

# REFUGEE COMMUNITIES: PREVENTING CHRONIC MALNUTRITION

80 million people worldwide have been forced to leave their homes.

**26 million**  
refugees\* in 2020

**50%**  
of refugees are  
children under 18

**86%**  
of refugees are hosted in  
developing countries

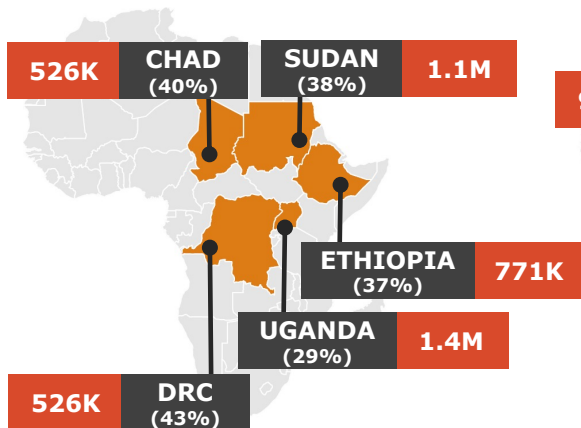
As emergency support is prioritized (emergency food distributions, shelter), **nutrition is severely underfunded.**

Refugees **lack income opportunities** or access to land, thus lacking access to **nutrient rich foods** (fruits/vegetables, meat, etc).

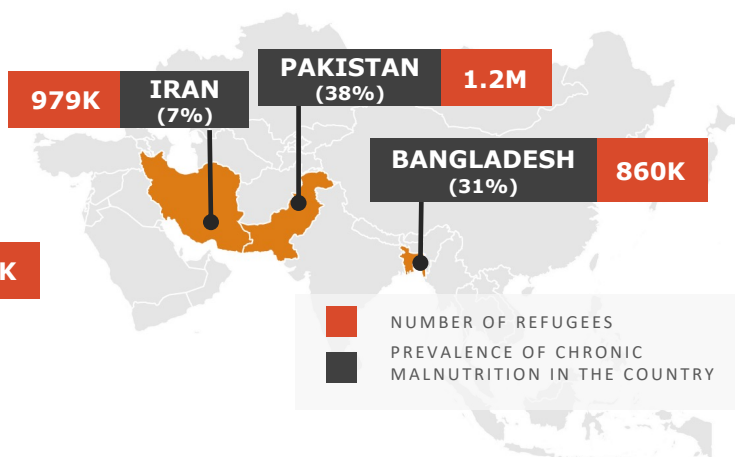
## MOST COUNTRIES HOSTING REFUGEES HAVE FOOD INSECURE POPULATIONS

Highlighted countries have high chronic malnutrition rates, excl. Iran.

TOP 5 REFUGEE HOSTING AFRICA (by # refugees)



TOP 3 REFUGEE HOSTING COUNTRIES IN ASIA



## COUNTRY CASE STUDY: UGANDA – 3<sup>rd</sup> LARGEST HOST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

**82%**

of refugees are  
women and children

**80%**

live under the  
extreme poverty  
line of \$1.9/day

**25-47%**

of refugee women  
are anemic  
(% varies by settlement)

**only 38%**

engage in agriculture  
due to lack of resources  
(though 70% have access to  
arable land)

## HOW CAN WE INTERVENE IN REFUGEE COMMUNITIES?

- ✓ **By providing refugees with opportunities** to become self-reliant for food and thus break the cycle of dependence on emergency support.
- ✓ **The type & scope of interventions depend on the context** (e.g. do refugees have the right to work? Do they have access to land? Are they in camps or living among the host community? Are they in rural or urban settings?)
- ✓ Such interventions include: **Job creation in nutrition-sensitive agriculture**, especially for women; **space-efficient vegetable gardens** to complement emergency food assistance, **climate-smart agriculture techniques** to preserve the host community's natural resources (e.g. preventing soil erosion, improving water management).

\*Refugees are people who have fled war, violence, conflict or persecution and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country.