

Institutional cooking in displacement settings: The case of Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya

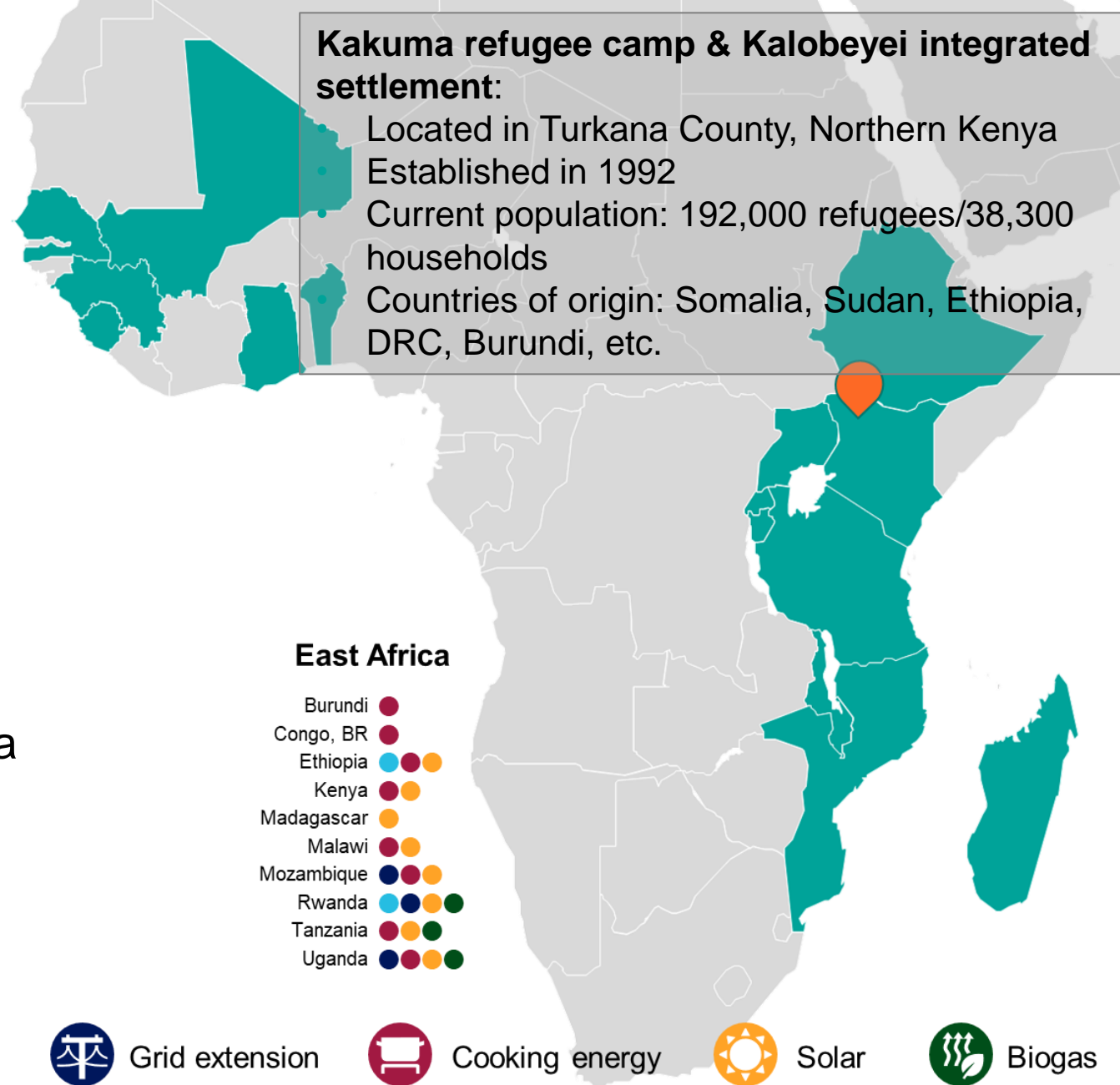
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Background

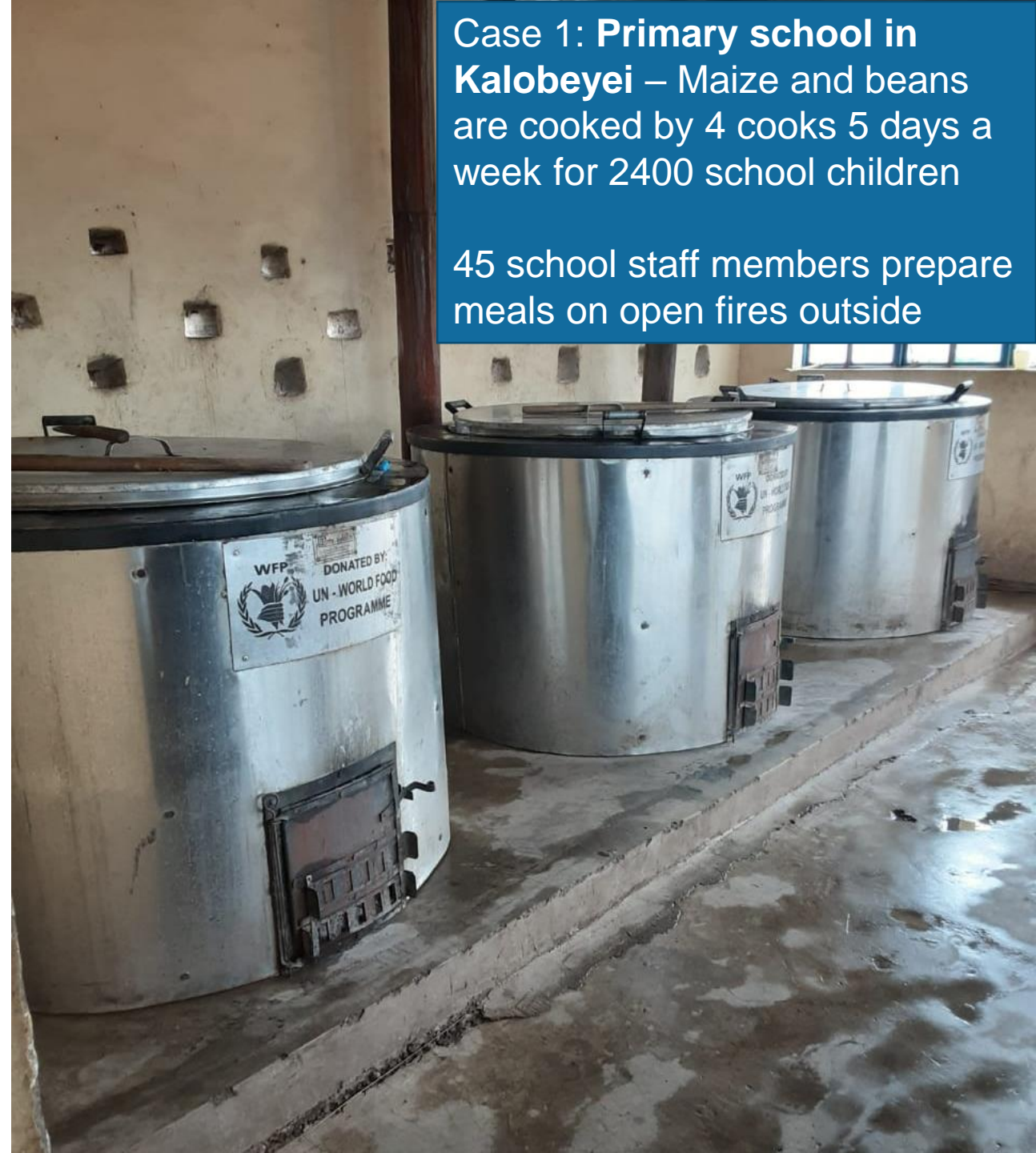
Energising Development programme in Kenya

- **EnDev Core**
 - Solar for productive use
 - Enabling environment
 - Cookstoves RBF
- **EnDev Refugees: Market based Energy Access (MBEA) II Project**
 - Promotion of solar & cookstoves through a market based approach for
 - Households
 - Microbusinesses
 - **Social institutions**



Institutional cooking in Kakuma

- **There are approx. 60 social institutions** in Kakuma town, Kakuma refugee camp and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement including schools (250-5500 children) hospitals/clinics (40-180 patients), special service centres (6-200), and reception centres (for new arrivals) (2000 people).
- **All have different cooking needs**, based on size, feeding programs, and boarding.
- **All cook on firewood stoves** with sizes varying from 50L to 500L, often complemented with three stone open fire cooking.
- Stoves installations were funded by various donor organisation.
- **UNHCR provides 1250 metric tonnes of firewood for cooking annually to the institutions**



Case 1: Primary school in Kalobeyei – Maize and beans are cooked by 4 cooks 5 days a week for 2400 school children

45 school staff members prepare meals on open fires outside

Case 2: **Hospital in Kalobeyei** – 4 cooks prepare 3 meals for 20 patients every day



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Case 3: **Boarding secondary school in Kakuma** – tea, mandazi, porridge (breakfast), rice and beans (lunch), ugali and cabbage/stew/kales (dinner) is prepared by 6 cooks 7 days a week for 350 school children.



- the 20 school staff members prepare meals on open fires outside



Case 4: Primary school in Kakuma. The school has a 250L and a 100L stove but both are in such poor condition that the lunch for 1900 children is prepared on three stone open fires



Case 5: Primary school in Kakuma, three 100L stoves to cook for 2400 children. Smoke fills the kitchen (picture 2) when the stoves are lit due to broken chimneys.



Social institution cooking assessment

- An assessment on cooking situation in 53 Sis in Kakuma found that almost **all stoves need repair services** due to lack of maintenance:
 - Chimneys require replacement—lack of cleaning causes excessive smoke and low stove efficiency
 - Poor inner bodies, pot-stove fit, lack of stove door and firewood grate – lead to fuel wastage and long cooking time



Importance of maintenance and training

- Recent CCT with 7 stoves at 7 institutions in Kakuma showed that with repairs:
 - An average of **25% firewood savings** (1.4KG) can be achieved and **28% cooking time savings** (24 minutes) per cooked 40kg rice meal
 - In addition to **significant reduction of smoke exposure** due to chimney repairs/replacement
- **Stove installations need to be accompanied with O&M services and training** on use and maintenance to increase durability, fuel and time efficiency.



Solutions?

- **Repairs with O&M plan and user training** on proper use and maintenance to reduce use of firewood, cooking time and negative health impacts
- **Private sector engagement** to deliver (additional) high quality stoves and replace broken units with O&M service + warranty
- **E-cooking?**



New stove installation by private sector company (MBEA II partner) in a hospital in Kakuma



Thank you!

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