

Energy Solutions for Displacement Settings (ESDS Kenya)

Support to UNHCR in the implementation of the **Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)** in the **Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (SUN)**

Background

The BMZ commissioned global programme **“Support to UNHCR in the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus”**, SUN, implemented by the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), seeks to support UNHCR as a facilitator of the GCR in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace-Nexus. The GCR represents the political will and ambition of the international community to strengthen cooperation and solidarity with refugees and affected host communities and countries. Its key objectives are to:

- Ease the pressure on host countries.
- Enhance refugee self-reliance.
- Expand access to third-country solutions.
- Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

The SUN programme is part of the German Special Initiative “Tackling the Root Causes of Displacement, (Re-)integrating Refugees”. It currently implements projects with UNHCR in specific displacement settings (Ethiopia, Kenya, Mexico, Niger, Rwanda and Uganda), provides advisory services to UNHCR on a global level, and supports UNHCR in creating and mainstreaming knowledge on the operationalization of the GCR.

Project Information

Project Name	Energy Solutions for Displacement Settings (ESDS) – Kenya
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Locality	Turkana West Sub-County
Partner	Ministry of Energy & Petroleum (MoEP)
Duration	August 2019 – December 2024

ESDS Kenya is implemented in Turkana County which hosts approx. 252,266 refugees in Kakuma Camp and Kalobeyi Settlement (UNHCR Kenya, January 2023). The objective of the project is to strengthen Turkana County Government (TCG) in the implementation of Kalobeyi Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (KISEDIP) focusing on access to sustainable and affordable energy solutions through promotion of market-based approaches.

Project Approach

1. Improving the policy framework

The project is providing advisory to; strengthen TCG structures to integrate energy needs of refugees into local development plans and policies; integrate service delivery structures for refugees into the national system; intensify the coordination of energy stakeholders. Capacity development is provided to strengthen TCG in

assuming its role in steering, implementing and maintaining renewable energy solutions in the County.

Activities and Achievements

- Finalization of draft Turkana County Energy Plan, incorporating refugee energy needs completed and submitted to TCG for approval.
- Development of an inclusive draft Turkana County Energy Policy.
- 59 County officers and facility managers trained on effective policy development, project management, energy efficiency and conservation measures.

2. Greening infrastructure in displacement settings

ESDS project seeks to implement best practices for the replacement of diesel generators that power humanitarian operations, to allow for cost and energy savings. Advisory services are provided to UNHCR on engineering, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance of renewable energy infrastructure as well as viable business models to sustain green and energy efficient operations.

Activities and Achievements

- Energy load assessment of UNHCR Kakuma and adjacent humanitarian compounds and sizing of the appropriate solar PV systems completed.
- Technical designs and specifications, energy efficiency studies and financial modelling for greening of UNHCR infrastructure completed.
- Advisory to UNHCR on solarization of health facilities and field posts has been provided.

3. Increasing energy access for refugees and host communities

Kenya's access to electricity stands at over 75%, but off-grid counties like Turkana have access rates as low as 20%, and even less in refugee camps and settlements. The ESDS project promotes improved access to clean, reliable and affordable electricity through market-based approaches, benefiting both refugees and host communities. This is achieved through advisory to private sector; promoting productive use of energy and de-risking mechanisms to attract investments in displacement contexts.

Activities and Achievements

- Feasibility studies conducted in Kalobeyei and Kakuma to support development or expansion of existing solar mini grids.
- Technical advisory, environmental and social impact assessment provided to one private developer towards the expansion of Kalobeyei settlement solar mini-grid generation infrastructure from 60kWp to 541kWp.
- Expansion of the power distribution network in Kalobeyei settlement completed enabling access by 2,200 new connections.



Households, businesses and institutions connected to electricity supply from Kalobeyei settlement mini grid. © GIZ Kenya, 2022

Issuer	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) Referat 501
Status	05/2023
Contact	RL110@bmz.bund.de www.bmz.de
Address	BMZ Berlin Stresemannstraße 94 10963 Berlin T +49 (0)30 18 535-0 BMZ Bonn Dahlmannstraße 4 53113 Bonn T +49 (0)228 99 535-0

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
www.giz.de

Location of the Agency
Nairobi, Kenya

Hanna Salian
Project Manager
hanna.salian@giz.de

Jackson Mutonga
Team Leader, ESDS Kenya
jackson.mutonga@giz.de