

## 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)

The BMZ commissioned global programme “**Support to UNHCR in the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus**”, 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.



Kaapoka Health Centre in Kakuma, one of the facilities solarized by UNHCR. © GIZ Kenya, 2023

### Project Information

Project name	Support to UNHCR in the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) in the Humanitarian–Development–Peace Nexus (SUN)
Project component	Energy Solutions for Displacement Settings (ESDS) – Kenya
Donor	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Locality	Turkana West Sub-County
Partner	Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP)
Duration	July 2019 – December 2024

Energy Solutions for Displacement Settings (ESDS) in Kenya is implemented in Turkana County which hosts approx. 283,112 refugees and asylum seekers in Kakuma Camp and Kalobeyi Settlement (UNHCR Kenya, March 2024). The objective of the project is to strengthen Turkana County Government (TCG) in the implementation of Kalobeyi Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (KISEDPA) 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 services 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; and enhance local capacity for policy formulation and deployment of renewable energy systems.

### Activities and Achievements

- Finalization of draft Turkana County Energy Plan 2020 to 2025, incorporating refugee energy needs completed and handed over to TCG for approval.
- Draft Turkana County Energy Policy 2022 completed handed over for approval.
- 60 County policy makers and technical officers trained on effective policy development, project management, energy efficiency and conservation measures.
- Development of Diploma and Certificate curriculum in Renewable Energy Technologies in partnership with an academic institution in Turkana completed.

## 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, and viable business models to sustain green and energy efficient operations.

### Activities and Achievements

- Energy load assessment, system sizing, technical specifications, and financial modelling of solar PV system to power UNHCR operations in Kakuma completed.
- Advisory services to UNHCR Kakuma sub-office on solarization of facilities and field posts provided.
- Energy Efficiency and Awareness training of 45 facility managers and technicians at UNHCR solarized facilities completed.

## 3. Increasing energy access for refugees and host communities

The ESDS project promotes improved access to clean, reliable and affordable electricity by refugees and host communities, through market-based approaches. This is achieved through technical assistance to private sector mini grid developers; collaboration with partners in promoting productive use of energy; and advisory on de-risking mechanisms to attract investments.

### Activities and Achievements

- Two feasibility studies conducted to support private sector development or expansion of existing solar mini grids.
- Technical advisory provided towards the expansion of Kalobeyei settlement solar mini-grid generation infrastructure to 541kWp by a private developer.
- Expansion of power distribution network completed in Kalobeyei settlement, and 2,221 additional households, businesses and social institutions electrified.
- Productive use of energy awareness campaigns targeting vendors and end-users in Kakuma and Kalobeyei completed.

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