21st-Century Solutions To Ancient Cooking Problems: Displaced Persons and Solar Cooking

6th SCI World Conference

Muni Seva Ashram, Goraj, Gujarat, India

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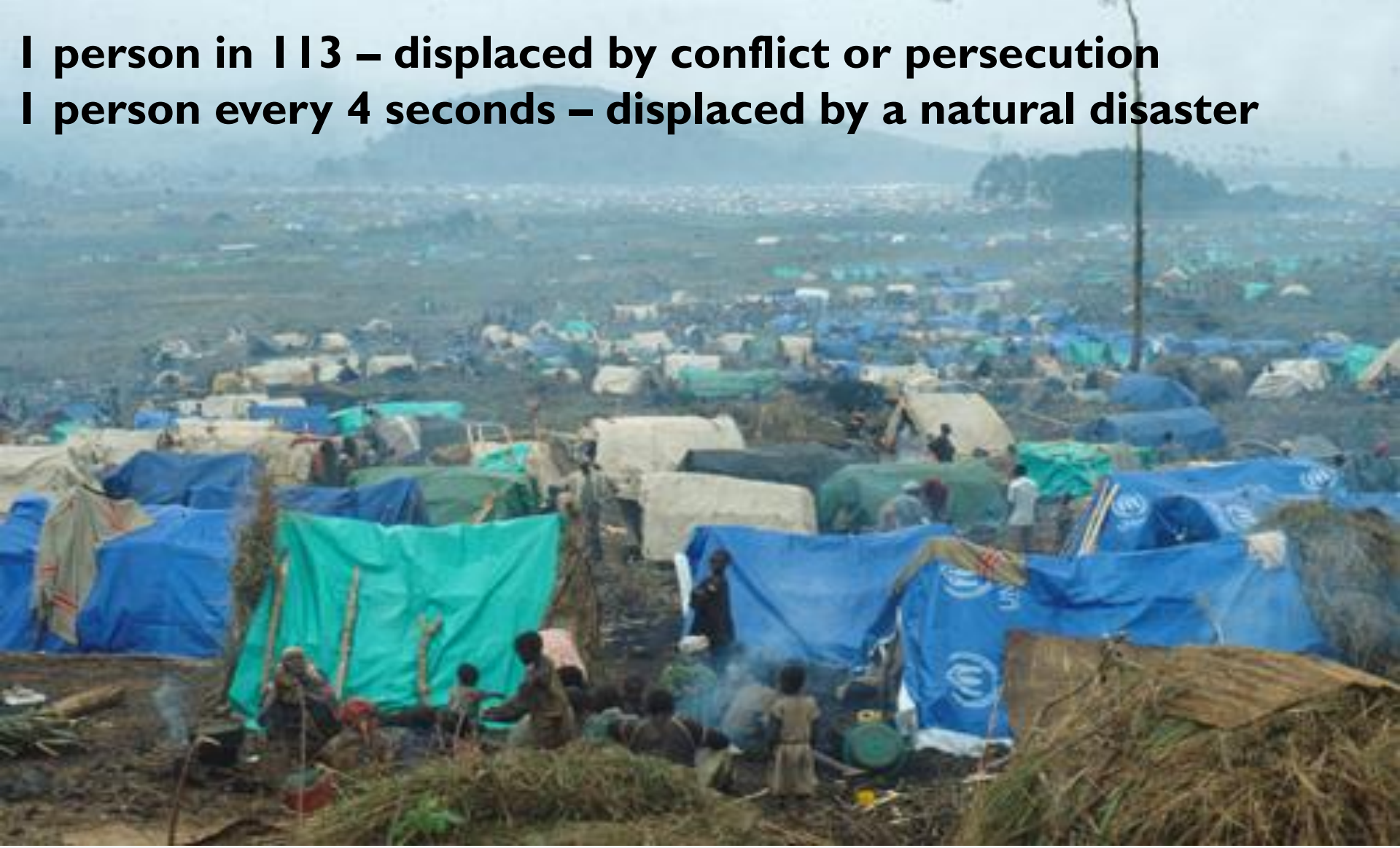
1 person in 113 – displaced by conflict or persecution
1 person every 4 seconds – displaced by a natural disaster



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Refugee and IDP Camp Solar Cooking Series Edit

Immediately below are five articles originally appearing in the SCI Digest, in the Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Solar Cooking series by Julie Greene, Executive Director of Solar Cookers International.

Background Edit

There are more displaced people living in refugee camps and IDP camps than at any time in human history.

People who live in camps have limited access to most things they need for daily life, including energy for cooking and making water safe to drink. The local energy supply is often very limited. And there are rarely sufficient funds to buy energy.

Free solar energy gives people access to energy they need for cooking and water pasteurization. This is critical where the energy supply is diminished and fuel is expensive.

Solar cooking aligns with the United Nations High Commission on Refugee's environmental policy. Solar cooking helps achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). But solar cooking in refugee and IDP camps continues to be an exception.

Have we accurately defined the problem? Do people in refugee

Les femmes réfugiées du Darfour cuisinent solaire

Video shows hundreds of CooKits in use at the Touloum Refugee Camp in Chad.

A refugee in Burkina Faso uses a Blazing Tube solar cooker supplied by UNCHR.

www.SolarCooking.wikia.com/wiki/Refugee_camps

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"Energy use by displaced people is economically, environmentally and socially unsustainable."

1 kg fuel wood per person per day

= 65,300,000 kg of fuel wood per day

= >23 billion kg of fuel wood per year

(>52 billion pounds of fuel wood)

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"That all refugees are able to satisfy their energy needs for cooking and lighting, in a safe and sustainable way, without fear or risk for their health, well-being and personal safety."

UNHCR Global Vision – SAFE Strategy

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EVIDENCE

- **Reduces trips outside camps by 86%**
- **Reduces violence against women**
- **Saves up to 50% of household energy**

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Photo: P. McArdle

"[As a result of solar cookers] there is **more happiness, less violence, less insecurity,** and **I now eat three times per day."**

- Chief of a camp zone, Iridimi camp, Chad 2007.
Jewish World Watch Solar Cooker Project.

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Photo: C. Sansome

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Photo: C. Sansome, J. Greene

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Blazing Tube Solar Cooker (hybrid), Dori Camp (UNHCR), Burkina Faso.

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Photo: J. Grandinetti 2015.

For discussion (gather after tea)

Choice of solar cookers?

Competing priorities?

Funding – Full cycle v. pilot study?

What tools do we have to work with?

Who will I work with?

What is the plan?

What will I commit to?

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Improve health, feed families, protect our environment

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