

Factsheet

Sustainable Energy

 Division for Peace



Thematic Areas

- Planning and coordination.
- Policy, advocacy and host community resilience.
- Innovative finance and funding.
- Technical expertise and capacity building.
- Data, research and evidence.



Our Services

- Coordination of priority activities in the GPA Workplan.
- Knowledge exchange webinars.
- Solution-oriented workshops.
- Capacity building.
- Data harmonisation.
- Decarbonisation of humanitarian operations.
- Evidence based research.



Credit: Edoardo Santangelo/Practical Action

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – a specialized training agency of the United Nations – supports the (re-) establishment of peaceful, just and inclusive societies (SDG 16) by enabling individuals and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace. UNITAR promotes the global commitment of ‘leave no one behind’ by facilitating the achievement of SDG7 for displaced people around the world.

With over 60 years of experience in capacity building, we provide customised, creative and results-based learning solutions, carefully crafted for countries and communities emerging from conflict and facing specific development needs. At the core of our success is our specific methodology that allows for the creation of powerful and inspiring spaces, products and services (online and face-to-face) for high-quality learning and collaboration.

Our training programmes have mentoring and coaching as their key ingredients and promote participation, dialogue, local ownership and multiplication of knowledge for sustainable impact and behavioural change.

Steered by



Supported by



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Federal Foreign Office



IKEA Foundation



PART OF NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL



Flagship Projects

Transforming Humanitarian Energy Access (THEA)

The Transforming Humanitarian Energy Access (THEA) programme provides inclusionary analysis and evidence on the energy needs of all displaced people, specifically by delivering high-quality research and knowledge to support policy and decision-making on humanitarian energy investments and enabling systematic change within the UN system and humanitarian partners. The programme delivers transformative action in humanitarian settings, working with the Transforming Energy Access platform to mainstream energy access in humanitarian settings, providing expert advice on the needs of refugees, internally displaced people (IDPs), and all displaced people for UK innovators and international energy access projects. Specific investments in renewable energy and transformative UN action will enable alternative and inclusive financing aimed at working directly with refugees and displaced communities. The programme is funded under the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)'s Transforming Energy Access Programme.

Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings (READS)

The Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings (READS) programme, implemented by the GPA Coordination Unit at UNITAR and funded by the IKEA Foundation, aims to identify viable implementation opportunities to increase sustainable energy in displacement settings. Spanning ten countries, the programme is developing roadmap reports for each nation. These reports will (a) concisely summarise the energy and displacement situation in each country, (b) identify gaps not currently met by the status quo and (c) put forward viable project opportunities to increase sustainable energy access in displacement settings. The reports are informed by workshops with in-country stakeholders to develop and refine the research. The programme engages a variety of actors working in both the private and public sector to benefit from their expertise including representatives of communities which have been affected by displacement, local energy companies, humanitarian organizations, and governmental authorities, among others.

Decarbonising Humanitarian Energy (DHE)

The Decarbonising Humanitarian Energy (DHE) programme will reduce the costs and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with delivering critical humanitarian assistance in five countries in the Sahel Region. The German Federal Foreign Office formally committed 21 million EUR to support the sustainable energy transition in displacement settings. This funding forms the initial investment in the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and provides multi-year support for scaling up sustainable energy solutions for organizations serving displaced people and host communities. Under the DHE MPTF the consortium will deploy energy experts to provide technical assistance, develop business cases for project sites and organizations, and finance the implementation of sustainable energy solutions. The DHE MPTF is implemented by the GPA Coordination Unit at UNITAR, NORCAP, and UNDP.

Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings (GPA)

The Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings (GPA) is the global initiative to promote actions that enable sustainable energy access in displacement settings, as laid out in the Global Plan of Action Framework. It envisions that displaced persons, host communities, and associated humanitarian response mechanisms have access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services by 2030.

The GPA strives to remove barriers to energy access in humanitarian settings. It also promotes the humanitarian sector's transition from diesel powered infrastructure to more renewable sources of energy. Hosted by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the GPA Coordination Unit galvanises collective action towards meeting the goals of the GPA Framework.

In 2023:

196

Beneficiaries

5

Training Events
in 2023

30%

Beneficiaries are women

45%

men

25%

other

GPA

GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR ACTION

humanitarianenergy.org

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