

## Efficiency for Access Design Challenge Download: March 2024



Welcome to the March 2024 edition of the Efficiency for Access Design Challenge newsletter. Come with us as we delve into the stories and innovations that define our global journey towards clean energy access, sustainable technologies, and responsible engineering practices.

If you have ideas to share or simply want to connect, please reach out to us at [eforachallenge@est.org.uk](mailto:eforachallenge@est.org.uk).

### Challenge News

#### Challenge updates

The Concept Note deadline has now passed, marking the official close of entry to the 2023-2024 Challenge. We're excited to officially welcome all of our teams on to the Challenge. Through their Concept Notes, our student teams have outlined their chosen appliance and design context. You can review this year's concept notes [here](#). As we approach the final submission deadline in April, students will be attending webinars, meeting with their mentors, starting working on their prototypes, and meticulously refining their designs from every angle.

*"The Efficiency for Access Design Challenge programme has helped me as an educator to engage and interact more with students, and also improve interaction among students themselves in learning, particularly in conceptualising a problem and navigating approaches on how we find an alternative solution to the problem faced by customers, in this case farmers. The programme helps me to learn how to help students to conceptualise the problem and apply their ideas to the needs of the customers. I hope this hands-on learning will help our students in the programme to better fit in the job market after they graduate."* **Dr John Musemakweri, Lecturer at the University of Rwanda**

#### Prototypes Showcase 2022-2023

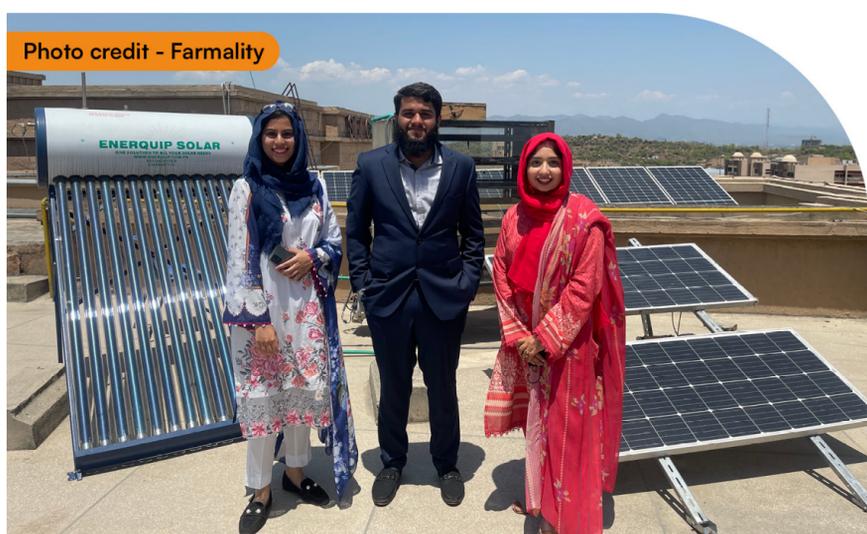
What does the future of clean energy access in the Global South look like? We're excited to share our Efficiency for Access Design Challenge Prototype Showcase 2022-2023, unveiling the prototypes our students from last year's Challenge have designed.

With the support of Transforming Energy Access and IKEA Foundation, we provided grant funding for our participants to develop their designs into prototypes.

See our students' creativity come to life as they seek to address challenges facing their communities. [Watch the showcase here](#).

We eagerly anticipate the development of this year's Challenge participants' designs, from paper to prototype.

#### Solar-powered Success Story: Farmality



Follow Farmality's journey from concept to business.

Originating from the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) in Pakistan, this student team developed a solar-powered dehydrating system to combat food waste and empower small-scale farmers.

After scooping the silver award at the 2021-2022 Efficiency for Access Design Challenge, their prototype evolved into a fully operational solar dryer, now benefitting a farmer in Multan.

[Explore their challenges and achievements in the full story.](#)

### Efficiency for Access Coalition News

#### Empowerment through Appliances: Insights from the Humanitarian Energy Sector

We're delighted to introduce the first publication of our new research series, "Empowerment through appliances: Insights from the humanitarian energy sector."

This study fills a crucial research gap, spotlighting off-grid and weak-grid electrifying appliance companies serving this sector across the Global South. By amplifying their voices, the report provides insights into their experiences, business models, funding sources, and challenges.

[Uncover the untold stories from the heart of humanitarian energy in the full report.](#)

#### We're attending the TEA Forum 2024

We're excited to announce our participation in the Transforming Energy Access Forum.

When: Wednesday 13 March

Where: Track C, Marriott Hotel, Kigali

This forum brings together innovators, investors and policymakers from across the energy access sector. It aims to foster networking and collaboration opportunities, encourage knowledge sharing, and spotlight advancements in clean energy access solutions.

Participants from the Efficiency for Access Design Challenge, from the University of Rwanda, will be travelling from their campus in Nyagatare to Kigali to attend the forum.

Our dedicated team will be hosting two insightful sessions. [Find out more on our website.](#)

### News from Our Network

## Shortlist

Africa Climate Careers Network (ACCN) is an inclusive community that provides access to jobs, events, peers, and mentors to help professionals in Africa transition into the Clean Energy and Climate sectors. Whether you're a seasoned environmental enthusiast or just starting to dip your toes into the world of climate science, ACCN platform is designed to cater to everyone's curiosity. Applications to participate are open to all [here](#).

Shortlist partners are also recruiting for various roles. Have a look at the list [here](#).

### The Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chain (ACES)

ACES is a first-of-its-kind Centre dedicated to sustainable, smart cold-chain, cooling and postharvest management. The 4.8 hectare main campus in Kigali, is hosted by the University of Rwanda in Kigali in collaboration with Rwanda Polytechnic (IPRC). Specialised Outreach and Knowledge Establishments (SPOKES) are being rolled out throughout Africa to deploy ACES solutions in real-world settings; the first of these is in Kenya.

The programme is developed by the Governments of Rwanda and the United Kingdom (UK), the United Nations Environment Programme and the UK's Centre for Sustainable Cooling leading a consortium of leading UK universities. The University of Rwanda is also involved with more than \$20M of seed investment committed by the UK, Rwanda Governments and industry, alongside the campus and physical infrastructure. We provide training, research and real-world solutions for sustainable food and pharma cold chains.

[Please visit ACES webpage for more information.](#)

### DT Global

Under the FCDO-funded High Volume Transport (HVT) Applied Research Programme, DT Global undertook a limited scoping study to define the needs and scope of potential support within the transport sector by FCDO Ghana or other donors to the Government of Ghana. [Find the publication here.](#)

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#### Funded by



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The Efficiency for Access Coalition is coordinated jointly by CLASP, an international appliance energy efficiency and market development specialist not-for-profit organisation, and UK's Energy Saving Trust, which specialises in energy efficiency product verification, data and insight, advice, and research.