

Household Energy Policy Repository: An Overview

The World Health Organisation's [Household Energy Policy Repository](#) is an online clearinghouse for national, regional, and local policies, regulations, and legislation affecting household energy use at the national, regional, and local levels. It includes information on policy objectives, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E), as well as independent impact assessments of the policies where available. The Repository has policies targeting a range of clean fuels and technologies including electricity, liquefied petroleum gas, biogas, solar thermal and photovoltaic, and ethanol, as well as biomass pellet stoves^[1]. The catalogue is part of WHO's [Clean Household Energy Solutions Toolkit \(CHEST\)](#), which provides tools to support practitioners and policy-makers in developing and evaluating policies that promote clean household energy use. Policy-makers and other stakeholders can use the Repository to explore how countries have implemented certain policies and understand the challenges that were encountered, which will help inform the design of their own policies.

The Repository focuses on policies that have been implemented since 2010 and includes policies from countries in all WHO regions. Compiling the Repository involved an expansive web search for potential policies and evaluations, as well as a series of expert consultations. The policies rely on a range of instruments including:

- **financial measures** like taxes, subsidies, or voucher programmes
- **regulatory instruments** such as limits or bans on specific fuels, technologies, or activities
- **trade policies** such as adjusting import duties or entering into regional trade agreements
- **direct investments** in activities such as research and development, grid expansion, or other infrastructure
- developing **codes or standards** for energy efficiency or emissions
- **information campaigns** to raise awareness and induce behavioural change.



A woman prepares food with a solar cooker in Bandiagara, Mali.
Joerg Boethling / Alamy Stock Photo



Ethanol stove and fuel currently marketed in Kenya and Tanzania. Consumer's Choice, Ltd.

Users can easily view policies of interest in the Repository by making queries through 18 different filters including geography, policy type, energy end use, energy type, technology, or whether evidence of impact is available. The Repository is also searchable using general keywords. Users can view policy details, download policy documents, and access the original website featuring the policy. Independent evaluations of some policies in the Repository are also available, although these may require a subscription or purchase to view. The evaluations describe outcomes of policy implementation, including examples of successes and failures, which provide valuable lessons for the design of future policies.

The Repository is designed to grow and evolve and will continue to be populated as other policies are identified or implemented. Readers can suggest corrections or submit policies or other government-led initiatives for addition to the Repository using an online form [2]. Similarly, readers can submit new independent evaluations or corrections to existing evaluations using another online form [3]. By making information about existing household energy policies more accessible, the WHO Repository can help facilitate the design of successful policies to increase access to and use of clean household energy, ultimately improving air quality and health for the billions of people affected by household air pollution around the world.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [1] Clean household fuels and technologies include solar, electric, biogas, natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), and alcohol as well as pellets when burned in devices that meet WHO guidelines at <https://www.who.int/tools/clean-household-energy-solutions-toolkit/module-7-defining-clean>.
- [2] Readers can access the form to suggest new policies at this link: <https://forms.gle/yTtbYBcoHZ2waHpn8>.
- [3] Readers can access the form to suggest new evaluations at this link: <https://forms.gle/RNLeFimSs2FiS37C6>.



Modern pellet stove for home heating.
Stefan Ember / Alamy Stock Photo



A government worker promotes Ecuador's induction cooker program in the city of Guayaquil.
César Muñoz/ANDES

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Repository at
<http://householdenergypolicies.org/>

Email householdenergy@who.int

WHO's CHEST Toolkit
<https://www.who.int/tools/clean-household-energy-solutions-toolkit>

