

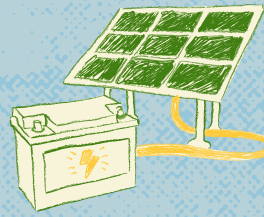
# Energy: Energy Poverty and Sustainability

Energy and health are inextricably linked. Access to clean, sustainable and affordable energy, outlined in the seventh Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 7), plays a crucial role in advancing health (SDG 3).



**Energy poverty:** the lack of access to sustainable modern energy services and products

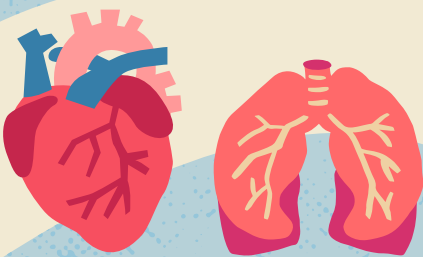
This is very evident in households and healthcare facilities, especially in low and middle-income countries.



Access to clean and sustainable energy is important, especially to protect from household pollution (which highly impacts disease prevention and treatment)



About 2.4 billion people still cook with solid fuels, which contributes to household pollution, which contains and spreads several health damaging pollutants.



Household pollution from these energy sources are responsible for ambient (outdoor) air pollution.

How is all this related to the **Sustainable Development Goals?**

- Women and children are disproportionately affected
- Gathering fuel puts people at an increased risk of injury
- Gathering limits time and productivity that could be spent in education
- the climate is negatively affected; pollution contaminates air and waters

**What can we do to help?**

- Recycle, reuse, reduce;
- Reduce inequalities in access to sustainable energy sources;
- Teach about the issues of energy poverty and the need to use other energy sources, to achieve a more literate and aware society;
- Drive policy makers to ensure people can access fuels that are clean.

