



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS | SDG 7

Affordable and clean energy for everyone



Around the world, some 2.6 billion people do not have access to clean cooking technologies. In rural regions biomass is often the only available fuel. Women in particular burn wood on open fires to prepare food, and suffer from breathing in toxic smoke. Multi-stakeholder partnerships aim to bring improvements by distributing efficient stoves, for example, and expanding the use of renewable energy in rural areas.

Energy and energy services are key to development and are essential prerequisites for the achievement of several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With electricity, health centres can keep medicines cool, teachers can teach in brightly lit classrooms, farmers can irrigate their fields with solar-powered pumps, and microenterprises can create products and services, boosting value creation in rural regions.

This is why everyone needs to be able to obtain modern energy services. For many people, however, this remains a remote possibility, because the challenges are immense. Often they live a long way from power grids and in thinly populated regions. The good news, though, is that efficient – and cheaper – technologies based on renewable energy are becoming increasingly widespread.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships

This is exactly the point where multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) can lay solid foundations. In many countries they raise awareness of the requirements and benefits of renewable energy and clean cooking technologies and they promote the creation of conducive frameworks.

An MSP can be initiated by companies, associations, academic organisations, civil society organisations and public sector institutions. The added value is obtained from the partners pooling core competencies, experience and resources and thus achieving greater impact in a particular field.



Partnerships2030 – the MSP platform

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Partnerships2030 project promotes multistakeholder partnerships and thus contributes to implementing the 2030 Agenda. BMZ now promotes around 80 MSPs through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and Engagement Global – bengo. GIZ implements the Partnerships2030 project, supports MSPs and stakeholders in many different ways, creates networks to link them to partners and provides information.



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The MSP methodology

MSPs are a form of cooperation in which stakeholders from at least three sectors among civil society, the public sector, the private sector and academia join forces as equals in order to contribute to the common good. An MSP can generate a transformative impact through cooperation geared to the long term.

Efficient stoves protect health, nature and the climate

The aim is that all people should have access to clean and safe cooking facilities by 2030. The **Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA)**, which is active around the globe, is an example of what MSPs can achieve for SDG 7.

Worldwide, around **2.6 billion people** still cook their food on open fires or inefficient stoves. Every year **more than four million people**, mainly women and children, die from inhaling the toxic smoke from cooking fires. According to the **WHO**, this means that cooking kills ten times as many people as malaria. Not only that, cooking is time-consuming, because women often have to spend hours searching for, felling, gathering and transporting firewood, as resources become increasingly scarce. This is lost time that can no longer be used for productive work.

One solution to these challenges is efficient and clean cooking stoves. They protect family health, reduce wood consumption and the clear-felling of forests, and likewise reduce emissions of soot, which is also harmful to the climate. Distributing these stoves is a complex matter, however. Cooking cultures and traditions vary. Which stoves people use depends on their purchasing power and the available fuels, but also on their ability to adapt modern technologies. Often, too, there is a lack of awareness, because eye problems and lung diseases take hold only gradually.

In light of all this it makes sense to have a network like the Clean Cooking Alliance, which pools existing knowledge, kick-starts debate and promotes the establishment of businesses operating at the local level and across regions. On behalf of BMZ, GIZ supported the founding of the Alliance in New York in 2010. The partnership pursues three objectives: it drives demand for cleaner, more modern stoves, mobilises investment for companies offering affordable, high-quality cooking stoves and fosters an enabling policy environment and favourable business climate.

To do this, the Alliance gathers relevant data, raises awareness, engages in lobbying and builds networks between the various partners. On its website it lists more than 2,000 organisations, foundations, associations and businesses advocating clean cooking around the globe.



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Every year
→ **around 4 Mio. people die**
from the toxic smoke from cooking fires



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Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36, 53113 Bonn, Deutschland

Partnerships2030 Secretariat

Further information on the subject of MSPs is available on our website:
www.partnerships2030.org

info@partnerships2030.org
Phone: +49 228 4460-3357

Editing:

netzhammer & breiholz, www.netzhammerbreiholz.de

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