



Refugee Empowerment through Markets Initiative

Moving the marginalized centre stage

Context

103 million refugees and IDPs worldwide

- 4 out of 5 are below poverty line and hosted by developing countries

Conflicts, economic instability, climate change

- World Bank estimates that 250 million people will be displaced by 2050
- 20 years average of forced displacement

- Economic resilience and self-reliance interventions
- Strengthening capacity as core market actors

Key challenge: thin market

MSMEs

- Limited supply side capacity
- Weak market integration
- Legal status

Market and business ecosystems

- Humanitarian, aid-reliance
- Limited access to / service offering by BSOs, FIs and private sector actors

Economic and business policy

- Low investment, high trade related costs

Activities since 2015



First project:
Pilot Kenya

Expanding in locations:
RESI Jordan and Syria
YEP The Gambia

Internal framework on
refugees and migrants

Expanding in locations:
in Kenya, Gaza, Somalia

Dedicated section for
vulnerable groups

Refugee Empowerment
through Markets Initiative
(REMI)

2015

2017


2018

2019

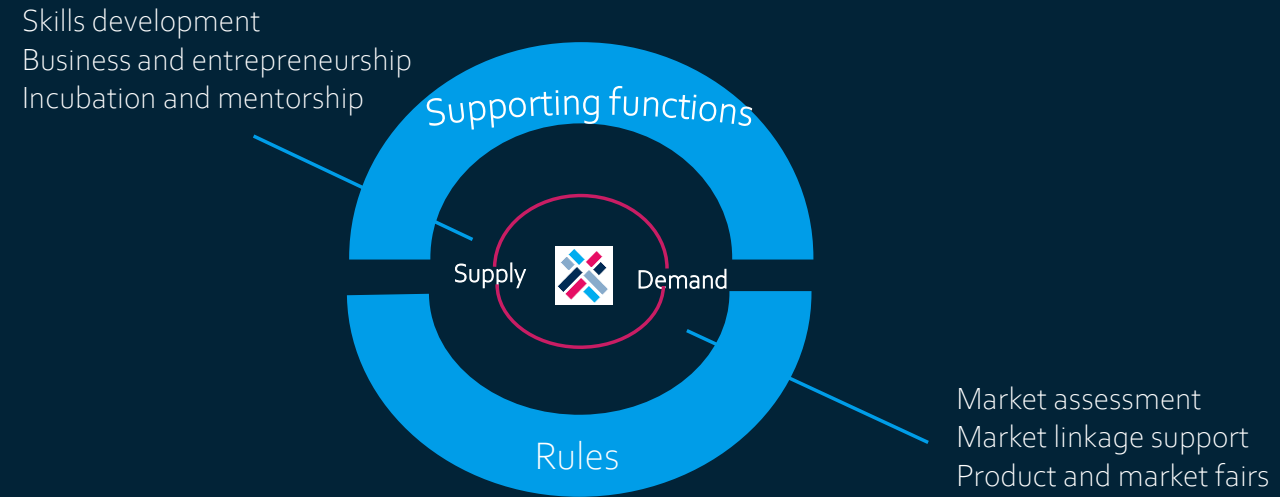
2022

2023

 **8 dedicated projects** implemented for refugees, IDPs, returnees: Kenya, Gaza, Jordan, Somalia

 **4 additional projects** that have included the groups The Gambia, Burkina Faso and Mali, Colombia, Guinea

Taking stock



Example RESI / Kenya

Focus: Over 700 people directly supported

Income: Over \$500,000 generated

Social impact: Gender equality, women empowerment, youth leadership

System influencing: Adoption of market-based approach by local actors

Lessons learned

Systems-wide approach

- Firm vs. broader level engagement
- Direct vs. indirect role

Programmatic structure

- Organizational knowledge building
- SOPs and guidelines (market interventions in FCAS, conflict sensitivity analysis)

Tapping into ITC tools

- SheTrades, YE!, EFI, A4A, EcomConnect
- Trade and market intelligence

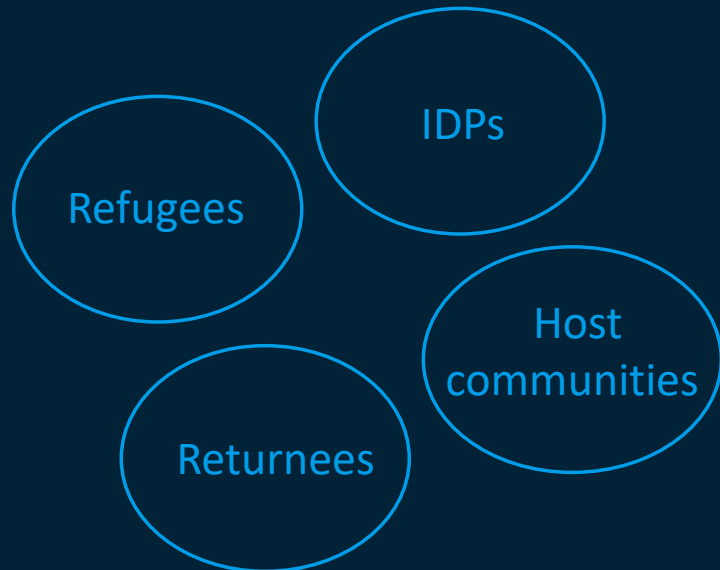
Strategic and operational partnerships

- Global and in-country network
- Private sector buy-in
- Donor flexibility

Vision



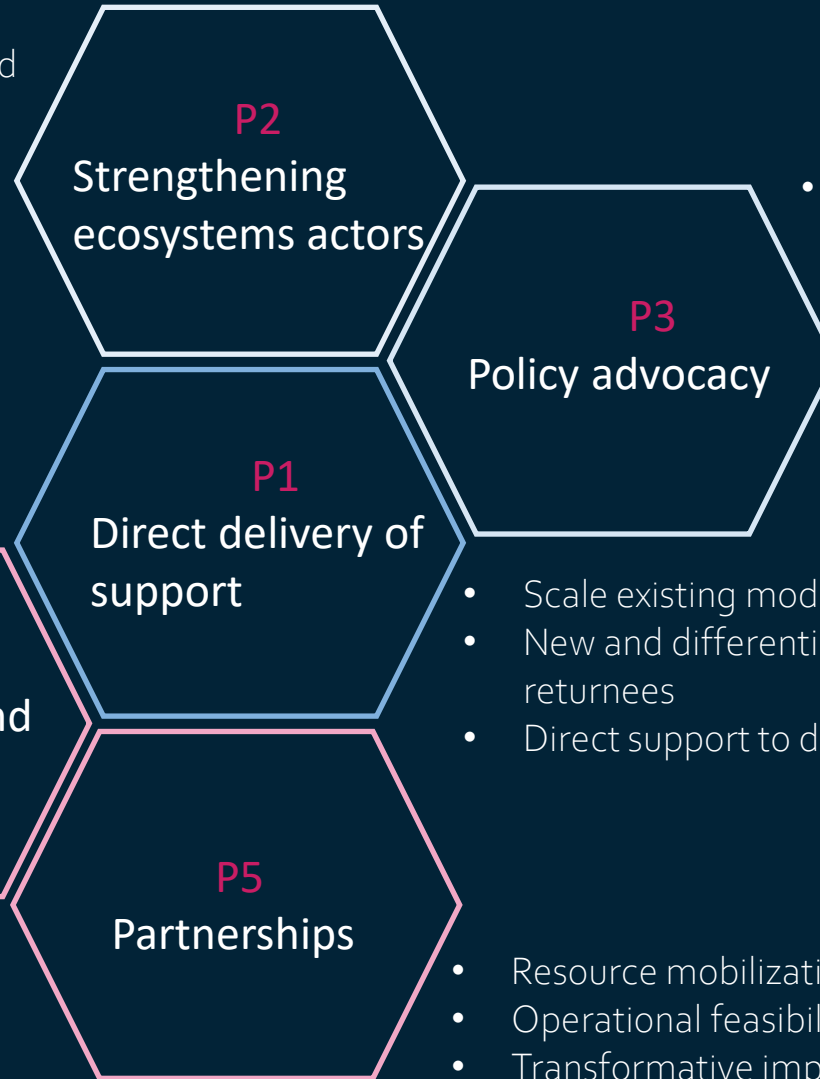
An inclusive market-based approach
focused on:



- Refugees, IDPs, returnees and MSMEs in host communities enabled to access and participate in markets
- Private sector partners, BSOs and FIs strengthened to service target groups and integrate them in market systems
- Livelihood improved in target communities as a result of increased business and income opportunities

5 Pillars of work

- Models of support to BSOs, FIs and private sector actors





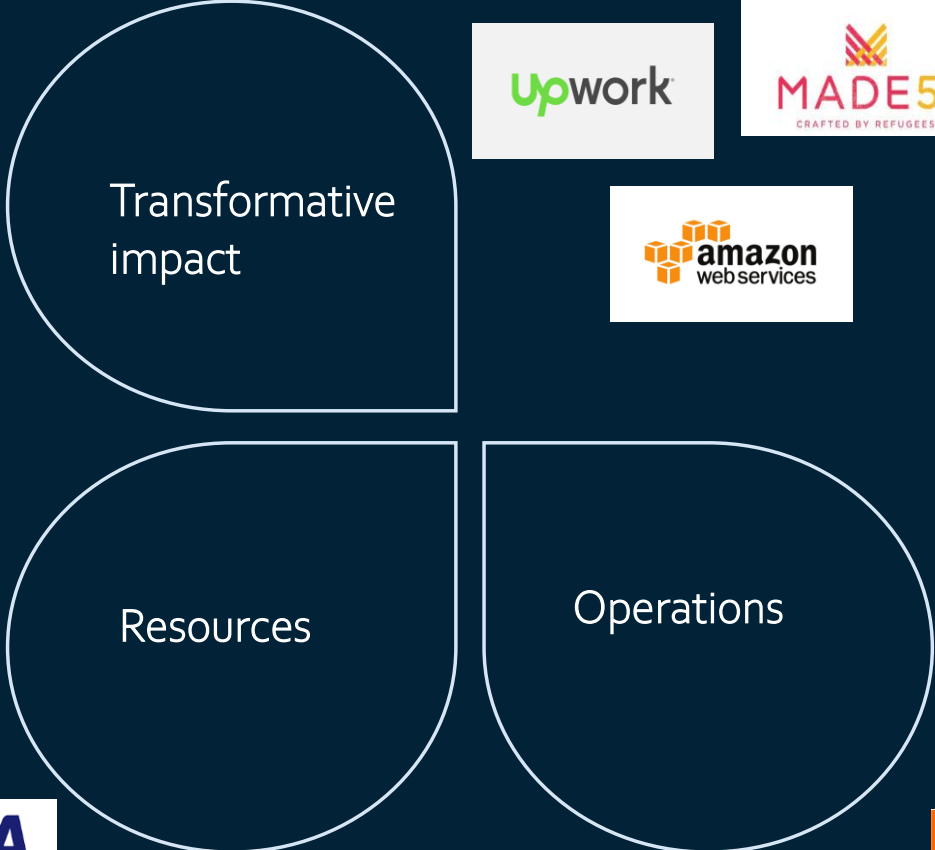
- Refugee and displacement-inclusive business and trade policies and regulations

- Research and analysis on trade in displacement and FCAS
- Results and learning across ITC to strengthen displacement disaggregated data

- Scale existing model
- New and differentiated services for refugees, IDPs and returnees
- Direct support to demonstrate

- Resource mobilization
- Operational feasibility
- Transformative impact

Strategic partnerships



Highlight for 2023



6 projects in 5 new locations

- 3 projects in implementation
- 3 projects being launched
- 1 project under discussion

Kenya and Pakistan
Sector/focus: Digital value chain/Women and youth participation
Client: Refugee and host communities
Approach: Direct Delivery/Ecosystems
\$1 million - Visa Foundation

Rwanda
Sector: Horticultural products/Sustainable and inclusive youth employment
Client: Refugee and host communities
Approach: Ecosystems/Advocacy
\$925k - Mastercard Foundation

Kenya
Sector: Artisanal value chain
Client: Refugee and host communities
Approach: Direct Delivery/Ecosystems
\$5.6 million - KOICA

Nigeria (under discussion)
Sector: Entrepreneurship and employment/Youth economic reintegration
Client: Returnees
Approach: Direct Delivery/Ecosystems
\$1.35 million – EU and Germany



Ukraine
Sector: Digital service/women focus
Client: IDPs and MSMEs
Approach: Direct Delivery/Ecosystems
\$308k - Government of Japan

Gaza
Sector: Digital service
Client: Refugees and host communities
Approach: Direct Delivery
\$611k - Government of Japan

Nigeria
Sector: Digital service
Client: Women, youth and IDPs
Approach: Direct Delivery
\$289k Government of Japan

Thank you - Coming up...

- ★ Expand and scale private sector engagement
- ★ Inclusive market systems development
- ★ World Refugee Day: Project launch and event on 22 June, 2023 11 am @ITC