ESMAP Program in Support of Universal Energy Access

The global Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative—co-chaired by the UN Secretary General and the President of the World Bank—seeks to achieve three overarching goals by 2030: universal access to modern energy services, doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, and doubling the rate of improvement of energy efficiency.

As part of the World Bank Group’s commitment to SE4ALL, ESMAP has launched a technical assistance program to help countries achieve the goal of universal energy access. The scale of the challenge is enormous: in 2010, there were 1.2 billion people living without access to electricity, and 2.8 billion people without access to modern household fuels or improved cookstoves. The technical assistance program works with selected countries that have joined the SE4ALL initiative, helping them to develop the policy frameworks, strengthen the institutions, and mobilize the financing necessary to expand and accelerate their national energy access programs.

The goal of the ESMAP program is to help extend energy access to 200 million people by 2030.

The initial US$15 million phase of the program, which began in 2013, extends support to 10 countries: Burundi, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Senegal, as well as technical assistance and financing studies to help strengthen regional power pools in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Support is targeted to the specific needs of countries and regions, and takes into account existing national programs for expanding access.

**FOSTERING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT**

At the heart of the program is development of an investment prospectus for each country. This involves planning out the interventions needed to substantially scale up energy access over a 3 to 5 year time frame, estimation of the investment funding requirements for each of these interventions, and identification of appropriate sources of financing. This is a collaborative process between the country governments and development partners providing a platform to align public, private, bilateral, and multilateral funds toward common goals set by the
government. ESMAP’s support will help strengthen the capacity of the governments to implement, update, and develop future investment prospectuses.

For many countries, investment is unlikely to materialize at scale in the absence of robust policy and institutional frameworks. The ESMAP technical assistance program also supports activities to create a strong enabling environment and investment climate for universal energy access. These include developing the capacity of rural energy agencies, addressing the governance and credit-worthiness of utilities, technical assistance for integrating renewable energy into grids or expansion of off-grid solutions, and best practices for expanding the productive use of electricity in newly connected communities.

### COUNTRY-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

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| Burundi | • Investment prospectus for least-cost expansion plans of the electricity network (including pre-feasibility studies)  
• Model documents for public-private partnerships  
• Support to expansion of modern cooking fuels and lighting for ‘bottom of the pyramid’ consumers |
| Guinea  | • Investment prospectus for hydropower (including pre-feasibility studies)  
• Support to policy and regulatory reforms for hydropower public-private partnerships  
• Atlas of hydropower resources |
| Liberia | • Investment prospectus, including pre-feasibility studies of 4-6 mini-hydropower sites  
• Review of national energy law  
• Sector-wide planning  
• Development of an M&E framework for the energy sector |
| Mozambique | • Investment prospectus for achieving medium-term energy sector targets  
• Support to policy and regulatory reforms  
• Development of a financial model for the power sector  
• Medium-term energy sector target setting and monitoring of progress |
| Senegal | • Investment prospectus for rural electrification, including rural electrification concessions  
• Support to legal and regulatory frameworks  
• Support to strengthen the capacity of electrification agencies |
| Myanmar | • Investment prospectus for National Electrification Plan (NEP)  
• Least-cost electrification planning using geospatial tools  
• Capacity building for implementing and updating NEP |
| Nepal   | • Investment prospectus for clean cooking  
• Support for institutional reforms  
• Market development of biomass improved cookstoves |
| Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua) | • Investment prospectus for biomass improved cookstoves  
• R&D and quality assurance for improved cookstoves  
• Innovative delivery and financing options for consumers and distributors  
• Clean cooking roadmaps for 2030 |
| Africa Regional Power Pools | • Technical, financial, institutional, and political economy assessments of regional power pools  
• Support for innovations in financing for transformative projects  
• Awareness building on the benefits to energy access of the cross-border power trade |