

Overview (1/3)

EMPOWERING NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS TO ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE CLEAN COOKING OUTCOMES

Government leadership is essential to achieving universal access clean cooking solutions, yet governments face coordination, financing, and capacity challenges that prevent them from achieving their objectives. Accountability for clean cooking outcomes is often spread thinly across ministries and agencies, resulting in a status quo state where clean cooking objectives and investments are not elevated, monitored, and optimized as effectively as they could be. Globally, at least \$6 billion of public sector funding per year is required to achieve universal access to clean cooking by 2030¹, yet government teams are unable to dedicate the capacity to access international financing.

The Clean Cooking Delivery Units Network (DUN) is a transformative initiative of the Clean Cooking Systems Strategy that will establish and support Delivery Units (DUs) dedicated to clean cooking within national governments. The DUs will consist of a small team embedded in government (likely in the Ministry of Energy) with the sole mandate of setting and achieving ambitious clean cooking targets. The DUN provides the funding, technical support, and connections to ensure the DUs are successful. The DUN embodies the Clean Cooking Systems Strategy's principles of self-determination, equity, and systemic thinking in its support for locally led, universal, and integrated planning and execution.

The DUN is the 'backbone' of wider progress for the ecosystem. The whole ecosystem will benefit from government leadership and action that can i) unlock public and private sector funding, ii) facilitate clean cooking transitions that are equitable, iii) enable markets to function for the private sector, and more. A clear owner for the issue area will empower government leaders to incorporate clean cooking as a critical piece of the country's climate and SDG agenda, leveraging its cross-sector nature as an asset rather than an inhibitor.

The DUN aims to set up DUs in 10+ countries, with an ambition to expand to 25+ countries over time (including half of sub-Saharan Africa). The DUN will operate globally but will have a particularly strong presence in sub-Saharan Africa, where the need for clean cooking investment is most urgently needed. Specifically, the DUN will support the development of national clean cooking plans in at least half the countries in sub-Saharan Africa and mobilize the funding to implement these plans. This will represent a step change in the global effort to improve the lives of the billions of individuals affected by this issue.

¹ESMAP & MECS. (2021). *The State of Access to Modern Energy Cooking Services*.

Overview (2/3)

KEY DESIGN FEATURES OF THE DUN

The design of the DUN optimizes for three essential outcomes: (1) A strong value proposition for governments to join the DUN, (2) A fit-for-purpose DU that maximizes outcomes over the long term within a country context, and (3) A powerful demonstration effect across the Network and beyond that builds ever-growing momentum.

To achieve these outcomes, the DUN has been designed with the following features:

- 1. A set of resources designed to deliver results:** The package of financial resources and technical assistance offered by the DUN will be both i) motivating to national governments and ii) address the specific challenges that governments face in delivering ambitious clean cooking transitions. Most notably, the DUN will provide financial resources to hire dedicated staff embedded in government for a period of 2-5 years.
- 2. A value proposition to the whole clean cooking ecosystem:** A DU serves as a nodal point providing connectivity among and between Ministries, international stakeholders and local ecosystems, and can bring efficiencies, increases transparency and ensures government accountability to the benefit of all members of the clean cooking ecosystem.
- 3. A focus on tactical outcomes:** The DUN aspires to support each country in the network to achieve two milestones: the adoption of a robust and actionable national plan and the commitment of private and public funding matching the magnitude of the country's ambitions. These two milestones, if achieved, deliver real momentum. While each country's national plan will be unique, each must include a path to universal access and a Net Zero transition path, and should include women and the poor and vulnerable in decision making.
- 4. A collaborative design process with governments:** The specific mandate, size, host ministry or office, and resourcing needs of each DU will be designed with governments early in the process to ensure DU's are best suited to the country's context, aspirations, and needs. From the onset, this ensures national governments have self-determination in the process.

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KEY DESIGN FEATURES OF THE DUN

5. **An emphasis on building and empowering local intrapreneurs in government:** The capabilities of the Delivery Unit teams are critical to the success of the DU. The DUN will provide ongoing training and networking that builds the capacity of the DU team today and leads to rapid career advancement, demonstrating that clean cooking can be a promising career route.
6. **An initial focus on countries with existing demand:** The DUN has identified a set of countries with the political will and commitment to undertake clean cooking transitions but lacking the resources or capacity to deliver. These countries are ripe for a DU. We hope this triggers a demonstration effect that can spark political will and commitment to address clean cooking gaps elsewhere.