

# ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

**Without an additional \$13.8 million funding, 200,000 refugees will not access alternative and clean sources of energy in 2024.**

**As firewood collection continues to be the main source of energy, environmental degradation will increase also affecting relations with host communities.**

With only 11% of our total funding requirement (**\$15.6 million**), we can do very limited energy and environment activities in the remaining regions.

Lack of funding will halt:

- provision of solar lanterns and solar streetlights
- provision of clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels
- Solarization of institutions, such as health centers and schools
- construction of grid connected communal kitchens
- re-afforestation programs
- raising seedlings to a full-scale
- planting and harvesting fast growing trees for cooking and shelter construction

**Due to limited funding availability, protecting existing plantation will be the main**

## What does this mean for refugees?



### INCREASED GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

- Women will have to collect firewood to cook food for their families risking physical and sexual assault, abuse, and injury.
- 68% of 1,495 female respondents mentioned GBV risks, long distance leading to exhaustion, attacks, conflicts, and country law on deforestation as some of their main challenges.



### UNAVAILABILITY OF SOLAR LANTERNS AND SOLAR STREETLIGHTS

- Students can't study at night (for 31% of refugee children solar lamp/lantern is a priority item).
- Increased GBV risks in the dark.
- Difficult to feed children at night.
- Increased risk of shelter burning while using firewood as a source of light.
- Difficulty in accessing latrines at night.
- More safety/security treats.
- Increased smoke associated health risks.
- refugees are unable to charge mobile phones, disconnected communication.



### INCREASED CONFLICT WITH HOST COMMUNITIES



For the host communities, land, water and forests are the natural resources they are mostly concerned in sharing with refugees. 87% of the host communities in Gambella stressed that deforestation is prevalent in their location.

If firewood continues to be the main sources of energy:

- competition for resources and environmental scarcity will lead to violent conflict
- it will also lead to desertification.

- For example, only \$100,000 is allocated for environmental rehabilitation activities in Gambella, which will not be enough given the higher deforestation and land degradation rate in the region.

**ALL REGIONS WILL BE AFFECTED BY LIMITED FUNDING, BUT Gambella, Somali, Amhara and Tigray regions will be greatly affected.**

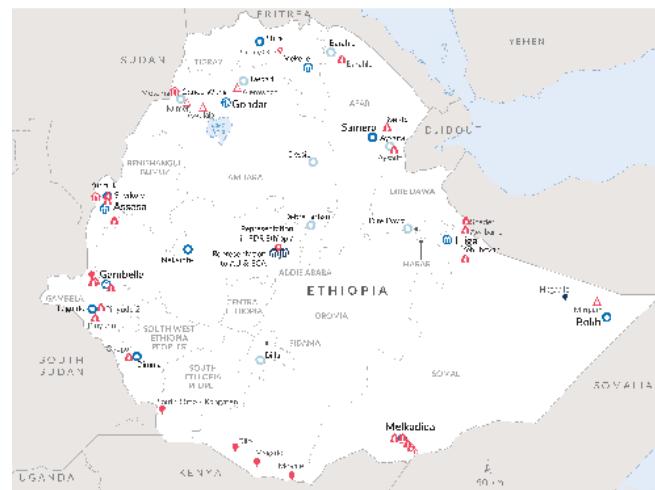
We need \$13.8 million to provide alternative clean energy to refugee families and environmental rehabilitation to refugees and hosts.



So far, only 11% (\$1.8 million) has been received out of \$15.6 million required.

If more funding is received, we can:

- Connect additional 3 communal kitchens to the national grid, provide charcoaled briquettes and transitional fuelwood to **33,000** families.
- Distribute fuel efficient stoves for **20,000** families.
- Distribute solar lamps/lanterns for **25,000** families.
- Install **2,000** solar streetlights.
- Connect 3 additional refugee camps to the **national electricity grid**.
- Plant **1 million tree seedlings**.
- Mitigate environmental degradation and rehabilitate **400 hectares of land**.



## WHAT WE DID UP UNTIL THE END OF

# 2023

- Distributed solar lamps to almost 40% of refugee households.
- Street lighting are now installed in sensitive areas in 30% of the refugee camp areas.
- Clean and reliable electricity for community facilities has been undertaken: we installed solar mini grids and extended the national electricity grid in refugee camps in Tigray, Afar, and Benishangul Gumuz.
- We had planted more than 3 million tree seedlings since 2019 across all locations.
- Planted species including eucalyptus and bamboo trees for cooking and shelter construction in Benishangul Gumuz.



In 2023, only 12 % of the families had limited access to alternative cooking fuels through grid connected communal kitchens, charcoaled briquettes and transitional firewood combined with fuel efficient stoves.

## PARTNERS:

