



23 July 2025

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPORT CLEAN COOKING LEGACY PROJECT UNDER SOUTH AFRICA'S G20 PRESIDENCY

Dear Partners,

The Presidency recognises the critical role you have played in advancing energy security, affordability, and access, and is reaching out to **seek your partnership and contributions in support of this important Legacy Project.**

As part of its G20 Presidency in 2025, South Africa has placed a strong emphasis on energy security, affordable and reliable energy access, and, critically, the urgent need to close the clean cooking gap across Africa. In support of this vision, the G20 is developing a **Clean Cooking Infrastructure Investment Action Plan for Africa**, which will outline practical actions that governments, industry, financiers, and civil society can take to advance clean cooking solutions across the continent.

Complementing this continental initiative, South Africa will be launching a **Clean Cooking Legacy Project**, a national flagship effort to implement the Action Plan and demonstrate scalable, high-impact interventions that address the millions of our citizens who still lack access to clean cooking today. The legacy project will unlock value chains that ensure the acceleration of clean cooking, address the ongoing health and environmental challenges caused by the use of polluting fuels for home cooking and the sustainability thereof.

The Legacy Project will accelerate existing clean cooking efforts in three key focal areas: **Schools, Households, and Communities**. In most Provinces across South Africa, a significant number of schools, households and communities still rely on kerosene (paraffin), wood-burning stoves, and in the case of primary schools, operate without certified, safe cooking equipment. The Legacy Project aims to ensure that schools have access to safe, certified, clean cooking solutions, properly trained kitchen staff, and the infrastructure needed to ensure a reliable supply of clean energy. Through leveraging schools as potential anchor institutions, the Legacy Project will help extend clean cooking distribution networks into nearby households within

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communities. With targeted affordability support, awareness campaigns, and enabling regulatory frameworks, these efforts will help make clean cooking solutions accessible and attractive to households currently unable to afford them.

Accelerating clean cooking measures also provides an opportunity for a strong rationale for catalytic financial instruments like **carbon financing and offsetting mechanisms** to unlock private sector investments across the clean cooking value chain. In doing so, they create a powerful intersection of climate action and inclusive development, particularly in South Africa with its ambitious NetZero targets.

This model not only reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions but also delivers tangible health, gender, and economic benefits to under-resourced communities, especially in rural and peri-urban areas. Affordability, access, and support to transition to cleaner fuels and technologies alongside long-term sustainability are essential to ensuring a lasting impact.

The Legacy Project interventions are designed to serve as replicable models that can be scaled across the continent, creating a legacy of clean, healthy, safe, and sustainable cooking.

An Expression of Interest (EoI) outlining the Legacy Project's objectives and suggested pathways for engagement is attached. We kindly request your input and expressions of interest by **[20 August 2025]**.

Submissions and inquiries can be directed to Ms. Nelisiwe Nhlapo – G20 ETWG Secretariat Lead at SANEDI, email: nelisiwenh@sanedi.org.za copy sec.g20@sanedi.org.za.

Yours sincerely,

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Chief Director: Energy Planning, Department of Electricity and Energy
Republic of South Africa

G20 South Africa 2025: ETWG

Priority 1 Outcome 3 – Closing the Clean Cooking Gap

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - LEGACY PROJECT

**Accelerating Critical Enablers within the Clean Cooking Value Chain for Schools,
Households, and Communities to ensure sustainability in South Africa**

1. Introduction

South Africa's G20 Presidency has called for a strong focus on energy security, affordable and reliable access, including an outcome on closing the clean cooking gap. In response, South Africa's G20 Presidency has proposed to develop a **Clean Cooking Infrastructure Investment Action Plan for Africa** (hereafter "the Action Plan") to support the G20's Energy Transition Working Group. To amplify its impact, a complementary **Clean Cooking Legacy Project** (hereafter "the Project") will be presented alongside the final version of the Action Plan.

In line with the **African Union** objectives and Mission300' intent to accelerate the pace of access to electricity and **clean cooking** solutions, a legacy project is proposed to reflect some aspect of the implementation action plan to accelerate the deployment of clean cooking.

The objective is to identify and undertake a legacy project **by mid-August 2025**, mobilise further in-kind and financial support, and formally **launch the initiative** at the fourth G20 Energy Transitions Working Group (ETWG 4) meeting **in October 2025**. This launch will serve as a platform to announce new partner commitments to scale the proposed models nationally and on the continent.

This document outlines the objectives and key considerations of the Clean Cooking Legacy Project and serves as a call for expressions of interest from stakeholders. It is intended to solicit input on the types of actions that should be included in the Project, as well as to identify stakeholders willing to provide financial or in-kind support (mobilising policy frameworks, providing technical assistance, investments or private sector contribution) for implementation in South Africa and other African countries.

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2. Description of the Legacy Project

2.1. Purpose and Objectives

The Legacy Project is focused on **accelerating** existing clean cooking value chain efforts in three key areas: **Schools, Households, and Communities**.

In most Provinces across South Africa, a significant number of primary schools, households and communities still rely on kerosene (paraffin), wood-burning stoves, and operate without certified, safe cooking equipment. In the North-West Province for example, nearly 100 schools still rely on wood-burning stoves, and over 1,000 primary schools operate without certified, safe cooking equipment. The National Schools Nutrition Programme, launched by the Department of Basic Education (DBE), has plans in place to move all primary school to cleaner cooking fuels.

Several projects to move households to cleaner cooking fuels have been embarked upon. An example of these efforts is the Air Quality Offset Programme in the Mpumalanga Province, with the aim of providing 36,000 free clean cooking stoves to households still using coal, charcoal, and wood-burning stoves by 2028.

The pace of these efforts can be scaled and accelerated to ensure that the 2030 Mission300 clean cooking objectives are achieved. The Legacy Project aims to **unlock the clean cooking Value Chains** to ensure the acceleration of these efforts.

2.2. Proposed Project Scope

Through leveraging schools as anchor institutions, the Legacy Project aims to establish and extend clean cooking distribution networks within communities. This tackles the first challenge of bringing reliable energy supply chains to these communities, driven and owned at community level to ensure sustainability beyond 2025. These can be achieved by additional interventions aligned to the G20 Clean Cooking Infrastructure Investment Action Plan. The following key aspects of the Legacy project will be scoped in:

- **Infrastructure development in identified provinces (Gauteng, EC, KZN, NW, Mpumalanga).**
- **Awareness / Advocacy campaigns and capacity building.**
- **Regulatory Reform dialogue on tariffs on clean cooking technologies.**
- **Last-mile distributor (kiosk) enablement through Small Enterprises.**

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- **Relevant appliances/technologies (stoves, cylinders, pots, etc.).**

2.3. Key Government Stakeholders within South Africa

- Department of Electricity and Energy (DEE), Department of Basic Education (DBE), Department of Forestry Fishery & the Environment (DFFE), the Department of Mineral, Petroleum Resources (DMPR), ESKOM and Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA).

3. Aspect of the project requiring support

This Expression of Interest (Eoi) seeks to mobilise support for the Legacy Project, starting with a project in South Africa and subsequently expanding to follow-on across Africa. Commitment in the following areas is requested:

- Commitment from organisations with active or planned projects in South Africa** that demonstrate impactful clean cooking interventions, highlighting infrastructure value chains required to accelerate the deployment of clean cooking. These could be explored to determine areas for collaboration to accelerate the adoption of clean cooking.
- Commitment from organisations to provide financial or in-kind support** for mobilising policy frameworks, providing technical assistance, investments, or private sector contribution, either within South Africa or more broadly.

4. Examples of types of support requested

The examples below illustrate the types of support that could be considered, though other proposals aligned with the objectives of the Legacy Project are equally welcome. The opportunities are categorised by the type of implementer:

a. Policymakers: Implement policies to support universal clean cooking access

- Mandate the use of clean cooking fuels and technologies in schools and integrate such requirements into nutrition and institutional feeding schemes under the Department of Basic Education to ensure sufficient budget for such an initiative.
- Simplify the licensing process for last-mile distributors (kiosks) by reducing administrative burdens and streamlining certification procedures.
- Explore VAT exemptions and reduced import tariffs on clean cooking equipment and fuels to ease costs for distributors and consumers.

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**b. Private sector, international governments, and multilateral development finance:
Commit new funding and finance for clean cooking**

- Finance clean cooking equipment installation and connection in schools.
- Make investments in clean cooking infrastructure within households and communities (e.g. develop bulk storage, distribution kiosks, clean cooking equipment manufacturing, etc.).
- Fund or provide in-kind support for clean cooking training
- Fund trained staff to be seconded to ministries to help implement clean cooking programmes and policies.
- Fund or provide in-kind technical assistance resources to support project preparation or development, or fund key knowledge products useful to support scale up (see below).
- Purchase high-quality carbon credits linked to specific projects that are supporting providing clean cooking in schools, households and communities.
- Create a dedicated clean cooking vehicle to channel finance to clean cooking investments in schools and households.

c. Implementing organisations, NGOs, academia, and civil society: Bridging the Knowledge Gap

- Establish and implement behaviour change campaigns.
- Develop curriculum for youth training and certification programmes (to become installers, fillers, etc.), and work to bring in unemployed volunteers into these programmes.
- Conduct a fiscal impact study on tax exemptions for clean cooking equipment and fuels to inform policy design and subsidy frameworks.
- Training Programmes to be rolled out in communities and schools

5. Response Timeline Expression of Interest

The request is for all stakeholder to express their interest in providing **funding or in-kind support** for the implementation of the Legacy Project on or before **[20 August 2025]**.

Please note, after all EOI submissions are received, a detailed proposal/request aligned to your area of support will be submitted to you.

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SECTION BELOW INCLUDE ANNEXURES TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERESTED PARTIES



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORMS FOR

ACTIVE OR PLANNED PROJECTS

Proposed **active or planned projects in South Africa** that demonstrate impactful clean cooking interventions, particularly those that address clean cooking infrastructure and value chains within schools and underserved communities. Stakeholders are encouraged to highlight ongoing or planned initiatives and indicate whether these could be featured in a video documentary showcasing success stories.

SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERESTED PARTIES

Contact	Details	
Name		
Position		
Organisation		
Telephone number		
E-mail		
Signature		Date:

#	Proposed active or planned project in South Africa – State Title	Description of project <i>(Add more rows as applicable)</i>
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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM FOR

FINANCIAL OR IN-KIND SUPPORT

Proposed offering of **financial or in in-kind support**, like mobilising policy frameworks, providing technical assistance, investments, or private sector contribution to scale successful models within South Africa or more broadly across the continent.

SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERESTED PARTIES

Contact	Details	
Name		
Position		
Organisation		
Telephone number		
E-mail		
Signature		Date:

#	Proposed Offering	Description of Offering <i>(Add more rows as applicable)</i>
1.	Awareness & Advocacy (including Community Engagement)	
2.	Engagement with government on regulatory aspects to unlock investment (VAT exemption, fiscal analysis, subsidy framework, impact on supply chain, etc.)	
3.	Infrastructure and Technologies (SMME in bulk storage, distribution, manufacturing, appliances, cylinders, etc.)	
4.	Capacity building , youth training and certification programme (installers, fillers etc.)	
5.	Others (Funds, project management, technical assistance etc.)	

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