



Improved cooking solutions in humanitarian settings: Ensuring access for the most vulnerable

Background on the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

PROBLEM

Every day,
3 BILLION
PEOPLE
(500 million households)
rely on solid fuels to
power their rudimentary
stoves



which leads to...

- 4,300,000 deaths annually
- Wasted productivity
- Climate, forestry & other environmental degradation
- 21% of global black carbon emissions
- Health & economic burdens that disproportionately impact women & girls



MISSION

- SAVE LIVES
- IMPROVE LIVELIHOODS
- EMPOWER WOMEN
- PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT



GOAL



100
MILLION
HOUSEHOLDS
ADOPT CLEAN AND
EFFICIENT
COOKSTOVES &
FUELS BY 2020

Lack of access to cooking solutions impacts crisis-affected populations in many serious ways...



Protection

- Displaced women walk for hours to find firewood and carry very heavy loads back to camp leading to risks of dehydration, physical injury, and attack.
- When they leave the relatively safety of the camp, they face an increased vulnerability to the risk of gender-based violence, such as rape.

Health

- Open cooking fires can increase burns and devastating fires, which can spread quickly and cause widespread damage in the camps.
- Boiling water insufficiently to save fuel can lead to consumption of contaminated water.
- Scarcity of cooking fuel may force households to switch to lower quality food, eat fewer meals, undercook food, or trade food rations for fuel.
- Exposure to household air pollution kills 4 million people every year.

Environmental Degradation

- Harvesting of firewood for cooking fuel contributes to deforestation, soil erosion, and loss of agricultural and grazing environments.
- Deforestation and erosion of land increases the risk of natural disasters. It also degrades arable land, reducing yields.
- Environmental impacts exacerbate tensions between humanitarian populations and host communities.

Unsustainable Livelihoods

- Firewood and charcoal sales are often the only source of income for refugees and IDPs.
- Environmental degradation caused by fuel collection can seriously hamper livelihood opportunities for both agricultural and pastoralist communities.

The Alliance co-chairs the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) in humanitarian settings Steering Committee.

Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) is a cross-sectoral issue in humanitarian response. SAFE activities are those that improve access to fuel and energy for cooking, lighting, heating, or powering among crisis-affected populations.

The consortium of organizations that coordinate SAFE activities is called the **SAFE Steering Committee**. Current members include the Alliance, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, Women's Refugee Commission, International Lifeline Fund, Mercy Corps, ProAct, and more.

The SAFE Steering Committee strategy is focused on 6 pillars to ensure a coordinated, predictable, effective response for energy needs in humanitarian settings.

Pillar 1: Coordinate the sector and share information

Pillar 2: Commission research and build evidence

Pillar 3: Provide technical support, tools, and guidance for implementation

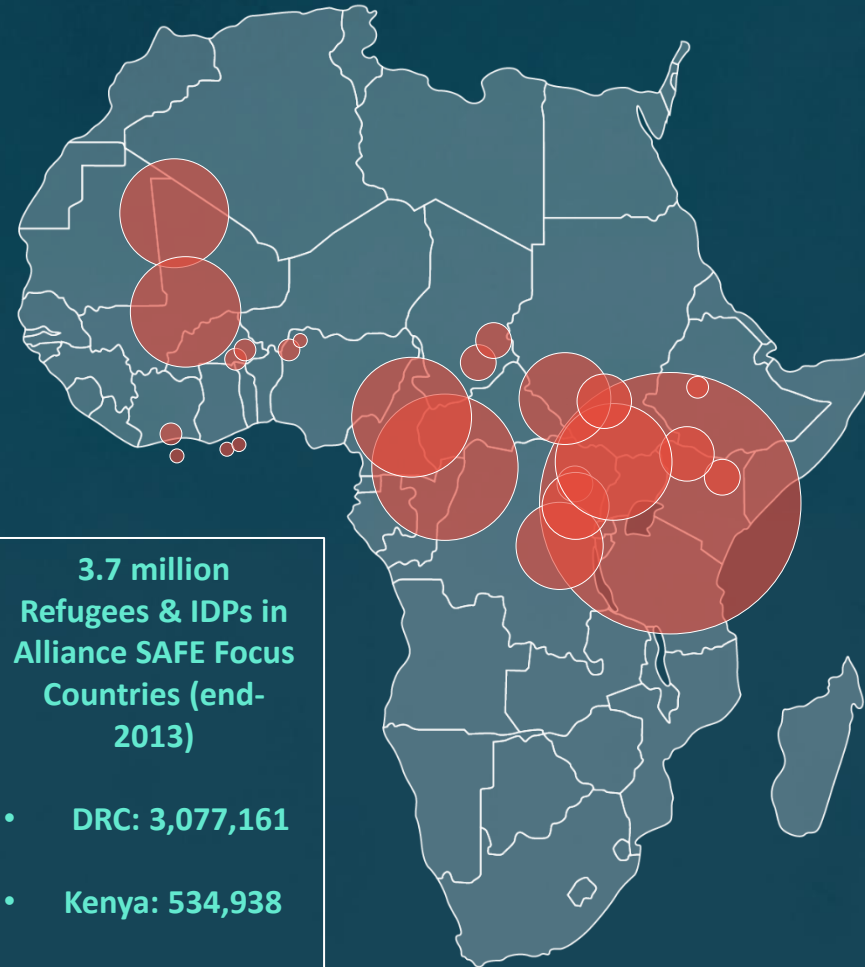
Pillar 4: Build human resource capacity

Pillar 5: Advocate for the sector

Pillar 6: Mobilize resources

Alliance humanitarian target for Phase 2 - 1 million crisis-affected households gain access to safe fuel and energy by 2017

- **51.2 million** forcibly displaced people in the world
 - *3.7 million of these are refugees and IDPs in 3 Alliance focus countries*
 - *6.3 million more are in 14 other SAFE partner countries*
- Interim target of **1 million households** (5 million people) in humanitarian contexts with access to cooking solutions by 2017
- Alliance SAFE focus countries are Kenya, Rwanda and DRC



Snapshot of Alliance activities for Phase 2

- Train 300 humanitarian field staff to scale and strengthen energy approaches
- Advocate for the sector:
 - Have SAFE recognized as part of the UN humanitarian response system.
 - Include energy in OCHA's Consolidated Appeals Process and Flash Appeals
 - Increase budget allocations for energy in SAFE Steering Committee
 - SAFE integrated into rapid assessment tools (Nepal response)
 - Ensure Sphere Project standards on fuel-efficient stoves, fuel, and lighting are being met
- Mobilize \$10 million in resources
- Coordinate humanitarian energy sector (avoid duplication, share learnings, and leverage expertise)
- Conduct research on most effective approaches for reducing GBV vulnerability
- Identify minimum technology standards for cookstove selection



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