



PIMUN
2022!

STUDY GUIDE IEA

*"Improving Refugee Access to Sustainable Energy
Worldwide"*



INTRODUCTION TO THE CHAIRS

Apolline Sabut-Aymard

Hello everyone! I am a third-year undergraduate student of Political Sciences and Philosophy at the Sorbonne University and president of the MUN pole in the organisation Sorbonne - ONU. I started my MUN journey two years ago at the YorkMUN conference which I definitely enjoyed taking part. It has not been a long time since I joined the MUN world, but I have already had the pleasure of attending great conferences, including LIMUN this year. Traveling a lot throughout Europe, I am passionate about foreign policy as well as learning new languages. Last year, I volunteered to work in Eleonas refugee camp in Athens for a month and gave English and French classes to the refugee children; an experience I will never forget. That is why I am delighted to be part of the International Energy Agency (IAE) committee at PIMUN, on such a crucial topic as climate refugees. In addition to my passion for diplomacy and debate, I enjoy doing kickboxing and Muay Thai in my spare time! I am looking forward to fruitful debates at PIMUN 2022 and I can't wait to meet all of the delegates.

Apolline Sabut-Aymard

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

History and Purpose of the Committee

The International Energy Agency was created in 1974 in order to ensure the security of oil supplies, in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis. This autonomous intergovernmental organization, based in Paris, was established in the framework of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Evolving and adapting to the transformation of the global energy system, its purpose has changed over the years even though energy security remains one of its top missions. Today, the IEA focuses on providing statistics and analysis in order to solve energy issues regarding the current climate emergency. It encourages and advocates programs that will increase and strengthen the sustainability and affordability of energy worldwide.

The International Energy Agency has had seven Executive Directors in total since its creation, including Ulf Lantzke from Germany (1975-1984), Helga Steeg, from Germany (1984-1994), Robert Priddle from the United Kingdom (1994-2003), Claude Mandil from France (2003-2007), Nobou Tanaka from Japan (2007-2011), Maria van der Hoeven from the Netherlands (2011-2015) and finally Dr. Faith Birlo from Turkey since 2015.

Dr. Faith Birlo, Executive Director of the IEA, presented in 2015 a modernization strategy at the IEAS's Ministerial Meeting in order to give more power to this agency regarding global energy policy. The main purpose was to create a truly global and inclusive agency. This modernization included three goals including strengthening and broadening the IEA's commitment to energy security beyond oil, to natural gas and electricity, deepening the IEA's engagement with major emerging economies, and lastly, providing a greater focus on clean energy technology, including energy efficiency. The IEA deepened its collaboration with emerging countries such as Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Thailand, Singapore, and South Africa through the Association program. Henceforth, the IEA now represents approximately 75% of global energy consumption. It acts as a policy adviser for member states and advocates for a clean energy transition throughout the world, with a view to reaching net-zero emissions.

How is this committee structured and what are its powers?

Every two years takes place the IEA Ministerial Meeting, during which the IEA Secretariat develops ideas and promotes new programs that are discussed among the committee members. The final approval is given by the Governing Board. The IEA includes several Standing Groups, Committees, and Working Parties in addition to the Governing Board, which are composed of member country government officials. Meetings are scheduled several times a year.

The body which takes the decisions within the IEA is the Governing Board. It is composed of energy ministers or their senior representatives from each member country, and it holds three meetings each year to discuss global energy developments and improvements. All member countries are dependent on the decisions taken by the Governing Board. Furthermore, the Governing Board has responsibility for administrative matters of the agency. This includes approving the budget as well as the biennial Programme of Work. According to Articles, 61 and 62 of the IEA constituent document, the International Energy Programme, a majority vote is required for all decisions on the management of the IEA Programme of Work, and unanimity is required for all emergency measures specified in the International Energy Programme Agreement.

Regarding the IEA Ministerial Meeting, every two years, ministers from member countries gather in order to set strategic priorities for the IEA. The Secretariat presents ideas or new work programmes that are then discussed between member countries and presented to the Governing Board for final approval. In 2017, the IEA Ministerial meeting reminded the IEA's role as the world-leading energy authority and reviewed steps the agency should take in its path to modernisation.

The Programme of Work and Budget are determined every two years by member countries of the IEA. Contributions of member countries support activities of this specific programme. In 2017, more than 30% of the IEA's spending was financed by voluntary contributions, the great majority coming from government sources. Furthermore, the agency receives funding from private sources, mostly in the form of staff on loan. It operates within the financial framework of the OECD.

Let us review the different Standing Committees which meet several times a year :

- The Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ) is responsible for oil emergency preparedness.
- The Standing Group on the Oil Market (SOM) monitors and analyses developments in the international oil market.
- The Standing Group on Long-Term Co-operation (SLT) encourages cooperation among IEA member countries to ensure collective energy security and promote environmental protection.
- The Standing Group on Global Energy Dialogue (SGD) works with countries outside the IEA membership.
- The Committee on Energy Research and Technology (CERT) promotes the development of technologies to meet challenges in the energy sector.
- The Committee on Budget and Expenditure (CBE) advises the Governing Board in resource management and administration.

Furthermore, a variety of partnerships including business and industrial partners from a plethora of sectors provide investments in order to help the work of the agency. These affiliated groups are :

- The IEA Technology Collaboration Programme (TCP) ;
- The Energy Business Council (EBC) ;
- The International Low-Carbon Energy Technology Platform ;
- The Renewable Industry Advisory Board (RIAB) ;
- The Coal Industry Advisory Board (CIAB).

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

“We are at a crossroads. The decisions we make now can secure a liveable future. We have the tools and know-how required to limit warming,” said IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee.

According to the **new IPCC report** (April 2022), limiting global warming will require major transitions in the energy sector. This will involve a substantial reduction in fossil fuel use, widespread electrification, improved energy efficiency, and use of alternative fuels. *“Having the right policies, infrastructure and technology in place to enable changes to our lifestyles and behaviour can result in a 40-70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This offers significant untapped potential,”* said IPCC Working Group III Co-Chair Priyadarshi Shukla.

Many populations throughout the world are currently at risk. Climate change leads to the displacement of many communities throughout the world. For instance, **21.5 million new displacements each year are caused by climate or weather-related disasters**. It is more than twice as many displacements caused by conflict and violence. In 2019, the number of people who had to flee their country because of climate disasters was 24.9 million, coming from 140 countries. Furthermore, a recent study conducted by the World Bank estimated that **140 million people from Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America will face displacement by 2050 due to hostile conditions**. This number could even be higher according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: over 200 million each year by 2050, doubling the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance. If global action is not urgently taken, climate change will cause irreparable damage.

Today, **over 90% of refugees living in rural settlements have very limited access to reliable, clean, and sustainable energy**. Yet, access to energy is a crucial need, it allows to combat poverty and it greatly reduces the effects of climate change. Giving access to light and heat, as well as being able to cook is a basic need. With the current situation of climate change, the challenge ahead is none other than providing renewable energy for refugees. Access to sustainable energy is a key to reducing the effects of climate change and resolving environmental degradation.

The restricted access to renewable energy causes a tremendous negative impact on communities in humanitarian settings. Indeed, **the use of nonsustainable energy such as**

firewood and fossil fuel leads to ground exploitation, including deforestation, land degradation, massive species extinction, as well as greenhouse gas production. It enhances the effects of climate change with desertification, water level rising, massive natural disasters and so on. It contributes to displacing refugees as well as their host communities.

The use of firewood leading to deforestation creates conflicts and tensions with the host communities and contributes to enhancing the risks of violence regarding the refugees in these areas. **Women and children are the most affected in this situation.** They become the target for sexual and gender-based violence. Indeed, many women have to travel long distances in order to collect water or firewood for their households. Hence, they are more vulnerable to aggression.

Using fossil fuels or biomass energy and burning fires at home can be extremely dangerous for the communities. For instance, **it can cause severe health issues including respiratory and eye diseases.** It can also exacerbate the already fragile health conditions of vulnerable people. Furthermore, the use of diesel fuel while cooking can lead to burns and puts children at risk.

Providing sustainable energy options to refugees and displaced communities would ensure them lasting access to water and heat, sanitation, a better health condition, education, connectivity, environmental protection as well as gender equality and security.

PROBLEMS IDENTIFICATION

Energy needs of refugees and host communities

125 million people are affected by conflict-related crises and natural disasters. In these situations, they lack access to energy. Currently, 10% of refugees have reliable access to electricity for lighting, heating, cooking, and powering. Approximately 90% of refugees in camps rely on firewood for cooking and heating.

Migrants have different energy needs and expectations, some examples such as geography and climate play a significant role in determining what migrants need in a region. It is difficult to find a causal relationship between migration and energy but they are correlated. Countries that have a lot of migrants usually also have a high level of electrification, while those with relatively fewer migrants tend to have less access to electricity (some outliers like Japan, which is not open to refugees exist).

Since women are given disproportionate responsibility for fuel gathering, they also tend to benefit the most from initiatives that provide energy to the migrant communities. When migration is given better access to electricity, or the capability to produce their own power, it also positively affects the original community who would have less energy burden.

To show the differences in energy experience even from neighboring nations, a case study from UNDP in 2015 showed migrants from Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have remarkably different profiles. Together they represent a third of the registered migrants in Russia. While all migrants tended to be male, working in construction and are relatively young, the Kyrgyz come from industrialized cities while the Uzbeks and Tajiks come from rural areas. Despite the common neighboring origin and similar demographics, the difference in their area of origin caused them to have different energy profiles. ¹

Environmental damages

64 700 acres of forest are burned by displaced families in refugee camp, this is due to the lack of available energy sources for the refugees to use for energy. On the other hand, when refugees are in urban situations, they may even use more energy. Urbanization in general tends

¹ Scott, A., Worrall, L., & Pickard, S. (2018). Energy, migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. *Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC*.

to increase the consumption of energy per capita and in high-income countries, it increases even further. Another often overlooked aspect about migrants is that in urban areas, their relative poverty and lack of access to more energy-efficient appliances and objects may also lead to more pollution and lower efficiency, despite their relatively smaller use of electricity when given the right equipment. Researchers in Vietnam also determined that rural migrants are less likely to produce emissions per capita compared to urban migrants, which is also due to the nature of the energy used and the amount consumed per household. Migrants that have a higher income or move to a more hostile environment tend to also have an increase in energy usage, with the former, if the communities use unsustainable forms of energy, then they would cause further damage, with the latter, inhospitable locations often have limited sources of energy to use and may also lead to further environmental damage.

Violence and conflicts between refugees and host communities

Many refugees like to believe that their stay in the camps is temporary, host communities also wish the same thing too. Due to the temporary nature of the camps, they tend to go for “quick and dirty” solutions to solve their energy needs, and other necessities for life. Long-term solutions to provide energy such as connecting to the national or community power grid or expensive sustainable solutions are usually discouraged. With that, refugees rely on fossil fuels, biomass, or other unsafe, pollution-causing materials to cook and provide heat. Women and children are frequently responsible for gathering firewood and other sources of fuel for energy. Sometimes travelling dozens of kilometres to collect suitable fuel. In many locations with refugees, especially in places that lack law enforcement, they experience cases of crime such as robbery or sexual assault. Their status as immigrants or refugees often gives them lower (if any) priority to the law enforcement in the area.

If sustainable energy solutions or even solutions that allow them to have a consistent supply of energy without unsafe trips are available, this would greatly reduce violence against women and children, as they have better access to energy. This energy can also provide better and sustained lighting at night, which gives greater protection in the communities, particularly harassment on the way to communal sanitation facilities such as latrines and bathing areas. The darkness increases their chances of harassment by people assaulting them on the way to the latrines and showers, while they use the facilities, or even those voyeurs taking advantage of

them within the facilities at night. Gender based violence plays heavily in with the lack of proper lighting and sustainable energy. ²

Health issues

Each year, 20 000 people die prematurely, especially women and children, due to the pollution from indoor fires. Large groups of refugees can cause major environmental damage, Refugees use water and pollute supplies, cut down wood for fuel, and hunt animals for food, they harm parks, World Heritage sites and nature reserves. These actions make the host countries less interested in receiving more refugees. They strain resources and because of that, the makeshift camps refugees use are sources of health issues. Because many of them come in without adequate supplies, they resort to less sustainable methods to do their business.

The temporary camps for the Rohingya made in Bangladesh resulted in at least 37,117 acres of reserve forests destroyed by the refugees; these critical forests were instead used for housing and fuel. Hundreds of tons of human waste also destroyed the location and has polluted waterways and canals, this severely degrades the local air quality. Their camps have also been constructed in habitats assigned for Asian Elephants, which also leads to clashes with the endangered animal and humans. Human rights in many states cover the right to a clean and healthy environment, and the refugees living in such awful conditions are denied such rights. ³

² Energypedia. (2022, April). *Energy Access for Refugees*. energypedia. Retrieved April 2022, from https://energypedia.info/wiki/Energy_Access_for_Refugees

³ Hammer Director of Outreach and Development, L., & Ahmed Assistant Professor, S. (2022, February 25). *Refugee camps can wreak enormous environmental damages – should source countries be liable for them?* The Conversation. Retrieved April 2022, from <https://theconversation.com/refugee-camps-can-wreak-enormous-environmental-damages-should-source-countries-be-liable-for-them-152519#:~:text=Large%20camps%20of%20displaced%20persons,willing%20to%20receive%20more%20refugees.>

PAST ACTIONS

The UNHCR Global Strategy for Sustainable Energy 2019-2024

The urgency of this issue has led to international actions. For instance, UNHCR has launched the “**UNHCR Global Strategy for Sustainable Energy 2019-2024**” in October 2019. The purpose is to enable refugees and host communities to meet their energy needs in a safe and sustainable manner. This includes :

- Addressing refugee households' energy needs from the onset of an emergency ;
- Improving refugee access to sustainable, clean, safe, and affordable household cooking energy, including natural gas ;
- Ensuring refugee homes have sustainable electrification ;
- Connecting communities and support facilities with sustainable electricity, including water supplies, street lighting, schools, and health centres.

The Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement

The Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Energy Solutions in Situations of Displacement (GPA)," is a non-binding framework that focuses more on building actions to accelerate progress towards every person affected by either a natural disaster or conflict. The GPA works to ensure that the affected people have access to sustainable energy services by 2030.

In addition, the GPA also contributes to reviewing the process of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7). It is intended to align with the measures stipulated in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the Paris Agreement.

The GPA has identified five key challenges in achieving their goals throughout this document. The first challenge is that energy is not a formal priority in humanitarian assistance. There is no specific mechanism that regulates humanitarian and development Organisations, whether it is a UN committee or are non-UN-based Organisations, to execute the plan, exchange and learn from and curtail energy interventions. The Second challenge is that displaced people are not included in national or international energy access agendas. This is

mainly because the host governments think that displaced people only reside in their country for a short period. Hence, they do not contribute to building stable infrastructure for the settlement. The third challenge involves energy in displacement settings that are likely to be under-funded. This happens because providing sustainable energy solutions, especially for displaced communities, are consistently hindered due to a lack of dedicated funding from humanitarian organisations. In addition, it is also considered to be less important compared to any other basic needs. The fourth challenge refers to the lack of expertise and capacity to implement humanitarian energy solutions. Furthermore, this challenge also restricts stakeholders' capacity to settle challenges in the other working areas. The final challenge implies that the data gathered for humanitarian energy needs is not widely disseminated. Without this data, humanitarian organisations and other agencies will not be able to respond effectively to the needs of displaced people.⁴

European Union Action Plan on the Integration and Inclusion 2021 - 2027

Although this document does not seem related to the short term refugee issues, this deals with the longer term issues of Migration in general, of which, refugees are a part of. This plan emphasises assistance towards individual characteristics that may be exposed to specific challenges to people with a migrant background, such as religious background or gender. Successful inclusion and integration rely on both early actions and long-term commitment.

EU governments are mainly responsible for creating and implementing social policies, the EU plays a significant role in supporting its member states by providing funds, developing guidance, and fostering partnerships as outlined in their main actions which are:

- Inclusive training and education from early childhood to higher education will accelerate the recognition of qualifications and language learning. The EU will support this plan by allocating funds. Education and training help the refugees manage energy consumption and sustainable lifestyle, as well as making them align with current national policies for sustainable living.
- Fostering employment opportunities and skills recognition to value the contribution made by migrant communities and ensure the migrants fulfil their desired potential.

⁴ *The global plan of action for sustainable energy ...* - UNITAR. (n.d.). Retrieved March 14, 2022, from https://www.unitar.org/sites/default/files/media/publication/doc/gpa_framework_final-compressed.pdf

This also empowers them and gives them opportunities to add their inputs in energy policy to allow for better implementation to people particularly fellow refugees. In addition, the commission will work with social and economic partners to promote energy policy incorporation, providing easy access for the displaced people to acquire new skills and support sustainability processes within their community.

- Access to sufficient and affordable housing funded by the European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund Plus, Invest EU, Asylum and Migration Fund, and relevant funding platforms to exchange the experiences at a regional and local level on fighting discrimination on the housing market and segregation. Sustainable housing ameliorates the inefficient, frequently overcrowded and unsustainable migrant and refugee camp housing.

Subsequently, the action plan will be enacted by mobilising EU funding and creating partnerships with those involved: social and economic partners, civil society and the private sector, migrants, and host communities. In addition, the plan of action will seek to modernise access to services by utilising digital tools. Ultimately, it will improve the evidence based information for developing new policies and would ensure good monitoring of results.⁵ Improving access to sustainable housing and services allows better use of sustainable means of lifestyle and energy consumption. Integrating the refugees with the current energy policies of a nation through a proper integration of the refugees themselves allows for a more coordinated plan of action towards the general problem.

⁵ *Action plan on the integration and inclusion*. Migration and Home Affairs. (n.d.). Retrieved March 17, 2022, from https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/policies/migration-and-asylum/legal-migration-and-integration/integration/action-plan-integration-and-inclusion_en

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

In this part, we will review some possible solutions in order to solve the issue regarding the current lack of access to sustainable energy for refugees worldwide. Please note that this is a **non-exhaustive list of solutions**. These examples will give you direction for the debate. However we expect you to provide more solutions you may see fit to be brought during the council.

The challenge is to **bring affordable, reliable and sustainable energy** to all refugee camps and host communities. The goal would be to **replace unsustainable energy with clean energy sources** in order to provide power in households, community services as well as humanitarian settlements.

The Transition and Coordination of Energy in Humanitarian Settings

One of the main challenges would be to provide access to sustainable energy in the long term for refugees and displaced populations. The approach should be thought of as a transitional assistance. Responding to the needs of displaced populations in the fastest way possible while aiming for outcomes in the mid-long term would provide a better transition and coordination in humanitarian settings. It would allow refugees to become independent and increase their self-reliability towards energy in the long term. It would avoid aid dependency of the refugee populations as it builds resilience among these populations.

The Investment in Local Infrastructures serving both Refugees and Host Communities

Energy access is needed both in humanitarian settlements and in rural areas and slums. Hence, alternatives to improve energy provision in humanitarian settings with a long term perspective can serve, not only refugees but also host communities. Interlinkage can be done between host communities and displaced people. It would improve the integration of refugees and displaced people into the host communities. Furthermore, it would save financial resources and facilitate the process of resettlements.⁶

⁶ The Role of Sustainable Energy Access in the Migration Debate ; EU Energy Initiative Dialogue Facility (January 2017)

Concrete examples of Possible Solutions

The following examples show the possible solutions put in place regarding this issue in areas throughout the world.

Restoring forests and providing clean gas to protect the environment

In **Bangladesh**, for instance, tree planting and reforestation activities have led to a great transformation of the areas surrounding the refugee camp. It generates a positive impact on the environment and improves the lives of the Rohingya settlements. The land can heal and there is shade in the settlement. The use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for cooking by refugees and local Bangladeshi families has led to an 80 percent drop in the demand for firewood. It protects the environment and reduces competition between refugees and host communities, especially when it comes to natural resources.

Providing light to protect women

In **Burundi**, renewable energy, by installing solar-powered street lights in refugee camps, has helped reinforce security. It reduces the risk of gender-based violence. Furthermore, it improves the conditions in which children are studying. For instance, the new camp in Nyankanda is entirely powered with solar energy thanks to a solar plant that provides electricity across the infrastructures of the camp.

Lighting refugee homes to improve quality of life

In **Uganda**, the majority of refugees and host communities rely on wood and kerosene energy for household chores such as cooking. Furthermore, more than 60% of the refugee children are of school age which means that they need access to quality lighting in their household in order to properly study and complete their homework. That is why improving refugee access to solar lanterns in order to equip their home and installing operative street lights in refugee camps would improve both safety and quality of life.

Improving hospital access to electricity during the COVID-19 pandemic

In **Kenya**, the solution provided by solar-powered electricity enables medical staff to run hospital equipment and laboratory systems. It also allows them keeping vaccines refrigerated, as well as give the proper treatment to the patients in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It avoids energy shortages while ensuring that hospitals can be fully operational.

Conclusion on Possible Solutions

The previously stated examples have shown that many solutions to improve sustainable energy and access to it for refugees is not necessarily an expensive venture. With developing nations able to use cheap, easy-to-teach methods to ensure a better quality of life in refugee and migrant camps, it shows that sufficient will and innovation can provide further impetus for improvement.

Investing in humanitarian settlements and allowing interlinkage between the displaced communities and the people around them also help the refugees experience a better and safer transition to the community. This also allows both the community and the refugees a better chance to implement sustainable practices such as those mentioned in SDG 7. Intercommunity cooperation, communication, and participation play key roles in allowing a tangible long-term solution to these problems.

Allowing simpler solutions does not just reduce costs of sustainable energy and lifestyle implementation, it also allows for easier adaptation and implementation in the community. With many refugees as transitory or short term, it is difficult to teach them complicated solutions for sustainable practices, particularly with such a high turnover rate. Allowing simpler solutions also increases the self-reliability of the refugee communities and avoids dependency on the host nations and communities for maintenance and upkeep of the energy supplies.

Overall, there are more solutions delegates can offer on the table, the projects may not be as complex or complicated as expected, of course, on a national and international scale, these projects must be replicable, quantifiable, and feasible.

BLOC POSITIONS

European Union

Sustainable energy access plays a significant role in adapting to climate strategies, especially when the agricultural system appears to have enormous potential to absorb the benefits of reliable, clean, and sustainable energy. The most common migration pattern that occurs is from rural to urban. When populations arrive in slums, they face tough circumstances which are exacerbated by a lack of access to energy. The European Union, through the role of sustainable energy access in the migration debate working paper which was passed in 2017 has developed several strategies recommended to coordinate migration and energy development policies. Through this working paper, the EU has put their focus on partnerships between migration policy projects such as the refugee centres in countries of transit. They have also focused on vocational training, energy transition projects that can increase developmental outcomes, and green growth in communities.⁷

BRICS

China has made an indirect attempt to improve sustainable energy by actively encouraging its oil companies to carry out global oil and gas business agreements and increase overseas oil and gas exploration and development investment.⁸ However China still does not have an integrated policy of refugees and sustainable energy, particularly because they label North Korean refugees (by legal definition in UNHCR) as illegal economic migrants and deport them back to North Korea, the deportation process brings a whole other can of worms but is also energy intensive and therefore not a sustainable policy.⁹

Brazil's medium-term energy policy is painted in the Ten-year energy expansion plans, which are constantly updated every year. Initially, it was only focusing the electricity but in

⁷ *EU Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue ... - idaea.csic.es.* (2017). Retrieved March 18, 2022, from http://www.idaea.csic.es/sites/default/files/EU-Energy-Initiative-working_paper_the_role_of_sustainable_energy_access_in_the_migration_debate.pdf

⁸ Zhou, D. (2009, August 7). *The process of sustainable energy development in China.* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Retrieved March 18, 2022, from <https://carnegieendowment.org/2009/08/07/process-of-sustainable-energy-development-in-china-pub-23482>

⁹ Song, L. (2021, March 9). *Anywhere but here? China's response to refugee protection during COVID-19.* openDemocracy. Retrieved March 18, 2022, from <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/pandemic-border/anywhere-but-here-chinas-response-to-refugee-protection-during-covid-19/>

2007 the energy plans expanded to cover the energy sector.¹⁰ In correlation with the refugees, Brazil has become a frontrunner in Latin America when it comes to refugee documentation and resettlement. This also implies that Brazil has attempted to increase efficiency in improving refugee access to sustainable energy. Despite the fact that Brazil financially struggles to offer the best quality services to their refugees, the country is determined to create the best experience possible to help Venezuelan refugees.¹¹

Other nations

The USA have been a target of criticism for how they handle refugees and immigrants, relative to nations in Europe. While facing hordes of immigrants from southern American states, they often heavily limit the access and leave the refugees waiting in **Mexico**. Mexico and the USA face challenges at their border where thousands of migrants and refugees are forced to wait in tents, unsafe shelters and locations as they attempt to be listed as refugees in America. With canvas “houses” and a lot of waste and debris, living conditions on the Mexican side of the border for refugees transiting to America are deplorable, they also lack sustainable energy measures, or even basic human amenities and face the threat of gangs, deportations and a very unwilling American border entry. The lack of willingness of the Mexican government to work with the UNHCR in getting these camps recognized, as well as the uncooperative nature of the American government has curtailed initiatives to provide better infrastructure, housing and sanitation.

¹⁰ *Renewable energy policy brief: Brazil*. (n.d.). Retrieved March 18, 2022, from https://www.irena.org/-/media/Files/IRENA/Agency/Publication/2015/IRENA_RE_Latin_America_Policies/IRENA_RE_Latin_America_Policies_2015_Country_Brazil.pdf?la=en&hash=D645B3E7B7DF03BDDAF6EE4F35058B2669E132B1

¹¹ *Brazil's successful refugee policies: A model for the world*. BORGEM. (2021, September 14). Retrieved March 18, 2022, from <https://www.borgenmagazine.com/brazils-successful-refugee-policies/>

Questions A Resolution Must Answer

- How can countries create policies that encourage sustainable energy and housing projects?
- How can we ensure easier access to sustainable energy among refugees and transitory migrants?
- How can we avoid energy shortages in refugee camps?
- How can we ensure that refugee children have sufficient access to sufficient lighting, heating, and cooling?
- How can we avoid conflicts between refugees and host communities regarding access to energy?
- How can we avoid gender-based violence and ensure the protection of refugee women by providing light in the settlements of refugees?
- How can we provide sustainable energy at a lower cost for migrant populations and local communities?

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- International Energy Agency website : <https://www.iea.org>
- UNHCR “Improving refugee and host community access to sustainable energy worldwide”
- <https://www.internal-displacement.org/database/displacement-data>
- <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2020/12/5fc74f754/climate-change-multiplying-risks-displacement.html>
- <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2018/03/19/groundswell---preparing-for-internal-climate-migration>
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), “The Cost of Doing Nothing: The humanitarian Price of Climate Change and How It Can Be Avoided” (Geneva, 2019).
- The Role of Sustainable Energy Access in the Migration Debate ; EU Energy Initiative Dialogue Facility (January 2017)
- IPCC website : <https://www.ipcc.ch/2022/04/04/ipcc-ar6-wgiii-pressrelease/>



PIMUN
2022!