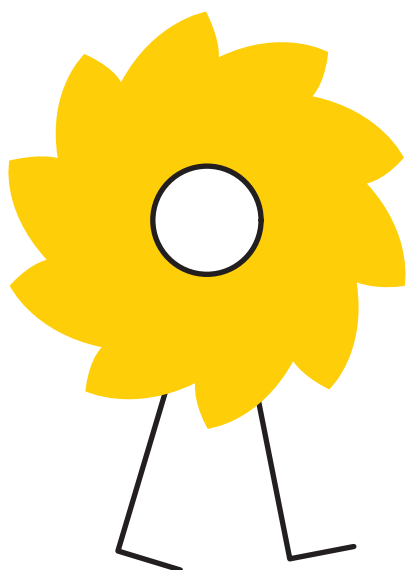


Energy Access for Refugees

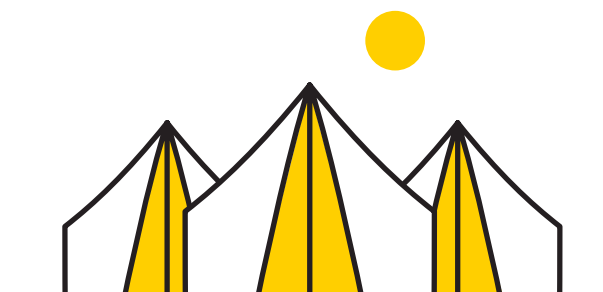
Introduction

Food, water and shelter are the basic provisions needed by refugees in emergency situations, but what is often overlooked is that access to energy is also extremely necessary for survival. Let's explore why...



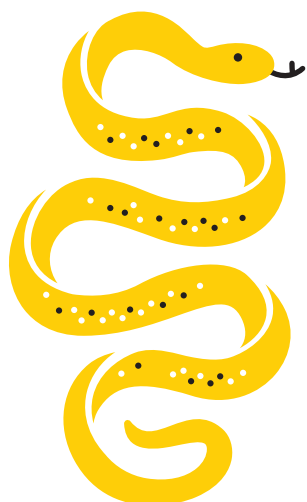
Solar powered lights are great tools for refugees because they can be taken on a **long journey** and used even **when there is no access to mains electricity**. With just a few hours of sunshine, solar lights are charged and provide many hours of light.

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Roof solar panels provide more energy, but portable solar lights are often better suited to refugees because they are **cheaper**, they **can be taken with them** if they have to move on suddenly, and they can be **used in any environment**. Often refugees live in tents or temporary structures that cannot support large solar panels on a roof.

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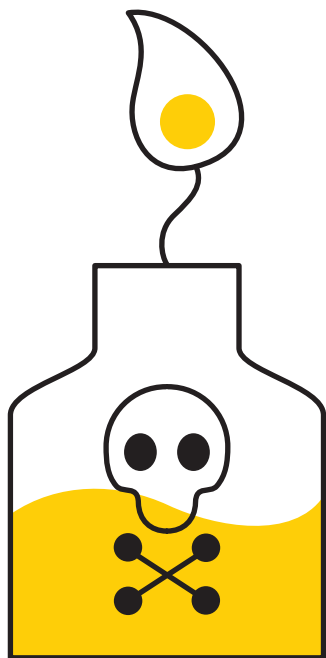
Solar lamps can be used as a **guiding light**: you can get around a refugee camp easily at night, go to the bathroom with dignity, and make your way back to your tent again **safely**, spotting any lurking threats along the way. Refugees report that their portable lights help them to see snakes that come out in the dark, so they can avoid being attacked by them.

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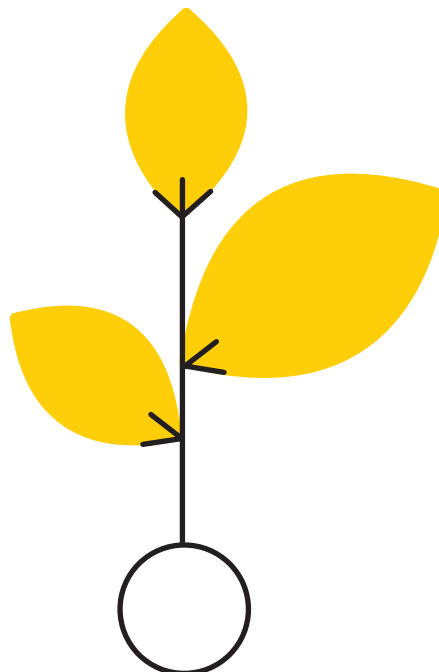
Light is needed for **activities at night**. Children living in refugee camps can play with their friends, do their homework, read, and help their family for longer into the evening.

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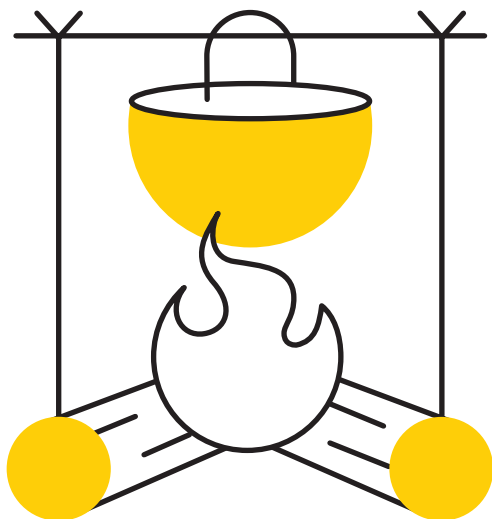
Appearing as a clear liquid, **kerosene fuel** can often be mistaken for water by children, and when drunk, causes **severe poisoning**.

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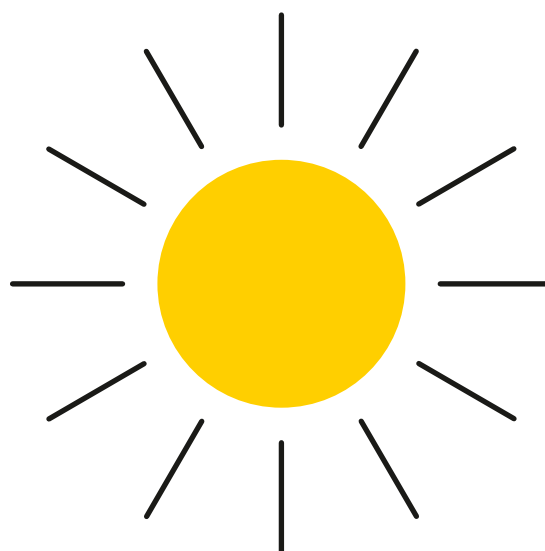
Giving a solar lamp to a refugee living without energy access is also **a symbol of hope and self-worth**.

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It's important to have a **light to cook by**, especially in refugee settlements where the majority of cooking is done close to the ground. By having light you can see what you're doing, spotting any dirt that may get into your food, and **prevent any unnecessary cooking accidents and burns**.

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Solar light is **non-toxic, non-flammable** and **healthy**.

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