

# Achieving Universal Energy Access: A development imperative in addressing climate change

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- Energy is essential for development– yet 1.2 billion people lack access to electricity and a billion more have service only intermittently
- Almost three billion people, rely on wood, coal, charcoal or animal waste for cooking and heating primarily on rudimentary stoves or open fires
- Smoke from polluting and inefficient cooking, lighting, and heating devices kills 4.3 million people a year and causes a range of acute and chronic illnesses and other health impacts
- Solutions exist, but need to be adopted, financed and scaled to help solve the multiple challenges of energy access
- Sustainable energy is also central to the post-2015 sustainable development agenda



*This event will showcase innovative approaches to reach the ambitious but achievable goal of universal energy access by 2030*

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