

EMBARGOED 0900 CET WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY



WLGA Calls for LPG to be Central to Global Energy Agenda at IEA Ministerial Meeting



Paris, France, 18 February 2026 – The World Liquid Gas Association (WLGA) will participate in International Energy Agency (IEA) Energy Access and Clean Cooking Ministerial Meetings taking place 18th -19th February in Paris, highlighting liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as the fastest scalable pathway to universal clean cooking access across the developing world.

The Ministerial High-Level Dialogue on Advancing Energy Access and Clean Cooking Solutions chaired by the Netherlands' Deputy Prime Minister Sophie Hermans, serves as a critical milestone following the landmark 2024 Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa. Since then:

- US \$470 million has been disbursed across 22 African countries to accelerate the deployment of clean cooking fuels, with US \$2.2 billion pledged.
- LPG has driven around 70% of global clean-cooking gains since 2010. It is abundant, affordable, and deployable today, unlike large-scale electrification and many alternative energy solutions.
- Approximately 900 million Africans still lack access to clean cooking fuels, resulting in severe health impacts (particularly for women and children), widespread deforestation, and substantial losses in economic productivity. Roughly four in five people in Africa and 90% of schools relying on firewood or charcoal for cooking,

WLGA's CEO James Rockall, will join global energy leaders including Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director, IEA and the Hon. Chris Wright, Secretary of Energy, United States at the Ministerial, which serves as a prelude to the second Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa set to take place 9th and 10th July in Nairobi, Kenya. Discussions will focus on identifying priority policy, financing, and delivery actions that may be translated into Government or private sector commitments, to be presented at the next Summit.

James Rockall, Managing Director and CEO, World Liquid Gas Association, said:

“Over 25 countries and 23 organisations are attending these Ministerial Meetings at the IEA underscoring the urgency of this foundational issue for Africa and the world.

LPG has driven approximately 70% of global clean-cooking gains since 2010 and if we are to get serious about universal access to clean cooking solutions by 2030 then we need to move faster. If we align policy, regulation, and finance, we can move millions of households off traditional fuels within this decade – not in 2040. The industry stands ready to deliver. The question is whether policy will move at the same speed as the need.”

WLGA will convene the global LPG industry in Istanbul 12 – 16 October under the theme ‘Resilience in a Changing World’ with Dr. Fatih Birol, set to deliver the keynote speech.

The IEA's World Energy Outlook released in November 2025, reveals that progress on clean cooking access has decelerated in recent years. While 100 million people gained access to clean cooking in 2023, this represents a decline from 120 million in 2019. Accelerating this rate of change is crucial, as household air pollution from traditional cooking methods causes premature deaths and transitioning to clean cooking solutions could reduce these fatalities by nearly two-thirds globally by 2040.

In the Global South LPG offers a clean and cost-effective energy solution to communities deprived of access to grid electricity. This transformative fuel humanises access to energy, creating substantial benefits for over a billion people, primarily women and girls, who

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reside in areas where reliance on unsustainable biomass and other hazardous fuels for cooking persists. This not only contributes to mitigating climate change but also enhances overall quality of life.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The World Liquid Gas Association (WLGA) is the authoritative voice for the global Liquid Gas industry, representing the full Liquid Gas value chain. The primary goal of the association is to add value to the sector by driving premium demand for Liquid Gas, while also promoting compliance to good business and safety practices. With over 300 members in 125 countries, the association brings together private and public companies involved in one, several or all activities of the industry, develops long-term partnerships with international organisations, and implements projects on local and global scales.

In 2024, the WLGA launched a new roadmap ([here](#)) to expand access to clean cooking solutions across Africa by increasing availability of LPG. The roadmap was authored by S&P Global Commodity Insights, and commissioned by the Cooking For Life Africa Task Force (CFLA), an industry initiative established in 2024 as a platform for the LPG industry to participate in the first IEA Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa. It continues to serve as a focal point for member companies interested in expanding access to LPG across sub-Saharan Africa. CFLA includes Worthington Enterprises, Makeen Energy, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Oryx Energies, Petredec, S&P Global, SHV Energy, and Total Energies.