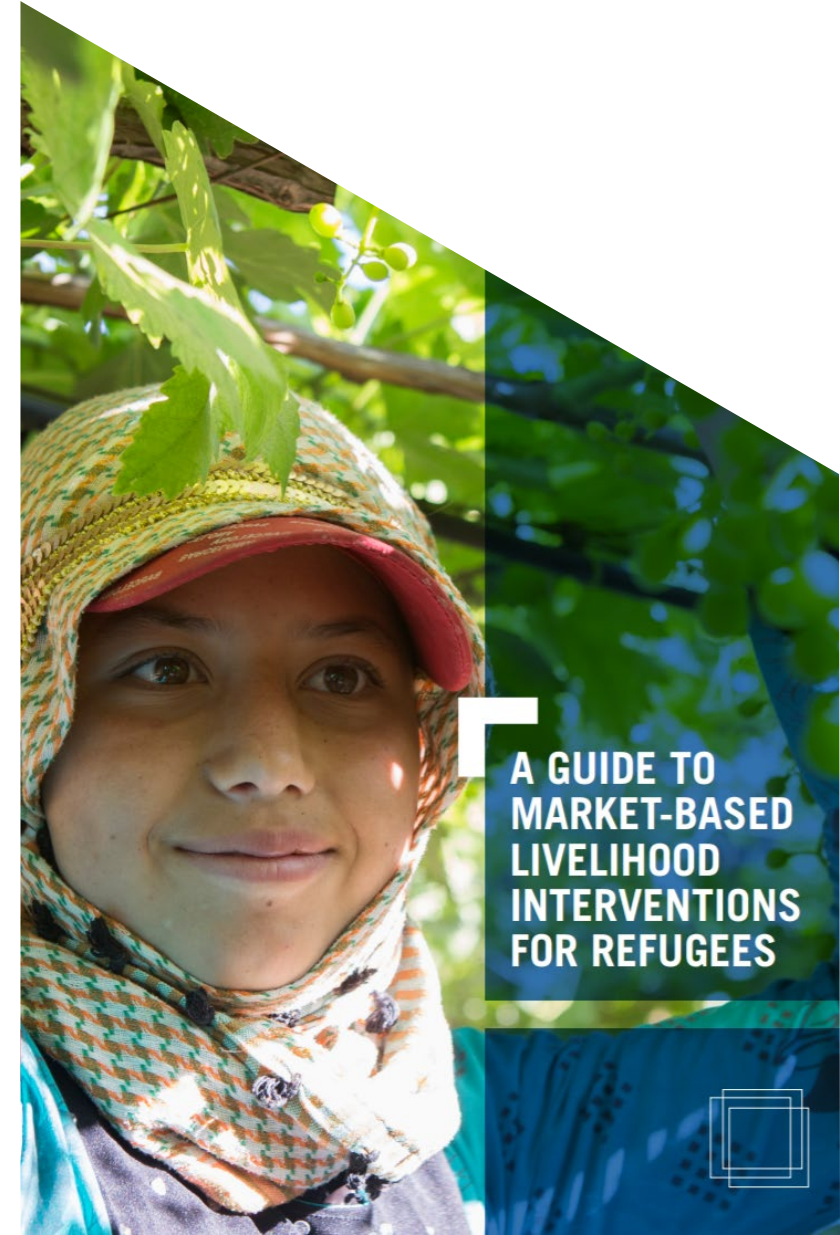


The ILO's Approach to Inclusive Market Systems (AIMS) for refugees and host communities

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The Approach to Inclusive Market Systems (AIMS)

- AIMS was developed in 2014 in collaboration between the ILO and UNHCR
- To date, the methodology has been applied in 25+ refugee-hosting countries
- AIMS foresees a 'push-pull' approach that combines market systems development (MSD) interventions to develop markets and create opportunities (i.e. the pull) with more direct interventions to tackle refugee-specific constraints (i.e. the push)

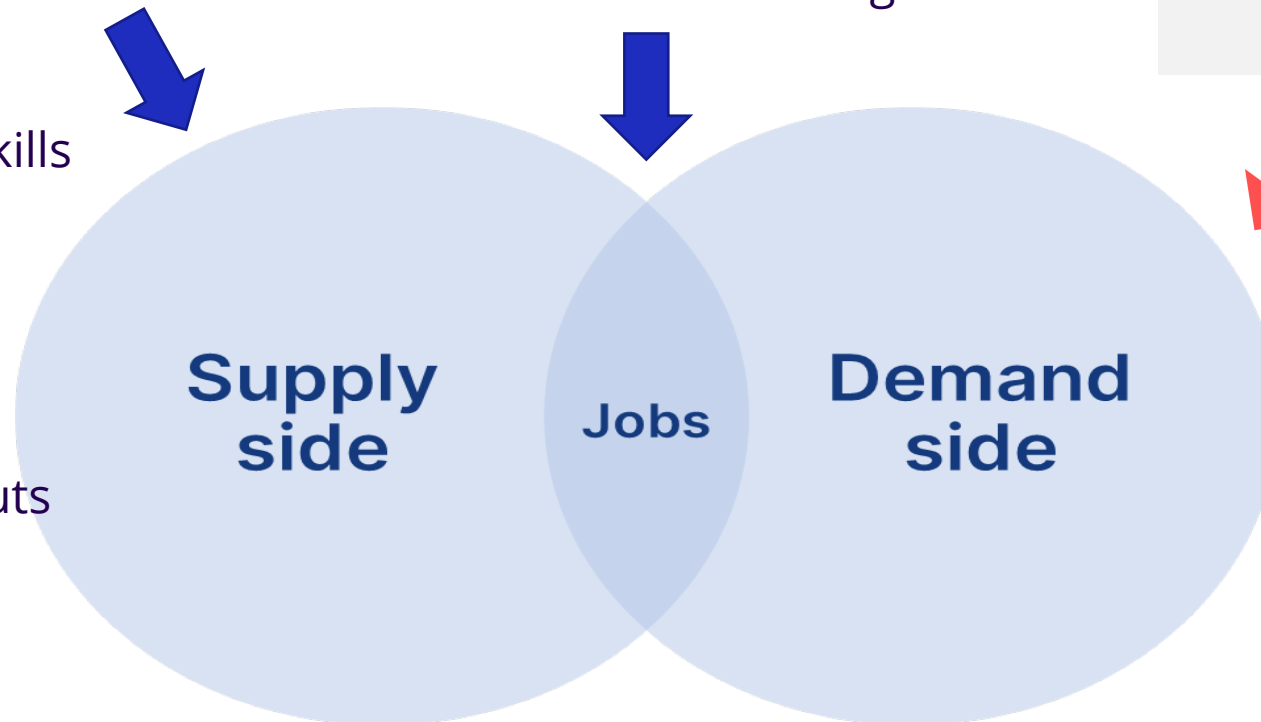


What does AIMS do differently?

Most projects work here

Through:

- Strengthening skills and capacities
- Access to grants and finance
- Promoting cooperatives
- Distributing inputs



Or here

Through employment
services and matching

BUT:

what is often missing is **jobs**
and **market opportunities!**

AIMS works to
develop sectors with
potential to increase
the quantity and
quality of opportunities
available to refugees
→ Engagement with
SMEs

Example: engaging the private sector in win-win situations in Uganda

- Project facilitates links between refugees and sesame SME off-taker
- The SME trains 'village agents' who act as intermediaries

- Refugees gain access to pre-financed inputs, training and a guaranteed off-taker market for sesame
- Additional jobs created for village agents who act as intermediaries who buy and sell on produce
- Village agents sell to off-taker who obtains the quantities needed for export



A tool for action in the humanitarian-development nexus

- Only 'push': not sustainable, does not address root cause of lack of job opportunities
- Only 'pull' (MSD): job creation in a first step benefits primarily the ones that are most 'market-ready'
- Hence: AIMS combines push and pull
- SMEs are key actors in displacement contexts
- More information: www.ilo.org/AIMS

