

LPG as a Catalyst for Nigeria's Energy Transition: Replacing Biomass and Kerosene for Cleaner Cooking

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1. Introduction

- The title resonates with Nigeria's *Decade of Gas* and global commitments to energy transition and cleaner fuels.

Do you know that:

- *Over 100,000 Nigerians die annually from indoor air pollution caused by firewood and kerosene cooking.*
- The Emotional impact of LPG goes beyond technical infrastructure to touch people's lives - especially women and children affected by indoor air pollution.
- There is a heavy reliance on biomass fuels.
- Urban adoption of LPG is rising, and rural penetration is low.
- LPG consumption is less than 1.5 million MT annually compared to a potential of 5 million MT.
- High dependence on imports despite vast gas reserves.
- LPG = cleaner, safer, and more sustainable option
- LPG is not just a fuel, but a **health, economic, and environmental solution.**

2. Current Realities of Cooking Energy in Nigeria

- Over **70% of households** still rely on biomass (firewood, charcoal) and kerosene.

Biomass

- Biomass is basically natural stuff people burn to cook or get heat.
- In Nigeria, it usually means firewood, charcoal, or even dried farm waste like corn stalks or sawdust.

- It is cheap and available in villages and towns.
- But the smoke from burning it causes coughing, eye irritation, and long-term lung problems. It also leads to more tree cutting (deforestation).
- To a common man: Biomass is simply firewood or charcoal - the traditional fuels many households use to cook

Kerosene

- Kerosene is a liquid fuel made from crude oil.
- Many Nigerians know it as the fuel used in the “Abacha stove” or lantern.
- It burns cleaner than firewood but still produces smoke and fumes that can harm health if used indoors.
- It is also becoming expensive and harder to find since the government removed subsidies.
- To a common person: Kerosene is the liquid fuel we pour into stoves and lanterns, not as smoky as firewood, but still harmful and costly

The problem with both:

- They harm our health, especially the health of women and children who cook indoors.
- They are bad for the environment (cutting trees, releasing harmful gases).
- They waste time and money compared to cleaner fuels like LPG (cooking gas).

3. Why LPG Matters for Energy Transition

- **Health benefits:** Reduction of smoke-related illnesses (respiratory diseases, eye problems).
- **Environmental benefits:** Cuts deforestation and reduces carbon emissions.
- **Economic benefits:** Job creation across the LPG value chain (storage, distribution, retail).
- **Gender impact:** Reduces drudgery for women, freeing up time for education/business.

4. Key Challenges

- **The four As:** Availability, Accessibility, Affordability, and Awareness
- **Infrastructure:** Insufficient storage, bottling plants, and last-mile distribution.
- **Pricing volatility:** Driven by forex fluctuations and reliance on imports.
- **Policy inconsistencies:** subsidy issues, changes to import duties, and a lack of harmonisation.

- **Safety concerns:** Cylinder circulation, poor handling, and accidents discourage adoption.

5. Opportunities Ahead

- **Decade of Gas Initiative:** Strong government backing to expand domestic gas utilisation.
- **Private sector investment:** Modular storage plants, cylinder manufacturing, and distribution hubs.
- **Technology & innovation:** Digital payment systems, smart metering, and tracking to improve safety and adoption.
- **CSR/Development programs:** Using LPG penetration as part of SDG goals (health, environment, gender equity).
- **International Energies Academy certified LPG professionals**

6. Collaboration Imperatives

Highlights the need for government, private sector, and community collaboration in distribution, financing, and awareness campaigns

- **Government:** Provide enabling policies, reduce tariffs, and ensure consistent pricing frameworks.
- **Investors & Marketers:** Invest in storage, cylinders, retail stations, and innovative financing (pay-as-you-use LPG).
- **Communities & NGOs:** Drive awareness campaigns on benefits and safety.
- **International Partners:** Green financing, climate funding for clean cooking initiatives.

7. Case for Urgency

- LPG is a **bridge fuel** for Nigeria's energy transition.
- Benefits cut across **health, economy, gender, and environment**.
- Every delay keeps millions dependent on harmful fuels.

8. Conclusion & Call to Action

- LPG can drive Nigeria's **cleaner, safer, and more inclusive future**.
- The challenge requires **collaboration at all levels**.

- Energy transition is not only about renewables but also about the reality of cleaner, safer cooking for millions today.
- LPG is not just a fuel, but a **bridge energy** for Nigeria's transition to a cleaner, sustainable future
- **Call to action:** *“If we succeed in making LPG the fuel of choice for Nigerian households, we will not only improve health and protect our environment but also unlock new economic opportunities for our people. **The time to act is now.**”*

Thank You

- *Questions & Discussion*
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