

REBUILD

Boosting Livelihoods

A CALL FOR INCLUSION OF URBAN REFUGEES IN SOCIAL PROTECTION



A South Sudanese refugee under a Re:Build apprenticeship placement to improve skills in welding.



Results of my hands: A Congolese refugee showcases the outcome of her baking skills.

Humanitarian aid and social protection is a human right

Hit by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis and yet largely excluded from humanitarian and social protection assistance, urban refugees in Kampala and Nairobi find themselves in a precarious situation as prices of basic commodities rise.

To address this exclusion, in August 2022, the Re:Build program launched a campaign to advocate for inclusion of urban refugees in humanitarian and social protection

measures. The campaign targets donors, governments, the private sector and financial and communications regulators. It climaxes with a social protection conference during the IGAD 2nd Regional expert meeting on the Kampala Declaration on jobs, livelihood, and self-reliance for refugees, returnees, and host communities happening in late October 2022. The meeting will attract close to 150 delegates drawn from 7 countries within the region.

At the IGAD meeting, Re:Build is launching a new policy brief “The Cost of Living Crisis for Urban Displaced People in East Africa: The Role of Inclusive Social Protection” urging host governments and donors to ensure assistance to address the current crisis is provided without discrimination based on refugee status or location.

As of January 2022, according to UNHCR, Kampala has 107,763 urban refugees and asylum seekers while of Kenya’s 550,819 refugees, 16% live in the urban, mainly Nairobi.

ABOUT US

Refugees in East Africa: Boosting Urban Innovations for Livelihoods Development (Re:Build) is a five-year urban livelihoods program being implemented in Nairobi and Kampala. Re:Build seeks for urban refugees and vulnerable host residents to achieve economic, regulatory, and social environments. The program is committed to generate and share evidence for innovative, sustainable livelihoods solutions that can be adopted to support refugees and vulnerable host residents in other cities in East Africa and beyond. The International Rescue Committee and the IKEA Foundation are working with local authorities, local and international partners, Community Based Organisations and Refugee Led Organizations to deliver program interventions.



Re:Build team at the Program Planning Conference held in August in Kampala

NAIROBI RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL LAUNCHED



Left: Mentors during a training session in Kawangware, Nairobi (Right) an IRC staff with mentees during an information session

A Randomized Control Trial (RCT) involving 4,000 aspiring micro entrepreneurs and mentors in Nairobi, Kenya was launched September 2022.

The RCT is an important component of the evidence and learning pillar in the Re:Build program. The Nairobi RCT involves 2,000 aspir-

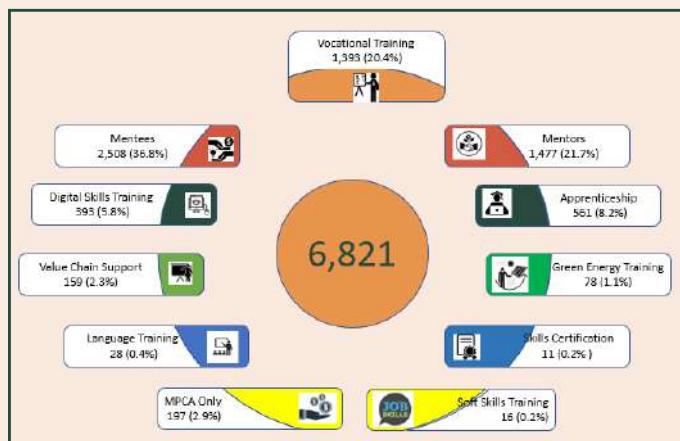
ing micro-entrepreneurs and 2,000 mentors recruited from Kawangware, Pangani, Rongai and Kitengela- low-income neighborhoods in Nairobi where the bulk of refugees and vulnerable nationals live.

Involving an even refugee-host and gender split, the RCT will run from

September 2022 till March 2023. It seeks to identify economic solutions that work for both refugees and hosts and to improve social cohesion between the two populations. It will also identify the impact of perspective-sharing in business mentorship pairs on economic, psychological, and social cohesion outcomes.

3,311 clients reached, 82.6% happy with Re:Build Services

The Re:Build program has reached a total of 6,821 clients with various services in the last two years of program implementation, 3,898 from Kampala and 2,923 from Nairobi. 82.6% of the clients expressed happiness with the services received. Re:Build has established reactive and proactive feedback channels for continuously getting client feedback aimed at shaping program delivery and course correct of activities. Services delivered to the 6,821 clients sought to equip the clients with livelihood skills critical for self-reliance in Kampala and Nairobi.



A breakdown of service received by Re:Build Clients

PROGRAM LEARNING CONFERENCE HELD IN KAMPALA

The Re:Build Program Learning Conference (PLC) took place in Kampala in August 2022. The program team reflected on lessons learnt over the 18 months of implementation and recommended adaptations to feed into the third-year planning for Re:Build

program implementation. The planning meeting brought together teams from Kampala, Nairobi, and New York. Recommendations from the meeting fed into the planning for the third year of the Re:Build program.



A group discussion during the Programme Learning Conference