



REAP FOR REFUGEES

The global refugee population has more than doubled in the last decade. At least 100 million people have been forced to leave their home over the last ten years. Today, sub-Saharan Africa hosts more than 26% of the world's refugee population, a number that has soared in recent years due to protracted wars and conflicts in the Central African Republic (CAR), Nigeria and South Sudan.

Forced into unfamiliar environments, refugees often lack access to the most basic human rights and also face food insecurity, lack of access to sustainable livelihoods and low security.

In response, BOMA is adapting REAP to meet the needs of extremely poor refugees, displaced people, returnees and host communities. In engagements in Chad, Uganda, and soon in Cameroon, these adaptations vary based on the specific program requirements, needs, livelihood and market context, and layering with program elements that are provided by various actors within the humanitarian system.

KEY IMPACTS



Refugee Empowerment

BOMA has adapted our approach to serve the specific contexts of refugees in multiple countries throughout the Arid and Semi-Arid lands of Africa.



Thriving Communities

REAP for Refugees engages both refugee communities and the communities that host them to deliver sustainable livelihoods.



Sustainable Enterprise

BOMA and our location-specific partners engage participants for 12 to 24 months to build lasting businesses.

"Green REAP" incorporates environmental considerations into every step of poverty graduation programming, from the market assessment and design of small businesses to the systems change needed to bring green products to market and sustainably manage the natural resources on which entrepreneurs and their communities depend. The steps of this approach include:



LISTEN

To refugee & host communities



LAUNCH

Initiatives with start-up capital



TRAIN

Participants in business skills



MENTOR

Entrepreneurs & conservation groups



SAVE

Profits and access credit



CONNECT

Communities to green markets and value chains

THE PROBLEM

Many of the extreme poor living in the ASALs are refugees or IDPs and members of the host communities. The global refugee population has more than doubled in the last decade and at least 100 million people have been forced to leave their homes over the last ten years. Today, sub-Saharan Africa hosts more than 26% of the world's refugee population, a number that has soared in recent years due to protracted wars and conflicts in the Central African Republic (CAR), Nigeria and South Sudan. In response, BOMA is developing adaptations of REAP for refugees alongside our partners in Chad and Uganda.

In Chad, BOMA is providing technical assistance to Caritas Switzerland (CACH) to support a poverty graduation pilot through the Inclusive Development of the Host Zones (DIZA) project. The DIZA program, funded by the European Union (EU) Trust Fund for Africa and the French Development Agency (AFD) aims to improve the living conditions of local and displaced populations in eastern and southern Chad — including refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees — through support for sustainable economic development.

In Uganda, BOMA is providing technical assistance to Caritas Switzerland and its local partners, including The Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), to design and implement a three-year program to improve the economic and social security of refugees displaced from their homes. This program is currently being implemented in Uganda's West Nile region and the Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement.



PROGRAM IMPACTS

29% increase in household income

1400% increase in savings

80% of businesses operational five years later

21% increase in girls going to school

361,890 total women, youth, and refugees (and their dependents) impacted since 2009

19,964 businesses launched since 2009

3,900+ Savings Groups established since 2009

OUR APPROACH

The BOMA Project's Rural Entrepreneur Access Project (REAP) is one of the most successful, sustainable, and cost-effective poverty graduation approaches in the world. It was designed for and has been tested and refined in the uniquely challenging context of the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) of northern Kenya.

REAP entails 16 to 24 months of sequenced interventions with a clear exit strategy and rigorous criteria for success. Communities nominate their poorest, most vulnerable members, who then form small business groups, learn how to draft a business plan, and receive a cash grant to immediately start a small business. New entrepreneurs receive financial and life skills training and are mentored for two years to manage and grow their business. They also contribute to a savings pool, which they can access as needed to cope with shocks or to invest in expanding their business.

Participants have "graduated" from poverty when they meet their benchmarks for food security, sustainable livelihoods, shock preparedness, and human and social capital.

BOMA'S MISSION

BOMA is working to lift 3 million people out of extreme poverty — defined as living on less than \$ 1.90 per day — by 2027. Our mission is to provide the people and governments of Africa's drylands with economic inclusion programs that increase resilience to multiple crises.

Contact Us

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