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Per Heggenes, CEO

IKEA Foundation

Hello everyone

Thanks for giving us the floor to share our views on the critical importance of access to energy for the poor.

At the IKEA Foundation we work to improve the lives of children and young families living in vulnerable communities.

We believe the **two** largest threats to children's future are climate change and poverty.

Hence - investing in access to renewable energy for these families will not only help improve livelihood opportunities and increase family incomes – but also help reduce GHG emissions.

Together we have an historic opportunity to design a global road map for the achievement of SDG7 and agree bold actions to ensure access to clean and affordable energy services for all by 2030.

This Summer, the Rockefeller Foundation and the IKEA Foundation announced an historic \$1 billion initiative to catalyze investments in distributed renewable energy. This will be officially launched at COP26.

Through this initiative, we can potentially reduce 1 billion tons of greenhouse gas emissions and improve 1 billion lives in countries that need it the most in South East Asia, Latin America & Sub-Saharan Africa.

We can achieve this for example by replacing diesel generators and coal-fired grids with renewable alternatives.

And prevent new fossil-fuel-fired power plants to be built.

To make this happen, we need to bring together governments, DFI's and the private sector to join us in our collective ambition.

Decisive action is what is required now.

I invite you to be part of this historic opportunity to tackle the climate crisis and positively impact the lives of 1 billion people.

Let's do this together!