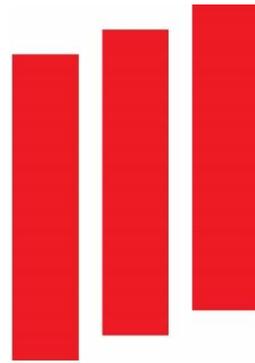


Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) in Humanitarian Settings

An IASC-hosted Event
February 2016





WOMEN'S
REFUGEE
COMMISSION

The Women's Refugee Commission improves the lives and protects the rights of women, children and youth displaced by conflict and crisis by:

- researching their needs,
- identifying solutions, and
- advocating for programs and policies to strengthen their resilience and drive change in humanitarian practice.

Research. Rethink. Resolve.

A photograph showing four women in a dry, rural environment carrying large bundles of firewood. They are dressed in traditional, colorful clothing. The background features simple buildings with corrugated metal roofs and a thatched structure. The ground is dusty and sparsely vegetated.

40% of the world's population relies on traditional biomass – primarily firewood – for household energy needs.

“Even 100 bags of food is useless without firewood.”



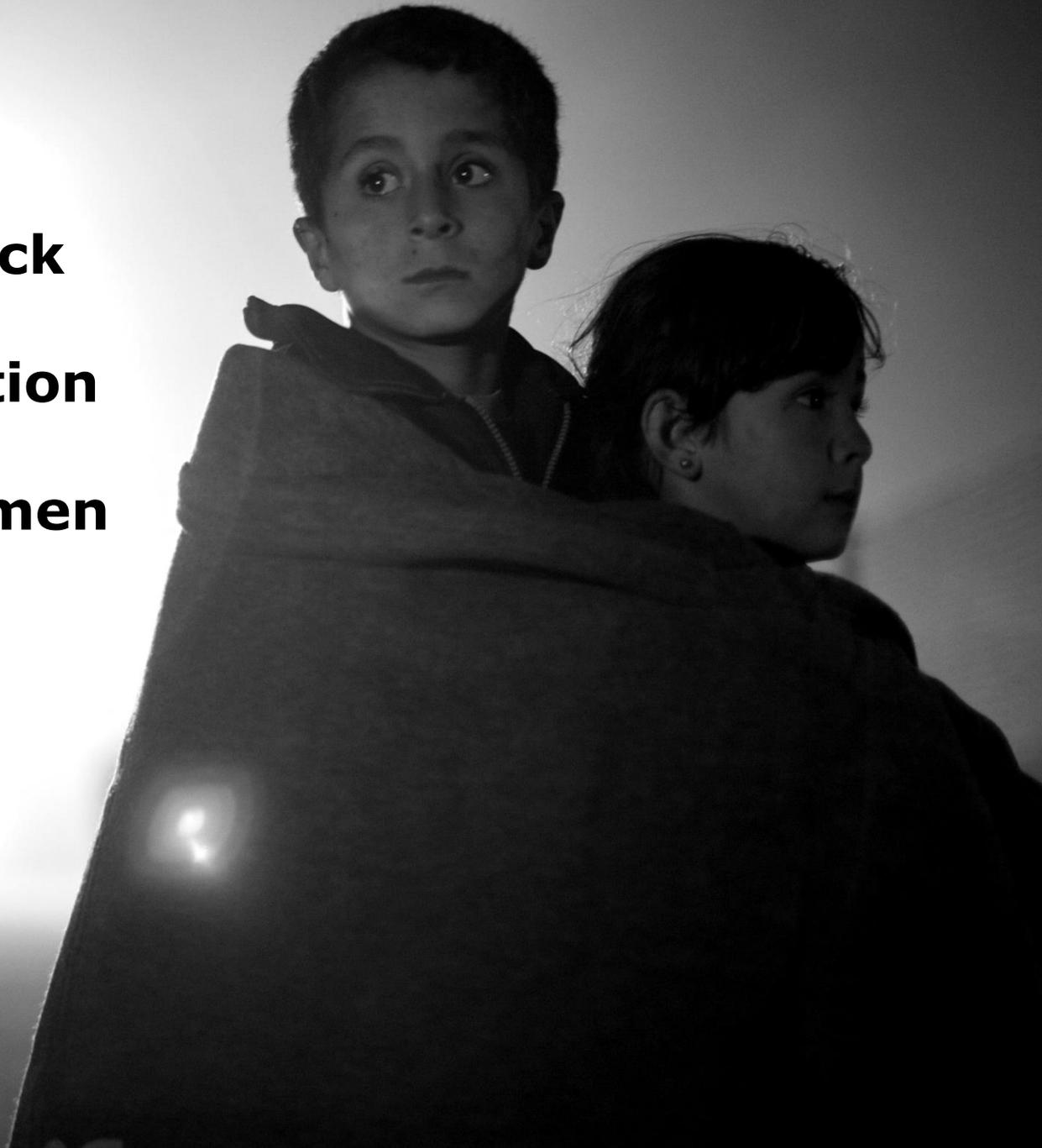
Every day, millions of women and children risk being raped, beaten, or killed as they collect firewood for their energy needs.



Gender-based Violence & Firewood Collection

- In Doro, South Sudan in 2014, **54%** of refugee respondents reported incidents of violence against women in firewood collection locales.
- In 2009, Physicians for Human Rights reported that **90%** of documented rapes in Farchana camp in eastern Chad occurred outside of the camp when women were collecting firewood needed to cook their food.
- A spike in reports of rape and sexual violence associated with firewood collection in Nyarugusu camp in Tanzania since the mass influx of Burundian refugees in summer 2015.

Darkness in the camps due to a lack of energy creates numerous protection risks at night -- especially for women and children.





**Common livelihood activities
rely on natural resources.**



Over exploitation on natural resources causes harmful environmental degradation and creates tensions over dwindling resources.

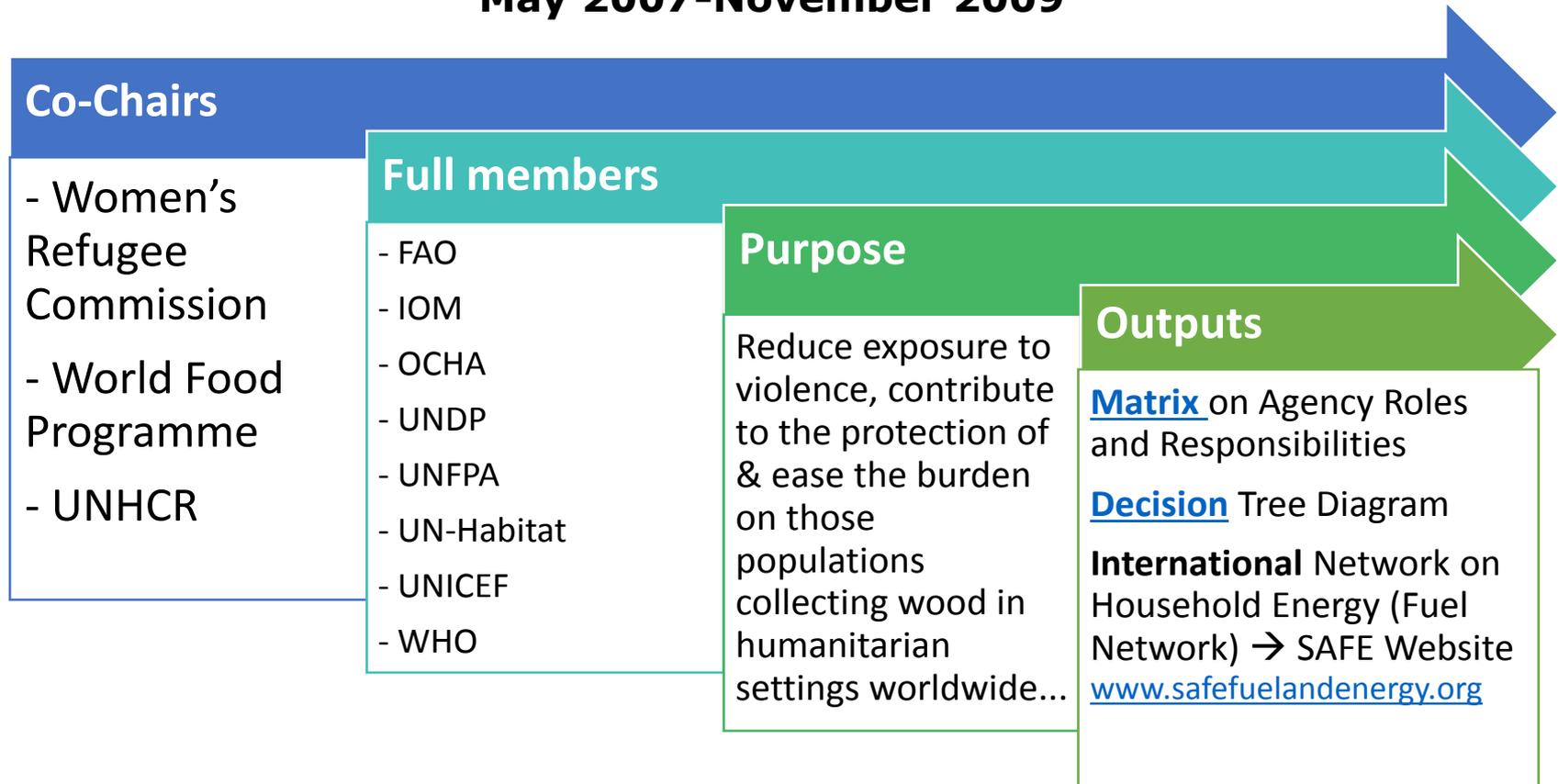
SAFE Solutions



History of SAFE Coordination

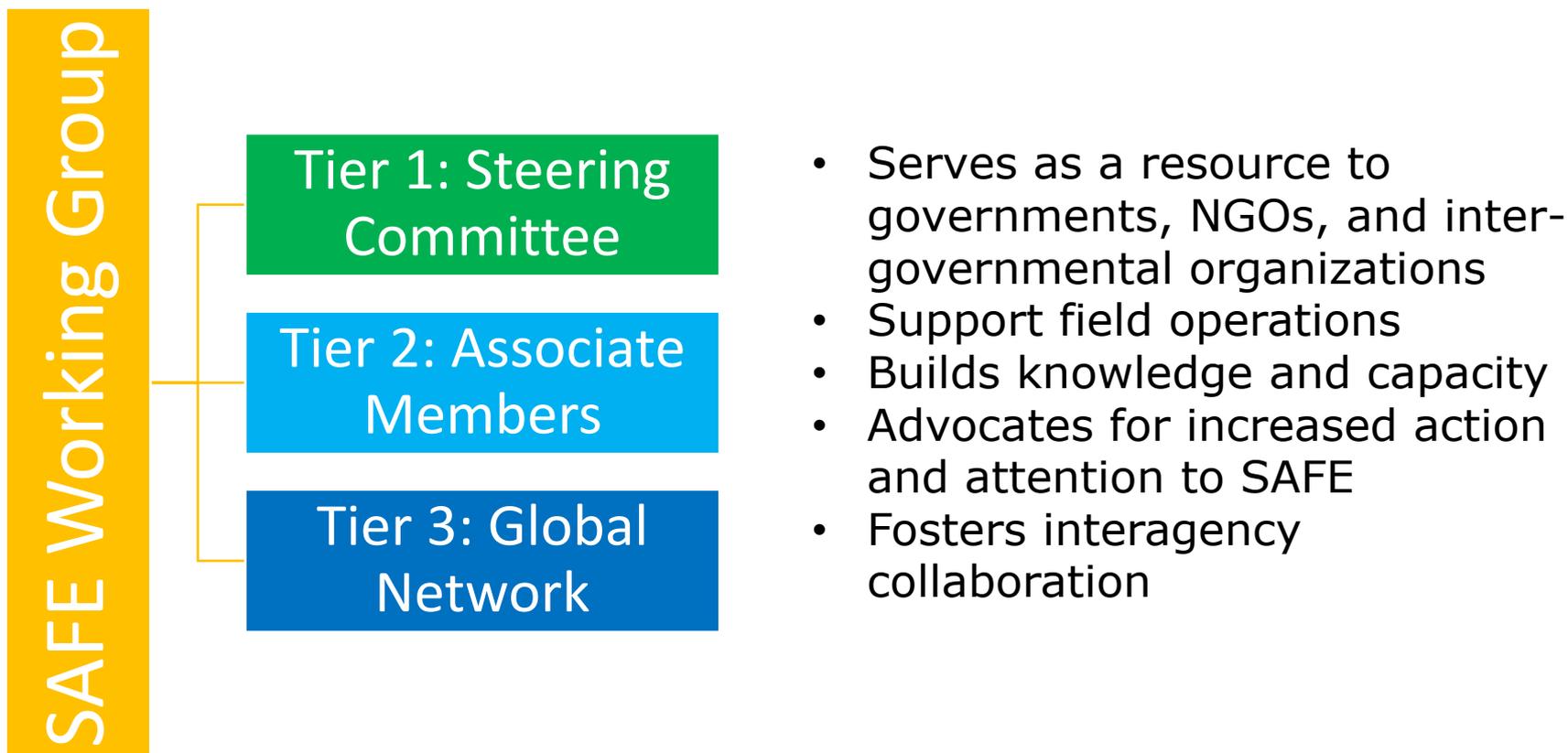
Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and alternative Energy in humanitarian settings (IASC TF SAFE)

May 2007-November 2009



SAFE Humanitarian Working Group

The SAFE Working Group is the primary body for facilitating a coordinated, predictable, timely, and effective response to the fuel and energy needs of crisis-affected populations.



Priorities & Recommendations

- SAFE response - including testing and documenting innovations - requires more predictable and flexible funding streams.
- Cross-cutting approaches require close collaboration and consultation with communities and exploration of new partnerships.
- Need for building the evidence base for outcomes and impact of SAFE interventions, particularly exposure to risk of gender-based violence and enhanced opportunities and empowerment for women and girls.