

POLLUTING FUELS IN THE HOUSEHOLD



+ Impact goal

Elimination as a public health problem

+ Elimination target

<5% of the population depends on the use of polluting fuels in the household

Action steps to achieve elimination

Best buys

① Intersectoral coordination for clean energy:

- Integrate clean fuel policies into national health, environment, and energy agendas.
- Strengthen cross-sector partnerships to accelerate the energy transition and reduce the use of polluting fuels, such as wood, charcoal, or kerosene.

② Adopt and enforce clean energy regulations:

- Develop and implement policies and regulations that promote the use of clean fuels and technologies for cooking and heating, such as electricity, solar, and biogas.

③ Use evidence-based tools to drive national strategies:

- Implement the Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit (CHEST) to enhance technical capacity, guide policy formulation, and improve clean energy program delivery.
- Apply the Benefits of Action to Reduce Household Air Pollution (BAR-HAP) tool to design evidence-based national strategies, quantify health benefits, and evaluate the cost-effectiveness of interventions.

④ Enhance pollution surveillance and health monitoring:

- Integrate information systems to assess household air pollution exposure and its health impacts.

More information

· World Health Organization. Clean household energy policy and programme planning guide. Geneva: WHO; 2023. Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240070202>.

· World Health Organization. The Global Health Observatory. SDG Indicator 7.12: Proportion of population with primary reliance on polluting fuels and technologies for cooking. Geneva: WHO; 2025 [cited 10 April 2025]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/gho-phe-population-with-primary-reliance-on-polluting-fuels-and-technologies-for-cooking-proportion>.

· World Health Organization. Defining clean fuels and technologies. Geneva: WHO; [c2025] [cited 10 April 2025]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/tools/clean-household-energy-solutions-toolkit/module-7-defining-clean>.



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