

25x25: Ending Energy Poverty Faster

The 25x25 Electricity Access Acceleration Collaborative will work to bring decentralized renewable energy to 25 emerging markets, ending energy poverty in those markets by 2025.

What is Energy Poverty?

Nearly a billion people are trapped in energy poverty in Africa and Asia, mostly living in rural and peri-urban areas. Energy poverty--the lack of affordable, safe and reliable energy--forces people to use kerosene, diesel and other expensive, hazardous fossil fuels. Energy poverty marginalizes people and limits the ability of entire generations to achieve their potential.

The Problem

Despite a global focus on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7--ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy--energy poverty remains one of the most intractable problems today. If the majority of donors, investors and governments continue to invest in centralized power plants and long-distance transmission that can take a decade to build, then millions will remain trapped in energy poverty.

The Choice

Decentralized renewable energy (DRE), including mini-grids and home solar systems, directly engages energy impoverished individuals in creating their own power. From Bangladesh to Zimbabwe, energy poor consumers have proven by the millions that they can—and will—opt for DRE solutions when given the choice and the right political and financial support in place.

The Solution

Achievement of SDG7 demands rapid, coordinated, collective action. To accelerate universal access, we must transform legacy energy frameworks and build new ecosystems in energy-poor countries that leverage political will, activism and renewable technology by engaging local change-makers.



25x25: Ending Energy Poverty Faster

The Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries of 25x25's solution will be individuals who gain access to affordable, clean and reliable power, enabling them to transform their lives. Beneficiaries will also include governments and the wider population, who will benefit from a growing economy, creation of new jobs and opportunities for growth. In the longer term, the work of 25x25 will transform the energy sector in 25 countries, with the ultimate goal of achieving 100% electrification, and transforming millions of the energy poor into millions of energy-rich.

The Goal

The 25x25 Collaborative's ultimate goal is to accelerate the achievement of SDG7, ensuring access for all to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy by 2030. In addition to our 100&Change plans, our collaborative has plans for effectively using a range of investments, as described below.

Amount	Action	Impact
\$1 Million	1 country + lessons learned + fundraising for additional countries (1-2 years)	Replication of results from Sierra Leone pilot; compilation of lessons
\$5 Million	Hub + 2 countries + fundraising (2-3 years)	Test regional hub approach; replication of pilot in 2+ new markets
\$10 Million	3-5 countries + 2 hubs + campaign in a box + fundraising (2-5 years)	Replication of pilot and hub approaches; Toolkit creation for other target countries to use and replicate

The 25x25 Collaborative

The 25x25 Electricity Access Acceleration Collaborative (25x25) is a group of organizations – Duke University, Hivos, New Energy Nexus, Practical Action and Power for All, with the support of SNV and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) - committed to accelerating universal electricity access with decentralized renewable energy.

Website: <https://www.powerforall.org/campaigns/25x25>

Contact: development@newenergynexus.com and info@powerforall.org

Date of publication: February 2020

