Project Summary

Project Background
In several UNHCR operations, businesses for manufacturing briquettes from waste are being established and managed by persons of concerns in cooperation with host communities. Same of these businesses are in planning stages, others fully operational. To ensure the success and sustainability of these facilities, and to promote the establishment of similar enterprises in other locations, UNHCR asked for expert consultancy to assess the existing briquette manufacturing business operations, and to evaluate the availability and sustainability of available biomass for potential expansion.

Project Objectives
The work included a Desk Review and Feasibility Study for the UNHCR locations in Uganda with a particular focus on Nakivale Settlement where briquette manufacturing businesses exist. The consultant carried out a detailed briquette manufacturing analysis noting best practices, innovations, successes and recommendations for improvement.

Project Results
The assessment provided UNHCR the information to develop its institutional knowledge, build capacity and improve its documentation on briquette manufacturing to ensure that operations have a comprehensive, practical methodology for the set-up and operation of sustainable production facilities. This includes the interface with the local host and refugee community and their respective organizations.

Services Provided
- Desk Review analysed existing data and information as provided by UNHCR. Based on the information gaps, it set out the tasks and activities for the Feasibility Study;
- Investigate in briquette/pellet manufacturers, product quality and markets;
- Determine populations and social units (local demand side pattern);
- Identify key Stakeholders and market links as well as gaps, challenges, and barriers for developing the value chain;
- Sources, availability and cost of possible raw materials and composition of briquettes, existing processing equipment and locations (incl. capital and operation cost);
- Investigate the current business and operation model and capacities (beneficiaries, staff and partner capacities) taking into account vulnerabilities, age, gender and diversity;
- Document all capital costs of premises, machinery, transport, etc;
- Document operation costs including raw materials, staffing, utilities, packaging, transport, marketing, maintenance, licenses, insurances, etc;
- Determine cost per kg for briquettes produced and compare with market fuel prices;
- Obtain sample of briquettes and arrange testing of calorific value;
- Identify supports required, training needs, licenses, regulations.

Uganda

Assessment of Briquette Manufacturing Businesses in Refugee Camp Settings

Client
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Duration
31/12/2016 - 31/12/2017

Personnel
- 1 international STE (1 PM, energy and briquetting expert)
- 1 international STE (1 PM, cooking energy expert)
- 1 national STE (1 PM, energy and socio-economic expert)