REFUGEE INVESTMENT NETWORK

The Refugee Investment Network (RIN) is the first blended finance investment collaborative dedicated to creating long-term solutions to global forced migration.

What we do

The RIN moves private capital from commitment to active investment by sourcing, structuring, and supporting the financing of projects and companies that benefit refugees and host communities. Ultimately, the RIN aims to bridge the gap between the untapped entrepreneurial potential of refugees and capital markets to spur economic growth, create jobs, and increase socio-economic stability among displaced people.

The RIN strategy has three pillars:



Research:

Create the first investor-centered knowledge hub targeting business opportunities that support refugee self-reliance



Facilitation:

Build a pipeline of bankable deals that will speed and scale private investment in communities of displaced people



Policy and Advocacy:

Articulate and bridge investor needs to funders, governments, and the development community to drive catalytic investments and policies

By 2030, the RIN aims to unlock at least \$1 billion in investment deals that produce over one million new jobs and measurably improve the livelihood opportunities for refugees and their host communities.

Why it matters

Today, more than 65 million people have been forcibly displaced worldwide – 22 million of whom are refugees – the highest number in human history. Modern refugee crises are characterized by irregular, forced migration that is compounded by political and economic challenges like rising nationalism and slowdowns in job creation. Unfortunately, existing systems for short-term emergency response and productive integration have not kept up with these evolving trends and are both under-resourced and broken.

The resulting dilemma represents the defining social crisis of our time and requires urgent, scalable, and economically sustainable solutions.

While an increasing number of humanitarian efforts strive to create and expand economic growth for refugees in host countries, private investors and capital are often missing from the equation. Significant interest from across the capital continuum exists in the social and traditional investment community, but the investment landscape in forced migration settings remains highly fragmented: Bankable deals are few and far between.

We see both an enormous need and opportunity to increase deal flow by working with groups from all sides – investors, governments, donors, host and refugee populations – to improve our understanding of how to navigate the investment climate and mitigate associated risks to capital and the targeted populations. We believe the best way to do this is by building a robust and enabled network of impact investors and other stakeholders who, working together, can unlock private capital that spurs growth, creates jobs, and leads to social and economic prosperity.

How it works:

Drawing on deep domain expertise on impact investing, development finance, and migration issues, and enabled through the thoughtful application of data science, the RIN provides its members with three core offerings:

Research

RIN creates the investment and impact proof points that serve as the foundation of a vibrant refugee investment market. RIN members benefit from:

- Market intelligence: The first knowledge hub containing investor-centric research on the current business, investment, and regulatory context of emerging and frontier markets that host large numbers of refugees or forced migrant populations
- **Expert insights**: Guidance on where and how to incorporate displaced communities into investment strategies, with a focus on understanding local realities, opportunities, and how to effectively partner with governments and international financial institutions
- **Deal scorecards:** Access to independent and unbiased evaluations of the impact of investments on displaced and host communities designed in collaboration with investment and humanitarian partners

Facilitation

RIN helps investors put their capital to work supporting displaced people and the communities hosting them. This support includes:

- **Deal flow:** A geographically diversified portfolio of high-quality investment opportunities including deals that: (a) hire and source from refugees and forced-migrant populations; (b) provide goods and services to refugees and host communities; (c) expand the number and quality of refugee-owned micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises; (d) strengthen social enterprises that meet refugee and host community needs; and (e) utilize development impact bonds
- **Co-investment facilitation:** Access to co-investment or partners to move deals up the funding ladder and fill specific investment gaps, particularly in blended finance and impact investment deals
- Structuring assistance: Navigation and design of de-risking instruments, guarantees, or other innovative financial instruments often necessary in markets hosting refugees

Policy and Advocacy

RIN bridges the gap between private investors, international donors, governments, and NGOs in the broader global development community. These efforts focus on:

- Access and voice: Streamlined access between private investors, development finance institutions, and aid
 agencies to convey investor needs and market barriers that need to be mitigated to enhance capital entry and
 deal flow
- **National policy:** Strategic influence to reshape national policies in target countries so they are more supportive to investment and economic opportunities for refugees
- Changing the narrative: telling powerful stories of how refugees are investable and are significant contributors to local economies

Operating Team

Systems entrepreneurs John Kluge (Alight Fund & Toilet Hackers) and Tim Docking (IBM & Millennium Challenge Corporation) lead the RIN with support from the Global Development Incubator (GDI), a non-profit that builds startups and partnerships to address global development challenges. GDI's Founder and Executive Director Andrew Stern leads the organization's strategic and operational support for the RIN.

Key Partners

RIN Members represent the full capital continuum: foundations and philanthropists, impact, institutional, and commercial investors--as well as international finance institutions, policymakers, and humanitarians. RIN members all share a commitment to courageous action, innovative economic solutions, and deep collaboration.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Visit www.refugeeinvestments.org.