and includes community-level renewable energy and attended birth outreach and education.</p> <p>(3) 30 grassroots NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa will integrate SDG7 into their core programming. Recognizing the interlinked nature of Agenda 2030 and the opportunity for cooperation across sectors and geography, LTBLI will support aligned NGOs as they integrate SDG7 indicators into their current programs in order to amplify outcomes across siloes.</p>	<p><i>Start and end date</i> 10.01.21-12.31.30</p>
<p><i>Description of action (please specify for which ambition from Section 1)</i> <u>7.a. Ambition</u></p> <p>LTBLI will identify and work with 5 international partners annually to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology.</p>	<p><i>Start and end date</i> 10.01.21-12.31.30</p>
<p><i>Description of action (please specify for which ambition from Section 1)</i></p>	<p><i>Start and end date</i></p>

SECTION 3: OUTCOMES

3.1. Please add at least one measurable and time-based outcome for **each** of the actions from section 2. *[Please add rows as needed].*

Outcome	Date
325,000 people will benefit from the home-based programming and 1.2 million people will have access to improved healthcare access and delivery by 2030. Through our partnership with Solar Health Uganda 7,500 homes will receive community-based solar training and a donated pico light annually for a total of 60,000 homes and 325,000 people impacted. 66 off-grid frontline health clinics will receive expandable solar-electrical systems with ongoing support and battery replacement funds (300-600 Watt systems) including electrification of staff quarters, impacting 1,200,000 people.	12/31/2030
3-5 grassroots NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa annually will receive SDG7 training and will sign Distribution Agreements with LTBLI for a total of 30 LTBLI partnerships	12/31/2030
100,000 total and 18,000 mother/baby pairs annually will benefit from Safe Births + Healthy Homes programming at 50 rural health clinics. Outcomes will include improved maternal and infant birth outcomes, increased rates of attended births, improved health and safety at home as well as reduced infant pneumonia and childhood burns rates.	12/31/2030
LTBLI will continue to contribute to SEforAll.org's People-Centered Accelerator (PCA) for Energy Access and the REN21 reports while supporting the development of clean energy technology to meet the unmet needs of people living in energy poverty including homebound elders, students and those living with disabilities. LTBLI participates in multi-stakeholder platforms to advocate for the development and deployment of programming and technology that addresses the interlinked nature of the SDGs with a specific focus on health, safety, education and women's empowerment. LTBLI also will leverage our US and global networks (Climate Reality Leaders, Catalyst2030, Global Impact Network, ShineInvest, PowerShift Network, the UN NGO Major Group, Women's Major Group, MGoS and others) to advocate for the recognition of SDG7 as an enabler of climate action and the achievement of Agenda2030.	

SECTION 4: REQUIRED RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

4.1. Please specify required finance and investments for **each** of the actions in section 2.

- 1) 39,000 homes receive pico lights at USD\$15/unit (purchased, delivered, field officers trained, transportation, intake and follow-up support) and 66 health clinics (level II and III) provided with basic solar electrification (300-600Watt systems with appropriate use signage and ongoing staff training) at \$3,500 = \$2,895,000
- 2) 45 health clinics providing maternity services will join Safe Births + Healthy Homes at (minimum) \$10,000 per site = \$450,000
- 3) 20 NGOs begin partnerships with LTBLI to incorporate SDG7 into their core programming at \$1,500/partner for outreach and training materials = \$35,000

4.2. [For countries only] In case support is required for the actions in section 2, please select from below and describe the required support and specify for which action.

[Examples of support for Member States could include: Access to low-cost affordable debt through strategic de-risking instruments, capacity building in data collection; development of integrated energy plans and energy transition pathways; technical assistance, etc.]

<input type="checkbox"/> Financing	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind contribution	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Support	Description
<input type="checkbox"/> Other/Please specify	Description

SECTION 5: IMPACT

5.1. Countries planned for implementation including number of people potentially impacted.

Uganda, Kenya and Malawi (with the possibility of expansion to other countries with appropriate stakeholder support) impacting 1.6 million people.

5.2. Alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Please describe how **each** of the actions from section 2 impact advancing the SDGs by 2030.

[up to 500 words, please upload supporting strategy documents as needed]

Noting the “interlinked and indivisible” nature of the 2030 Agenda, Let There Be Light International (LTBLI) works with a holistic, multi-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder approach to SDG implementation. Striving to ensure that we leave no one behind in our efforts to achieve Agenda 2030, LTBLI works through active partnerships (SDG17) on the intersection of energy access with Poverty alleviation (SDG1), Good Health and Wellbeing (SDG3), Gender Equality (SDG5), Education (SDG4), and Climate Action (SDG13).

Facilitating the safe lighting of low-resource off-grid homes advances both SDG7 as well as removes a key economic stressor (SDG1) on families living at or below the extreme poverty line. In homes where the average expenditure on kerosene or candles for lighting is 10-30% of total household income, the provision of a solar light that provides safe, renewable light for 3-5 years allows for the redirection of household funds to cover other critical necessities such as food, medicine and school fees. Eliminating kerosene and candles also supports Climate Action (SDG13) by removing the need to burn fossil fuels for light. Through our Lights4Literacy project through which LTBLI partners with literacy NGOs, students receive a solar light (SDG7) with an age-appropriate book (SDG4) and literacy training to impact educational outcomes. The donation of a solar light to new mothers after delivery with a trained birth attendant through Safe Births + Healthy Homes bolsters self-reported levels of health and wellbeing (SDG3) and supports women’s sense of empowerment and equality (SDG5), as they report being more frequently able to participate in household decision making.

Donating and installing upgradable solar electrical systems on frontline, off-grid clinics improves healthcare access and delivery (SDG3) and reduces climate impacts (SDG13) through the elimination of fossil fuel generators and kerosene lamps. The clinics extend their hours of operation and, with the inclusion of staff quarters in electrification projects, staff turnover is reduced, adding to improvements in healthcare delivery and outcomes.

Our theory of change emphasizes the need for collaboration and amplification of aligned goals through active partnerships (SDG17) with other NGOs working in unelectrified communities in sub-Saharan Africa. As more grassroots organizations, governments, health ministries and multistakeholder groups recognize that achieving SDG7 will support and improve their programmatic outcomes, the faster and farther we can travel toward achieving Agenda 2030.

5.3. Alignment with Paris Agreement and net-zero by 2050 - Please describe how **each** of the actions from section 2 align with the Paris Agreement and national NDCs (if applicable) and support the net-zero emissions by 2050.

[up to 500 words, please upload supporting strategy documents as needed]

All Let There Be Light International programming is aligned with the Paris Agreement and supports the net-zero emissions standards by 2050. Since 2017, LTBLI has been a member of the [WeAreStillIn](#) movement, committing to supporting the goals set by the Paris Accord. The reduction and/or elimination of the burning of fossil fuels including kerosene and wax candles for lighting through pico and solar system rollouts represent achievable goals with outsized socio-economic benefits to the community members participating in our net-zero programming.

SECTION 6: MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1. Please describe how you intend to track the progress of the proposed outcomes in section 3. Please also describe if you intend to use other existing reporting frameworks to track progress on the proposed outcomes.

Monitoring and reporting are integral and ongoing components of all LTBLI programming. Health clinics participating in our solar-electrification programming report bi-monthly to our partner, Solar Health Uganda, on system maintenance and performance. Impacts are tracked including increases in attended births, hours of operation, number of patients seen on a weekly basis, and other indicators. Solar light recipients participate in intake surveys and follow-up surveys after 6 or more months of pico light usage. Indicators of program success include savings on household lighting, improvements in health and safety, increases in hours children study in the evening, and hours of productive use. Clinics participating in Safe Births + Healthy Homes track attended birth rates in their communities and report monthly about the functioning of their solar systems. Clinic staff also administer intake surveys to all new mothers after delivery upon receipt of their solar light for infant care at home and conduct follow-up surveys with 40% of participants at the 10-week vaccination appointments.

Partner organizations are contact bimonthly and offered SDG7-focused support and training materials for outreach to off-grid communities including information about where and how to participate in LTBLI programming as well as information about how and where to purchase solar products from local vendors, as we strive to seed and support local solar markets.

SECTION 7: GUIDING PRINCIPLES CHECK LIST

Please use the checklist below to validate that the proposed Energy Compact is aligned with the guiding principles.

I. Stepping up ambition and accelerating action - Increase contribution of and accelerate the implementation of the SDG7 targets in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Paris Agreement

I.1. Does the Energy Compact strengthen and/or add a target, commitment, policy, action related to SDG7 and its linkages to the other SDGs that results in a higher cumulative impact compared to existing frameworks?

Yes No

I.2. Does the Energy Compact increase the geographical and/or sectoral coverage of SDG7 related efforts? Yes No

I.3. Does the Energy Compact consider inclusion of key priority issues towards achieving SDG7 by 2030 and the net-zero emission goal of the Paris Agreement by 2050 - as defied by latest global analysis and data including the outcome of the Technical Working Groups? Yes No

II. Alignment with the 2030 agenda on Sustainable Development Goals – Ensure coherence and alignment with SDG implementation plans and strategies by 2030 as well as national development plans and priorities.

II.1. Has the Energy Compact considered enabling actions of SDG7 to reach the other sustainable development goals by 2030? Yes No

II.2. Does the Energy Compact align with national, sectoral, and/or sub-national sustainable development strategies/plans, including SDG implementation plans/roadmaps? Yes No

II.3. Has the Energy Compact considered a timeframe in line with the Decade of Action? Yes No

III. Alignment with Paris Agreement and net-zero by 2050 - Ensure coherence and alignment with the Nationally Determined Contributions, long term net zero emission strategies.

III.1. Has the Energy Compact considered a timeframe in line with the net-zero goal of the Paris Agreement by 2050? Yes No

III.2. Has the Energy Compact considered energy-related targets and information in the updated/enhanced NDCs? Yes No

III.3. Has the Energy Compact considered alignment with reaching the net-zero emissions goal set by many countries by 2050? Yes No

IV. Leaving no one behind, strengthening inclusion, interlinkages, and synergies - Enabling the achievement of SDGs and just transition by reflecting interlinkages with other SDGs.

IV.1. Does the Energy Compact include socio-economic impacts of measures being considered? Yes No

IV.2. Does the Energy Compact identify steps towards an inclusive, just energy transition? Yes No

IV.3. Does the Energy Compact consider measures that address the needs of the most vulnerable groups (e.g. those impacted the most by energy transitions, lack of energy access)? Yes No

V. Feasibility and Robustness - Commitments and measures are technically sound, feasible, and verifiable based a set of objectives with specific performance indicators, baselines, targets and data sources as needed.

V.1. Is the information included in the Energy Compact based on updated quality data and sectoral assessments, with clear and transparent methodologies related to the proposed measures? Yes No

V.2. Has the Energy Compact considered inclusion of a set of SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, resource-based and time based) objectives? Yes No

V.3. Has the Energy Compact considered issues related to means of implementation to ensure feasibility of measures proposed (e.g. cost and financing strategy, technical assistant needs and partnerships, policy and regulatory gaps, data and technology)? Yes No

SECTION 8: ENERGY COMPACT GENERAL INFORMATION

8.1. Title/name of the Energy Compact

Solar Lights Change Lives

8.2. Lead entity name (for joint Energy Compacts please list all parties and include, in parenthesis, its entity type, using entity type from below)

Let There Be Light International and Solar Health Uganda (NGO)

8.3. Lead entity type

- Government Local/Regional Government Multilateral body /Intergovernmental Organization
- Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Civil Society organization/Youth Academic Institution /Scientific Community
- Private Sector Philanthropic Organization Other relevant actor

8.4. Contact Information

Sarah Baird, baird@lettherebelightinternational.org, +001-203-281-0565

8.5. Please select the geographical coverage of the Energy Compact

- Africa Asia and Pacific Europe Latin America and Caribbean North America West Asia Global

8.6. Please select the Energy Compact thematic focus area(s)

- Energy Access Energy Transition Enabling SDGs through inclusive just Energy Transitions Innovation, Technology and Data Finance and Investment.

SECTION 9: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (IF REQUIRED)

Please provide additional website link(s) on your Energy Compact, which may contain relevant key documents, photos, short video clips etc.

<https://www.lettherebelightinternational.org/safe-births-healthy-homes/>
<https://www.lettherebelightinternational.org/safe-births-healthy-homes/goals/>

<https://www.lettherebelightinternational.org/resources/>
<https://www.lettherebelightinternational.org/>
<https://www.lettherebelightinternational.org/solar-impact/>