

READS Programme: Summary and Results

The [Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings \(READS\) programme](#), implemented between 2022 and 2025, produced **evidence-based and context-specific roadmaps** to accelerate sustainable energy access in countries affected by forced displacement. It identified **energy needs, implementation opportunities, and high-impact project concepts across ten countries** to inform humanitarian, development, and financing decisions.

Why READS mattered

Energy access in displacement settings remains **fragmented across humanitarian, development and energy actors**, with limited consolidated evidence to inform policy, programming and investment. **READS addressed this gap** by providing **credible, inclusive and actionable evidence** to support more sustainable and coordinated energy solutions for **displaced and host communities**.

What READS changed

Stronger coordination

- READS created **collaboration spaces** that brought together actors who do not routinely engage on energy in displacement settings and **strengthened country-level dialogue and alignment**.

Improved decision-making

- The reports and project concepts have been used to **brief senior management, inform programme design, support funding proposals, and guide donor engagement**.

Shift in perspectives

- Stakeholders new to the energy sector reported a **stronger understanding of energy as a cross-cutting enabler** for key humanitarian priorities such as **livelihoods, health, education and environmental outcomes**.

Catalyst for implementation

- Several project concepts in Rwanda, Bangladesh, and other countries have moved into implementation, **expanding energy access** for displaced and host communities, supporting **local economic development, and reducing long-term reliance on aid**.

What READS delivered

Action-oriented project pipeline

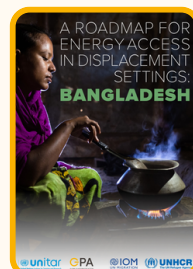
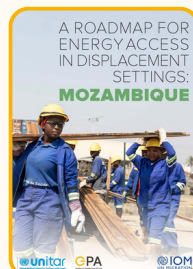
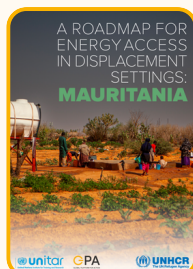
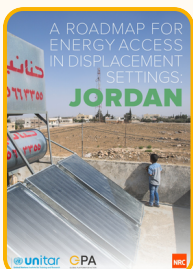
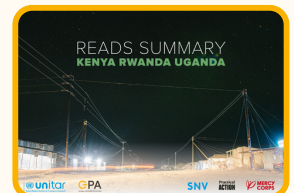
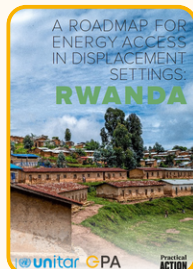
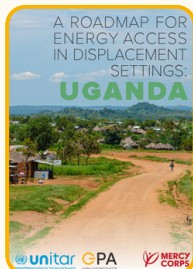
- **63 context-specific project concepts** were designed to support early-stage project design, donor dialogue and replication.
- Project concepts are aligned with **national priorities and existing interventions**, and highlight **partners, indicative costs and enabling factors**.

Inclusive engagement and localisation

- **Ten in-country stakeholder workshops** brought together **290 participants** representing displaced and host communities, governments, NGOs, UN agencies, the private sector, and research organisations.
- **23% of participants were from displacement-affected communities**, exceeding the programme's targets.
- **Nine local Associate Researchers** worked on the project, including seven with lived experience of displacement, to strengthen contextual accuracy and relevance.

Accessible knowledge products

- **Ten country roadmap reports** and an East Africa summary report.
- **Open-access READS Data Platform** which consolidates country overviews, stakeholder mapping and project concepts.
- Nine blog posts that capture **lived experience perspectives** and practical insights.



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The READS workshops convened diverse stakeholders to **co-design high-impact energy projects** which respond to priority challenges in displacement contexts. These set out clear **pathways for implementation, scaling, and inclusive community engagement**, and provide a practical foundation to **mobilise partnerships, investment and expanded access to sustainable energy**.



Project concepts

Country	Number of projects	Investment needed*	READS local partner
Kenya	7 projects	\$9.8 million	SNV
Uganda	6 projects	\$13 million	Mercy Corps
Rwanda	5 projects	\$5.5 million	Practical Action
Lebanon	9 projects	\$36.9 million	Anera & NEF Lebanon
Ethiopia	5 projects	\$30 million	Mercy Corps
Jordan	5 projects	\$4.1 million	NRC
Nigeria	10 projects	\$25.5 million	Mercy Corps
Mauritania	5 projects	\$4.4 million	UNHCR
Mozambique	6 projects	\$8 million	IOM
Bangladesh	5 projects	\$10.8 million	IOM & UNHCR

*Consolidation of estimated costs to support READS project concepts

READS partners

We thank our in-country partners for their strong engagement and local expertise. Their support was essential in grounding the READS work in context, strengthening the quality of the project concepts, and ensuring their relevance, feasibility and impact.



Donor

We thank IKEA Foundation for their generous support to delivering the READS programme and advancing sustainable energy solutions in displacement contexts.



IKEA Foundation