ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF DISPLACED AFFECTED POPULATION IN NAIROBI, KENYA

Experiences from IRC's urban programming

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About The International Rescue Committee

- The mission of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) is to help people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover and gain control of their future.

- All IRC programs are designed to achieve meaningful change in people's health, safety, education, economic wellbeing and ability to influence the decisions that affect their lives

Economic Empowerment

- The Economic Recovery and Development (ERD) unit at the IRC works to ensure that those we serve have their most basic survival needs met and have the combination of assets and income to prosper.
- This is achieved through implementing evidence-based programming and approaches

People Generate Income and Assets

- The focus is on people's ability to generate income and assets through self-employment or other employment as well as through management of financial risk.

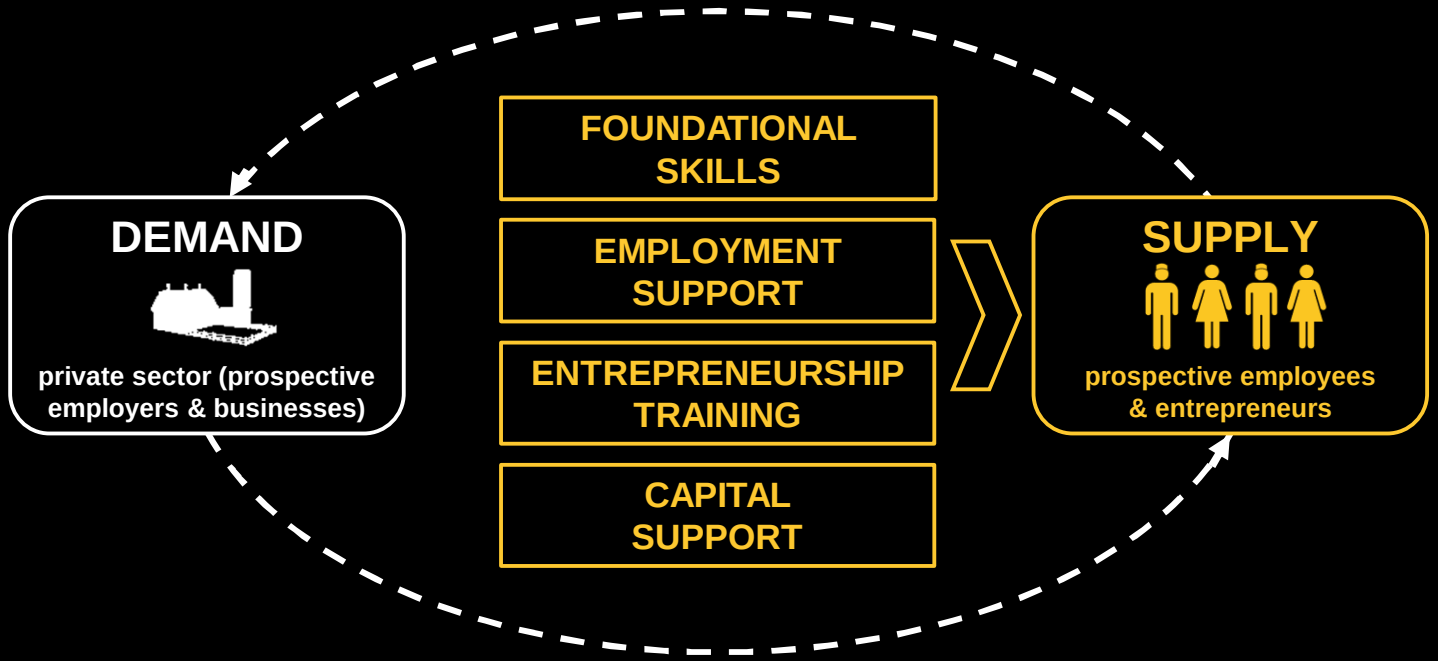
- **Income**: as the monetary payment received for goods or services or from other sources, such as rents or investments
- **Assets:** resources with economic value that a person owns or controls, with the expectation that the assets will provide future benefit.

Why Income and Assets?

- Income can be used to meet basic needs, fund consumption, saved, and invested. Assets can be utilized or sold to meet basic needs, and productive assets can increase productivity or generate income.

Strategy: Strengthening Labor Markets

Robust EDE solutions are built around **market-based interventions**



Key outcome areas

- Clients have increased income and improved access to the job market through increased knowledge of relevant technical and soft skills and an expanded professional network
- Entrepreneurs have started or expanded businesses as a result of increased access to capital and training
- Households have improved economic ability to sustainably meet their basic needs as a result of new employment opportunities

Building Income and Leveraging Livelihoods for Youth (BILLY) overview

- The project seeks to improve employability and increase income earning potential for youth in Nairobi through interventions that develop skills useful in Nairobi or other areas, in case of relocation.

Service Delivery

Bundled services

- ✓ Vocational skills building
- ✓ Technical support to MSMEs
- ✓ Capital support and business grants
- ✓ Employment support – Linkage to private sector
- ✓ Entrepreneurship training – using IRCs Learn 2Earn Curriculum
- ✓ Literacy and numeracy
- ✓ Support to Urban Savings and Loan Associations

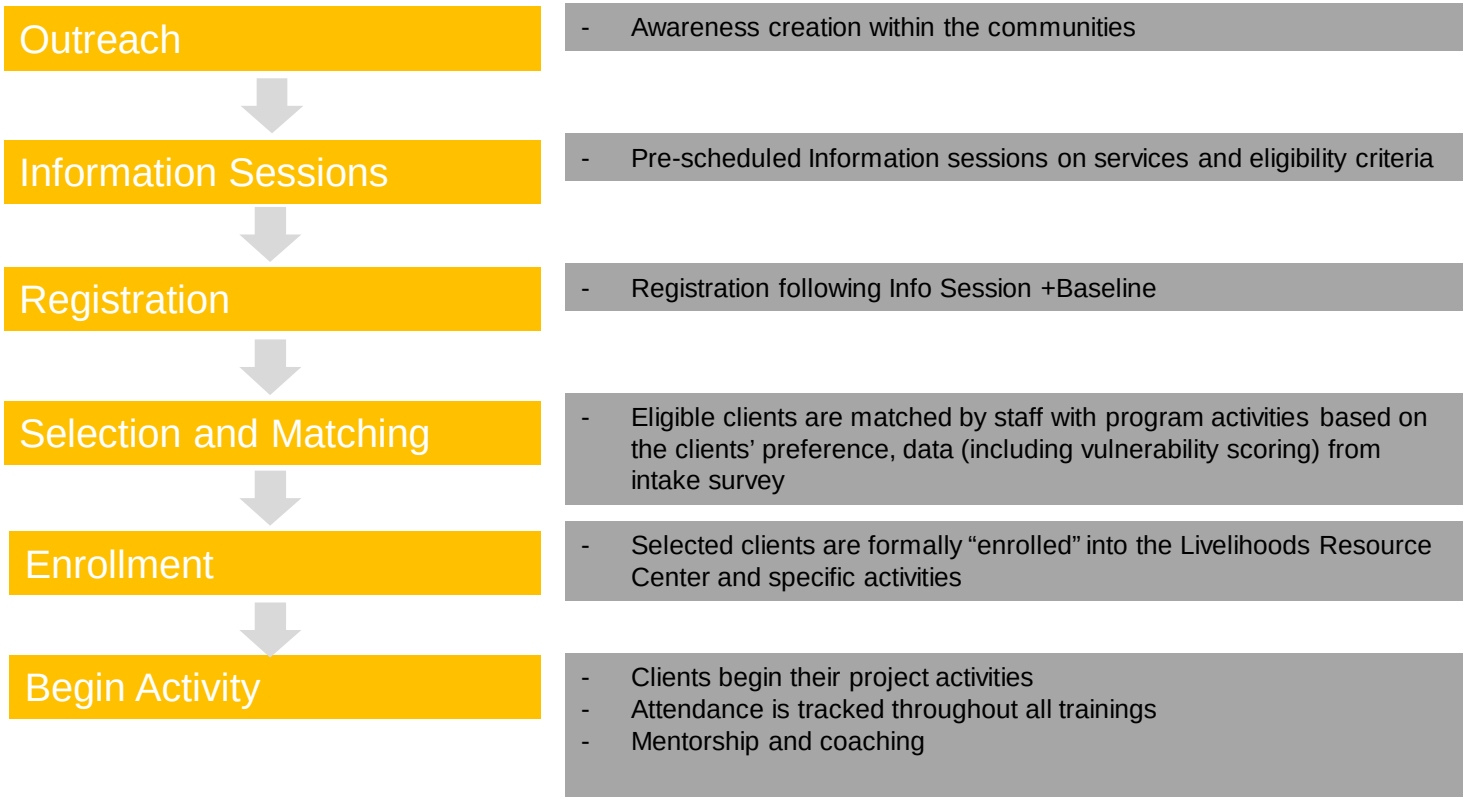
Service Delivery

Target: Refugees and vulnerable host community in the informal settlements of Nairobi

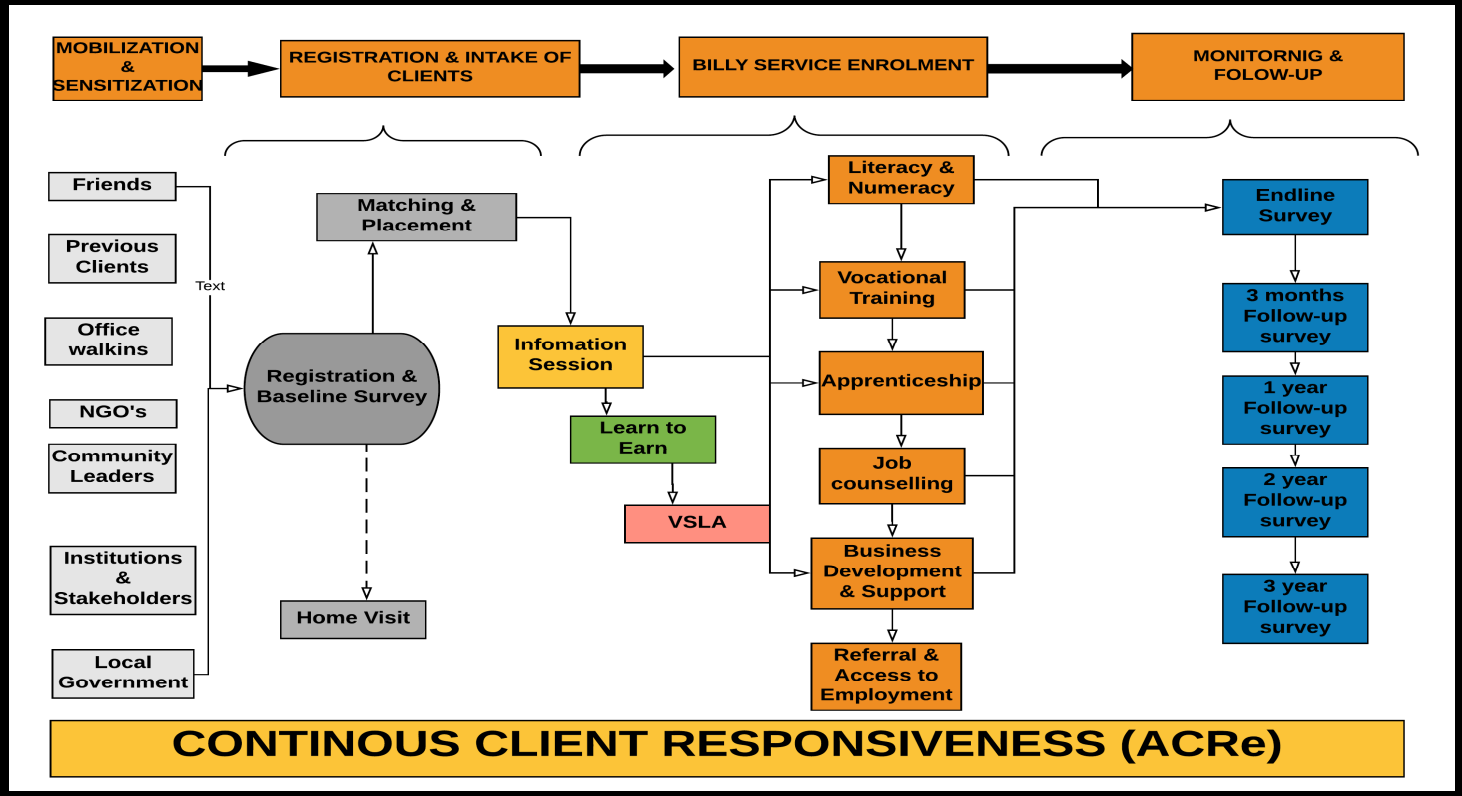
- ✓ Bundled services – beneficiaries can receive more than one service
- ✓ Vocational training, apprenticeship (on the job training), business and life skills, business grants, literacy/numeracy skills, employment counseling
- ✓ Market assessment to identify opportunities

Access to services: Through Livelihoods Resource Centers (Eastleigh, Kawangware, through partner), Rongai and mobile resource center

Livelihoods Resource Center service delivery



General Flow of Livelihoods Center



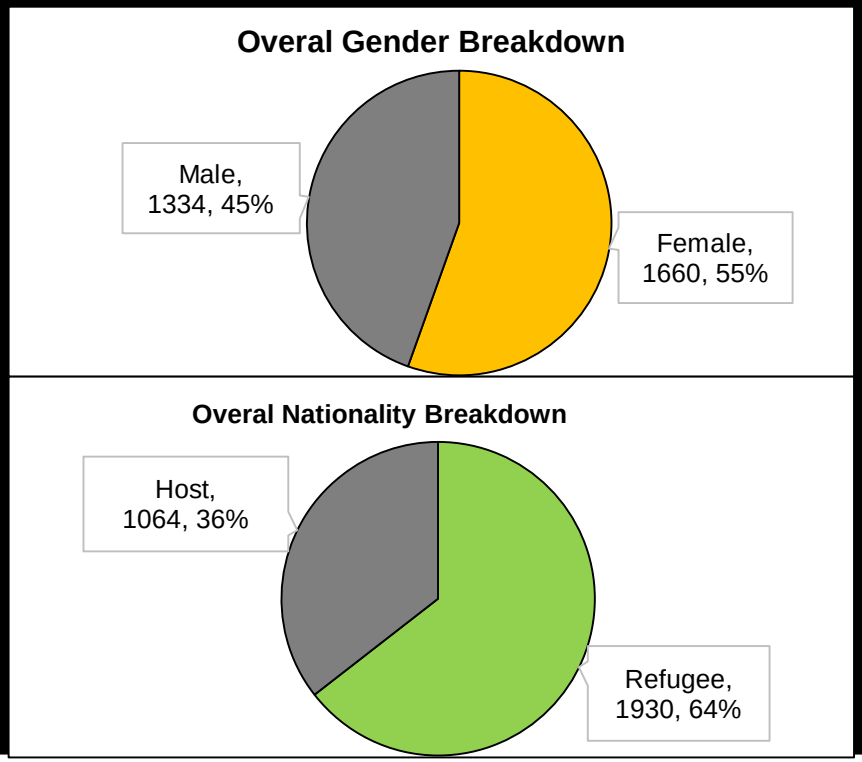
Mainstreaming protection into the livelihoods work

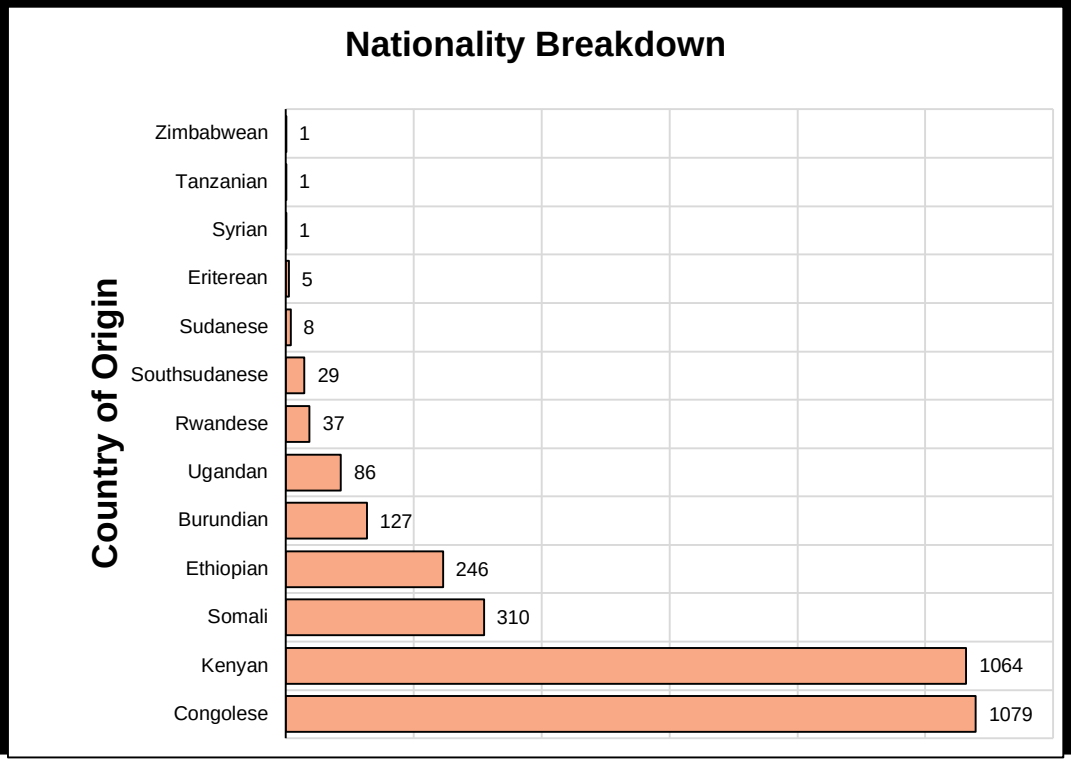
- Referral to protection and other services
- Legal representation/support in obtaining work permits or business registration working closely with different government departments
- Support for current lobbying and advocacy forums on migrant right to work

Client Feedback Mechanisms, Partnership, and Learning elements

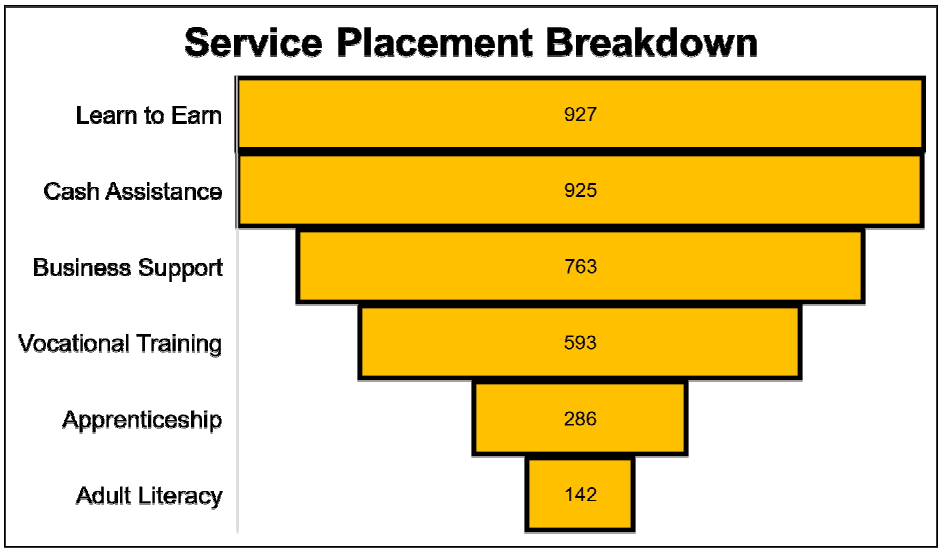
- Client responsiveness prioritized through both **reactive and proactive client feedback mechanisms**
- Periodic **client surveys** are conducted to gauge the quality of service delivery
- **Stakeholder Reference Group:** inclusion of clients and partners to share feedback and progress

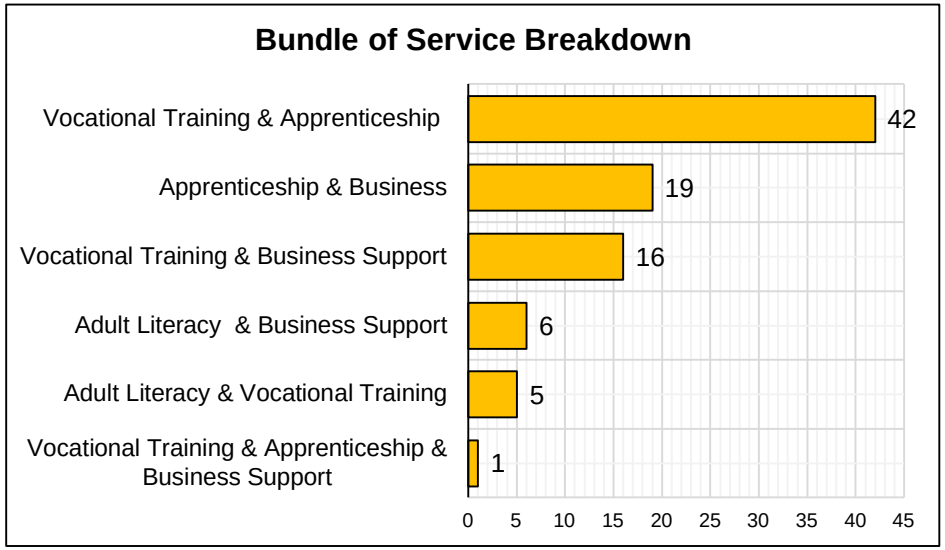
Numbers Breakdown





SERVICE PLACEMENT





Client experiences

Students participating in the IRC BILLY-sponsored catering course in November at Imani Marianist- Maria Training Centre in Eastleigh.

BILLY student practicing beauty skills during a lesson at the Christian Industrial Training Center (CITC) in Pumwani.

BILLY student in a electrical installation at the Mahanaim Educational Institute.