

**Practical Examples of addressing
energy poverty in institutions and
households:**

**„Solar Pledge East Africa“ &
„Sustainable Clean Energy“
programme**



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 - Solar Pledge East Africa
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Solar system at the h3 office Kampala, Uganda, © h3

Satisfied customer with an efficient stove, Caritas MADDO, Masaka, Uganda, © h3

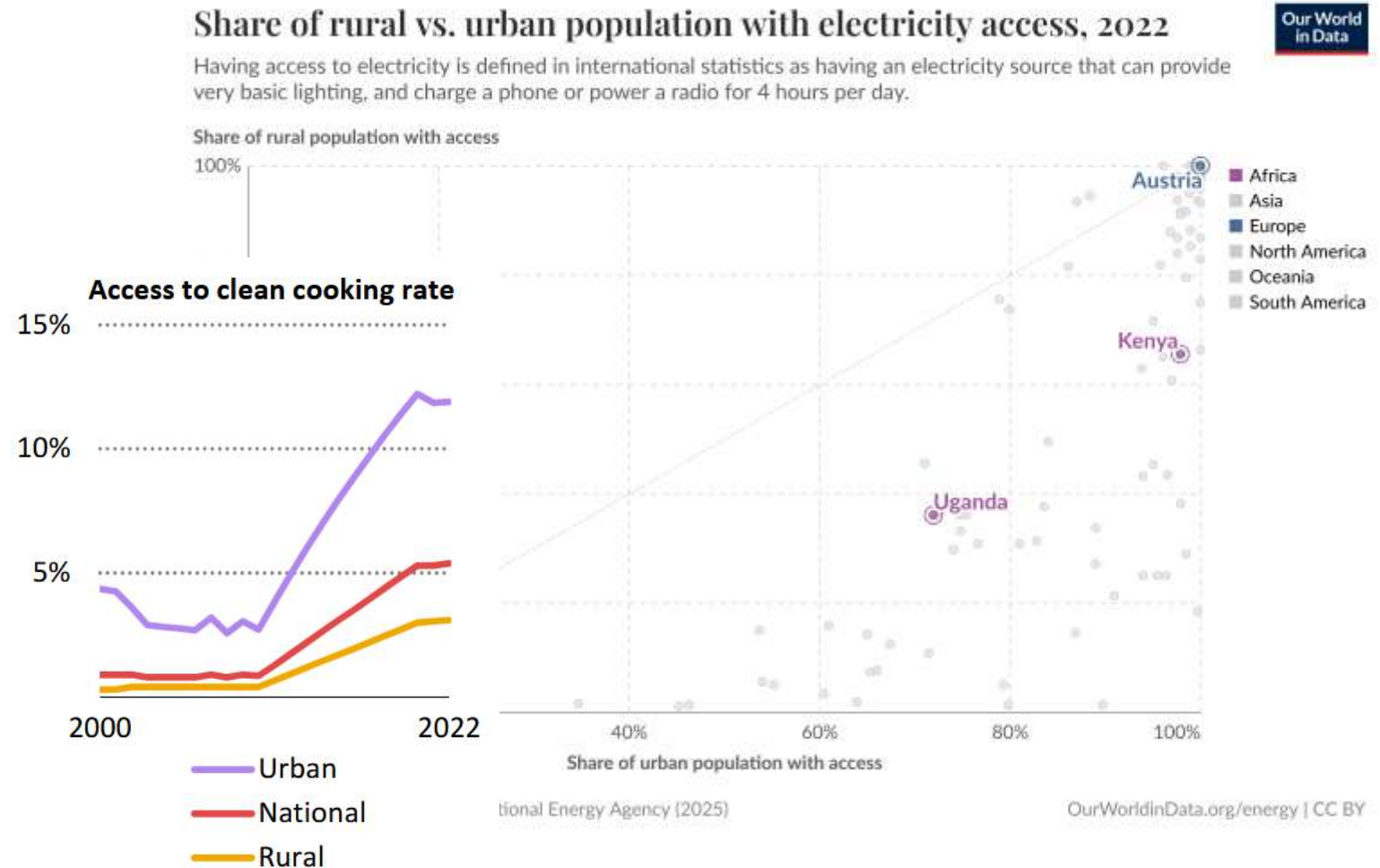
Causes of energy poverty

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Definition

Lack of access to reliable modern energy services and products, including electricity and clean cooking facilities, which are essential for human well-being and economic development.

- **Supply challenges**
- **Affordability**
- **Operation and maintenance**
- **Decision making**



Source: IEA (2023).

IEA (2023): Uganda Energy Policy Review
<https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/e329674b-f51f-4eb0-b0fd-4b-f51f-4eb0-b0fd>

Implications of energy poverty

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- **Health impacts**
40% of health facilities in SSA have electricity access;
3.2 mio deaths/y due to indoor air pollution
- **Education**
31% of primary schools in SSA with electricity access
- **Low productivity**
2 - 4% GDP loss due to unreliable electricity supply in SSA
- **Women/ girls safety & wellbeing**
unsafe at night without lighting;
women/girls responsible for firewood collection in 94% of Ugandan households
- **Deforestation**
Forest cover decline in Uganda:
from 24% (1990) to 9% (2018)

Solar Pledge East Africa (SPEA)

Empowering Catholic Dioceses and Changing Lives

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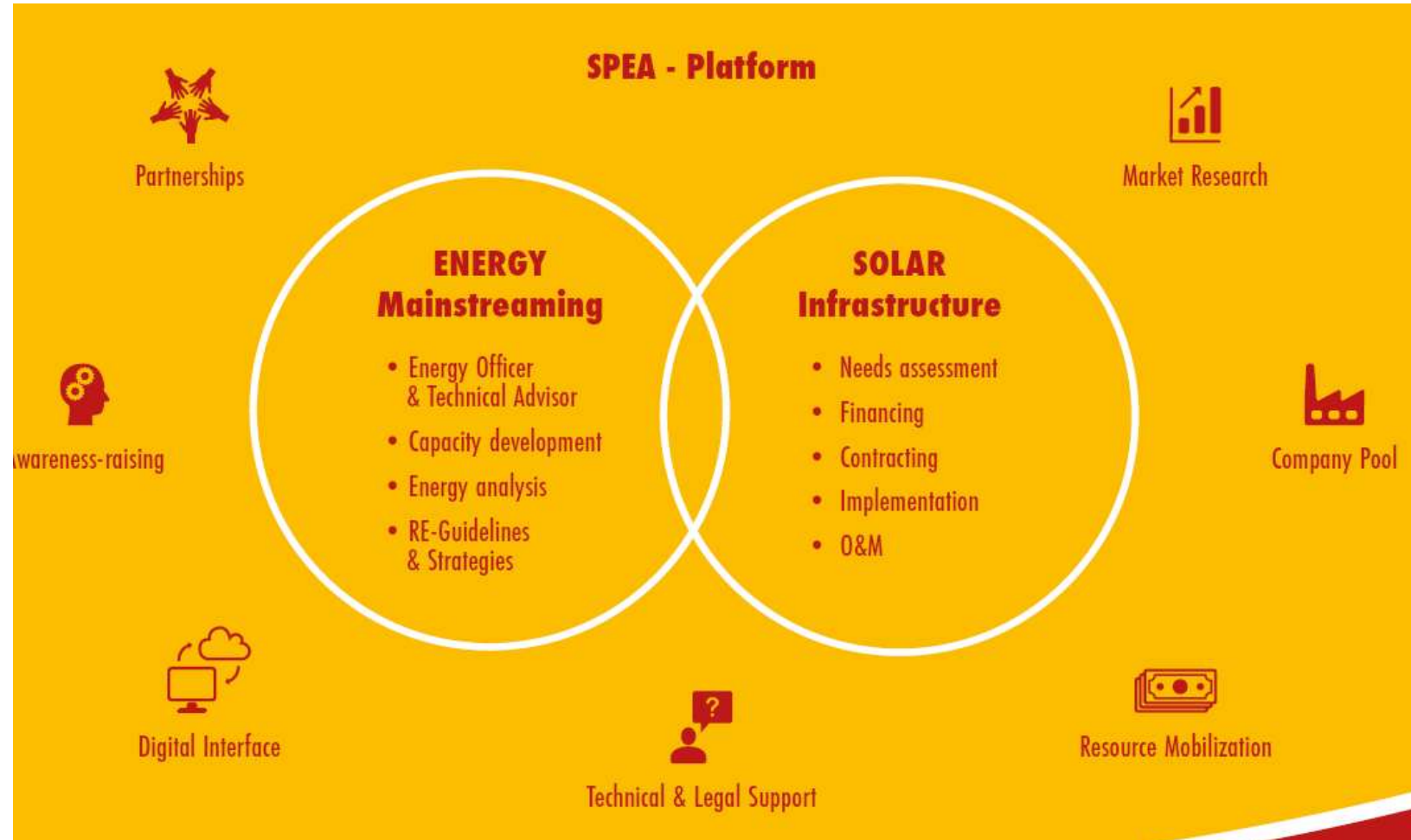
Context

Catholic Church 2nd largest service provider in East Africa – Education and Health Sector, especially in rural areas. Underutilised potential of PV for reliable electricity in region.

Our Approach

- Renewable Energy Support platform
- Integrated Energy planning
- PV for institutions
- Awareness raising

<https://www.horizont3000.org/en/projects/d-24-202>



SPEA Pilot Project 2024-2027

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Diocese Gulu (Uganda) & Diocese Lodwar (Kenya)

Objectives

- Establish support platform
- Energy mainstreaming in 2 Dioceses
- Capacity strengthening
- Installation and repair of PV systems

Insights

- Maintenance challenges (staff capacities)
- Short lifespan of batteries (lead-acid)
- Planning deficit (systems undersized, lack of repair funds, etc)



Laudato Si' (& Paris Agreement) Jubilee Project

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**Embedded in SPEA program,
utilising the platform and its
integrated approaches**

Focus on schools

- Awareness raising & promotion of environmental stewardship
- Climate Action Planning
- Gender sensitivity
- PV installation

Funding target: 500,000 €



[your logo could be here]

Clean cooking projects

("Clean and Healthy Cooking" & "Sustainable Clean Energy")

Context

Inefficient and unhealthy cooking practices common in Uganda. High expenditure on firewood. Deforestation.

Fuel- efficient stoves reduce smoke exposure and save > 60 % firewood, or 5 t CO₂e per household per year.

Approach

- Durable stoves
- Chimney for smoke reduction
- Affordability (subsidised price)
- Repair services
- Financially sustainable due to income generation from Carbon credits

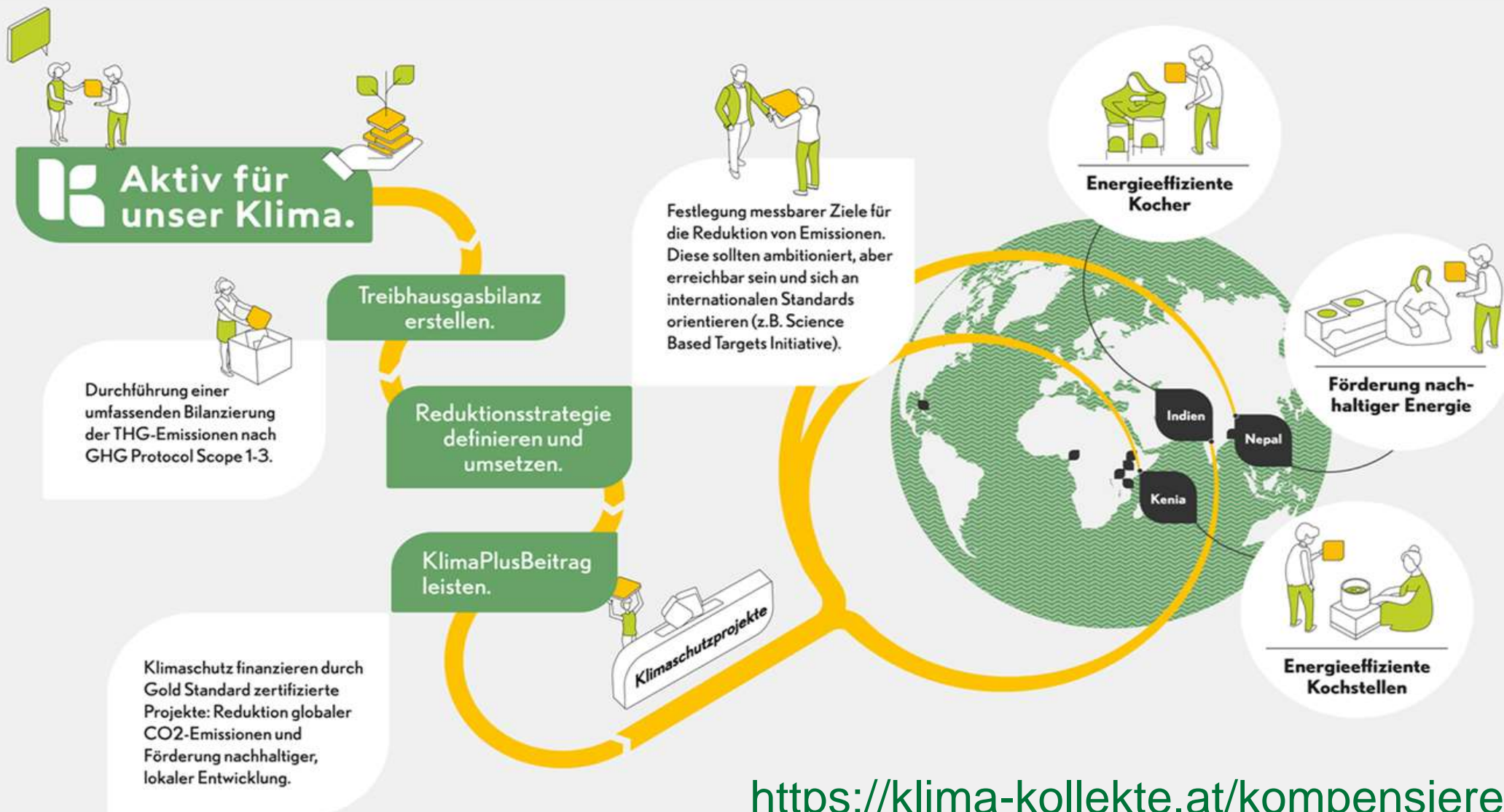
SCENE Project in numbers	
Nr of stoves	2,696
Customers & students	127,000
Firewood-saving-Potential	60 - 76%
Firewood saved (t)	46,000
Emission reduction (t CO ₂ e)	39,000



Efficient and healthy cooking – 3 min video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0bKs6z_1EQ

Treibhausgasbilanzierung & KlimaPlusBeitrag



Für die Einsparung einer Tonne CO₂ zahlen Unterstützer: innen 25 € pro Tonne. Damit leisten Sie einen Beitrag zu den Einsparungszielen des jeweiligen Projektlandes

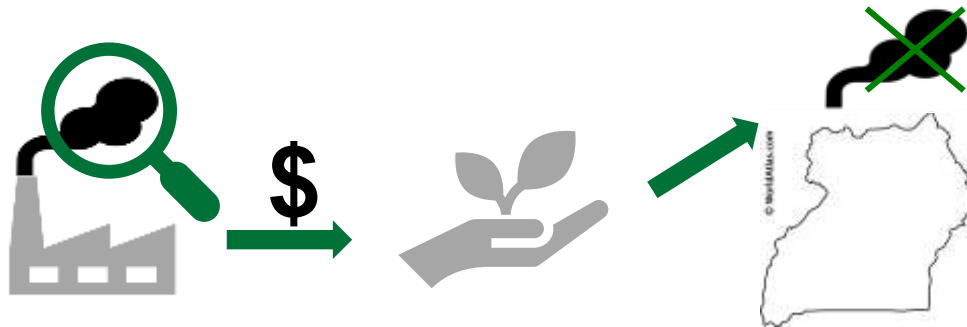


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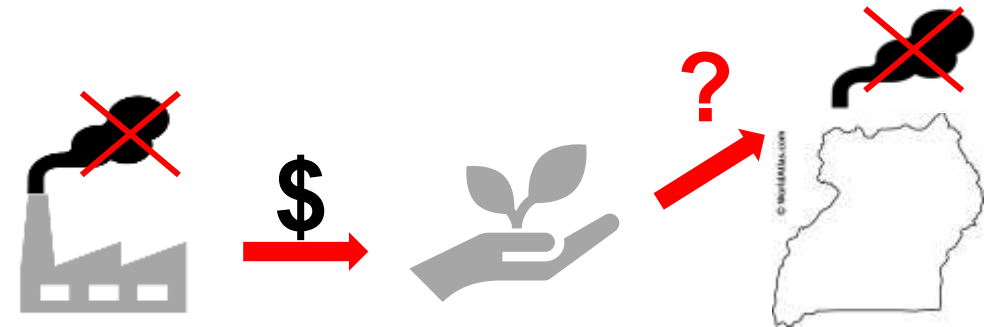
Contribution claim vs Offsetting

- Focus on **impact**, not compensation
- Emphasizes **transparency** and **climate integrity**
- Aligned with **Paris Agreement** (no double counting)



Contribution claim:

„We financed a project in Uganda that removes 10,000 tCO₂e. We do not use these reductions to offset our own emissions but to **contribute to global climate goals**.“



Offsetting:

„We financed a project in Uganda that removes 10,000 tCO₂e. This is equivalent to our emissions, thus our business is operating **carbon neutral**.“

Key take-aways

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- Solar energy has great potential in rural areas — but institutions require external support for management.
- Inclusion of women in decision making is crucial for developing needs-based, sustainable solutions.
- Transitional technologies play role in reducing energy poverty, particularly in cooking energy.
- Carbon finance can facilitate access to energy, supporting scalability, affordability, and long-term viability.
- To (re-)gain trust and enhance impact, carbon finance should embrace the “Contribution claim” approach.



**Thanks for your attention
and interest!**



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