

PARTNERSHIP FOR REFUGEES

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ENABLEMENT

Today, more than 65M people have been forcibly displaced worldwide. Refugees face a range of barriers to achieve self-reliance.

Below is information about the specific challenges refugees face and how the private sector can help address them:

CHALLENGE

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

TAKE ACTION

Refugees face significant barriers to financial services and products. Often refugees are not equipped with the legal documentation, opportunities, knowledge, or cultural awareness to navigate banking systems in their new communities.

Examples of how the private sector can help:

- Provide access to financial services, including direct loans for access to immediate funding
- Offer refugee starter banking packages with accompanying products and orientation
- Support mobile accounts or digital payments infrastructure for banking solutions that make it easier for refugees to access financial services
- Support financial services training (applications process, account maintenance, etc.) through training, translation, and guides
- Offer free financial consultations to help refugees make more informed financial decisions in the face of unique challenges

CHALLENGE**TECHNOLOGY ACCESS****TAKE ACTION**

Barriers to digital resources and services, including lack of income, electricity and literacy skills, can diminish refugees' empowerment and self-reliance. Likewise, lack of connectivity can limit refugees' access to critical information and communication tools.



Refugees are **50%** less likely to have an internet enabled phone and more than **2x** as likely to have no phone at all

To learn more about how companies are addressing this challenge, check out the UNHCR – Accenture report “Connecting Refugees” on the Partnership for Refugees website.

Examples of how the private sector can help in collaboration with local stakeholders:

- Help refugees maintain digital connectivity, including access to wireless services, e.g. mobile broadband, fixed broadband solutions, charging stations, or innovative connectivity solutions
- Offer direct funding or donations to physical technological tools (phones, laptops, desktops, etc.)
- Support mobile and digital tools (e.g. apps for translation or networking) to enable education or employment opportunities

CHALLENGE**OTHER AREAS OF SUPPORT****TAKE ACTION**

Countries that welcome new refugees may require support to ensure that the refugees' basic needs are covered. Lack of immediate housing and transportation solutions can affect a refugee's ability to access employment opportunities, as well as critical education, and health services.

Examples of how the private sector can help in collaboration with local stakeholders:

- Support in-country transportation for local organizations and governments that are stepping up to educate and aid refugees
- Cover costs of overseas transportation to bring resettled refugees to the United States or to another country of resettlement
- Provide immediate and structurally-sound shelter across refugees camps at a regional or global scale

For more information, please visit: www.partnershipforrefugees.org