


SMART
COMMUNITIES
COALITION

An aerial photograph of a refugee camp. The camp is densely packed with numerous small, light-colored tents or temporary structures. The tents are arranged in a somewhat grid-like pattern, with narrow dirt paths separating them. In the center-right of the camp, there is a large, rectangular building with a blue roof. The surrounding area is arid and brown, with some sparse vegetation. The overall scene depicts a large-scale, organized settlement in a dry, open landscape.

**It's time to revisit the function and
purpose
of refugee camps**

Refugee camps in Kenya and Uganda – and those like it in South Sudan, Jordan, and Bangladesh – could benefit from an integrated approach to camp management, service delivery, and host community engagement.





The Smart Communities Coalition (SCC) is a **public private** effort seeking to **transform the operating model** in refugee camps and settlements

Co-chaired by Mastercard and Power Africa, SCC will **organize and mobilize stakeholders** according to their **core strengths** to address **three fundamental pillars: Connectivity, Digital Tools, Energy Access**

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Foundation and progress

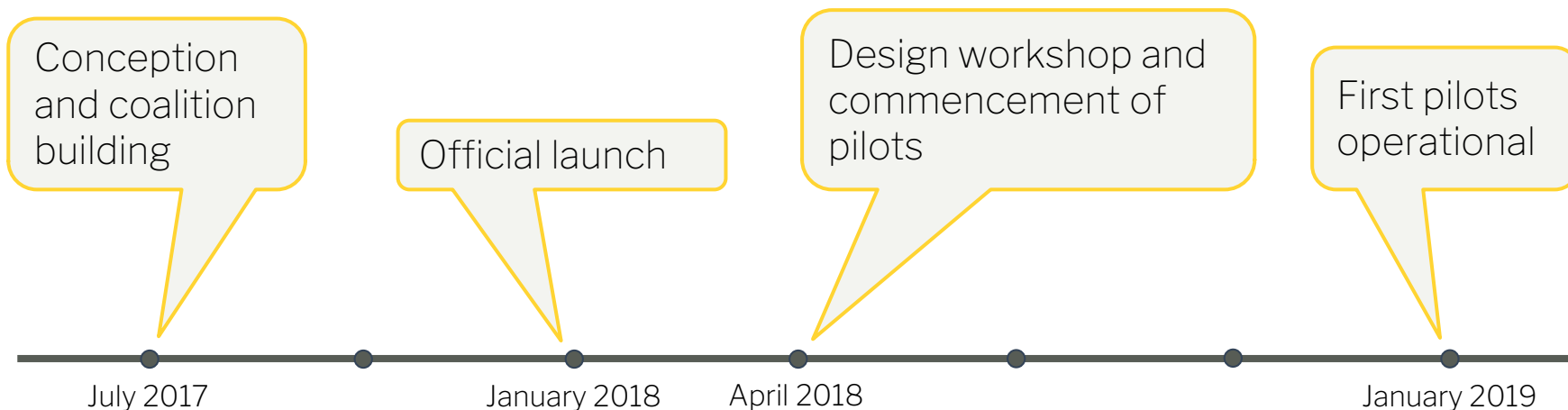
Objectives

- Increase efficiencies in camp management and service delivery
- Empower refugees to provide for themselves and their families
- Equitably address the needs of host community members in and around targeted settlements

Principles

- Employ an “ecosystem” approach to technology deployment
- Build public-private models
- Integrate existing efforts and refugee response frameworks

Milestones and timeline



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Members and Collaborators

Members

- Accenture
- Acumen
- BioLite
- BRCK
- Chatham House/ Moving Energy Initiative
- Cisco
- Danish Refugee Council
- Energy 4 Impact/ Moving Energy Initiative
- Energy Peace Partners
- Engie – PowerCorner
- Fenix International
- Lutheran World Federation
- Mastercard (co-chair)
- Mercy Corps
- Microsoft

- Moonshot Global
- NetHope
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Off-Grid Electric
- Pawame
- PowerGen Renewable Energy
- Power Africa (co-chair)
- SolarKiosk
- Taqanu
- Total – Access to Energy
- The Innovation Village
- USAID Global Development Lab
- Vecna Cares
- World Vision International

Collaborators

- GSMA
- Tent Partnership for Refugees
- U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

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Targeted settlements and communities

Uganda: Bidi Bidi, Kiryandongo, Rwamwanja

- 1.25 million refugees, up 68% from previous year
- Bidi Bidi is the largest refugee camp in the world (285,000+)
- Government maintains an open-door policy that allows: right to work; ownership of business and property; access to health and education



Kenya: Kakuma, Kalobeyei

- 514,000 refugees, down 16% from previous year
- Government of Kenya implementing measures, some controversial, aimed at addressing refugee & host community affairs
- Kalobeyei integrated settlement as critical for perceived success
- Kakuma camp facing severe budget cuts



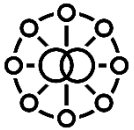
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Three core technology pillars



Connectivity

A recent study found that mobile phone and internet access is as critical to refugees' safety and security as food, shelter and water.



Digital tools

Implementing agencies increasingly rely upon digital technology to reach refugees and locals. Digital tools open up new education, training, livelihood and information opportunities.



Energy access

Power is not provided in settlements as a service, so refugees rely upon poor quality, expensive diesel generators; solar home systems and micro-grids using pay-as-you-go (PAYG) offer opportunities to enable livelihoods.

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Ecosystem approach to eliminate silos

Identify opportunities: engage on-the ground stakeholders; perform needs assessments; incorporate ongoing programs

Establish working groups: cross-sectoral, cross-pillar teams focused on pilot projects and thematic issues

Enable exchange of expertise and ideas across the working groups: steering committee; collaboration tools; member enthusiasm

Implement pilot projects: working groups lead the development, funding and operation of pilots

Monitoring, evaluation and learning: track KPIs; document and share lessons learned; look to scale and replicate where appropriate

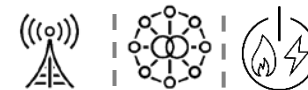
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Outcomes should inform future interventions in the refugee context

- Identify **solutions** and document “playbooks” to enable **replication and deployment at scale**
- Assess the ability of **resilient connectivity platforms** to deliver vital information to refugees and host communities and enable **efficient management** of settlement operations
- Test **digital tools** across service delivery, such as: identity, digital vouchers, payment cards, mobile applications, and mobile wallets
- Pilot sustainable private sector solutions for providing **energy access** to refugees and host communities through **off-grid energy services**

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Pilots and activities



Digital Health Ecosystem: Ensuring better delivery of care	✓	✓	
MAKE Change for Refugees: Integrated energy access planning	✓	✓	✓
Subsistence to Market: Improving production for smallholder farmers		✓	✓
Diesel 4 Solar: Replacing diesel for institutions and communities	✓	✓	✓
EME4R: Enable conditions for successful energy entrepreneurship	✓	✓	✓
SCC for CE3: Entrepreneurship	✓	✓	✓
Financial Assistance to Refugees: Integrated financial inclusion		✓	
Sustainable Energy for Institutions: Renewable energy for institutions			✓
Sustainable Cooking Energy Provision: Biomass cooking solutions			✓
Improved Connectivity Access: Improving connectivity for refugees	✓		
Thematic working groups: Advocacy, digital ID, data quality and protection	✓	✓	✓

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Digital Health Ecosystem

Problem

- Current efforts to integrate technology in healthcare have been piecemeal, and, as such, have not unlocked all the benefits of digital health infrastructure.

Solution

- Roll out of electronic medical records system.
- Incorporate patient/beneficiary feedback tool to understand quality of care.
- Digitize prescriptions to allow for better pharmacy inventory management.

Outcomes

- More efficient medical record and inventory management systems.
- Improved quality of care.

Pillars

- Connectivity
- Digital Tools

Category 1

- Active, resourced
- Implementation begins 2018

Next Milestone

- Draft budget and business case for migration to digital

Working Group

- Accenture
- American Refugee Committee
- Mastercard
- Vecna Cares Charitable Trust

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MAKE Change for Refugees

Problem

- Risk for duplication, lack of learning, and a haphazard approaches due to multiple ongoing electrification initiatives in Turkana County.

Solution

- A comprehensive strategy for private sector involvement in electrifying the county & improving connectivity, including the refugee camp/settlement.

Outcomes

- Spur development of off-grid energy access solutions in settlements and surrounding communities.
- Ensure learnings from other pilots are documented and shared.
- Demonstrate opportunities to link energy access, connectivity, and digital tools.

Pillar

- Energy Access
- Connectivity
- Digital Tools

Category 1

- Active, resourced
- Implementation begins 2018

Next Milestone

- Completion of energy study mapping exercise: July 2018

Working Group

- Engie – PowerCorner
- GIZ
- MEI
- Power Africa
- PowerGen

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Subsistence to Market

Problem

- Environmental degradation arises from wood fuel and charcoal production.
- Mismanagement of natural resources causes tension between host and refugee communities.
- Women and girls are exposed to danger when gathering wood fuel.

Solution

- Build a market for sustainable cooking fuel from biomass produced by smallholder farmers in refugee and host communities in Bidi Bidi.

Outcomes

- Reduced deforestation.
- New income source for smallholder farmers and briquetting entrepreneurs.
- Benefits to safety and nutrition for women and girls.

Pillars

- Energy Access
- Digital Tools

Category 2

- Active
- Implementation begins 2018/early 2019

Next Milestone

- Agricultural market assessment: August 2018

Working Group

- ITC
- MEI
- Mercy Corps
- Power Africa

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Diesel 4 Solar

Problem

- Lack of power infrastructure in settlements means that virtually all community institutions and households are unelectrified, while humanitarian aid agencies rely on costly diesel generation for power.

Solution

- Deploy an innovative, pay-as-you-go (“PAYG”) energy-as-a-service (“EAAS”) private sector-led model utilizing solar and solar-battery-diesel (“SBD”) hybrid systems.

Outcomes

- Demonstrates a model for commercially sustainable power provision in settlements and host communities.
- Reduces operating costs for humanitarian agencies.
- Benefits derived from access to energy.

Pillars

- Energy Access
- Digital Tools
- Connectivity

Category 2

- Active
- Implementation begins 2018/early 2019

Next Milestone

- Map key anchor load sites within settlements:
July 2018

Working Group

- Energy Peace Partners
- Mercy Corps
- MEI
- Power Africa

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EME4R

Problem

- Power is not provided in settlements as a service, so refugees often rely upon donated solar lanterns for basic light, and poor quality, expensive diesel generators for small businesses.

Solution

- A market-based approach building on the entrepreneurship ecosystem to develop local value/distribution chains and create conditions for successful energy entrepreneurship in Kakuma and Kalobeyei.

Outcomes

- Increase energy access to refugees and host communities in a more efficient and low-cost way.
- Creates income generating opportunities for entrepreneurs and local businesses.

Pillars

- Energy Access
- Digital Tools
- Connectivity

Category 2

- Active
- Implementation begins 2018/early 2019

Next Milestone

- Completion of rapid baseline assessment: August 2018

Working Group

- BioLite
- ITC
- NRC
- MasterCard
- MEI
- Total

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SCC 4 CE3

Problem

- While entrepreneurship programs in Bidi Bidi have grown capacity for economic activity, poor access to energy and finance remain barriers to success.

Solution

- A 3-rings approach to provide refugees and host communities access to energy, connectivity, and digital tools.
 - ICT Hub /E-Hubb / technician solar shop
 - Mini-grid powering schools, clinics, businesses
 - Operations and management, products

Outcomes

- Improve energy access for productive use through greater access to finance and entrepreneurial skills.
- Improve financial access and building skills through digital tools and connectivity.

Pillars

- Energy Access
- Digital Tools
- Connectivity

Category 2

- Active
- Implementation begins 2018/early 2019

Next Milestone

- Market and site assessment: August 2018

Working Group

- Accenture
- Fenix
- Mercy Corps
- NetHope
- SolarKiosk

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Category 3 Pilots

Financial Assistance to Refugees

- Loan solutions coupled with business acumen training for women and village savings groups.

Sustainable Energy Solutions for Organizations and Schools in Refugee Settings

- Private-sector green energy solutions for humanitarian agencies, schools, clinics, and reception centers in Uganda.

Sustainable Cooking Energy Provision in Refugee Settings

- Develop market and supply chain for sustainable cooking gas in Uganda.

Improved Connectivity Access

- Connectivity infrastructure for communities and NGOs; ICT skills training; and demand stimulation for internet services.

Pillars

- Energy Access
- Digital Tools
- Connectivity

Category 3

- Actively scoping
- Implementation begins 2019

Next Milestone

- Activate working groups

Working Group Leads

- NetHope
- World Vision

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For more information:

www.tent.org/partners/smart-coalition

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