

Liquid Gas: An immediate contribution to the global challenge of climate change

In December 2023, the international community will come together in Dubai for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP28 negotiations. These crucial meetings, hosted for the first time by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and coming just after the release of the first Global Stocktake, the main mechanism through which progress under the Paris Agreement is assessed, provide a critical opportunity to collectively address the challenges of climate change. The Liquid Gas industry stands ready to do its part.

It is important to not lose sight of the continued role of conventional fuels for maintaining and improving standards of living, particularly in parts of the Global South. Striking the delicate balance between these two prerequisites, sits at the very heart of delivering a just transition for all – and not least the 1.7 billion people the International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates are living self-sufficiently with no access to public utilities.

The global Liquid Gas 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. Today, Liquid Gas 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, Liquid Gas plays a pivotal role in reducing dependency on biomass for cooking and heating. It offers a clean, cost-effective, and portable energy solution to communities deprived of access to grid electricity. This transformative energy humanises access to energy, creating substantial benefits for over a billion people, primarily women and girls, who 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.

In developed markets, Liquid Gas fuels thousands of applications from road transport to industrial facilities. Also, the promise of renewable Liquid Gas (rLG) offers a pathway to a lower carbon future while leveraging existing infrastructure. Renewable Liquid Gas is created from renewable and waste materials – including various oils, agricultural residues, municipal solid waste and other vegetable matter as well as recycled carbon. Feedstocks are abundant and can be aligned with local market needs and availability of products. The World LPG Association (WLPGA) as a founding member of the Global Biofuels Alliance supports increasing investment and supporting the development of renewable Liquid Gas and all pathways to a lower carbon future.

WLPGA and regional and national Liquid Gas 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 Liquid Gas and renewable Liquid Gas 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 COP28 are fruitful and successful.

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