

Review

Sustainability in Refugee Camps: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Mai Wardeh *  and Rui Cunha Marques 

Civil Engineering Research and Innovation for Sustainability (CERIS), Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, 1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal; rui.marques@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

* Correspondence: mai.wardeh88@gmail.com

Abstract: Many studies have stated the results of interventions presented in refugee camps to improve the quality of refugees' lives and reduce their suffering. However, there has been no formal systematic review and meta-analysis comparing the evidence of the relative effectiveness of these interventions along with sustainability and the current 2030 Agenda. We developed a comprehensive search strategy designed to identify all peer-reviewed articles that presented interventions related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a refugee camp setting. We examined only articles with a specific focus on development goals. We screened the titles and, where necessary, the abstracts of 1108 publications. Seventy-two studies were judged to contain relevant evidence and were reviewed in detail. Data were extracted from these studies and pooled by meta-analysis to provide summary estimates of the effectiveness of existing procedures. Health and education sectors were the most frequently discussed SDGs. Results and recommendations from included studies were categorized into seven sectors: planning, development, and shelters; health and well-being; education; water and sanitation; energy; work and economic growth; and others. In order to improve the quality of life of refugees and internally displaced persons living in camps, more research that addresses both SDGs and camp planning and management is needed. This study is the first review found in the literature to report on sustainability in refugee camps.

Keywords: refugee camp; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); review



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1. Introduction

The number of people affected by conflicts is growing worldwide. As of mid-2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) documented 26.3 million refugees. Yet controversy about refugee camps (RCs) and their longevity persist, which is a problem magnified by time. However, RCs, mainly those affected by the political crisis, are still considered as a temporary issue, even when there is evidence that these crises will stay for a long period.

While the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were agreed on by world leaders in 2015 as part of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 12 SDGs out of 17 are relevant to persons of concern to UNHCR, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDP) [1]. A new document by UNHCR sets out the ways in which the SDGs and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) are aligned, where the document proposed a complementary framework to ensure that refugees and their host communities (HCs) are not left behind through development procedures. It highlights the contribution made by the GCR related to 16 SDGs [2]. An outstanding question that comes to mind is to what extent RCs are sustainable and whether sustainability, SDGs, and their targets are taken into account when it comes to a RC.

This study focuses on both Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and SDGs of the largest up-to-date set of peer-reviewed papers focusing on RCs. This review seeks to answer the following questions: What are the existing studies highlighting strategies,

projects, and plans that considered one or more of development goals and targets in RC settings? What do we know about the success and challenges of the given procedures? What are the implications for practice and what works well in RC to “leave no one behind”?

This literature review consists of four sections. Following this brief introduction, Section 2 displays the proposed methodology, including some definitions, search strategy and eligibility, and data extraction and synthesis. Then, Section 3 discusses the results of our research concerning the publications categorized according to the SDGs for the following sectors: (1) planning, development, and shelters; (2) health and well-being; (3) education; (4) water and sanitation; (5) energy; (6) work and economic growth; and (7) others. Finally, Section 4 draws the concluding remarks.

2. Methods

A literature review is adopted as a systematic review and meta-analysis research methodology in order to identify existing relevant peer-reviewed studies of issues related to the SDGs in RCs and to evaluate their respective contributions.

2.1. Definitions

According to the 1951 Convention, a refugee is “someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion” [3]. In this review, refugees is a word used both for people displaced outside their country of origin and for asylum-seekers who have not yet been given a refugee status, while IDPs are those displaced within their country of origin.

Although refugee accommodation has different types and an RC is defined as “a plot of land temporarily made available to host refugees fleeing from armed conflict in temporary homes” [4], in this review RC takes into account all types, including planned/managed camp, self-settled camp, a collective center, and a reception/transit camp. Moreover, sustainability accounts for both the 17 SDGs and the 8 MDGs.

2.2. Search Strategy and Eligibility

The eligibility criteria were defined to minimize the risk of selection bias [5], where exclusion criteria include published duplications and papers not published in peer-reviewed journals. Inclusion criteria comprise articles that contain the required information relevant to the research question.

The target electronic databases are Scopus (scopus.com) and Springer (springerlink.com) and Google Scholar (scholar.google.com). There are 1108 studies that mentioned either “refugee camp” and “Sustainable Development goals” or “Millennium Development Goals”. The databases were searched in all fields using the terms: (“refugee camp” AND “SDG” OR “Sustainable Development Goal” OR “MDG” OR “Millennium Development Goal”). Keywords were chosen precisely to only capture those papers that are specifically relevant. Having comprehensive keywords such as “sustainability” or “development” or “refugees settlement” in general may lessen the probability of missing relevant papers. However, time limitations and our focus on planned camps and SDGs and MDGs, in particular, make more sense to be more precise about the keywords mentioned above. This review consisted of four steps: (1) selection and evaluation of studies, (2) classification, (3) analysis of the content of selected articles, and (4) the description of the results. The research has a number of classifications according to the main area of the subjects of the papers.

Publications were excluded based on the criteria outlined in Table 1. The titles and abstracts of publications were screened and initially 101 papers were found after removing the duplicate publications identified from different databases. Full text of the sources reviewed and 72 sources were included for this literature review.

Table 1. Exclusion criteria for a systematic review of sustainability in the refugee camps.

Exclusion Criteria	Subcriteria
Wrong study type	Not a peer-reviewed article; book chapter; documents that do not provide any conclusion or recommendation related to refugees in camp
Not related to SDGS	Neither SDGs nor MDGs mentioned
Wrong setting	Urban refugees, refugee's community, migrant, any other sitting not related to camps
Full text inaccessible	-

2.3. Data Extraction and Synthesis

The following data were extracted from included publications: metadata (e.g., paper title, author, year of study . . .); contextual characteristics (e.g., study country/countries); population characteristics (e.g., the origin of refugee/asylum seeker/IDP population); type of development goals (SDGs, MDGs, both); number of related goals (e.g., SDG1, MDG1, etc.).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Search Results and Publication Characteristics

The search yielded 1108 sources (Figure 1). Table A1 in Appendix A presents the meta-data of the 72 publications included; 72.2% ($n = 52$) of the publications included mentioned SDGs at least once, 23.6% ($n = 17$) mentioned MDGs, while 2.8% ($n = 2$) mentioned both SDGs and MDGs, and only one publication mentioned post-2015 MDG (Figure 2).

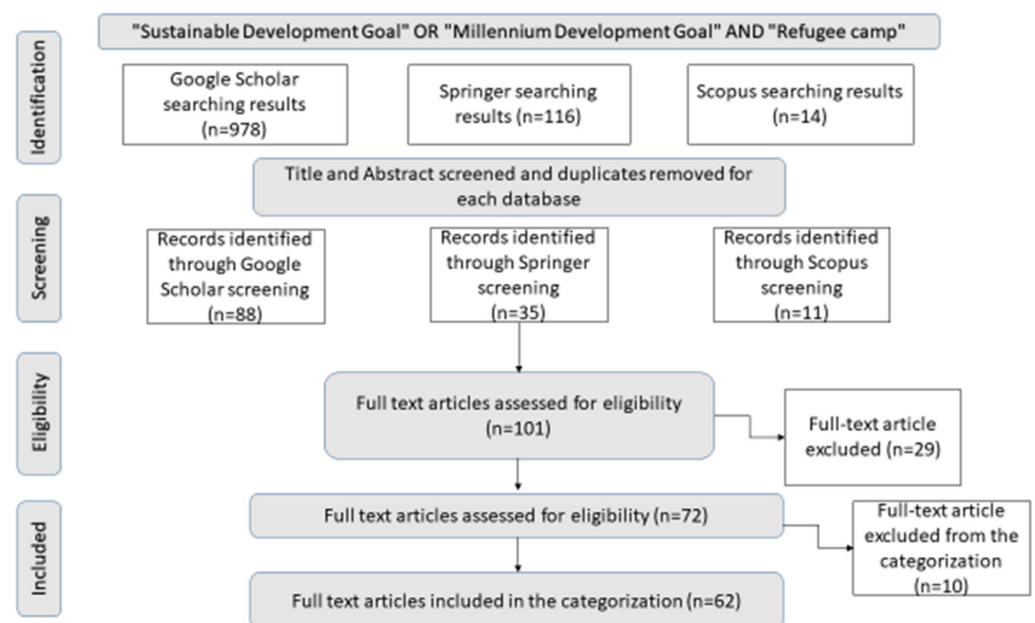


Figure 1. Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses (PRISMA) flow diagram of a systematic review on sustainability in refugee camps.

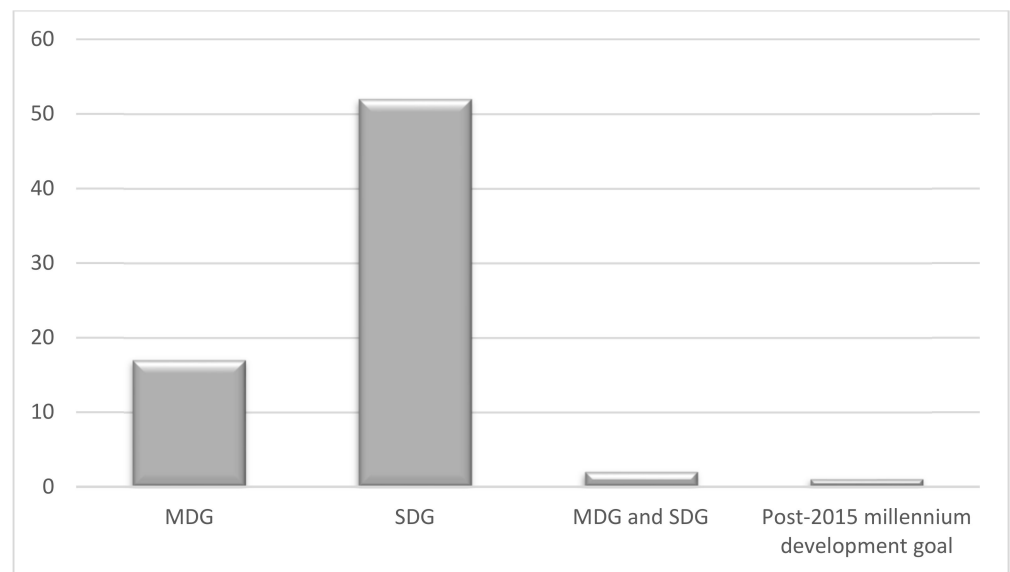


Figure 2. The way development goals were mentioned in the publications.

Publications about sustainability on RCs or related topics were not found prior to 2010 (Figure 3) and this may be due to the fact that the MDGs were launched in 2000. Moreover, the subject of sustainability and SDGs are new subjects that are receiving more attention lately. Furthermore, such research may have been a low priority prior to 2011, and the Syrian refugee influx received significant media attention, in addition to the fact that the number of refugees and displaced persons (DP) have increased significantly in the past ten years. As a result, researchers have been more aware of the RC context. Only 20.8% ($n = 15$) of the publications that mentioned development goals on RCs were published between 2010 and 2015. More than half of the publications, 58.3% ($n = 42$), were published after 2018, while almost a third of publications, 29.2% ($n = 21$), took place in 2020.

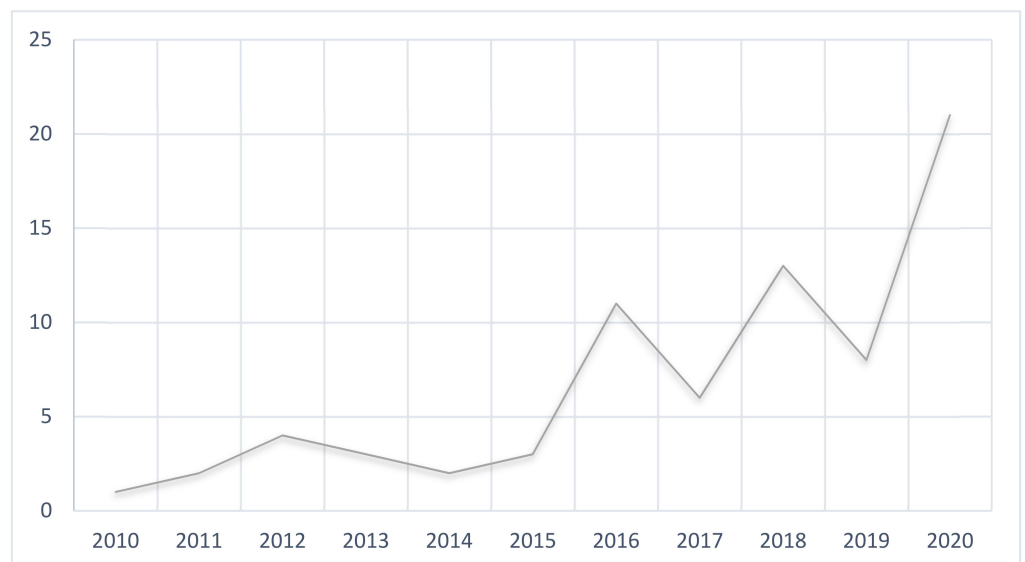


Figure 3. Number of publications, years 2010–2020.

Among 72 papers, only one was published in other languages (German) [6]. The papers were published in 58 journals by 291 authors, one of them is a group called “Global Emergency Medicine Literature Review Group” [7]. The top first authors publishing papers were Rose McGready and François Nosten. Both are from Shoklo Malaria Research Unit, Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit, Mahidol University and Centre

for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, University of Oxford, with 10 articles. They published about 16.7% ($n = 12$ papers) related to SDG3 and MDG5, mainly regarding maternal and child health on the Thailand–Myanmar border. The top second and third authors publishing papers were their team with four and three publications for four authors each. While 7.2% ($n = 21$) of the authors published two papers, the majority of the authors, 89% ($n = 259$), published only one paper. Fifteen articles were single-authored, and one-third of the articles were written by no less than six authors. The highest number of authors was with the article of McGready et al. [8] with 23 authors, followed by Thielemans et al. [9] and Salisbury et al. [10] with 15 and 13 authors, respectively.

Fourteen papers (19.4%) were published in four journals (Table 2). The journals with the highest number of papers are *PLoS One* and *Conflict and Health* with four papers, followed by *Reproductive Health*, and *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth* with three papers each. There is a wide variety of journals because the topic is quite diverse and belongs to several areas. The most cited paper is Bellos et al. [11] with 98 citations, followed by Urdal and Che [12] with 87 citations. Table 3 presents the top 10 cited articles.

Table 2. Top journals according to the number of published articles.

The Name of the Journal	Number of Included Publications
<i>PLoS One</i>	4
<i>Conflict and Health</i>	4
<i>Reproductive Health</i>	3
<i>BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth</i>	3
<i>Journal of Palestinian Refugee Studies</i>	2
<i>International Journal for Equity in Health</i>	2
<i>Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management</i>	2

Table 3. Top 10 cited articles.

Article	Year	Total Number of Citations		Average Citation Per Year	
		No.	Rank	No.	Rank
The burden of acute respiratory infections in crisis-affected populations: A systematic review	2010	98	1	9.8	3
War and gender inequalities in health: The impact of armed conflict on fertility and maternal mortality	2013	87	2	12.4	1
Effect of early detection and treatment on malaria related maternal mortality on the north-western border of Thailand 1986–2010	2012	72	3	9	4
A study of refugee maternal mortality in 10 countries, 2008–2010	2012	51	4	6.4	6
Energy services for refugees and displaced people	2016	40	5	10	2
High rates of pneumonia in children under two years of age in a south east Asian refugee population	2013	38	6	5.4	9
Evaluating a vocational training programme for women refugees at the Zaatari camp in Jordan: women empowerment: A journey and not an output	2016	32	7	8	5
Neonatal intensive care in a Karen refugee camp: A 4-year descriptive study	2013	29	8	4.1	10
Urban crises and the new urban agenda	2016	24	9	6	8
Challenges and opportunities of new energy schemes for food security in humanitarian contexts: A selective review	2017	19	10	6.3	7

Included publications studied RCs in 29 different locations. Thailand (Thailand–Myanmar border) is the most studied host country with 16.7% ($n = 12$) of the publications; 77.8% ($n = 59$) of the publications specify the countries in which the studied camp is located, 15.3% ($n = 11$) made the study in more than two countries; 22.2% ($n = 13$) are general studies in which the country was not determined—almost half of those studies 46.1% ($n = 6$) are review studies and one is an opinion editorial paper [13].

Figure 4 shows the continents of the HCs' locations that were mentioned in the papers. Africa is the most mentioned continent with 14 different countries, followed by Asia with 11 different countries. North America was mentioned once as a host country for refugees who lived in camps before and not as a country that hosts an RC [14]. The study that has the highest number of host country locations is the study of Hynes et al. [15], where they studied refugee maternal mortality in 25 camps in 10 countries.

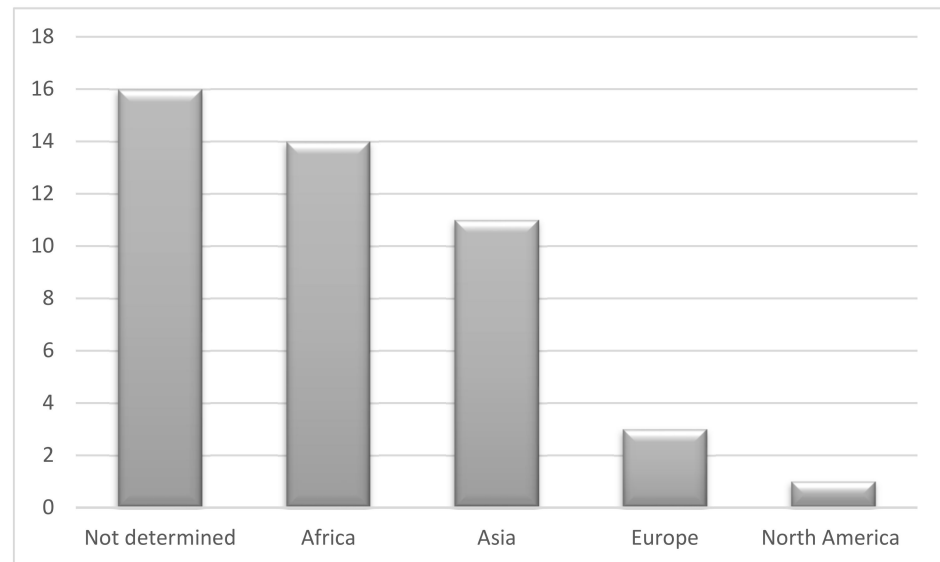


Figure 4. Continents of host countries in the included publications.

The most-reported refugee community is from Myanmar with 22.2% ($n = 16$) of the publications, followed by Sudan and South Sudan with 208 % ($n = 15$). Note that the majority of refugees and their host countries come from low and low-medium economy countries.

The health sector, including SDG3, MDG4, MDG5, and MDG6, is the most represented sector in the included literature with more than one-third of the publications, 36.1% ($n = 26$) (Table 4). The second mentioned sector is education, including SDG4 and MDG2, with 20.8% ($n = 15$). SDG9 is mentioned once but it is not the focal point in the paper of Ajibade and Tota-Maharaj [16], and SDG 12, 14, and 15 are not mentioned in the publication. It could be because those SDGs are considered as less important in humanitarian contexts.

Table 4. Number of publications according to the number of focal development goals in the paper.

Development Goals		Count of Publications with a Study-Specified Development Goal
MDG1	Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	3
MDG2	Achieve universal primary education	1
MDG3	Promote gender equality and empower women	1
MDG4	Reduce child mortality	5
MDG5	Improve maternal health	7
MDG6	Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases	1
MDG7	Ensure environmental sustainability	2
SDG1	No poverty	1
SDG2	Zero hunger	1
SDG3	Health and well-being	14
SDG4	Quality education and promote lifelong learning	14
SDG5	Gender equality	5
SDG6	Water and sanitation	3
SDG7	Affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy	5
SDG8	Sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth	2
SDG9	Industry, innovation, and infrastructure	1
SDG10	Reduced inequalities	1
SDG11	Sustainable cities and communities	3
SDG13	Climate action	1
SDG16	Peace, justice, and strong institutions	6
SDG17	Partnerships for the goals	1

3.2. Publication Categorization

This section presents the studies that specify at least one development goal in particular. We found 62 studies that mention one MDG or SDG in particular, while 10 studies are excluded at this stage since they have not determined a specific goal or target of any SDG or MDG; instead, they only mention SDGs or MDGs in general.

3.2.1. Planning, Development and Shelters

While SDG11 aims to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” [2], only four studies highlight the issue of planning and shelters, including SDG11 and MDG7.

The first study [17] argues that the global policy framework for crisis response needs to be changed to be efficient and to better understand how DP should be involved within complex urban settings. Repairing current systems of cities to meet the needs of DP is needed to assure that emergency interventions contribute to long-term urban development goals. RC is expensive and creates stigma and dependency on aids. It can be a place of violence and exploitation. Where transitional shelters are planned to last for a few years, the shelters turn to slums, having long-lasting negative consequences on the urban fabric, and do not fit the sustainable urban planning of the city. The exclusion of development prospects in humanitarian response can prevent long-term recovery.

The second study [18] compared the traditional approach to design RC with the new approach depending on three dimensions (time, space, and sources). The tradeoff between a permanent and temporary solution must be identified during the planning phase. Although there is a transformation toward the new approach, most camps are established utilizing the traditional top-down, temporary, and isolated approach. The study concludes that camp design guidelines need to be developed to fit the needs of refugees, HCs, and the development process, but having a universal design approach is impossible because selection depends on a number of factors. If RCs are considered long-term settlements, then urban planners and architects should be a vital part of the process to provide an efficient and sustainable design. The study affirmed that refugees can bring economic growth and benefits instead of being seen as a drain on resources.

The third study [19] discusses the political, social, and economic circumstances in which fire risk is experienced. It studies how the lack of planning and poor materials; type of energy used for cooking, heating, and other related needs; and lack of accessibility and communication can lead to more fires and crises in RCs. However, urban fire is still quite invisible in disaster management policy and practice because of the lack of data on fire incidence and causal factors.

The fourth study [20] examines the commercial area (souk) in an informal settlement which was a Palestinian RC in Beirut. The study mentioned MDG7 with its indicator being “secured from eviction” as an attempt to decrease the spread of informal settlements. The study shows how the lack of quality planning and policies lead to disastrous consequences and concluded that RCs should be removed worldwide and alternatively, refugees should be merged into their HCs. Furthermore, it encouraged the host government to facilitate and provide basic human needs such as education, job opportunities, and health services for informal residents for better well-being behavior. The study linked MDG7, which can be considered SDG11 in the 2030 Agenda, to SDGs (3–8) and SDG16.

These studies, related to SDG11, discussed indirectly how SDG11 is connected to SDGs (1–10), SDG13, SDG16, and SDG17. The four studies [17–20] concluded that the social–political–economic aspects for each settlement are complex, and both Jahre et al. [18] and Rush et al. [19] confirmed that one solution does not fit all. However, all studies under this category conclude that political aspects are the most effective factor in this situation. In addition, collaboration between human organizations, local authorities, and government and development actors is needed, along with the integration of both refugees and HCs to improve the planning of RCs to achieve better and sustainable urban areas.

3.2.2. Health and Well-Being

SDG3 aims to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” [2]. Almost one-third of the studies ($n = 26$) were sorted under these categories, comprising studies that mentioned SDG3 and either MDG3, MDG4, or MDG6. Forty percent of the existing studies ($n = 10$) were made in the Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU) on the Thai–Myanmar border that has a long and complicated history of conflict and human displacement. Shoklo Malaria Research Unit has provided humanitarian health care for refugees since 1986 and for migrants since 1997 [8,10,21–28].

Table A2 in Appendix B shows studies under this category. The studies linked SDG3 directly or indirectly to all SDGs, except for SDG12 and SDG14. However, SDG3 was mostly affected by education SDG4, where people who are educated were more aware of threats, instructions, and their health care rights. Figure 5 shows the percentage of studies according to goals and targets of SDG3. Target 3.1 relates to maternal mortality and was the one most studied, with 32.77%, followed by target 3.7, which aims to ensure global access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including family planning, information, and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies by 2030 [29], with 26.92%.

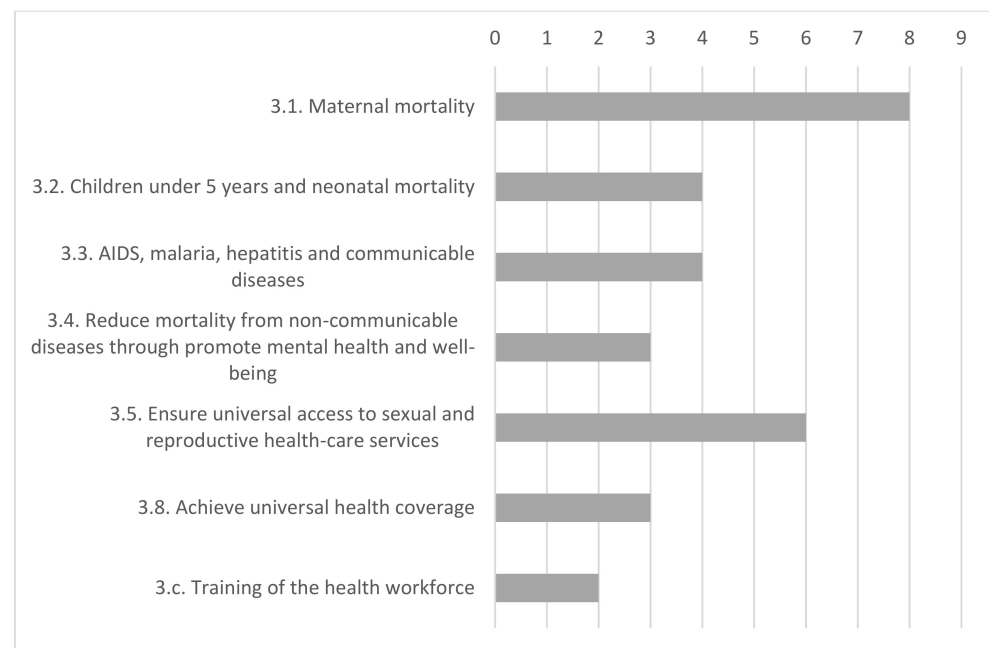


Figure 5. Number of studies according to goals and targets of SDG3.

Language is one of the most mentioned barriers, together with cultural context, lack of data, legal, political environment, and related policies of the host country, such as lack of support of sexual and reproductive healthcare services. Having volunteers from refugees themselves built a trusting relationship between them and the vulnerable women, improved self-confidence, reduced feelings of loneliness, and overcome barriers to healthcare fulfilment. Intervention related to refugee should take the value of cultural competency and the individual into account. Support is needed at all levels (local, national, and international). Measurable indicators that are related to SDGs, including family planning, antenatal care, HIV/AIDS screening, and sexually transmitted infection care, should be improved in RCs to achieve the minimum initial service and help achieve SDG3 and other related SDGs.

3.2.3. Education

Quality education is the fourth goal of the 2030 Agenda. SDG4 targets to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning for all [30]. More

than half of the refugee children worldwide (3.7 million) are out of school and this number increases by half a million each year. Only 63% of refugee students attend primary school compared to 91% worldwide, while 24% are able to attend secondary school compared to 84% globally. However, higher education stays at the worst place with only 3% of refugees attending any form of higher education compared to 37% globally [31].

Sixteen studies were included in this review. Three studies (18.75%) addressed education in general, including all stages: preschool, primary, secondary, and tertiary education [32–34]. Two studies (12.5%) [35,36] discussed early childhood education. Seven studies (43.75%) addressed only schools [37–43], while two of these (28.6%) [39,41] addressed the stage of primary school. Two studies (12.5%) addressed higher education [44,45] and both addressed the use of technology to provide higher education in RCs context, while two studies (12.5%) [46,47] addressed vocational training.

The study of Irfan [37] argues that despite the practical problems to accessing education, other aspects, including insecurity, danger, and psychological trauma, should be taken into account. It concludes that to connect SDG4 to reality, a comprehensive approach that considers education as a significant service is needed, in addition to emergency relief, highlighting the importance of inclusive and quality education, lifelong learning, gender equity, and human rights.

Osman and Bin Ahmad Dahlan [46] propose a business model to help Eritrean refugees in Sudan with a focus on quality education and SDGs targets. The paper displays a comprehensive value proposition canvas that fits the refugees' needs and recommends increasing efforts from all organizations, donors, and countries. RCs face many challenges, including lack of schools, teachers, and educational resources, in addition to poverty and hunger. The paper suggests building comprehensive business models with educational, technological, and financial programmes to help refugees gain essential educational skills that empower them to overcome their problems and to contribute to the development of their community through gaining jobs and creating new job opportunities. Hence, note the interconnection between SDG4 and SDG8.

Jabbar and Zaza [47] assess a vocational training programme for women refugees and shows how it helps reach MDG3 by empowering women and generating intrapreneurship and work opportunity. In addition, it affects positively the mental health of women and raises self-confidence. The study connected this kind of programme under SDG4 to help achieve SDG3, SDG8, SDG5, SDG10, and SDG16 in the RC context.

Laxton et al. [35] show a case study of a project that merges both technology and volunteering to meet the needs of different communities and enhances early childhood education in the Rohingya RCs of Bangladesh. The project aims to meet the challenge of SDG4 and SDG5 by offering opportunities for mothers/big sisters to overcome gender inequalities by leading educational practice transformation in the community. The paper suggests that tents could be a safe place for children to play and learn on a regular basis. It concludes that creating and maintaining good relationships is essential to enable efficient collaboration between stakeholders, which are represented by SDG17, and it serves both marginalized women and children.

Santo and Scott [36] show how shelters can be modified to be a safe space for refugees to lead and provide continuous support to their communities. It also shows an example of how a refugee-led program empowers marginalized women to play their roles as leaders and educators. Both studies [35,36] show the connection between SDG4, SDG5, and SDG17. In addition, they highlight the importance of innovation in the most vulnerable environments connected to SDG9.

Two studies [44,45] deal with the use of technological solutions to meet international goals, and how higher education content delivered via innovative methods that aim to build connection between university-level topical knowledge, digital literacy, and other skills help in the future reconstruction in postconflict communities. Higher education is a key to the rebuilding in the postconflict phase.

Although the study of Schön et al. [33] focuses on self-reliance in the camp environment, it confirms the importance of education to help refugees be self-reliant, and connects SDG4 with SDG8. Moreover, it mentioned that in a city-like camp, which has not yet existed, refugees should have all benefits that urban camps offer, along with better education systems.

Two studies [34,39] connect education to the well-being of refugees. The study of Obodoruku [34] in Turkey indicates that the basic information and education are required to enhance the refugees' well-being in camps. It shows that refugees lack equal access to education and information and lack of access to the UNHCR to report hostile treatment. The study highlights the importance of policy applied by the host government and suggests that host governments should understand the challenges that refugees face to obtain sustainable development by providing the required educational equipment for refugees, and includes the refugees' expertise and laborers that can produce new employment opportunities and end poverty.

Two studies [38,42] expose the connections between reaching SDG4 through SDG16. Meyer et al. [38] show the links between violence and educational results among adolescent refugees in humanitarian settings (camps and settlements). The results indicate that the educational environment may not be consistently protective, and educational outcomes may be improved by prevention of violence at schools. Plessia [42] discusses that integration of unaccompanied minors in the Greek educational system poses challenges due to the language barrier and a denial to participate. Furthermore, the identification of children requires a long time. It also highlights that managing and supporting unaccompanied minors is a proof of European solidarity and not only a legal-based responsibility. Hence, SDG17 can be referred here.

Katsigianni and Kaila [39] present a case study of a primary school in Greece where refugee students were transported to local school units with buses paid for by an international organization. This integrated the refugee students into the educational system as a way to help children return to a normal daily life. The study shows how the first oppositional reaction by the HC affected the cooperation potential and the entire school environment, and how it later changed. Where the educational system was not well prepared to introduce refugees to both education and HC, it seemed that social opposition sometimes limited the acceptance and solidarity within the host school community. In some cases, the lack of introductory programmes caused distrust and denial and more time is needed to handle the difficulties. Long-term programmes that empower the school unit and teachers, along with the cooperation between families, school, and the local community, have positive effects and drastically contribute to facing bullying and victimization incidents. Independent authorities and institutions that protect people's rights play an important role in promoting an argument that can oppose and undermine intolerant behaviors.

The study of Akua-Sakyiwah [40] is the only one that mentioned MDGs on primary education even not directly. It shows how social structures, policy regulation, and implementation, aligned with refugees' personal experiences and responses to the circumstances, influence the refugee's settlement and affect the education of their children. It highlights that health issues due to traumatic experiences affect children's education, while there is no control from agents involved in the education and well-being of the child (teachers, the camp management, community leaders, parents, and health personnel). Unemployment problems lead to poverty, which affects the educational achievement of children, where adolescent girls and children work to help their families and causing them to miss classes. In addition, hunger and malnourishment affect children's performance, attendance, and their education. It also mentioned the issue of exclusion of refugee teachers and well-educated people out of the educational system because they are not allowed to work in the host country. Thus, how SDG1, SDG2, SDG3, and SDG8 affect the achievement of SDG4 can be concluded.

3.2.4. Water and Sanitation

This category represents SDG6 which aims to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” [29]. Four studies were found that related to SDG6 and RCs.

The first study [48] is the only study that was made in a developed country (Germany) and it considers accommodation for DP that are single buildings distributed within existing cities. The study addresses the institutional response to displacement in developed urban contexts by examining the legitimization of the inclusion of cultural practices in the preparation of water and sanitation for DP. It concludes that institutional response to global displacement was more reactive than proactive. The study contributes to SDG6 by addressing the research necessary for provision of water and sanitation services. However, it did not consider the opinion of the DP and highlighted that as a limitation. From our perspective, it failed to understand the cultural background of the people while addressing the issue from an unrealistic perspective.

The second study [16] shows that improving the quantity of water supply made available to the refugees alone cannot solve the problem of water-related disease outbreaks. Other possible solutions, like the removal of localized ponds of water, should be taken into account. The study mentions that strategic incorporation of a sustainable drainage system into the drainage systems of RCs for stormwater management in the East African region can help achieve SDGs in 2030 (specifically goals 3.d, 6.a, 6.b, 9.a, 11.b, 13.1, and 13.2). The study tests the performance of a sustainable drainage system (engineered wetlands and filter drains) for attenuating stormwater and decreasing the concentration of pollutants in stormwater through a laboratory-scale experiment. All sustainable drainage systems reduced a notable proportion of runoff and decreased most of the pollutants tested over the duration of the experiment. However, the filter drain systems achieved the highest attenuation performance. Plants in the wetlands positively affected the degradation of chemical oxygen demand and biochemical/biological oxygen demand in stormwater samples. However, filter drains are more effective in removing turbidity and total dissolved solids in water samples. High attenuation effectiveness of the sustainable drainage systems can be an efficient flood and erosion management strategy over RCs. Moreover, including these sustainable drainage systems into the drainage systems of RCs can ease the achievement of SDGs across RCs by preventing water-related diseases, and also helps reduce the degradation of the environment and the impact of climate change on the camps.

The third study [49] is a systematic review that evaluated the quality (*Escherichia coli*, thermotolerant coliforms, and total coliforms) of drinking water in nonhousehold settings. The review found that drinking water in nonhousehold settings is often noncompliant with health-based standards as defined by the World Health Organization.

The study of Fatoni and Stewart [50] is the only study that mentioned MDG related to sanitation and discusses issues related to sanitation in the case of emergency after the eruption of Mt. Merapi in Indonesia. The study confirmed sanitation as a critical need during the earliest phase of the emergency and highlighted the issue of inadequate information and data collection, and the inappropriate technology selection along with the lack of health-promoting behaviors. It raised the issue of privacy and security, such as the case of neglecting provision of facilities for particular vulnerable groups, such as women during menstruation, and highlighted the importance community participation in the decision-making processes. Many of these issues can be approached at a relatively low cost with locally developed initiatives, as locally built latrines that do not require time or international partners, and by promoting adequate standards of hygiene.

This category represents one of the most important requirements that affect other SDGs, particularly SDGs 3–5. Having real data and developing an innovative and low-cost solution that is culturally appropriate can help refugees have a better quality of life. In addition, policies applied in the host country and partnership between different agencies represented in SDG17 are vital to achieving SDG6.

3.2.5. Energy

SDG7 aims to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” [29].

Khoday and Gitonga [51] present the situation in many host countries and RCs in the Middle East. It affirmed that innovative sustainable energy partnerships, which underline SDG17, are important and play a key role in bringing the advantages of green growth and innovation to the most vulnerable communities in the world, in line with the 2030 Agenda and SDG7.

Lehne et al. [52] conclude that refugees are between the furthest left behind communities regarding SDG7. The study determined initial estimates for the overall scale of energy poverty between refugees in camps and urban areas, and suggested three scenarios for developing energy access. It indicated that simple and cost-effective solutions can improve the access and suggested that moving towards a recognition of energy as a key element of humanitarian relief efforts is needed. It suggested possible approaches, including that planning for energy provision should be a key consideration in humanitarian response; a systematic approach to collecting data on fuel use, energy practices, and costs is needed and new long-term funding and delivery models should be explored.

Thulstrup et al. [53] present an essential connection between energy and food security in the humanitarian context. Energy-related challenges that refugees face stand against sustainable energy access. They discussed that solid biomass is usually used when people have no other choice and it is harmful in many ways and unsustainable. In addition, it highlighted that the lack of secure, affordable, and sustainable energy for cooking, heating, lighting, and powering has implications on various linked sectors and suggested that standardization of humanitarian operating procedures, innovative technologies, and new mechanisms should be developed to address the energy needs. In addition, changing the current policy is required to achieve SDG7, where the current humanitarian system is incapable of solving the energy challenge if the current response measures are not developed.

Benka-Coker et al. [54] report the implementation of ethanol as a household cooking fuel in Ethiopia. The study explores the use of CleanCook ethanol stoves in RCs, and low-income households informed that users found that ethanol stove is clean, safe, fast, and effective, but more expensive in comparison to solid fuels and not proper for making some specific necessary traditional foods; therefore, people use various types of stoves. The case study shows that introducing a new cooking fuel is complex.

Miller and Ulfstjerne [55] explore why energy interventions often fail to obtain the expected outcomes using Rhino Camp as a case study. It presented many fundamental problems in current interventions. It showed that rather than looking for the reasons behind the ineffectiveness of these interventions, stakeholders lay responsibility on the users. The study suggests that local knowledge should be included to have a successful energy intervention and that energy use is not an issue of cultural or individual practice only, but also rely on coexistence between refugees and the HC, and that both communities should take steps to adjust to resource scarcity. It also highlighted that technological enhancement should consider such adaptations throughout the process of ensuring modern energy for all.

Pearl-Martinez [56] discuss SDG7 and its implication on women in developing countries where women do not have equal chances to benefit from emerging opportunities that can help vulnerable communities access energy. This study raises awareness of six global trends that can help achieve SDG7. These include decentralization of energy services, affordability, mobile payments, women’s entrepreneurship, urbanization, and humanitarian settings. The study concludes that achieving an equitable transformation to a sustainable energy system requires effort to be directed towards achieving gender equality. Access to sustainable energy should become a key and official component of humanitarian aid. Sustainable technologies and clean fuels should be a priority in humanitarian settings. Cooperation between international policy frameworks, humanitarian organizations, and national governments should exist toward adopting the coordinated energy access goals

and assuring that women's requirements are evaluated and precisely coordinated. Helping refugees work provides the means for them to pay for the cost of energy services. Both HCs and DPs are benefitted when sustainable energy services are delivered at an affordable cost, and this facilitates the integration within the community. This will also help save scarce natural sources from gathering fuelwood. Ideally, when refugees enter the camp, they should receive a proper cookstove and fuel, and a solar lantern, and education on any new technology.

All studies under this category mentioned that SDG7 affected health SDG3 and security and gender-based violence of refugees and IDPs linked to SDG5. The majority addressed how energy affects people's food security and this shows the link between SDG7, SDG2, and the livelihood possibilities of SDG8. Some studies show that SDG7 is a key element for achieving SDG1 and SDG2. Moreover, they linked it to SDG4, SDG6, SDG9, SDG11, SDG13, and SDG17.

Having access to clean energy should be a must in humanitarian settings, since it reduces environmental implications caused by using harmful energy. Furthermore, creating an innovative solution through technology and policy and partnership help achieve SDG7 and related SDGs. Once again, there is no universal approach to the provision of energy to refugees and DP. Any approach that could be implemented should take into account multiple social, cultural, political, and environmental factors.

3.2.6. Work and Economic Growth

This category represents SDG8's aim to "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all" [29]. Three studies were included in our review.

The first study [57] discusses the socioeconomic conditions among Palestinians in Lebanon. Refugees should have access to basic civil rights and social inclusion, to improve their living conditions. The study concludes that to achieve SDG 1 and 8, inequitable laws and practices must be excluded, especially the principle of reciprocity of treatment and work permit requirement, and it suggests that the host government should encourage refugees to access the formal labor force, including the low-skill and elementary professions, and confirmed the dialogue between both stakeholders to guarantee employment rights and social inclusion for refugees.

The study of Schön et al. [33] focused on self-reliance in the camp environment. It confirmed the importance of education to help refugees be self-reliant and connected SDG4 to SDG8.

The study of Muhammad [58] emphasized that sustainable development assistance is needed and that both emergency relief inputs and long-term livelihood assistance should be included in humanitarian assistance for both DP and HC. This study recommends producing more equitable development, through clearly defined women's roles, and incorporates them into policies, plans, and institutional changes at various levels, including donor agencies to efficiently plan the delivery of development assistance to be equitable, sustainable, and case sensitive. The study suggests applying effective policy to address the threat of illegal activities that may occur when DP consider illegal livelihood strategies that may be harmful to refugees, HCs, and their governments. It indirectly connected SDG8 with SDG1–5, SDG10, SDG13, and SDG17.

The study of Osman and Bin Ahmad Dahlan [46], which was mentioned previously in the education part, presents a new business model and shows how SDG8 is connected to SDG4.

3.2.7. Others

Under this category, we found four studies, three relevant to SDG16: "promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies", and one related to SDG17 "global partnership for sustainable development".

The study of Hayes [59] discusses the data protection issue and the challenges that humanitarian organizations face while offering assistance to refugees, IDP, and migrants. More efforts are required to ensure data protection in humanitarian settings. The study linked SDG16 to SDG1, SDG2, SDG3, SDG9, and SDG17.

Both Brinham [60] and Cheesman [61] discuss the documentation issues associated with displacement, which is related to SDG16.9, aiming to “provide legal identity to all”. They show the importance of identification documents for refugees and DP as they provided visibility that features part of the 2030 Agenda, and in ways to prevent statelessness. Moreover, it presents the connection between SDG16 and SDG2, SDG3, SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG9, SDG10, and SDG17.

The study of Moreno-Serna et al. [62] is the only study that discussed SDG17. It concluded that new patterns of collaboration between people and organizations are required to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, to assist partnership to reach the transformational state, this study suggests two important factors: a facilitating party that assures the creation of shared value and partners that own both the ambition and a cohesive strategy to work together to achieve significant systemic transformation. The study connected SDG17 to SDG4, SDG6, SDG7, SDG8, SDG9, and SDG13.

4. Conclusions

Sustainability in RCs seems to be receiving more attention in academia and practice over the past decade. However, more attention is required where there is a lack of studies that address the issue of development goals in RCs due to the fact that MDGs and SDGs are to some extent a new topic, also because RCs are considered as short-term settlement that does not need long-term interventions. More focus is given to humanitarian action while development actions are not yet accepted. Following the transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda of “leaving no one behind” and according to the review above, the conclusion and recommendations according to each category follow:

4.1. Planning, Development and Shelters

1. There is lack of research and even awareness about planning RCs, in particular, what is aligned with targets 11.2, 11.6, 11.7, 11.a, and 11.c, including:
 - Transportation and green and public spaces for all, and for the most fragile population within refugees, including women and children, older persons, and people with disabilities;
 - Environmental impact of RCs, including air quality and municipal waste management;
 - Linking RCs to surrounding rural, pre-urban, and urban areas is important to support positive economic and social relations between refugees and their HCs, and to create a better environment for refugees to be self-reliant;
 - Using both technology and local knowledge to build sustainable shelters is needed in the RCs.
2. The political aspects and policies that host countries apply play the most effective role in the situation and the future of refugees. We can conclude that policies applied should be changed, where RCs should no longer be a solution for a refugee influx. RCs, in most cases, turn into permanent slums and unsafe informal settlements, which do not align with SDG11, in particular targets 11.1 and 11.2.
3. When the RC is the only proposed solution, long-term vision and policies should be taken into account, and current standards and approaches to planning a RC should be restudied, where “one standard fits all” is no longer accepted. Moreover, a bottom-up approach should be applied by considering the culture, religion, and local knowledge of the area, and merging them into a policy-making environment and planning phase.

4.2. Health and Well-Being

1. Research found that health and well-being in RCs was the topic most studied among all other categories. It found studies addressing targets 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, and

- 3.c. However, the targets most studied were 3.1 and 3.7, which are related to maternal mortality and sexual and reproductive health-care.
2. No studies were found related to targets 3.5, 3.6, and 3.9. Nevertheless, narcotic drug abuse, deaths, and injuries from road traffic accidents (due to the low quality of road and lack of lights), and deaths and illnesses from water pollution can be found in the camp environment.
 3. Policy applied by the host country and language barrier was the most reported obstacles that affect the access of refugees to health. Host governments and health care providers should apply policies that can be met with finance to ensure that the right method is adopted towards achieving SDG3.
 4. Training refugees to become skilled health workers is shown to be successful and has good results in a camp environment where there is a lack of skilled health workers; in addition, it helps reduce the language barrier.

4.3. Education

1. The education section was the second reported among all categories, and studies found it covered all targets of SDG4. Studies in this review presented many case examples that were applied in camp setting; these studies can be the foundation to develop better educational interventions in RC.
2. Studies showed how education plays a key role of empowering refugees, especially women, and help reduce gender inequality and achieve SDG5, SDG8, and SDG16.
3. Promoting refugee-led programs, volunteering, innovation, and technology to meet the need of education in refugee communities help empower marginalized refugees, especially women, and achieve SDG4 and connected SDGs.
4. Policy applied by the host country plays a key role in empowering refugees to continue their education in general and higher education in particular, where it is considered the worst in RC when compared to other education stages. At the same time, higher education is crucial to help refugees be self-reliant to build their future and their countries in the postconflict phase.
5. Language barrier affects the education process, so having translators and facilitators from within the refugee community can help overcome this challenge and provide better-quality education for refugees through different partners and cooperation.

4.4. Water and Sanitation

1. Studies showed how education plays a key role of empowering refugees, especially women, and helps reduce gender inequality and achieve SDG5, SDG8, and SDG16.
2. More robust research and innovation solutions are needed under this category to achieve SDG6.
3. Water and sanitation is one of the most significant requirements that affect the quality of life of refugees and the achievement of other SDGs, most importantly SDG3, SDG4, and SDG5.
4. Innovative, low-cost, and culturally appropriate solutions can be applied to meet refugees' need to access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and hygiene, especially for women and girls, which aligned with target 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, and 6a.
5. Policies applied in the host country, cooperation, and partnership are vital to achieving SDG6.
6. Availability of updated data is fundamental to the success of any intervention related to water and sanitation, and SDG6 as a whole.

4.5. Energy

1. The included studies covered all targets of SDG7 and presented different interventions and partnerships that were done in different locations, including cooking fuel, clean cooking stoves, energy to generate electricity for lights, and other purposes.

2. Humanitarian aid should consider access to sustainable energy an essential and official component. Access to energy is generally ignored in humanitarian settings. Nevertheless, this issue is becoming more recognized by international interventions and cooperation in the last few years.
3. Using clean and sustainable energy for humanitarian aid can help reduce the cost after a number of years. Moreover, it will help improve the quality of life of refugees, conserve the environment, and reduce gender inequalities.
4. Cook energy is essential to end hunger and achieve SDG2.
5. Partnership between international policy frameworks, humanitarian organizations, and host governments play a key role in achieving SDG7 in humanitarian settings.
6. Culture and local practice and knowledge should be taken into account when presenting a new technology or type of energy. However, promoting sustainable and modern energy within refugees and educating them on using them will help overcome the obstacles that may appear when introducing new energy practice.
7. Providing energy in RC generates enterprises, job opportunities, and help achieving SDG8.

4.6. *Work and Economic Growth*

1. There is lack of studies that address the issue of refugees' access to decent work in a RC in the host country. More efforts are required to address SDG8 and in particular target 8.8.
2. Policies applied by the host government play the most important role in improving the living conditions of refugees and achieving SDG8.
3. Refugees should have basic rights, including the right to work.
4. Inequitable laws and practices applied by the host government can backfire. Therefore, the host government should assist refugees to access formal employment in all levels and professions.
5. Refugees' work can help them improve their living conditions and transfer them from receiving aid to generating income, which can help improve the economic growth of their HC and generate more job opportunities.

4.7. *Others*

1. More research regarding SDG16 and its targets should be done, including using innovation and developing technology to help ensure data protection in humanitarian settings.
2. Policies applied by the host government play a key role in achieving SDG16 and, in particular, targets 16.9 and 16.b.
3. More research on governance in RCs in line with SDG16 and targets 16.6 and 16.7, in particular, is required. Governance seems to be forgotten in RCs and more efforts are needed to engage refugees in the decision-making process at all levels.
4. More research about partnership to achieve SDGs is required to better understand the framework of working together and encouraging international community, governments, different institutions, and NGOs at all levels to cooperate together to achieve the SDGs.

Last but not least, the findings of the literature analysis suggest that leading research areas are the ones related to health and well-being SDG3, followed by education SDG4. Most researchers did not focus on SDGs themselves, but many fall into related research; therefore, a more comprehensive, consistent, and in-depth study should be made in the future, whether taking into account one target or more than one SDGs to improve the quality of aid provided to refugees, and help them become equal while helping to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

While lack of data, language barriers, and policy applied by the host government were the most mentioned obstacles, innovation, technology, and partnership, in addition to the policies, once again, are the most mentioned and related solution to help achieve the

SDGs. We suggest building on existing literature and initiatives to develop measures of progress on sustainable development that support capacity-building and development in both RC and HC, and at the same time save the environment and our planet.

Although this study has theoretical contributions, several limitations still exist. The number of articles included in some categories is limited and additional related research may exist. However, they did not mention SDGs or MDGs and therefore they were not included in our review. Consequently, the results displayed may not be very robust regarding all categories; however, since our focus is on SDGs and MDGs, we believe this review makes good contributions to the literature.

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Appendix A

Table A1. Metadata of the included publications.

No	Author(s) [Citation No.]	Names of Author(s)	Year	Title of the Article
1	Earle [17]	Lucy Earle	2016	Urban crises and the new urban agenda
2	Jahre et al. [18]	Marianne Jahre, Joakim Kembro, Anicet Adjahossou, and Nezih Altay	2018	Approaches to the design of refugee camps: An empirical study in Kenya, Ethiopia, Greece, and Turkey
3	Youssef and Mefleh [20]	Maged Youssef and Farah Mefleh	2019	Towards a creative sustainable promenade in informal souk architecture case study: Mar Eli as camps, in Beirut, Lebanon
4	Rush et al. [19]	David Rush, Greg Bankoff, Sarah-Jane Cooper-Knock, Lesley Gibson, Laura Hirst, Steve Jordan, Graham Spinardi, John Twigg, and Richard Shaun Walls	2020	Fire risk reduction on the margins of an urbanizing world
5	Howard et al. [63]	Natasha Howard, Aniek Woodward, Yaya Souare, Sarah Kollie, David Blankhart, Anna von Roenne, and Matthias Borchert	2011	Reproductive health for refugees by refugees in Guinea III: maternal health
6	McGready et al. [8]	Rose McGready, Machteld Boel, Marcus J. Rijken, Elizabeth A. Ashley, Thein Cho, Oh Moo, Moo Koh Paw, Mupawjay Pimanpanarak, Lily Hkirijareon, Verena I. Carrara, Khin Maung Lwin, Aung Pyae Phy, Claudia Turner, Cindy S. Chu, Michele van Vugt, Richard N. Price, Christine Luxemburger, Feiko O. ter Kuile, Saw Oo Tan, Stephane Proux, Pratap Singhasivanon, Nicholas J. White, and François H. Nosten	2012	Effect of early detection and treatment on malaria related maternal mortality on the north-western border of Thailand 1986–2010
7	Hynes et al. [15]	Michelle Hynes, Ouahiba Sakani, Paul Spiegel, and Nadine Cornier	2012	A Study of refugee maternal mortality in 10 countries, 2008–2010
8	Garcia and Gostin [64]	Kelli K. Garcia and Lawrence O. Gostin	2012	One health, One world—The intersecting legal regimes of trade, climate change, food security, humanitarian crises, and migration
9	Urdal and Che [12]	Henrik Urdal and Chi Primus Che	2013	War and gender inequalities in health: The impact of armed conflict on fertility and maternal mortality
10	Turner, Turner, et al. [26]	Claudia Turner, Paul Turner, Verena Carrara, Kathy Burgoine, Saw Tha Ler Htoo, Wanitda Watthanaworawit, Nicholas P. Day, Nicholas J. White, David Goldblatt, and François Nosten	2013	High rates of pneumonia in children under two years of age in a south east Asian refugee population
11	Turner, Carrara, et al. [25]	Claudia Turner, Verena Carrara, Naw Aye Mya Thein, Naw Chit Mo Mo Win, Paul Turner, Germana Bancone, Nicholas J. White, Rose McGready, and François Nosten	2013	Neonatal intensive care in a Karen refugee camp: A four year descriptive study
12	Parr et al. [27]	Megan Parr, Colley Paw Dabu, Nan San Wai, Paw Si Say, Ma Ner, Nay Win Tun, Aye Min, Mary Ellen Gilder, François H Nosten, and Rose McGready	2014	Clinical audit to enhance safe practice of skilled birth attendants for the fetus with nuchal cord: Evidence from a refugee and migrant cohort
13	Bell et al. [65]	Sue Anne Bell, Jody Lori, Richard Redman, and Julia Seng	2015	Understanding the Effects of mental health on reproductive health service use: A mixed methods approach

Table A1. Cont.

No	Author(s) [Citation No.]	Names of Author(s)	Year	Title of the Article
14	White et al. [28]	Adrienne Lynne White, Thaw Htwe Min, Mechthild M Gross, Ladda Kajeechiwa, May Myo Thwin, Borimas Hanboonkunupakarn, Hla Hla Than, Thet Wai Zin, Marcus J Rijken, Gabie Hoogenboom, and Rose McGready	2016	Accelerated training of skilled birth attendants in a marginalized population on the Thai–Myanmar border: A multiple methods program evaluation
15	Chelwa, Likwa and Banda [66]	Nachela Malisenti Chelwa, Rosemary Ndongyo Likwa, and Jeremiah Banda	2016	Under-five mortality among displaced populations in Meheba refugee camp, Zambia, 2008–2014
16	Khatoon et al. [67]	Salina Khatoon, Shyam Sundar Budhathoki, Kiran Bam, Rajshree Thapa, Lokesh P. Bhatt, Bidhya Basnet, and Nilambar Jha	2018	Socio-demographic characteristics and the utilization of HIV testing and counselling services among the key populations at the Bhutanese refugees camps in eastern Nepal
17	Parker et al. [24]	Amber L. Parker, Daniel M. Parker, Blooming Night Zan, Aung Myat Min, Mary Ellen Gilder, Maxime Ringringulu, Elsi Win, Jacher Wiladphaingern, Prakaykaew Charunwatthana, François Nosten, Sue J. Lee, and Rose McGready	2018	Trends and birth outcomes in adolescent refugees and migrants on the Thailand–Myanmar border, 1986–2016: An observational study
18	Paromita et al. [68]	Progga Paromita, Cinderella Akbar Mayaboti, Md. Abdul Halim, and Animesh Biswas	2019	Reproductive age mortality study (RAMOS) for capturing underreporting maternal mortality: Why is important in the Rohingya refugee camps, Bangladesh? Challenges and recommendations to reducing burden of
19	Saleeb [13]	Christine Saleeb	2020	diphtheria in refugee camps
20	Mwenyango [69]	Hadijah Mwenyango	2020	The place of social work in improving access to health services among refugees: A case study of Nakivale settlement, Uganda
21	Ganle et al. [70]	John Kuumuori Ganle, Doris Amoako, Leonard Baatiema, and Muslim Ibrahim	2019	Risky sexual behaviour and contraceptive use in contexts of displacement: Insights from a cross-sectional survey of female adolescent refugees in Ghana
22	Salisbury et al. [10]	Patricia Salisbury, Layla Hall, Sibylla Kulkus, Moo Kho Paw, Nay Win Tun, Aung Myat Min, Kesinee Chotivanich, Somjet Srikanok, Pranee Ontuwong, Supachai Sirinonthachai, François Nosten, Shawn Somerset, and Rose McGready	2016	Family planning knowledge, attitudes and practices in refugee and migrant pregnant and post-partum women on the Thailand–Myanmar border—a mixed methods study
23	Asnong et al. [23]	Carine Asnong, Gracia Fellmeth, Emma Plugge, Nan San Wai, Mupawjay Pimanpanarak, Moo Kho Paw, Prakaykaew Charunwatthana, François Nosten, and Rose McGready	2018	Adolescents' perceptions and experiences of pregnancy in refugee and migrant communities on the Thailand–Myanmar border: A qualitative study
24	Fellmeth et al. [22]	Gracia Fellmeth, Emma Plugge, Moo Kho Paw, Prakaykaew Charunwatthana, François Nosten, and Rose McGready	2015	Pregnant migrant and refugee women's perceptions of mental illness on the Thai–Myanmar border: A qualitative study
25	Adorjan et al. [6]	K. Adorjan, S. Mulugeta, M. Odenwald, DM Ndetei, AH Osman, M. Hautzinger, S. Wolf, M. Othman, JI Kizilhan, O. Pogarell, and TG Schulze	2017	Psychiatrische versorgung von flüchtlingen in Afrika und dem Nahen Osten (translation: Psychiatric care for refugees in Africa and the Middle East)
26	Bellos et al. [11]	Anna Bellos, Kim Mulholland, Katherine L O'Brien, Shamim A Qazi, Michelle Gayer, and Francesco Checchi	2010	The burden of acute respiratory infections in crisis-affected populations: A systematic review
27	(Bierhoff et al. [21])	M. Bierhoff, M. J. Rijken, W. Yotyngaphiram, M. Pimanpanarak, M. van Vugt, C. Angkurawaranon, F. Nosten, S. Ehrhardt, C. L. Thio, and R. McGready	2020	Tenofovir for prevention of mother to child transmission of hepatitis B in migrant women in a resource-limited setting on the Thailand–Myanmar border: A commentary on challenges of implementation
28	Schaaf et al. [71]	Marta Schaaf, Victoria Boydell, Mallory C. Sheff1, Christina Kay, Fatemeh Torabi, and Rajat Khosla	2020	Accountability strategies for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in humanitarian settings: A scoping review
29	Balhara et al. [7]	Kamna S. Balhara, David M. Silvestri, W. Tyler Winders, Anand Selvam, Sean M. Kivlehan, Torben K. Becker, and Adam C. Levine, Global Emergency Medicine Literature Review Group (GEMLR)	2017	Impact of nutrition interventions on pediatric mortality and nutrition outcomes in humanitarian emergencies: A systematic review
30	Khan and DeYoung [14]	Aishah Khan and Sarah E. DeYoung	2018	Maternal health services for refugee populations: Exploration of best practices
31	Meyer et al. [38]	Sarah R Meyer, Gary Yu, Sabrina Hermosilla, and Lindsay Stark	2018	School violence, perceptions of safety and school attendance: Results from a cross-sectional study in Rwanda and Uganda
32	Osman and Bin Ahmad Dahlan [46]	Gamal Mohamed Osman and Abdul Rahman Bin Ahmad Dahlan	2019	Empowering Eritrean refugees in Sudan through quality education for sustainable development
33	Katsigianni and Kaila [39]	Victoria Katsigianni and Maria Kaila	2019	Refugee education in Greece: A case study in primary school
34	Laxton et al. [35]	Debra Laxton, Linda Cooper, Purma Shrestha, and Sarah Younie	2020	Translational research to support early childhood education in crisis settings: A case study of collaborative working with Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar
35	Plessia [42]	Vasiliki Plessia	2020	"Fallen angels" under European Union's migration gesture
36	Yeo, Gagnon and Thako [43]	Subin Sarah Yeo, Terese Gagnon, and Hayso Thako	2020	Schooling for a stateless nation: The predicament of education without consensus for karen refugees on the Thailand–Myanmar border
37	Gallagher and Bauer [45]	Matthew Gallagher and Carrie Bauer	2020	Refugee higher education and future reconstruction efforts: exploring the connection through the innovative technological implementation of a university course in Nakivale refugee settlement, Uganda
38	Santo and Scott [36]	A Di Santo and KJ Scott	2020	A child's right to early childhood education in emergency contexts
39	Piper et al. [41]	Benjamin Piper, Sarah Dryden-Peterson, Vidur Chopra, Celia Reddick, and Arbogast Oyanga	2020	Are refugee children learning? early grade literacy in a refugee camp in Kenya
40	Walton et al. [32]	Elizabeth Walton, Joanna McIntyre, Salome Joy Awidi, Nicole De Wet-Billings, Kerry Dixon, Roda Madziva, David Monk, Chamunogwa Nyoni, Juliet Thondhlana, and Volker Wedekind	2020	Compounded exclusion: Education for disabled refugees in Sub-Saharan Africa

Table A1. Cont.

No	Author(s) [Citation No.]	Names of Author(s)	Year	Title of the Article
41	O'keeffe [44]	O'keeffe, P.	2020	The case for engaging online tutors for supporting learners in higher education in refugee contexts
42	Akua-Sakiyiwah [40]	Beatrice Akua-Sakiyiwah	2020	Intersecting social structures and humanactors: Ganfoso refugees' settling experiences and impact on children's education
43	Irfan [37]	Anne Irfan	2016	The loss of education: Palestinian refugees from Syria and UN SDG4
44	Jabbar and Zaza [47]	Sinaria Abdel Jabbara and Haidar Ibrahim Zazab	2016	Evaluating a vocational training programme for women refugees at the Zaatari camp in Jordan: women empowerment: a journey and not an output
45	Obodoruku [34]	Benedicta Obodoruku	2019	Syrian refugees and paucity of information
46	Fatoni and Stewart [50]	Zainal Fatoni, and Donald E. Stewart	2012	Sanitation in an emergency situation: A case study of the eruption of Mt Merapi, Indonesia, 2010
47	Faure, Faustand and Kaminsky [48]	Julie C. Faure, Kasey M. Faustand, and Jessica Kaminsky	2019	Legitimization of the inclusion of cultural practices in the planning of water and sanitation services for displaced persons
48	Ajibade and Tota-Maharaj [16]	Oluwatoyin Opeyemi Ajibade, and Kiran Tota-Maharaj	2018	Comparative study of sustainable drainage systems for refugee camps stormwater management
49	Abebe et al. [49]	Lydia Abebe, Andrew J. Karon, Andrew J. Koltun, Ryan D. Cronk, Robert E. S. Bain, and Jamie Bartram	2018	Microbial contamination of non-household drinking water sources: a systematic review
50	Khoday and Gitonga [51]	Kishan Khoday and Stephen Gitonga	2015	Solar aid
51	Lehne et al. [52]	Johanna Lehne, William Blyth, Glada Lahn, Morgan Bazilian, and Owen Grafham	2016	Energy services for refugees and displaced people
52	Caniato, Carliez and Thulstrup [53]	Marco Caniato, Daphné Carliez, and Andreas Thulstrup	2017	Challenges and opportunities of new energy schemes for food security in humanitarian contexts: A selective review
53	Benka-Coker et al. [54]	Megan L. Benka-Cokera, Wubshet Tadeleb, Alex Milanoc, Desalegn Getanehb, and Harry Stokes	2018	A case study of the ethanol clean cook stove intervention and potentialscale-up in Ethiopia
54	Miller and Ulfstjerne [55]	Rachel L. Miller and Michael A. Ulfstjerne	2020	Trees, tensions, and transactional communities: Problematising frameworksfor energy poverty alleviation in the Rhino camp refugee settlement, Uganda
55	Pearl-Martinez [56]	Rebecca Pearl-Martinez	2020	Global trends impacting gender equality in energy access
56	Muhammad [58]	Rehan Khan Muhammad	2011	International forced migration and Pak-Afghan development concerns: exploring Afghan refugee livelihood strategies
57	Schön et al. [33]	Anna Schön, Shahad Al-Saadi, Jakob Grubmüller, and Dorit Schumann-Bölsche	2018	Developing a camp performance indicator system and its application to Zaatari, Jordan
58	Naoum [57]	Diana Naoum	2016	Poverty and unemployment: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and the sustainable development goals 1 and 8
59	Hayes [59]	Ben Hayes	2017	Migration and data protection: Doing no harm in an age of mass displacement mass surveillance and "big data"
60	Brinham [60]	Natalie Brinham	2019	Looking beyond invisibility: Rohingya's dangerous encounters with papers and cards
61	Moreno-Serna et al. [62]	Jaime Moreno-Serna, Teresa Sánchez-Chaparro, Javier Mazorra, Ander Arzamendi, Leda Stott, and Carlos Mataix	2020	Transformational collaboration for the SDGs: The alianza shire's work to provide energy access in refugee camps and host communities
62	Cheesman [61]	Margie Cheesman	2020	Self-sovereignty for refugees? The contested horizons of digital identity
63	Nasser, Maclachlan and McVeigh [72]	Khaled Nasser, Malcolm MacLachlan, and Joanne McVeigh	2016	Social inclusion and mental health of children with physical disabilities in Gaza, Palestine
64	Thielemans et al. [9]	L. Thielemans, M. Trip-Hoving, J.Landier, C.Turner, T.J.Prins, E.M.N.Wouda, B.Hanboonkunupakarn, C. Po, C.Beau, M.Mu, T.Hannay, F. Nosten, B. Van Overmeire, R. McGready, and V. I. Carrara	2018	Indirect neonatal hyperbilirubinemia in hospitalized neonates on the Thai-Myanmar border: A review of neonatalmedical records from 2009 to 2014
65	Mastor et al. [73]	Roxana A. Mastor, Michael H. Dworkin, Mackenzie L. Landa, and Emily Duff	2018	Energy justice and climate-refugees
66	Shackelford et al. [74]	Brandie Banner Shackelford, Ryan Cronk, Nikki Behnke, Brittany Cooper, Raymond Tu, Mabel D'Souzaa, Jamie Bartram, Ryan Schweitzer, and Dilshad Jaff	2020	Environmental health in forced displacement: A systematic scoping review of the emergency phase
67	Nielsen [75]	Nielsen, B.F.	2014	Imperatives and trade-offs for the humanitarian designer: Off-grid energy for humanitarian relief
68	Fetters et al. [76]	Tamara Fetters, Sayed Rubayet, Sharmin Sultana, Shamila Nahar, Shadie Tofigh, Lea Jones, Ghazaleh Samandari, and Bill Powell	2020	Navigating the crisis landscape: engagingthe ministry of health and United Nations agencies to make abortion care available to Rohingya refugees
69	Sami et al. [77]	Samira Sami, Kate Kerber, Solomon Kenyi, Ribka Amsalu, Barbara Tomczyk, Debra Jackson, Alexander Dimiti, Elaine Scudder, Janet Meyers, Jean Paul De Charles Umurungi, Kemish Kenneth, and Luke C Mullany	2017	State of newborn care in South Sudan's displacement camps: A descriptive study of facility-based deliveries
70	Sami et al. [78]	Samira Sami, Ribka Amsalu, Alexander Dimiti, Debra Jackson, Solomon Kenyi, Janet Meyers, Luke C. Mullany, Elaine Scudder, Barbara Tomczyk, and Kate Kerber	2018	Understanding health systems to improve community and facility level newborn care among displaced populations in South Sudan: a mixed methods case study
71	Khanfar, Al-Faqheri and Al-Halhouli [79]	Mohammad F. Khanfar, Wisam Al-Faqheri, and Ala'aldeen Al-Halhouli	2017	Low cost lab on chip for the colorimetric detection of nitrate in mineral water products
72	Presler-Marshall, Jones and Odeh [80]	Elizabeth Presler-Marshall, Nicola Jones, and Kifah Bani Odeh	2020	"Even though I am blind, I am still human!": The neglect of adolescents with disabilities' human rights in conflict-affected contexts

Appendix B

Table A2. Included studies related to health and well-being.

No.	Author(s) [Citation No.]	Title	Mentioned in Text SDG/MDG	Target/Topic Related to Health/	SDG3 Is Linked to
1	McGready et al. [8]	Effect of early detection and treatment on malaria related maternal mortality on the north-western border of Thailand 1986–2010	MDG5 MDG6	3.1/Malaria Related maternal mortality	SDG2 SDG4
2	Hynes et al. [15]	A study of refugee maternal mortality in 10 countries, 2008–2010	MDG5	3.1/Maternal mortality	SDG1 SDG4 SDG1
3	Howard et al. [63]	Reproductive health for refugees by refugees in Guinea III: Maternal health	MDG5	3.1/Reproductive health: maternal mortality	SDG4 SDG5 SDG8 SDG16 MDG1
4	Garcia and Gostin [64]	One health, one world—The intersecting legal regimes of trade, climate change, food security, humanitarian crises, and migration	MDG1	3.8/Health (general) and international law	SDG1 SDG2 SDG6 SDG9 SDG10 SDG11 SDG13 SDG15 SDG16 SDG17
5	Urdal and Che [12]	War and gender inequalities in health: The impact of armed conflict on fertility and maternal mortality	MDG5	3.1/Fertility and maternal mortality	SDG1 SDG2 SDG4 SDG5 SDG6 SDG7
6	Turner, Turner, et al. [26]	High rates of pneumonia in children under two years of age in a south east Asian refugee population	MDG4	3.2/Pneumonia in children under two years of age	SDG7 SDG11
7	Turner, Carrara, et al. [25]	Neonatal intensive care in a Karen refugee camp: A 4-year descriptive study	MDG4	3.2/Neonatal mortality	SDG2 SDG4 SDG7
8	Parr et al. [27]	Clinical audit to enhance safe practice of skilled birth attendants for the fetus with nuchal cord: Evidence from a refugee and migrant cohort	MDG5	3.1/Skilled birth attendants	SDG4
9	Bell et al. [65]	Understanding the effects of mental health on reproductive health service use: A mixed methods approach	MDG5	3.c./Training of the health workforce 3.4/promote mental health and well-being 3.7/Effects of mental health on reproductive health service use	SDG1 SDG4 SDG5 SDG8 SDG13
10	Chelwa, Likwa and Banda [66]	Under-five mortality among displaced populations in Meheba refugee camp, Zambia, 2008–2014	MDG4	3.2/Under-five mortality	SDG1 SDG2 SDG4 SDG6 SDG11
11	Bellos et al. [11]	The burden of acute respiratory infections in crisis-affected populations: A systematic review	MDG6	3.3/Acute respiratory infections	SDG2 SDG6 SDG7 SDG11 SDG13
12	Balhara et al. [7]	Impact of nutrition interventions on pediatric mortality and nutrition outcomes in humanitarian emergencies: A systematic review	MDG4	3.2/Reducing child mortality/pediatric mortality	SDG1 SDG2 SDG4 SDG8 SDG7 SDG13 SDG15
13	White et al. [28]	Accelerated training of skilled birth attendants in a marginalized population on the Thai–Myanmar border: A multiple methods program evaluation	SDG3	3.1/Skilled birth attendant	SDG4
14	Bierhoff et al. [21]	Tenofovir for prevention of mother to child transmission of hepatitis B in migrant women in a resource-limited setting on the Thailand–Myanmar border: A commentary on challenges of implementation	SDG3	3.c. training of the health workforce 3.3/Tenofovir for prevention of mother to child transmission of hepatitis B	
15	Fellmeth et al. [22]	Pregnant migrant and refugee women’s perceptions of mental illness on the Thai–Myanmar border: A qualitative study	MDG3, MDG4, and MDG5 (Pregnant women and mental health)	3.4/Mental illness in women of childbearing age, especially during pregnancy and the first-year post-partum	SDG5 SDG8

Table A2. Cont.

No.	Author(s) [Citation No.]	Title	Mentioned in Text SDG/MDG	Target/Topic Related to Health/	SDG3 Is Linked to
16	Asnong et al. [23]	Adolescents' perceptions and experiences of pregnancy in refugee and migrant communities on the Thailand–Myanmar border: A qualitative study	SDG3	3.7/Adolescents' pregnancy	SDG1, SDG2, SDG3, SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG10
17	Salisbury et al. [10]	Family planning knowledge, attitudes and practices in refugee and migrant pregnant and post-partum women on the Thailand–Myanmar border—a mixed methods study	SDG3	3.7/Family planning	SDG1 SDG4 SDG8
18	Parker et al. [24]	Trends and birth outcomes in adolescent refugees and migrants on the Thailand–Myanmar border, 1986–2016: An observational study	SDG3	3.7/Sexual and reproductive healthcare	SDG4
19	Schaaf et al. [71]	Accountability strategies for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in humanitarian settings: Ascoping review	SDG3, SDG5, and SDG16	3.7/Accountability strategies for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	SDG5 SDG16 SDG17.
20	Khatoon et al. [67]	Socio-demographic characteristics and the utilization of HIV testing and counselling services among the key populations at the Bhutanese refugees camps in eastern Nepal	SDG3	3.3/Utilization of HIV testing and counselling services	SDG1, SDG4
21	Paromita et al. [68]	Reproductive age mortality study (RAMOS) for capturing underreporting maternal mortality: why is important in the Rohingya refugee camps, Bangladesh?	SDG5 + SDGs (but it is related to SDG3)	3.1/Maternal mortality	SDG1 SDG5
22	Saleeb [13]	Challenges and recommendations to reducing burden of diphtheria in refugee camps	SDG3	3.3/Diphtheria	SDG4 SDG17
23	Mwenyang [69]	The place of social work in improving access to health services among refugees: A case study of Nakivale settlement, Uganda	SDG3	3.8/Social work in improving access to health services	SDG1 SDG5 SDG8 SDG10 SDG16 SDG17
24	Ganle et al. [70]	Risky sexual behavior and contraceptive use in contexts of displacement: Insights from a cross-sectional survey of female adolescent refugees in Ghana	SDG3	3.7/Sexual and reproductive healthcare	SDG4 SDG5 SDG10 SDG17
25	Khan and DeYoung [14]	Maternal health services for refugee populations: Exploration of best practices	SDG3 + SDG5 (as text)	3.1/Maternal health services	SDG1 SDG4 SDG5 SDG17
26	Adorjan et al. [6]	Psychiatrische versorgung von Flüchtlingen in Afrika und dem Nahen Osten (translation:Psychiatric care for refugees in Africa and the Middle East)	SDG3 + SDG10 (as text)	3.4/Mental health and well-being	SDG2 SDG4 SDG7 SDG8 SDG10 SDG17

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