

LPG: An immediate local contribution to the global challenge of climate change

The global community will come together in Sharm el-Sheikh in November 2022 for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP27 negotiations. These crucial meetings, hosted by Egypt and building on 2021's landmark COP26 meetings in Glasgow, provide a critical opportunity to collectively address the challenges of climate change. The LPG industry stands ready to do its part.

The focus areas for this meeting will include the promise of innovation and clean technologies as well as the centrality of water and agriculture to the climate crisis. The role of science will also be highlighted in addition to the energy transition, decarbonisation efforts and the perennial topic of finance.

To this purpose the global LPG industry is committed to ensure that the communities, businesses, industries, agricultural and transportation solutions that it supports with a lower carbon, clean, and alternative fuel are not left behind in the implementation of the original Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact. LPG also plays a crucial role in achieving the targets set by the global community in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Moreover, the LPG industry is determined that increased energy access, improved air quality and related health impacts of energy choices are accounted for in local energy and climate plans as well as in governments' economic strategies to ensure that these are truly sustainable for both planet and people.

Today, LPG is an essential source of low carbon energy for billions of people across the world. Served by an agile and resilient supply chain, it can effectively contribute towards achieving low carbon targets while ensuring that no one is left behind in the global energy transition.

In the developing world LPG plays a fundamental role by reducing reliance on biomass for cooking and heating and providing clean, affordable energy to communities that lack access to grid energy. It humanises energy by adding greater value to the world especially for over a billion people, principally women and girls, in regions that still rely on unsustainable biomass and other dirty and dangerous fuels for cooking thus addressing climate change and improving quality of life.

In developed markets LPG fuels thousands of applications from road transport to industrial facilities. Also, the promise of renewable LPG (rLPG) offers a pathway to a zero-carbon. rLPG when combined with innovative efficient technologies such as Micro CHP, fuel cells, hybrid heat pumps or when used to support hybrid renewable energy systems will result in near zero emissions making it an important element in achieving national net zero objectives. Other fuels being developed by the LPG industry such renewable dimethyl ether or rDME which can be produced from municipal solid waste will assist the industry to participate in the circular economy.

The World LPG Association (WLPGA), regional and national LPG industries are committed to jointly address the global challenge of climate change by working in cooperation within the UNFCCC process on the objectives laid out in the Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact. Through collective action the sector can ensure that LPG and rLPG are recognised as a low carbon, available and accessible fuels which have a role to play in helping the global community ensure that the discussions during COP27 are fruitful and successful.

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