



Fuel Provision and Gender-Based Violence: Fuel-efficiency as a prevention strategy



September 2005

Author: Stephanie Ziebell
Photograph: Maha Muna / UNIFEM

This desk review was undertaken for the Governance, Peace and Security Programme at UNIFEM.

The author would like to acknowledge the contributions of Jessica Beaton of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, Anne Marie Goetz of the Governance, Peace and Security Programme at UNIFEM, Francis James of Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery at UNDP, and Maha Muna of the Governance, Peace and Security Programme at UNIFEM.

The author would also like to thank the Protection Sub-working Group on GBV in Sudan for their comments on the draft desk review.

UNIFEM is the women's fund at the United Nations. It provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies that promote women's human rights, political participation and economic security. UNIFEM works in partnership with UN organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and networks to promote gender equality. It links women's issues and concerns to national, regional and global agendas by fostering collaboration and providing technical expertise on gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment strategies.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
FUEL PROVISION AND GBV	2
Guidelines and Policies	3
Fuel Provision Strategies	6
SELECTED CASE STUDIES	9
Dadaab Refugee Camps, Kenya	9
Darfur, Sudan	11
KNOWLEDGE GAPS	13
CONCLUSION	14
APPENDIX: Annotated Bibliography	i

INTRODUCTION

The specific needs of women and girls in displaced settings, whether as refugees or as internally displaced persons (IDPs), have been the subject of growing levels of concern, and are attracting more focused responses since the mid-1990s. As practitioners, advocates and researchers have focused their attention on the needs and roles of women refugees and IDPs, the literature documenting the link between women's changing roles during their displacement and the increased complexity of conflict has also improved. One area of particular concern is the link between women's roles in the provision of fuel for the household and their vulnerability to gender-based violence (GBV). But more needs to be known not only about the prevalence of GBV outside of camps, but also about the broader security impact of fuel-related violence within camps.

The following desk review is intended to provide a summary of literature relating to the provision of fuel and GBV in displaced settings and add to a growing knowledge-base on the subject among researchers and practitioners. It is also intended to identify key gaps and obstacles in the knowledge on fuel-related issues for displaced people and women in particular. The more comprehensive studies conducted have approached fuel provision and fuel-efficiency from the perspective of environmental sustainability and reducing environmental degradation. Specific literature linking these two issues is limited, and some of the information available may lead to erroneous conclusions about the link between fuel provision and GBV.

In reviewing the related literature, this desk review will identify and summarize the relevant international guidelines and principles on fuel provision and GBV, review two case studies and identify what can be learned from these contexts. Finally, it will seek to identify potential strategic entry points for UNIFEM's Peace and Security programming on the prevention and response to gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict contexts.

The research and analysis undertaken in this review have pointed to several key gaps or obstacles, as well as potential opportunities and recommendations for further

exploration. In summary, the gaps identified in this review around both fuel provision and GBV are the following:

- Specific literature on fuel provision focuses on environmental impact and not on security.
- The causes of and vulnerabilities to GBV in this context are poorly understood.
- Direct fuel provision has been unsustainable and costly.
- There has been lack of coordination in the provision of fuel alternatives.

There is greater potential for coordinated response to and prevention of GBV as it relates to fuel provision. The findings and recommendations of this review indicate that the following strategies may provide sustainable means to address the link between GBV and fuel provision:

- Developing firewood conservation protocols
- Increasing the use of policing strategies
- Using confidence building and rule of law training in GBV as a response strategy
- Fostering collaboration between local research capacities, community organizations and national institutions

FUEL PROVISION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The violence experienced by women in conflict does not happen in isolation. Disparities in rights, limited access to recourse, and restricted autonomy which exist in times of peace exacerbate the impact of violence on women in conflict. This continuum of violence extends into conflict-induced displacement, whether it is among IDPs or refugees. Between 1992 and 1993, much-publicised incidents of rape within Kenyan refugee camps brought the issue of GBV into stark relief for the international community, especially with regard to fuel and fodder provision.¹ Most recently this same issue has reappeared in both the media as well as the international aid community as a point of concern in the Darfur regions of Sudan. Over the last twelve years, progress has been made in better understanding the connection between GBV, security and assistance.

¹ Wangi Kagwanja, Peter. "Ethnicity, gender and violence in Kenya." *Forced Migration Review* 9 (December 2000): 22. <http://www.fmreview.org/FMRpdfs/FMR09/fmr9contents.pdf>.

Until very recently, emergency response plans did not consider GBV protection in their earliest phases. As cross-sectoral collaboration has increased and GBV is better understood, guidelines and guiding principles have begun to outline GBV prevention and response in the earliest phases of planning. The following section will: review the relevant guidelines and policies, summarize strategies used to address GBV and fuel provision, and finally provide two case studies that illustrate both the innovations and shortcomings in fuel related programming and knowledge.

Guidelines and Policies

As early as 1993, UNHCR issued guidelines on sexual violence among refugees. This first set of guidelines was titled *Sexual Violence Against Refugees: Guidelines on Prevention and Response*. Where mentioned, fuel provision was noted as a security issue when women left camps. At about the same time, UNHCR implemented specific programming to address GBV. One such initiative was titled “Women Victims of Violence Project” (WVVP). In both the WVVP and Guidelines, the GBV focus rested mainly on sexual violence rather than a more broadly defined GBV response. Beginning in 2001, the RHRC advocated for the inclusion of sexual violence under the umbrella of GBV, laying the groundwork for programming based on multi-sectoral approaches (using legal, physical and social mechanisms).²

In recent years, UNHCR has begun to include fuel provision as an explicit cause or risk factor for GBV. It has noted that scarcity of food, fuel and income generation opportunities may cause women to venture into isolated areas, leading to potential insecurity.³ Researchers and practitioners are increasingly advocating for approaching protection within refugee and IDP setting from a broader perspective, as well as asking that threats to security be seen as part of a spectrum rather than narrow definitions.⁴

² Ward, Jeanne. “If Not Now, When? Addressing Gender-based Violence in Refugee, Internally Displaced, and Post Conflict Settings: A Global Overview.” The Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium (2002): 11.

³ Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons. Guidelines for Prevention and Response, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 1 May 2003. [Accessed 21 June 2005] <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/protect/openssl.pdf?tbl=PROTECTION&id=3f696bcc4>

⁴ Fagen, Patricia Weiss. “Protecting Refugee Women and Children.” *International Migration*, Vol 41, No 1 (2003): 80.

According to this research, the solutions to this type of security risk would be most successful if they were multi-sectoral in order to reflect the issue's breadth.

Beginning with the WVVP, a number of approaches have been used to address the intersection of fuel and fodder provision with refugee and IDP women's security. In many IDP and refugee settings, the primary cooking system used is "an open fire surrounded by three stones on which cooking materials rest. Simple, but inefficient in terms of energy loss, the result, in some instances, has been an excessively high consumption of firewood, with consequent environmental damage."⁵ Because of the visible environmental degradation caused by this method, the most common approaches to addressing excessive firewood collection have focused on fuel-efficiency. The four main strategies used have been:

- new fuel-efficient technologies,
- alternative fuels,
- camp location and size,
- cultivation and/or reforestation of local vegetation.

Each of these fuel-efficiency techniques has been employed in a variety of instances with varied results and lessons learned. Of these four groups of strategies, the first two have been used most often when refugee and IDP security has been compromised. The latter have been more common when resources around refugee camps have been limited. In the past, the use of fuel-efficient technologies has included new types of stoves or stoves that use replaceable fuels such as kerosene. Strategies have also included the introduction of fast-cooking food staples, such as rice and potatoes.⁶ The use of existing yet potentially inefficient materials such as biomass, dung, and human energy as fuel has provided creative solutions in insecure or resource-poor environments.⁷

⁵ "Evaluation of Energy-Saving Options for Refugees." UNHCR in "Reducing Environmental Damage Caused by the Collection of Cooking Fuel by Refugees." *Refuge*, Volume 21, No 1 (2002): 19.

⁶ Lynch, Maureen. "Reducing Environmental Damage Caused by the Collection of Cooking Fuel by Refugees." *Refuge*, Vol 21, No 1 (2002): 24.

⁷ Ibid 23.

In 2002 UNHCR published *Cooking Options in Refugee Situations: A Handbook of Experiences in Energy Conservation and Alternative Fuels*. Chapter 5 of this publication outlines “When” and “How” to supply fuel by describing two possible scenarios. The first situation is when an “unacceptable amount of time and labour to secure sufficient energy” is required to cook the minimum rations, and when specific groups, such as women and girls, are targeted for banditry and assault.⁸ This handbook asks that those responsible for assessing a particular situation note the differential between the security threats posed outside of the camps and the security situation within the camps. They state, “fuel supply is not the easy solution to security problems that have more deep-rooted causes,” noting that fuel supply programs are very difficult to scale down once they have been implemented.⁹ This caution may have been in response to criticism leveled against the costliness of direct firewood provision programs.

It is also important to note that the scarcity of consolidated, specific, GBV-related data in individual camps may also lead to misjudgments regarding the relationship between GBV and fuel provision. In contexts where firewood projects have been implemented to address incidents of rape occurring outside of the camps, there has not necessarily been an overall long-term reduction in GBV. As part of an exhaustive review of GBV among displaced settings it was noted in one particular case, “the greatest majority of reported rapes occurred in residential areas of the camps, not outside while survivors collected firewood, as is commonly believed.” By better understanding where incidents of GBV take place, it would be easier to correlate fuel provision and GBV.¹⁰

According to the *Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings* (2005), a key consideration for any fuel distribution and collection initiative must be the generally high cost involved, as well as how sustainable the initiative might be, both in terms of duration as well as environmental impact. The Guidelines state that the following actions should be taken when considering the implementation of a fuel provision initiative:

⁸ *Cooking Options in Refugee Situations: A Handbook of Experience in Energy Conservation and Alternative Fuels*. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (December 2002): 38.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Vann, Beth. “Gender-Based Violence: Emerging Issues in Programs Serving Displaced Populations.” GBV Global Technical Support Project, JSI Research and Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium (2002): 64.

1. Assess and analyse information about the location(s), routes, means, and personal safety for collecting cooking and heating fuel. Participate in the coordinated situational analysis.
2. Reduce fuel consumption by implementing saving measures.
3. Implement strategies to increase safety and security during fuel collection.
4. When feasible and appropriate, request and ensure adequate funding to meet temporary fuel needs during the early stages of an emergency and/or to provide fuel to community members unable to collect their own fuel.
5. Coordinate with the GBV working group, which includes providing information to security authorities and the community, about the location and circumstances of reported cases of sexual violence during fuel collection. Information shared must be done in accordance with the guiding principle of confidentiality and anonymity for survivors/victims.¹¹

Fuel Provision Strategies

Some of the more comprehensive studies conducted relating to fuel-efficiency have stemmed from the perspective of reducing environmental damage, rather than from a specific security concern for women and girls. One such report noted however, that some of the coping mechanisms IDPs have developed were not due to concern for the environment; rather these environmental alternatives acted as measures for increasing security.¹² One particular study focused on the resettlement of largely urban IDPs in Angola to a rural setting. The resettlement did not take into account the availability of natural resources, including fuel wood. While firewood was one particular potential use, fuel wood may have also been used for shelter or tools, neither of which was provided to the IDP population. The subsequent security threats to women were numerous: walking long distances, the threat of assault, exhaustion, organizing the supervision of children

¹¹ Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence. The Interagency Standing Committee, Peer Review Draft (June 2005): 61. [accessed 2 July 2005]
<http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/IASC%20products/GBV%20Guidelines%20PeerReviewDraft%206Jun05.pdf>

¹² Lynch 20.

while they were away, not being able to participate in food-for-work programs, and the threat of landmines.¹³

The result was complex. Women asked for an increase in the provision of either non-food items or support for agricultural production which would both garner a higher yield in both the market and in the fields. This not only created a misleading impression that there was a reduced demand for fuel wood within the camps, but it also created fuel wood scarcity on the local market. Within this context, the recommendations were to increase women's education on efficient cooking techniques, providing appropriate cooking devices to IDPs, and demonstrating tangible benefits to sustainability. This particular author also called for a better understanding of the complex relationship between "peoples' needs and behaviour and the local environment."¹⁴

Perhaps the most streamlined statement on GBV and displaced populations is outlined in Action Sheet 7.3 of the IASC Guidelines (2005). As mentioned in the previous section, this most recent set of recommendations not only explicitly states that fuel collection can create an environment where GBV is likely to take place, but also that "local/host communities may not want or permit displaced people to take fuel wood from nearby areas, or there may be other concerns related to environmental degradation. Some displaced women collect and sell fuel wood to make an income; a free fuel distribution system will adversely affect these people."¹⁵ The GBV working group of the IASC observed that by promoting the training of women to construct their own fuel-efficient stoves, they were able to reduce the amount of firewood ultimately needed for their cooking. In reducing the necessary firewood, they were able to cut down on the amount of time and distance travelled while collecting firewood. Problems with security and access delayed extending this project to all IDPs in this particular case.¹⁶

To supplement these strategies, the IASC provided four examples of fuel collection initiatives which responded to a demonstrated need for GBV response or protection. The

¹³ Kreidler, Corinna. "The provision of household energy: Coping mechanisms of internally displaced people in Benguela Province, Angola." *Boiling Point*, No 46 (2001).

¹⁴ Ibid 13.

¹⁵ Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence (June 2005): 61.

¹⁶ Ibid 63.

four cases were in Darfur (Sudan), Dadaab Refugee Camps (Kenya), Kasulu Refugee Camp (Tanzania), and Bhutanese Refugee Camps (Nepal). The following measures were taken to respond to instances of GBV relating to the provision of firewood in each of the following instances:

- **Darfur, Sudan** – The African Union conducted patrols along “commonly used firewood collection routes.”
- **Dadaab Refugee Camps, Kenya** – 30% of household firewood was distributed through a general ration to all registered households.
- **Kasulu Refugee Camp, Tanzania** – “Refugees were transported by truck to collect firewood.”
- **Bhutanese Refugee Camps, Nepal** – Kerosene was distributed to households within the refugee camps.¹⁷

For the purposes of illustrating promising current initiatives, in addition to the above programming examples, Oxfam International and Relief International have worked in Kebkabiya, Sudan (Darfur) on fuel-efficient stove alternatives. They piloted a mud stove program in early 2005. According to their reports, as recently as May 2005 over 2,500 women had learned to make these alternative stoves out of mud, clay, water, and donkey dung. Kebkabiya experienced an influx of over 60,000 IDPs leading to firewood shortages and subsequent security problems for women as they ventured further away from town to gather fuel. According to Oxfam, the new stoves, which are small enough to be carried by one person, have allowed women to use half the normal amount of firewood, leading to fewer trips outside of town. The process of making the stoves takes roughly three weeks and includes both a course in stove construction and fuel-efficient cooking techniques. The project is seen as having a secondary benefit – reducing the impact of IDPs on the environment.¹⁸

¹⁷ Ibid 60.

¹⁸“Fuel-efficient stoves improve the lives of women in Kebkabiya.” Oxfam International. 5 May 2005. (accessed 20 June 2005)
http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/where_we_work/sudan/emergency/stoves.htm.

Selected Case Studies

This desk review looked at a variety of materials, but the following two case studies are useful in illustrating both the development of innovations to address GBV and fuel provision, and the gaps which have emerged from these contexts. The following case studies illustrate two specific displacement contexts, one refugee and the other IDP, in which GBV and fuel provision programming has been implemented and in the case of the Dadaab camps, evaluated. While these two cases by no means represent the entire range of fuel related programming, they share characteristics of a number of other contexts in which vulnerable populations seek refuge and fuel. Both sets of camps are located in remote, desert-like environment which has proven problematic in both accessing the displaced populations as well as in planning for sustainable solutions to a very resource-poor terrain. The Dadaab camps provide a long-term view of GBV efficiency related projects, while the Darfur context provides a timely evolving example of lessons learned over the last ten years.

- **Dadaab Refugee Camps, Kenya**

In 1991 three refugee camps were established in northern Kenya to accommodate Somali refugees, as well as refugees from Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia. Publicity about rapes occurring when women and girls left the camps to gather firewood raised international awareness of the banditry and assault taking place. Interestingly, the alarm over the number of rapes was raised not by the refugees; rather it was the intensified medical assistance requested which brought the issue to the attention of camp administrators.¹⁹ As a result, in 1993 UNHCR implemented a camp security initiative which also encompassed anti-violence programming. This programme was the previously mentioned WVVP. In 1995 UNHCR passed this programme on to Care International, which steadily increased programming to include social services and gender-sensitivity training and community mobilization.²⁰

¹⁹ A Review of UNHCR's Women Victims of Violence Project in Kenya. Inspection and Evaluation Service, March 1996.

²⁰ UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women and Guidelines on Their Protection: An Assessment of Ten Years of Implementation. An independent assessment by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children (2002): 73.

Following an evaluation of UNHCR's WVVP in 1996, the United States government funded a firewood collection initiative to be implemented by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). The project aimed to both rehabilitate the environment surrounding the camps as well as reduce conflicts about resources between local communities and the refugee population. According to the Independent Assessment conducted by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children (*UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women and Guidelines on their Protection: An Assessment of Ten Years of Implementation*), the Firewood Project "tended to view firewood as a 'cause' of rape, rather than a convenient context" in which GBV could occur.²¹ One of the stated objectives of the programme was to prevent further violence from occurring. This approach failed to deal with sexual violence within a broader context and instead treated fuel provision as a "technical fix."²² An observation made in the Review noted that while measures taken to increase women's security outside of the camp were moderately successful, they achieved "little progress in addressing the overwhelmingly gender- and age-specific protection problems occurring outside the camp." According to this Review, the cultural requirements around who collects firewood and who herds goats created obstacles to developing alternative solutions.²³

While the highest numbers of documented rapes in the Dadaab camps occurred between 1992 and 1993, approximately 90% of rapes reported between 1996 and 1997 took place while the survivors were gathering firewood or tending to livestock. Rapes continued to be reported through 1998.²⁴ There are now three camps located in the Dadaab region of Kenya which have continued to receive international assistance from a range of international actors over the last 13 years, and women's security has continued to be an issue of concern to camps residents as well as those providing assistance.

As recently as mid-2004 refugees in the Dadaab camps were receiving prototypes of solar cookers to test the viability of using this technology in areas where firewood was scarce. According to a press brief, the newest prototype was one of almost ten that have been introduced over the last couple of decades. Preliminary results noted that the new solar-cookers were widely accepted among refugees, but also indicated that there would

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid and A Review of UNHCR's Women Victims of Violence Project (1996).

²³ A Review of UNHCR's Women Victims of Violence Project (1996).

²⁴ Mwangi Kagwanja 22 – 25.

be resistance to unfamiliar technology. The long-term benefits of the cookers have yet to be determined. The costs incurred in delivery, training, and awareness-raising need to be evaluated. The focus of the programming continues to rest on environmental impact, rather than on GBV or women's security. According to UNHCR, "the cookers on their own cannot completely eliminate the problems of deforestation and the risks to refugees of firewood collection. But used in conjunction with other traditional techniques such as tree planting and selective logging, UNHCR hopes the cookers can have a positive impact on the environment and lessen the impact of large scale refugee influxes."²⁵

- **Darfur, Sudan**

An estimated 1.6 million people have been displaced as a result of conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan. As is well known, livelihood strategies of displaced people – whether refugees or IDPs – are interrupted by conflict. Over the last two years, the conflict in Darfur has drawn the attention of the international community; with some focus on conflict-related GBV taking place both prior to and after displacement. As with the Dadaab camps in Kenya, media and international organisation attention has also been drawn to incidents of GBV and sexual violence occurring when individuals leave camps to collect firewood, fuel and to tend to livestock.

Many women and girls experienced GBV while fleeing attacks on their homes, so the threat to their security extended from the initial flight to their arrival in the camps. Many have been retraumatised once they reach their refuge site. Traditionally, the provision of firewood and fuel has been the responsibility of women. This has remained true among refugee and IDP communities. Women have also shouldered much of the burden of travelling to nearby markets despite threats to their security. As a number of reports noted, "Difficult household decisions have been made that select the least risk strategy – better to risk being raped than being killed."²⁶ A large number of IDPs rely almost completely on assistance through rations and often find that begging and firewood collection are the only livelihood strategies available to them. Firewood collection (either

²⁵ "Solar cooker offers ray of hope for refugee environment." UNHCR News Stories. 4 Jun 2004 (accessed 22 June 2005).

<http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/news/opendoc.htm?tbl=NEWS&page=home&id=40c08d4b4>

²⁶ Akililu, Yacob, Babiker Badri, Rebecca Dale, Abdul Monim Osman, Helen Young. "Darfur: Livelihoods Under Siege: Executive Summary and Recommendations." Final Report, Annex 2 (February 2005): 11.

for personal use or for sale) constitutes a security risk for both men and women. Once outside the camp or town perimeter, men may face physical assault or death and women sexual assault.²⁷

For some of the IDPs in Darfur it had been relatively safe to venture into surrounding *wadis* to search for firewood and straw, but as the surrounding vegetation was increasingly depleted, women found that they had to venture further away, once again raising the risk of GBV. At least one NGO was reportedly considering introducing alternative fuels in mid-2004. As mentioned earlier, the relationship between the provisioning of firewood and other fuels may not directly reflect the actual need for the fuel. It is possible that IDPs gather firewood and straw for resale. This may reflect a fear of current or future food insecurity, or a deficiency in some other portion of what is included in the IDP rations.²⁸ Even if women are able to gather firewood for resale, one report indicated that they may be prevented from accessing the market because of exclusionary sourcing practices in the local marketplace which favor local residents over displaced persons.²⁹

It is reasonable to assume that some individuals may take the risk of gathering firewood in order to resell it, no matter the security consequences. However, this does not preclude those charged with GBV prevention and response from trying to establish initiatives that may make the risk tolerable as long as the benefits remain appealing enough. Both the recent report issued jointly by researchers from the Feinstein International Famine Center at Tufts University and Ahfad University for Women in Sudan and field reports from UNIFEM on Darfur, noted the imperative of registering women heads of household (WHH). Given the reliance on rations, WHH need to be as visible as possible so that they too might receive rations appropriate for themselves and those entrusted to their care.³⁰

While the Feinstein/Ahfad study focused primarily on livelihood strategies, and not on GBV specifically, the issues are clearly connected. An estimated 60% of IDP households

²⁷ Ibid, Annex 6 10.

²⁸ Crisis in the Darfurs: Report on West Darfur and South Darfur, UNIFEM (June 2004): 6.

²⁹ Akilu, Annex 1 4.

³⁰ Crisis in the Darfurs 4.

are female-headed.³¹ By extension, the segment of the population most vulnerable to GBV now also constitutes the majority of those responsible for sustaining the livelihood of their families. Some IDPs may fear the threat of future loss of livelihood strategies, such as the death or theft of livestock, and try to curtail this loss by venturing into firewood collection for resale. Given this complex economic and humanitarian relationship, if a sustainable solution to fuel provision-related GBV is to be reached, it must take into consideration both a comprehensive understanding of security as well as viable IDP and refugee livelihood strategies.

KNOWLEDGE GAPS

As has already been mentioned in this paper, a number of gaps in current GBV and fuel provision programming strategies have been identified over the last fifteen years: the specific literature on fuel provision focusing on environmental impact and not on security, the poorly understood causes of and vulnerabilities to GBV, the unsustainable and costly nature of fuel provision programming, and the lack of coordination in providing fuel alternatives.

A contributing factor to programming gaps may be often-conflicting priorities in assessing programming impact such as the choice of using quantitative or qualitative measures. As Beth Vann pointed out in *Gender-Based Violence: Emerging Issues in Programs Serving Displaced Populations*, when data on GBV is scarce or inaccurate, it can be difficult to arrive at a complete assessment of a particular security threat. In the instance cited by Vann from Tanzania, the data available on rape incidents indicated that the primary threat to women in this particular case did not necessarily come from gathering firewood as had been thought; rather it came from within the camp itself.³² Vann recommended that GBV coordinators use information on the location of GBV incidents to develop better monitoring and evaluation techniques for the purposes of assessing GBV prevention and response programming. Although this report has focused primarily on GBV threats outside of camp perimeters, part of what Vann implies in this

³¹ IDP Project. The Global IDP Database (accessed 1 July 2005).

<http://www.idpproject.org/sites/idpsurvey.nsf/wViewCountries/67A8B25018EC96D4C1256DAB00520238>

³² Vann 64.

criticism of data is that the link between GBV and firewood does not exist entirely outside the camps. Shifting responsibilities within camp settings and high levels of anxiety may raise the risk of refugee or IDP perpetrated GBV.

In particularly dangerous instances, UNHCR has provided firewood directly to refugee families as a short-term intervention. This has been done in order to address serious security threats to women but as has been noted before, this solution is far from sustainable. The costs incurred by this kind of provision are very expensive and do not necessarily address the larger issue nor do they contribute to broad-based prevention strategies. Given the cost involved, Patricia Weiss Fagen noted that the sustainability gap might be addressed through more community-based initiatives, such as having men accompany women as they gather firewood.³³ This strategy may have been successful in some instances, but as in the case mentioned before in Darfur, men face the threat of being killed if they venture out of a protected environment. In this case the risk of GBV is considered to be lesser than that of death.

On the subject of fuel-efficiency, Fagen cautions that some alternative fuels and technologies require extensive training which can require more dedicated staff, translating into higher programming costs. In a recent article on new solar cookers tested in the Dadaab camps in Kenya, UNHCR was optimistic about their effectiveness. The new prototype took less time to assemble than previous versions. According to the article, integrating the cookers into daily life requires considerable effort on the part of staff and can be quite costly to initiate. The measured success of these cookers in Kenya is mostly linked in part to the persistent severe shortage of firewood and the continued threat of GBV. Working to integrate new technology would be less effective if firewood were abundant in the area surrounding the camps.³⁴

CONCLUSION

As the preceding case studies and background literature illustrate, steps have been taken by a variety of actors to address the link between GBV and fuel provision. The two

³³ Fagen 81.

³⁴ "Solar cooker offers ray of hope for refugee environment." UNHCR, Geneva. 4 June 2005. <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendoc.htm?tbl=NEWS&id=40c08d4b4&page=protect>

case studies used in this desk review are perhaps the two most well-documented instances of the link between fuel provision and GBV. Unfortunately, they also serve to illustrate the complexity of this relationship and the considerable challenges in the way of effective protection of women and prevention of GBV. It was over ten years ago that the direct link between firewood and rape was extensively documented, and yet it persists today as a serious security issue not only in more recent humanitarian crises, but also among the very same refugee and IDP populations in which it first emerged. Women's physical and psychological well-being continues to be compromised as they seek to sustain themselves and those in their care even as they are uprooted from their homes.

The protracted security threat faced by women and girls in the Dadaab camps threatens to be echoed among displaced populations in both Darfur and Chad, but most particularly in the IDP camps in Darfur. The mud stove initiative undertaken by Oxfam and Relief International, combined with the push toward greater inter-agency coordination may help to control how persistent a security risk fuel provision remains. It was as recent as February 2005 that the *Inter-Agency Evaluation of the Humanitarian Response to the Darfur Crisis* suggested fuel-efficient stoves as a prevention measure.³⁵ The Oxfam/ Relief International programme began that same month.

In March 2005, the United Kingdom's House of Commons published a report titled *Darfur, Sudan: The Responsibility to Protect* in which it outlined concerns about gaps in humanitarian coordination, specifically with regard to IDP camp management. This observation was in contrast with the confidence held in UNHCR's coordination of the refugee camps in Chad. The concerns articulated about the IDP camps were in relation to threats of violence faced by IDPs once they reached the camps, and specifically the threat of rape and GBV of women and girls. This report highlighted again the risk evaluation undertaken by displaced persons in choosing between the greater threat – rape or death. According to this report, police patrols along firewood routes had been effective in at least one camp (Al Sherif).³⁶

³⁵ Inter-Agency Evaluation of the Humanitarian Response to the Darfur Crisis, Recommendation 28 (Feb 2005). <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/darfur/uploads/releases/OCHA-Evaluation%20of%20the%20Humanitarian%20Response%20to%20the%20Darfur%20Crisis%20-%2003%20mar%2005.pdf>

³⁶ "Darfur, Sudan: The responsibility to protect." Fifth Report of Session 2004–05 Volume I. House of Commons International Development Committee (March 2005) 26-27.

Broadly speaking, innovation in fuel technologies and strategies to manage fuel usage seem to have been studied primarily for their potential environmental sustainability. The criticism of firewood collection programmes has focused on their apparent one-dimensional prescription for a specific type of GBV, such as rape. This was the case with the criticism leveled at the firewood collection program in the Dadaab camps. The idea of integrating local community knowledge and resources with expertise provided by international actors is not new. Local capacity building initiatives were suggested in Burundi as a way of integrating fuel-efficiency and security.³⁷ Other suggestions combining women's skill and knowledge capacity have included the use of teaching new cooking techniques, such as using lids on pots, using metal pots, and extinguishing fires after use.³⁸ The more recent research relating to IDPs in Darfur and refugees in Chad seems to indicate that international actors, as well as community groups, are seeking to develop more robust approaches to GBV prevention and response.

Strategies not covered in the examples listed by the IASC include firewood conservation protocols, policing strategies, and using confidence building and rule of law training as a strategy for responding to GBV. In 1998 two Refugees International researchers advocated for the development of firewood conservation protocols which would set standards for how firewood would be used in IDP or refugee camps. The implementation of these protocols was not elaborated, but the implication was that the protocols would be put into practice in the earliest stages of a humanitarian response. The protocols would include prevention measures such as conservation-oriented cooking techniques not unlike some of the techniques listed above.³⁹ In Darfur, the African Union has been engaged in patrolling frequently used firewood collection routes. If there is a sufficient security force presence, an expanded policing strategy might provide a deterrent to

³⁷ Grimsich, Greg and Matthew Owen. "Environmental programmes with refugees: abandon the blanket approach?" *Forced Migration Review* 3 (December 1998): 9. <http://www.fmreview.org/FMRpdfs/FMR03/fmr3contents.pdf>

³⁸ Mooney, Erin. "Internal Displacement and Gender: Notes for Presentation." OHCHR to Humanitarian Principles Workshop: Focus on a Child Rights Approach to Complex Emergencies and Internal Displacement. Organized by UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes and Brussels Office (October 1998) (accessed 28 June 2005). http://www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/Internal_Displcmt_Gender.htm

³⁹ Fitzgerald, Mary Anne and Shep Lowman. "Protect Refugee Women as They Gather Firewood." *International Herald Tribune*. 27 August 1998. <http://www.refugeesinternational.org/content/article/detail/1110/>

would-be attackers as women collect firewood for camp use or transport firewood to market.

In Darfur, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Rescue Committee have been engaged in a human rights and rule of law programme initiative since September 2004. One of the stated objectives of this programme is to build confidence between the IDP community and local authorities. To achieve these objectives, the programme aims at educating potential victims, survivors and perpetrators of human rights violations on basic human rights principles. Members of the police force, legal community, unions (students and women), university professors and teachers, and business owners, all participated in the programme. Through building trust between these groups, UNDP and IRC hoped to increase IDP security as well as work to prevent further instances of GBV through prevention measures. According to the interim report:

One of the main purposes of this training is to address the immediate threats to displaced women and to promote access to justice and accountability, particularly with respect to SGBV. To serve this purpose, the training makes specific provision for the inclusion of female law-enforcement and judiciary officials. While a worthy end in itself, building the capacity of educated Sudanese women working in Rule of Law institutions may also serve to defend and protect female IDPs and returnees.⁴⁰

The RHRC report from 2002 and the Feinstein/Ahfad study completed in February 2005 both suggest using national-level strategies to confront the link between GBV and fuel provision.⁴¹ The majority of the programming initiatives highlighted throughout this report focus on coordination between international actors and the displaced community. As suggested by the Feinstein/Ahfad study, there may be an opportunity in Darfur in particular to use national level mechanisms such as the Forestry Department of the Ministry of Agriculture to coordinate more sustainable, long-term institutionalized response to the problem of firewood scarcity. This kind of collaboration may foster trust,

⁴⁰ Promoting Human Rights and Rule of Law in Darfur, Sudan: UNDP, IRC, PLACE Rule of Law Project, Second Interim Report (March 2005): 10.

⁴¹ Ward 29 and Akilu 10.

as emphasized in the UNDP/IRC programme, between governmental authority and displaced communities. As demonstrated by the UNDP/IRC programme and the Feinstein/Ahfad study, the potential of harnessing local research capacity, community organisations like the Sudan Women's Union, and international expertise may prevent a long-term GBV crisis.

UNIFEM is uniquely positioned to lend this kind of leadership of development expertise on the ground. Using its relationships with local and national women's organizations, both within the public sector and among NGOs, and its position among international actors, UNIFEM has a comparative advantage in working at the intersection of multi-sectoral and multi-lateral coordination. Through both UNIFEM's comprehensive understanding of how women are impacted by conflict, especially with regard to GBV, and connections already established with women's organisations through the North-South dialogues in Sudan, finding dynamic solutions to GBV prevention and response in Darfur is possible. Capacity building potential coupled with the research conducted on fuel alternatives could be implemented in other areas, and not exclusively in the context of Darfur. This concept is not without precedent. UNIFEM's support of the African Women in Crisis programme (AFWIC) was catalytic not only in supporting the needs of Burundian refugees in Tanzania, but also in ensuring that women's voices were included in the peace process.⁴² Using the lessons learned from years of GBV and fuel-efficiency programming in Kenya, as well as innovative techniques such as those undertaken by Oxfam and Relief International in Darfur implies that durable solutions to the threat of GBV are possible in the near-future.

⁴² Inclusive Security, *Sustainable Peace: A Toolkit for Advocacy and Action*. International Alert and Women Waging Peace (2004): Chapter 5: 11. <http://www.womenwagingpeace.net/toolkit.asp>

APPENDIX

Annotated Bibliography

Source	Summary
Aklilu, Yacob, Babiker Badri, Rebecca Dale, Abdul Monim Osman, Helen Young. "Darfur: Livelihoods Under Siege: Executive Summary and Recommendations, Final Report." 2005.	Covering six case studies in all three states of Darfur, this report largely focuses on the impact of conflict on livelihood strategies. However, it also discusses fuel provision as a security risk and suggests an opportunity for collaboration and sharing of critical knowledge between international agencies and the Forestry Ministry to enhance the sustainability of fuel provision.
Benjamin, Judy A., and Khadija Fancy. "The Gender Dimensions of Internal Displacement: Concept Paper and Annotated Bibliography." Submitted to the Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF. Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. 1998. www.forcedmigration.org/sphere/pdf/watsan/WCRWC/unicef_idpgender_1998.pdf	This paper was written to guide UNICEF and other agencies in developing appropriate gender responsive programming in IDP settings. The paper specifically addresses measures for ensuring women's protection, including the recommendation that guidelines address specific, rather than general, security issues. Among these is the issue of fuel provision (pg 18): "Basic everyday chores become risky when women venture out in search of firewood or water – activities that greatly increase their vulnerability to physical attacks." The paper also suggests that a coordinating body be established to facilitate IDP protection. It outlines the ways in which international organisations can better meet the needs of IDPs given their existing mandates.
Fagen, Patricia Weiss. "Protecting Refugee Women and Children." <i>International Migration</i> , Vol 41 (1), pp 75-86. 2003.	This article reviews the intersection between the protection of women and children in the refugee context, with particular focus on two evaluations commissioned in 2001. The report on the protection of children was conducted by Valid International and the other by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. This article highlighted positive steps taken to increase women's protection, including the establishment of the "Guidelines on the Protection of Refugee Women" as well as UNHCR's People Oriented Planning framework. The author notes that while refugees' legal protection is clearly outlined, their physical protection was just beginning to be strengthened at the time of the article's publication. The manifestations of the legal protections offered to refugees help guarantee their security. She notes however, that violence within refugee communities is still poorly understood and frequently neglected. The author uses the example of firewood collection to illustrate the necessity of approaching protection broadly. She notes "Women who gather firewood are at risk of

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
	<p>physical harm, ranging from rape to physical assault.” The solutions to this kind of risk should be multi-sectoral (legal, physical and social mechanisms). UNHCR has in the past provided firewood to refugees, but it was at great cost. Where possible, camp officials have been able to convince men to accompany women and girls while they gather firewood and fodder. Even with the introduction of fuel alternatives and fuel-efficient technologies, these require training and increased staff involvement. Advocates of women’s empowerment argue for greater participation of women in camp leadership, but often shortages of essentials meant that women were reluctant to enter public spaces or they were unable to because of the need to travel long distances for firewood, fuel or fodder, leaving little time to meet, organize or participate in income generating activities. Finally, the authors emphasize that while this article focuses primarily on refugees, the recommendations and issues are intended to extend to internally displaced communities.</p>
<p>House of Commons International Development Committee. “Darfur, Sudan: The responsibility to protect. Fifth Report of Session 2004–05 Volume I.” 2005. http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/200405/cmselect/cmintdev/67/67i.pdf</p>	<p>This report issued by the UK House of Commons in March 2005 gives a very extensive overview of the history of the conflict in Darfur, evaluation of the international community’s response to the conflict, and ensuing humanitarian crisis. The report also comments on the crisis in Darfur within the context of other global issues such as the Tsunami of December 2004. GBV and rape are discussed explicitly, as well as the connection to firewood/ fuel provision.</p>
<p>Human Rights Watch. “Sexual Violence and its Consequences among Displaced Persons in Darfur and Chad.” 2005. http://hrw.org/backgrounder/africa/darfur0505/</p>	<p>Using statistics available from NGOs on the ground in Darfur, this April 2005 report issued by Human Rights Watch details the extent of GBV experienced by many of the IDPs and refugees (in both Darfur and Chad). According to their sources, 82% of women treated for rape had been assaulted while looking for firewood. HRW gives a series of recommendations including the following: “- Assess the risk of sexual and gender-based violence within and outside refugee and displaced camps and adopt steps to minimize the risk of further violence to women and girls, including through the provision of alternative fuel sources, provision of fodder, and implementation of income-generating activities. Provide support to agencies seeking to provide alternative sources of fuel and fodder as well as jobs or income-generating activities for women and girls in the internally displaced camps in Darfur and Chad.” (pg 18)</p>

**Source information provided by the Women’s Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*

Source	Summary
Intermediate Technology and Development Group Background Sample No. 1: Training of Trainers on Improved Stoves for Promotion in Darfur's Internal Displacement Camps.*	This article provides a background on a program to promote mud stoves as a first step in addressing the fuel problem for refugee women. This stage is to be followed by study and recommendations for subsequent steps. The goals of this program are to stop the deforestation, environmental degradation and pollution that has occurred due to fuel collection by IDPs in greater Darfur, by shifting cooking methods to a more fuel efficient system. This program used a Trainers of Trainer's (TOT) method to empower women and also to create a skills network through which the distributions of "final-choice" technologies, whatever they may be, will be easier.
Kreidler, Corinna. "The provision of household energy: Coping mechanisms of internally displaced people in Benguela Province, Angola." <i>Boiling Point, No 46</i> (Spring). 2001. http://www.itdg.org/?id=bp46_abs1	This brief article summarizes the ways in which Angolan IDPs in Benguela Province adapted to a resource-poor and largely urban environment. In 2000, a large number of the urban IDPs were resettled in a rural environment without taking into account multiple factors, including the availability of natural resources (fuel wood included). The author notes that IDPs often have need of wood for reasons beyond firewood, such as for shelter and tools. The security impact on women when wood is scarce includes: walking long distances, the threat of assault, exhaustion, organizing supervision of children while they are gone, not being able to participate in fuel-for-work programs, and landmines. Residents may also "impede the access of IDPs to fuelwood." Because of the limiting factors to collecting fuelwood, women asked for an increase in the provision of other items so they could then sell them for fuelwood. Not only did this seem to reduce the need for fuelwood, it also raised the price of fuelwood in the grey market, leading to scarcity. The suggestions for greater fuel-efficiency and increased security made in this article were as follows: increasing education of women on improved cooking techniques, providing appropriate cooking devices, and tangible benefits to sustainability. The article cautions that some sustainability programs, such as tree-planting, are only practical when displaced populations intend to remain in the same location for an extended period of time. The author calls for greater understanding of the complex relationship between "peoples' needs and behaviour and the local environment."
LaMont-Gregory, E. "The environment, cooking fuel and UN Resolution 46/182, 1995." <i>Forced Migration Review 18</i> . January 1995. http://www.fmreview.org/rpn184.htm *	This article from The Forced Migration Review looks at the relationship between a lack of environmental protection and fuel availability during the initial 'emergency' phase of disaster relief. From UN General Assembly Resolution 46/182, the author derives claims for smokeless and clean burning cooking fuel and criticizes those who turn to merely tweaking stoves for fuel efficiency. The article does

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
Le Breton, G. "Stoves, Trees and Refugees: the Fuelwood Crisis Consortium in Zimbabwe." <i>Forced Migration Review</i> , 18. January 1995. http://www.fmreview.org/rpn183.htm *	address women and children's unique burden of gathering cooking fuel, albeit briefly, by looking at the health risks of collecting fuel. The article closes with the author citing the World Food Program's mandate as well as UN General Assembly Resolution 46/182, saying that, "Adequate supplies of safe, smokeless cooking fuel must be made available as an integral part of 'first phase' emergency programming if we are to save the most vulnerable members of the recipient community."
Lynch, Maureen. "Reducing Environmental Damage Caused by the Collection of Cooking Fuel by Refugees." <i>Refuge</i> , Vol. 21, Issue 1. November 2002. http://www.yorku.ca/crs/Refuge/refuge - volume 21, issue no 1.htm	This article concentrates on the lessons to be gleaned from the situations of the Mozambiquen refugees in Zimbabwe. The first part of the article concentrates on the environmental impact, however the latter part examines the less conventional methods of stove distribution used by the Fuelwood Crisis Consortium (FCC) to reduce dependence on firewood. With popular support, the group initiated an educational campaign as well as distributed fuel-efficient stoves: the stoves were not free and stove owners were routinely visited by a group of refugee women who encouraged their use of stoves. One important lesson learned from the short-lived FCC is that that fuel-saving stoves can reduce consumption but due to the prevalence of other wood using products, dependence is by no mean guaranteed to cease. The use of fuel-efficient cooking stoves was able to drastically reduce daily consumption (this article reports up to 80% reduction under) of firewood.
Lynch, Maureen. "Reducing Environmental Damage Caused by the Collection of Cooking Fuel by Refugees." <i>Refuge</i> , Vol. 21, Issue 1. November 2002. http://www.yorku.ca/crs/Refuge/refuge - volume 21, issue no 1.htm	This paper suggests strategies for reducing the environmental damage caused by refugees and IDPs while collecting firewood and other fuels, including alternative fuel sources, technology and alternative cooking strategies. Delivery of fuel to displaced populations is discussed, noting that transportation may be expensive, but can provide the safest means of fuel provision, given that women would not need to leave the safety of the camp in order to acquire it. While this paper does not directly address these alternatives as measures for increasing security, the impact is essentially such. One example given is that of IDPs in the Benguela Province of Angola. Women feared getting lost or being assaulted while looking for firewood. As a strategy for increasing their security, women formed groups and asked men to accompany them while looking for fuel. Aside from the threat of assault women also faced heavily mined terrain and local communities hostile to the IDP use of local resources. This article also notes that in Sierra Leone, fuel was not included in the non-food items refugees received. This article recommends that women be included in resource management at all levels, with careful consideration of social dynamics within the camps.

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
<p>Mooney, Erin. "Internal Displacement and Gender: Notes for Presentation by Erin Mooney." OHCHR to Humanitarian Principles Workshop: Focus on a Child Rights Approach to Complex Emergencies and Internal Displacement. Organized by UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes and Brussels Office. 1998. http://www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/Internal Displcmt Gender.htm</p>	<p>This presentation focuses on the importance of looking at internal displacement through a gender perspective. The needs-response mechanisms in IDP settings can impact women differently from men, especially when relating to the distribution of materials. According to this document "A high incidence of rape and sexual violence among internally displaced women also is associated with the collection of firewood, which may require women to venture out alone and far from their camps or settlements into unsafe areas." The statement recommends that UNHCR's People-Oriented Planning (POP) method also be used in IDP situations. "The POP method aims at reducing gender-based disparities in programmes."</p> <p><u>Best practices relating to IDPs and gender:</u> Address the "specific problem of the link between firewood collection and rape." This can be done through communal firewood collection, the provision of firewood or other fuels to IDPs, the development of a "protocol for firewood conservation," and developing programming which keeps fuel-efficiency as a priority.</p>
<p>Muna, Maha. "Crisis in the Darfurs: Report on West Darfur and South Darfur." UNIFEM, New York. 2004.</p>	<p>This report gives an overview of a joint- assessment mission with UNDP undertaken to Darfur in June 2004. The report focuses on GBV in both IDP camps as well as in villages pre-flight, and offers entry point suggestions for prevention and response. "In IDP camps, women are exposed to GBV when they leave the camp to collect fire wood and straw. Alternate fuels are being considered by World Vision (kerosene stoves) as a potential remedy. However, other remedies require a better understanding of why women leave the camp to cut straw. Some of the straw is used to build shelters and as fodder for livestock. However, straw is also sold in order to buy food. Food insecurity is likely to increase with the start of the rainy season as international aid becomes more difficult to deliver. The IDPs, originally farmers, are already beginning to eat the seed banks that they were able to save from fire and looting before their flight. As a solution, for example, community gardens can offer families a consistent food supply, and reduce the need for women to travel outside the camps in search for something to sell in order to buy food. With kitchen gardens women will be able to restore the seed banks that are currently being depleted as families resort to eating them. Replenished seed stores allow families to plant food when they are able to return home (potentially mitigating the need for large-scale food aid in the future)." (pg 6)</p>

**Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*

Source	Summary
<p>Mwangi Kagwanja, Peter. 2000. "Ethnicity, gender and violence in Kenya." <i>Forced Migration Review</i> 9. December 2000. pp 22-25. http://www.fmreview.org/FMRpdfs/FMR09/fmr9contents.pdf</p>	<p>This article gives a brief overview of the scope and nature of the SGBV experienced in the predominantly Somali refugee camps of Dadaab, Kenya. The greatest levels of SGBV occurred between 1992 – 1993, but continued to be documented through 1998. "Over 90 per cent of the 200 reported rape victims in 1996 – 1997 were attacked when foraging for firewood or herding livestock outside the camps." The author also notes that girls were more likely to be assaulted than older women because they were more likely to leave the camp to engage in firewood collection. Among the measures implemented to reduce the incidents of SGBV was a firewood collection program.</p>
<p>Olsen, Odd Einar and Kristin S Scharffscher. "Rape in refugee camps as organizational failures." <i>International Journal of Human Rights</i>, Vol 8, Issue 4. Winter 1995.</p>	<p>"Gender-based violence (GBV) in refugee camps is analysed by using mainstream theories of risk and safety management derived from studies of accidents in technological production systems. We use theory of organisational accidents and man-made disasters to explain the mutual linkages between latent conditions for GBV embedded in the structures of humanitarian organisations, and assaults occurring in the camps. Furthermore, safety management theory is applied to explain how organisational preconditions for GBV may develop unnoticed in humanitarian organisations and ultimately contribute to the perpetuated vulnerability of refugee women. The analysis is based on a study undertaken in Sierra Leone.*"</p>
<p>Population Action International. "Forest Futures: population, consumption, and wood." 1999. http://www.populationaction.org/resources/publications/forestfutures/pdf/forest_nopics.pdf*</p>	<p>This report addresses the topic of fuelwood and gender in densely populated regions through the lens of environmental issues. Although the it does not deal exclusively with the GBV, the report does look at other harms (economic and health) to the well being of women and girls. PAI outlines attempts by governments to correct the environmental degradation with fuel-efficient stoves in conjunction with re-planting of trees. What is striking about the PAI report is that it says that without limiting population growth, need will outpace government measures to protect its forests meaning that women's ability to control their reproductive health is crucial to a long-term solution for stemming deforestation its consequences.</p>
<p>Sphere Project. "Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response." 2004. http://www.sphereproject.org/handbook/index.htm*</p>	<p>This is large, multipart, online "handbook " whose purpose is to improve the quality, "effectiveness and accountability of disaster response." The key sections that deal with fuel or fuel related issues are: "Food Security, Nutrition and Food Aid" and "Shelter, Settlements and Non-Food Items." This report provides standards for refugee access to cooking fuel. Sphere describes access to fuelwood as essential because it has a "direct impact on the ability of households to access food and the maintenance of adequate nutritional status."</p>

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
The Interagency Standing Committee. "Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence, Peer Review Draft. June 2005. http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/IASC%20products/GBV%20Guidelines%20PeerReviewDraft%206Jun05.pdf	One important section of the report cites risks associated with coping strategies like travel to insecure and/or dangerous areas to gather fuel, causing women and children to be subject to attacks. Latter sections of the manual look at food aid planning. It reports that agencies providing aid should take into account international standards on refugees' access to fuel and water when deciding what goods and food should be distributed. This is necessary to consider due to the unsafe environment for women and children who are required to gather fuel when it is not provided. Programs should be in place to guarantee women and children's safety if they need to leave the camp to gather fuelwood. The report outlines provisions on access to fuel as a household item as well as supporting the inclusion of women in the planning process to ensure that all refugees have equal access to all necessities.
The International Rescue Committee. "Energy-Saving Stoves Project Introduces Efficient Technology For Cooking." 2002. http://www.theirc.org/index.cfm/wwwID/1384 *	This is a short article on the Walanihbiy refugee camp in Ethiopia. To combat environmental degradation and reduce the hours women and children have to walk to collect firewood, the IRC introduced energy-saving stove technology in July 2001. The IRC trains women in how to use, care for and maintain the stoves as well as how to train others in the future. "Through the project, the IRC wants to empower camp residents and help stove manufacturers acquire new skills and generate future revenue." Thus far, this program has reportedly reduced wood fuel consumption by 40 percent.
UNHCR Inspection and Evaluation Service. "A Review of UNHCR's Women Victims of Violence Project in Kenya." 1996. http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/publ/opedoc.pdf?tbl=RESEARCH&id=3ae6bcfe4&page=publ	Conducted three years following the implementation of the Women Victims of Violence Project in Kenya's refugee camps (funded primarily by CIDA through UNHCR), this report summarizes the project formulation and implementation, lessons learned and recommendations made. Much of the report is highly critical of how the programme was implemented and the related infrastructural and management-related problems encountered in the implementation of the programme. Four camps had been established in Dadaab, located in a very isolated desert-like region of Kenya known for its insecurity and banditry. "The disturbing number and nature of

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
UNHCR Standing Committee. "NGO Statement on Refugee Women: Preliminary Findings." 2001. http://www.womenscommission.org/archive/01/statements/unmtg.shtml	requests for medical assistance sounded the alarm about the rapes; the refugees did not." It came to the attention of camp administrators that women and girls were particularly at risk when they ventured out to collect firewood, or to herd goats. According to the report, "In the first seven months the consultant documented 192 cases of sexual assault," the majority of which happened in the vicinity of the Dadaab camps. One of the project's primary objectives was to "prevent further violence." This report found that measures implemented to increase women's security within the camp were successful, however, it achieved "little progress in addressing the overwhelmingly gender- and age-specific protection problems occurring outside the camp [collecting firewood and herding goats]." According to the report, the cultural requirements around who collects firewood and who herds goats created obstacles to developing alternative solutions.
United Nations Development Programme, International Rescue Committee and PLACE. "Promoting Human Rights and Rule of Law in Darfur, Sudan: UNDP, IRC, PLACE Rule of Law Project, Second Interim Report." March 2005.	The assessment team whose findings were included in this statement found the "major protection problem affecting Sudanese refugee women in the Sherkole camp to be the various risks they encountered in gathering firewood. These problems are not new to UNHCR: firewood is a scarce resource in many areas and locals are hostile to refugee use of it. Because it is a scarce resource it is also difficult--and dangerous--to access. Alternative sources of fuel should be introduced, or UNHCR should supply part of the fuel."
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Refugee Operations and Environmental Management: selected lessons learned." 1997. http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/protect/openssl.pdf?tbl=PROTECTION&id=3b03b2754*	This is an interim report of a UNDP, IRC, PLACE project which was implemented in September 2004. One of the stated objectives of this programme is to build confidence between the IDP community and local authorities. To achieve these objectives, the programmer aims at educating potential victims, survivors and perpetrators of human rights violations on basic human rights principles. Members of the police force, legal community, unions (students and women), university professors and teachers, and business owners, all participated in the programme. Through building trust between these disparate groups, UNDP and IRC hoped to increase IDP security and work to prevent further instances of GBV through prevention measures. The theme of this document is environmental preservation and limiting the harm imposed by refugee populations. The Domestic Energy section of this report deals with the fuel crisis and outlines five recommendations: 1) Energy supply and demand assessments should be instituted. An effective energy strategy should examine alternative energy sources in addition to promoting energy

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
	<p>savings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2) Promotion of energy-efficient stoves must be carried out in conjunction with other environmental protection/management activities.3) Promotion of familiar fuels and cooking systems should take priority over unfamiliar ones.4) Energy-saving devices should be earned and not provided free of charge.5) Wherever possible, stoves should be manufactured on site and by the refugees themselves. <p>The rest of the section goes on to explain the basis for these proposals and also provides a case study of a refugee camp in the Republic of Congo.</p>
<p>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. 2002. "Cooking Options in Refugee Situations: A Handbook of Experiences in Energy Conservation and Alternative Fuels, Chapter 5." http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/protect/opendoc.pdf?tbl=PROTECTION&id=406c368f2</p>	<p>UNHCR outlines its recommendations for "When" and "How" to supply fuel by breaking down specific scenarios. They note two specific types of situations in which UNHCR would consider fuel provision necessary: when an "unacceptable amount of time and labour to secure sufficient energy" is required to cook the minimum rations and when specific groups, such as women, are targeted for banditry and assault. The handbook asks that those assessing a particular situation note the differential between the security threats posed outside of the camps and within the camps. They state "Fuel supply is not the easy solution to security problems that have more deep-rooted causes," noting that fuel supply programs are very difficult to downsize once they have been implemented.</p>
<p>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons. Guidelines for Prevention and Response." 2003. http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/protect/opendoc.pdf?tbl=PROTECTION&id=3f696bcc4</p>	<p>This set of guidelines, published in 2003, broadly outlines strategies for identifying the ways in which refugees and IDPs are vulnerable to GBV. While fuel provision is noted twice as a potential source of insecurity for women, this publication does not suggest comprehensive alternatives.</p>
<p>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Gender and the environment, Djibouti." 2005. http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/protect/opendoc.htm?tbl=PROTECTION&page=home&id=3b03d4344*</p>	<p>This article looks at the relationship between gender and the environment for Somali refugees in Djibouti. The burden of scarce resources and dependence on wood for fuel is placed on women who, due to diminishing resources, are required to walk continually farther from their camp to find fuel. The UNHCR reports that it now supports environmental rejuvenation projects aimed at "relieving the workload of particularly women, while at the same time contributing to local environmental protection and restoration." The current project in Djibouti includes: 1) raising community awareness of environmental issues; 2) small-scale rehabilitation and home gardening; 3) domestic energy saving.</p>

**Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*

Source	Summary
United Nations Joint Logistics Center. "Bulletin: Fuel Efficient Stove Project." 22 September 2004.*	This bulletin reports on the "ITDG project promoting manufacturing of fuel-efficient stoves from locally available organic materials by IDP camp women" in the greater Darfur region. This program was able to reduce firewood consumption by 40%. The project was carried-out by the Fuel and Energy Development Groups (F&EWD) with UN and NGO partners. Along with the program was a intensive household survey that collected data on: distances currently traveled by women to collect firewood, gender-based violence, wood fuel consumption, access, collection methods and meal preparation.
United Nations Joint Logistics Center. "Fuel Efficient Cooking Stoves Mission Report and Road Map for Fuel and Energy Working Groups."24 September 2004.*	<p>This report was written by the UNJLC to look at the issues surrounding alternative energy possibilities in refugee camps in greater Darfur. The premise of this report is that, firewood collection outside IDP campus by refugee women puts them at risk for physical and sexual abuse. To counter this problem, the report examines possible alternative energy sources like, "pressurized kerosene and gas cylinders; gravity fed kerosene cookers, imported kerosene wick burners... and locally manufactured fuel-efficient biomass cookers;" these are in addition to current research on solar and renewable energy cookers.</p> <p>One successful program cited in the report began out of a camp in El Fasher. There the use of fuel-efficient stoves (from local organic materials) used in coordination with Women's Development Association Training of Trainers (TOT), a women's empowerment model, which led to a significant shift in women's understanding of their environment as well as the replacement of the inefficient earlier form of cooking for a more fuel and environmentally friendly one. This camp is also looking at ways to use sugarcane plant residue as an alternative source of fuel for refugees. As a means of ensuring better distribution, the camp is looking for a centralized method of collecting firewood, although results of this trial have yet to be released. Also included is the Kerosene Study conducted by INTERSOS. This study concluded that although women could be trained to safely use kerosene stoves, the cost is prohibitive and would only be used if donated (with fuel) by a humanitarian relief organization. The report notes that technical advances cannot be singled out as the only way to improve environmental degradation and the situation of women.</p>
United Nations Joint Logistics Center. "Household Energy Proposal Template, 2004."**	This is a template for a proposal to gain funding for a TOT program in refugee camps with the goal of reducing fuel dependence. This is based on programs and survey results run in the greater Darfur region in 2003/2004.

**Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*

Source	Summary
<p>United Nations Joint Logistics Center. "Sample IDP Fuel and Cooker Questionnaire for Female IDPs." 7 September 2004.*</p>	<p>This is an example of a questionnaire used in conjunction with programs looking to alleviate fuel dependency (and surrounding issues) in refugee camps.</p>
<p>United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. S/Res/1325 (2000), New York. http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/720/18/PDF/N0072018.pdf?OpenElement and http://www.womenwarpeace.org/toolbox/toolbox.htm</p>	<p>"The Security Council urges member states to increase their support for gender-sensitive training programs undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, including UNHCR. The SC calls on all actors to consider the particular repatriation, resettlement and reconstruction needs of women and girls. The SC calls on all actors to respect the humanitarian nature of refugee camps and settlements and to take into account the needs of women in their design."</p>
<p>Vann, Beth. "Gender-Based Violence: Emerging Issues in Programs Serving Displaced Populations." GBV Global Technical Support Project, JSI Research and Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium. 2002. http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900SID/LGEL-5MRLTP/\$FILE/rhrc-GBV-jan03.pdf?OpenElement</p>	<p>On the subject of GBV and rape in refugee camps, Vann writes the following: "A few simple keystrokes in Excel reveal important information about the locations of rapes reported in all four camps for the entire six-month period. Figure 8–7 demonstrates that the greatest majority of reported rapes occurred in residential areas of the camps, not outside while survivors collected firewood, as is commonly believed. This information could be essential for designing prevention strategies. Although many programs claim that distributing firewood is the primary way to prevent rape in displaced settings, the numbers in this table seem to dispute that claim, at least for these camps during this time period. For effective M&E, a GBV coordinator could develop a figure like this one for each camp. GBV staff might gather more information about exact locations, that is, whether the rape occurred in the survivor's house or elsewhere."</p>
<p>Ward, Jeanne. "If Not Now, When? Addressing Gender-based Violence in Refugee, Internally Displaced, and Post Conflict Settings: A Global Overview." The Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium. 2002. http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900SID/LGEL-5D7DHP?OpenDocument</p>	<p>This report is part of a Gender-based Violence Initiative from 2002, headed by the RHRC. It gives a broad overview of the most relevant issues in this area, current programming, and gaps in GBV related programming. It includes 12 country-based case studies from four different regions. The report gives a concentrated summary of the rise of GBV's profile as a major conflict-related, refugee and IDP issue, as well as some of the key documentation and programming in this area (pg 8). The report looks at GBV through a wide lens and emphasizes that sexual violence is only one kind of gender-based violence.</p> <p>1993 – One of the earliest programs run by UNHCR titled "Women Victims of Violence Project" (WVVP).</p> <p>1995 – UNHCR published Sexual Violence Against Refugees: Guidelines on Prevention and Response. Focus primarily on SV, not GBV.</p> <p>1996 – International Rescue Committee (IRC) launched "Sexual and Gender-based Violence Program"</p> <p>2001 – Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium</p>

*Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.

Source	Summary
Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. "UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women and Guidelines on Their Protection: An Assessment of Ten Years of Implementation." 2002. http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/unhcr.pdf	<p>advocates for inclusion of SV under GBV as an umbrella. 2001 – UNHCR hosts international conference on GBV with focus on a multi-sectoral (health, social, legal and security) approach to prevention and response which up until 2002 formed the “best practice” approach for refugee, IDP and post-conflict environments.</p> <p>The report noted that there was a lack of data on GBV and the data available did not correspond to GBV programming, making it difficult to link findings with programming. There is also a tendency to link donor support for programming and research to sexual crimes in conflict, rather than broader GBV issues. There was little evidence of national-level strategies to address GBV (pg 29).</p>
World Food Program. "WFP and the Environment." 1998. http://www.wfp.org/policies/Introduction/policy/index.asp?section=6&sub_section=1*	<p>This report begins by acknowledging that women shoulder the responsibility in most refugee communities for collecting fuel and water, often outside their camps. The report looks at the food baskets provided to refugees as a means of reducing people dependence on fuel wood; including foods that require less cooking time keeps women in the camps and helps avoid the environmental degradation that is often synonymous with large refugee camps.</p> <p>This report also mentions the 1991 Food Aid in Emergencies, Policies and Principles document that states that, “beneficiaries should be assured adequate cooking fuel and, when fuel is scarce, preference should be given to the provision of quick-cooking commodities.” The 1998 fuel report states that although this is a guiding principle, the WFP and its partners do not adequately or routinely take into account fuel needs. Proposed change to the food basket to reduce the need for cooking fuel include: pre-cooked food, local milling stations to reduce cooking time and employing soy-substitutes that require less cooking time. In addition, the WFP is looking into energy-saving technologies.</p>

**Source information provided by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*