

Intervention Brief

The Alternative Service Delivery Unit

The Alternative Service Delivery Unit (ASDU) has been established to design, facilitate and manage the provision of energy services to unserved and unserviceable communities, on behalf of relevant stakeholders. ASDU applies an adaptive co-design framework to facilitate community led energy provision. The ASDU partnership model is built on three interrelated fundamentals of modern service delivery - social inclusion/mobilisation, customised technical design and financial sustainability. ASDU is being implemented by the GreenCape Sector Development Agency (GreenCape) and is directed by GreenCape's institutional identity, governance, standards and compliance frameworks.

The ASDU is currently active on three live sites, one of which is Malawi Camp. For this community, we have completed an in-depth enumeration exercise and engaged in co-design sessions to build our understanding of their community and to help us design their service delivery needs.

Settlement information

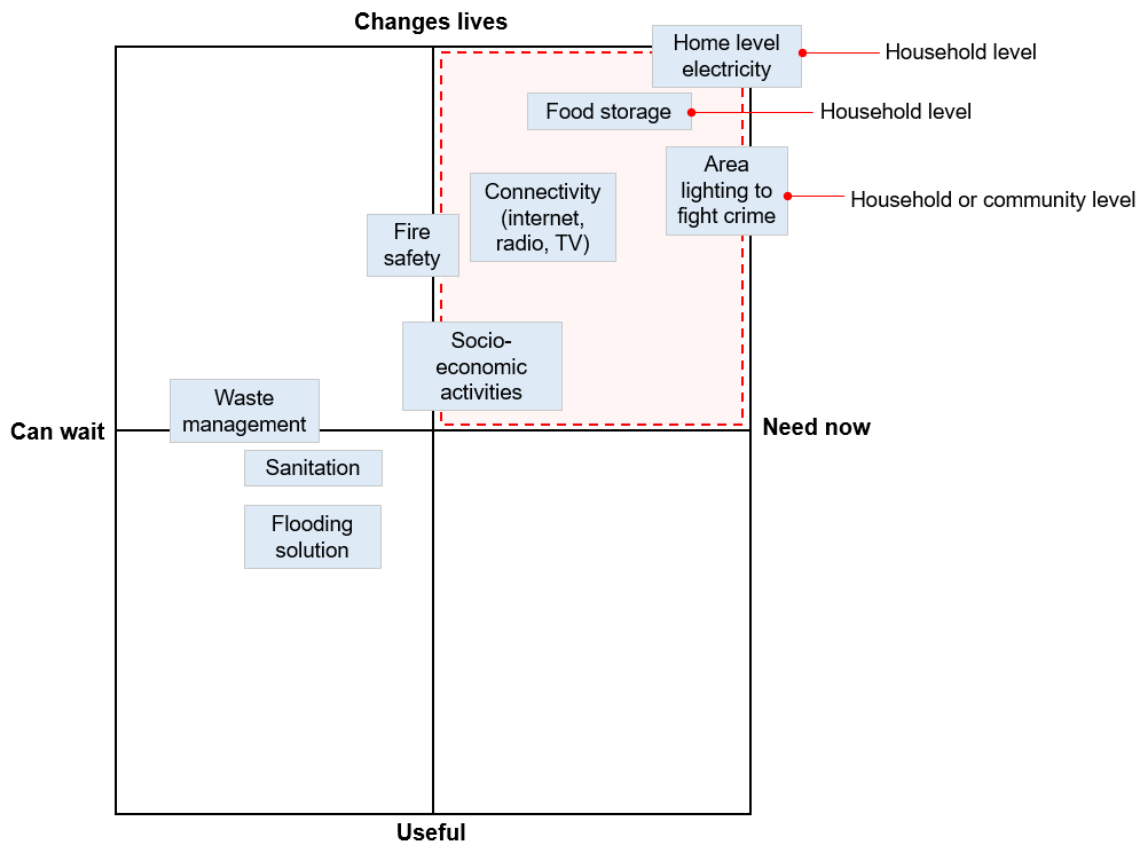
Malawi Camp is located on the corner of Robert Sobukwe Road and 35th Avenue in Cape Town, on land belonging to the Municipality of Cape Town. This community has been prioritised for relocation to a formal housing development on Symphony Way. This housing development is led by the City of Cape Town, and the beneficiaries of the programme will be relocated in ~2023.

Malawi Camp is home to more than 1000 people. Residents have been living in the area for as long as 30 years, with the average resident having lived in Malawi Camp for 13 years. There is no formal electricity in this settlement and limited communal water points. Safety has become an issue in this community. The unemployment rate in the area is close to 55% and more than 50% of school age children (0-18 years) are not in school.

Key components	Detail
Name	Malawi Camp
Number of households	314
Average household size	3.30
Percentage employed	45%
Average income per month	R900 – R1300
Average expenses per month per household	R1200
Energy needs	R80 – R300
Transport	R145
Cellphone	R40
Food	R490
Clothing	R240
Average home structure type	Informal; 14 m ² ; 3 rooms made from zinc
Common appliance use	Cellphone charger; fridge; kettle; TV; radio
Willingness to pay for alternative services	
Water and sanitation	No

Energy	Yes
Waste	No
Main sources of energy	
Heating	Wood; paraffin; gas
Cooking	Gas; paraffin; wood
Lighting	Candles; paraffin; informal electricity

Expected results: Insights from co-design with community



The community leadership of Malawi Camp, with the support and on behalf of their community, prioritised the following three key issues:

- Home-level electricity
- Food storage (the ability to store their food in a fridge so that they can save money)
- Area lighting to help alleviate the criminal activities that flourish in the dark

Willingness to pay for a service: The communities are willing to pay for safe, reliable and affordable services up to R50-R100 per month, with the intention of owning the system at the end of the contract. The willingness to pay for a service is a trend we are observing in all of the communities we are working in, however, the capacity to pay is different for each one.

Level of service: Most of the issues that were prioritized can be solved on an individual household level. This eliminates certain types of interventions; or requires the combination of different types of services and business models for success.

Most valuable appliances to be powered: Fridge, lights, TV, cellphone chargers; kettle; stove.

Relocation: When moving from an un-electrified area to an electrified area, the business case for off-grid alternative service provision decreases. The question of the transferability of these interventions to the new site, if necessary, needs to be addressed.

