

STRATEGY 2020

CARING
FOR ALL
CREATING
CHANGE



INTRODUCTION

Our world is in an urgent need for reformation in the humanitarian and development system as the humanitarian crises and needs take a different form in each and every context and require both structural and paradigmatic adaptation from humanitarian actors.

The last decade has experienced dramatic increase in the number of victims influenced by the crises worldwide and their numbers are expected to rise in years to come. In a context where humanitarian needs have peaked, effective humanitarian action and developmental solutions and strategies have to be proposed to support people affected by humanitarian crises, conflict and disaster and to bring about sustainable change in their lives.

Embrace Relief is dedicated to creating and sustaining change through effective humanitarian action, reduction of vulnerability, management of risk and transformation through innovation. Embrace Relief recognizes the critical role of affected people as the main actors of these processes and aims to remove the barriers to the empowerment of human beings and to living in dignity.

“ Building on previous progress achieved by Embrace Relief team, Strategy 2020 describes the guide lines we will be following during the next four years. Our vision and mission, strategic goals and objectives, core principles and values are briefly described.

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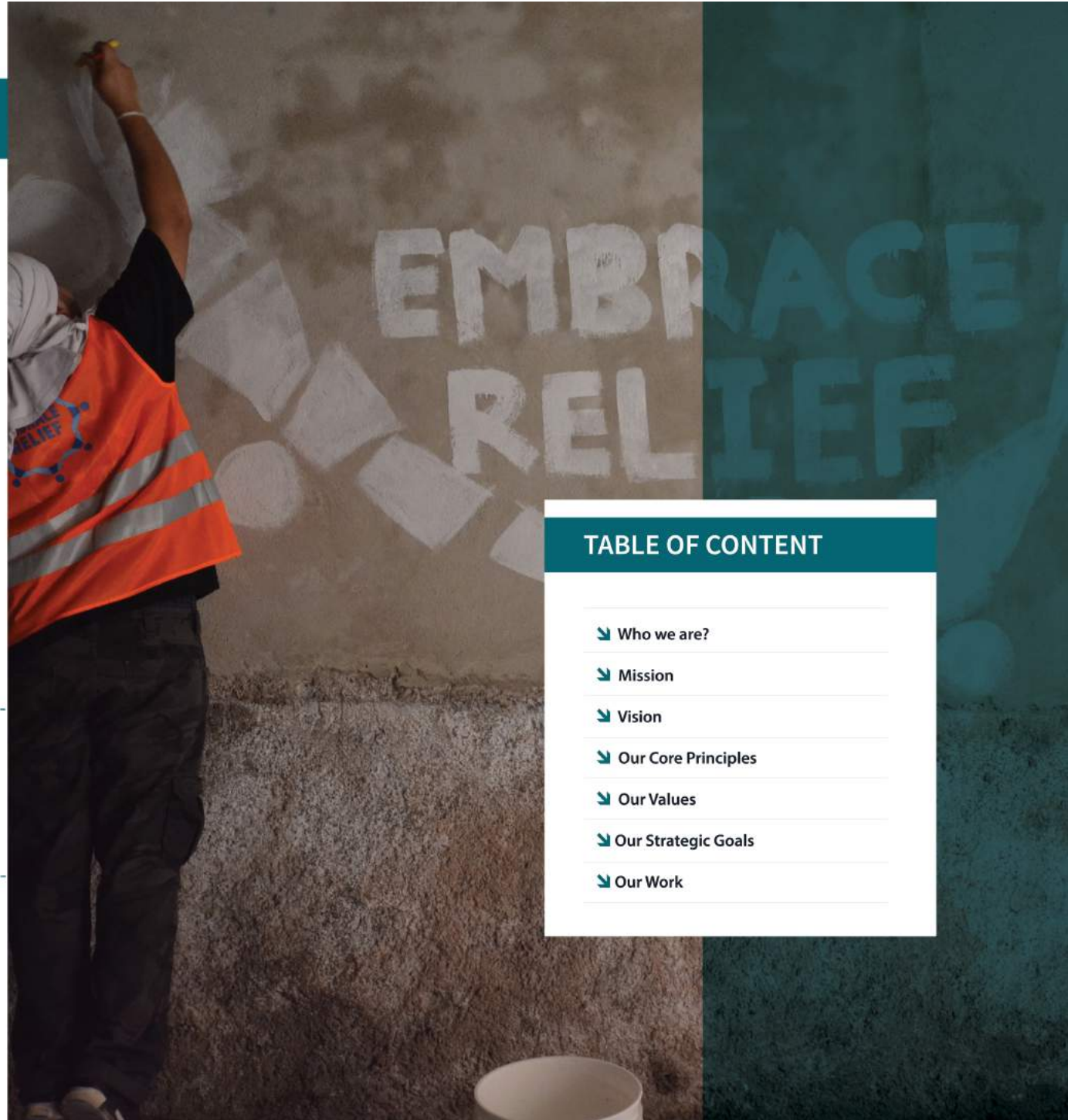
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WHO WE ARE?

"Embrace Relief is a non-governmental international humanitarian relief and development organization."

Embrace Relief is committed to providing aid to people in need at their most dire moments and aims to leave a lasting impact on their lives. EMBRACE RELIEF provides aid in a broad spectrum of areas through a multitude of programs and projects providing both immediate short term assistance as well as long term solutions. EMBRACE RELIEF has a diverse range of programs that embrace human beings all over the world by not only meeting their basic needs, but also contributing to a foundation of dialogue and solidarity in implementing the most effective sustainable development solutions. The organization aims to design, build and fund projects that contribute to Educational Advancement, Medical Assistance, and Infrastructure Development.

EMBRACE RELIEF is committed to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN). It firmly believes that access to quality education, health care, water and relief aid, is a human right. The organization serves people in need around the globe. Until all communities are able to benefit from equitable socioeconomic development programs, EMBRACE RELIEF will continue its work of implementing the most efficient projects that reach the most vulnerable communities and individuals in need.

MISSION:

- To contribute to a more peaceful world by implementing development projects that offer alternatives to conflict participation and societal divisions
- To promote an all-inclusive development approach by engaging the international community equally with the local populations that are served
- To implement projects that have a lasting impact on the educational and economic advancement of the most vulnerable groups
- To provide access to clean water and quality healthcare treatment
- To assist with the development of utilizing agricultural lands for food production and increase the capacity at local and national levels to effectively deploy natural resources
- To efficiently assist people impacted by natural disasters and conflict
- To support the socio-economic participation of individuals in their communities through offering vocational training courses

VISION:

- That all people irrespective of their religious and cultural backgrounds will work together to promote an environment that will utilize proposed and implemented development initiatives for the advancement of all
- That all children have equal access to a quality basic education
- That women can develop their socioeconomic potential without the threat of cultural-based barriers and violence
- That local and global partnerships are part of a foundation that actively contributes to the sustainability of socioeconomic development projects

OUR CORE PRINCIPLES



Humanity

We help people around the globe at their most dire moments, save and protect their lives, alleviate suffering and protect human dignity.



Impartiality

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, class, national origin, religion, gender or political opinions.



Voluntary Service

We are not profit oriented. We aim to promote peace, understanding, cooperation and solidarity through voluntary service.



Inclusiveness

We work for the incorporation of needs and perspectives of people from diverse backgrounds and value the contributions of each and every human being.



Independence

We are autonomous and do not accept any political or ideological interference.



Sustainability

We work on developing sustainable solutions to address the most pressing needs of communities and leaving a lasting impact on the lives of human beings.



Innovation

We are dedicated to promoting novel and creative proposals which offer effective solutions to crises and vulnerabilities.



Transparency

We ensure maintenance of openness and accountability in all our actions.



Partnership

We work together with partners to make fundamental changes in the living conditions of people in need and increase our capacity to address pressing human needs around the globe.

OUR VALUES

EMBRACE
RELIEF



OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1 Protect life and human dignity, alleviate poverty, reduce suffering and strengthen post-disaster resilience
- 2 Enable more children, especially from rural regions, to receive quality education
- 3 Increase access to health care and clean water in vulnerable communities
- 4 Develop sustainable solutions to address the needs of affected people, specifically vulnerable refugee groups
- 5 Promote responsible use of resources in agriculture, achieve food security and fight against malnutrition

OUR WORK

Conflicts, humanitarian crises and natural disasters are terrorizing the lives of millions on a daily basis. Poverty, lack of resources, structural challenges increase the suffering of human beings.

It is vital that as humanitarian actors we develop innovative ways and strengthen interaction between different organizations to respond to crises in an effective and timely manner. What is at stake is the human life. It is in our capacity to develop measures and tools that can decrease the risk of death and suffering. The most significant of all is to respect and protect human dignity during these processes and hear the voice of the affected.

Embrace Relief (EMBRACE RELIEF) aims to save the lives of endangered people, ease the griefs of victims of disasters and the vulnerable while protecting their dignity and increasing their resilience. In order to bring effective solutions to chronic poverty, to diminish deprivation and make health care and education accessible to everyone around the world.

EMBRACE RELIEF will continue to provide humanitarian relief to victims of natural disasters and conflicts without discriminating based on religion, race, gender or ethnicity. We consider it our utmost humanitarian goal to protect human life. It will be in the humanitarian agenda of EMBRACE RELIEF to assist those who have been displaced and severely affected by disasters and conflicts, develop measures to decrease the level vulnerability, cooperate with partners in the field to reach out to more people, increase effectiveness of humanitarian action, strengthen the resiliency of the victims and develop post-disaster and post-crises assistance framework.

EMBRACE RELIEF will support collaboration among people in need and encourage working as teams in harmony in order to come up with the best resolutions for the humanity. Developing an effective response after disaster or extreme situations requires improved intelligence gathering and sharing, as well as tight management and coordination.

EMBRACE RELIEF will continue to provide qualified and proper services to people around the world while creating a worldwide awareness on the urgent need to combat against poverty, hunger, homelessness, unemployment and diseases caused by not having access to drinking water, lack of basic hygiene and healthcare. EMBRACE RELIEF has always been at the forefront of humanitarian action and is determined to maintain its work on protecting life and human dignity, alleviating poverty, reducing suffering and strengthening post-disaster resilience. We will adapt our strategies in line with the needs and type of vulnerabilities through accurate intelligence, powerful network and voluntary service. Our goal is to continuously learn, improve and adapt our approach and make it fit to respond to challenges in the future.

Building on the previous progress and achievements, Strategy 2020 focuses on four complementary goals which aim to create and sustain effective change both in immediate humanitarian relief activities and long-term development initiatives. It also reflects our commitment to become one of the leading actors in humanitarian and development action. The first strategic goal indicates our dedication to adapt our strategies to meet the changing demands and needs of affected people and to ensure that these strategies are fit to respond to future challenges. It resolves to protect human life and dignity while building resilience, decreasing suffering and fighting against poverty in the context of vulnerabilities and post-disaster situations. The second and third strategic goals aim to create and sustain change in access to education, health care and clean water through sustainable development initiatives. Likewise, the fourth goal has a long-term focus in order to bring about structural and systemic change in the lives of affected people, especially refugees. Our fundamental principles and values guide our strategic goals and activities. Through capacity building and other developmental strategies, we aim to ensure each and every human being leads self-sufficient, independent, dignified, healthy and peaceful lives in line with their choices.

STRATEGIC GOAL 1: EDUCATION

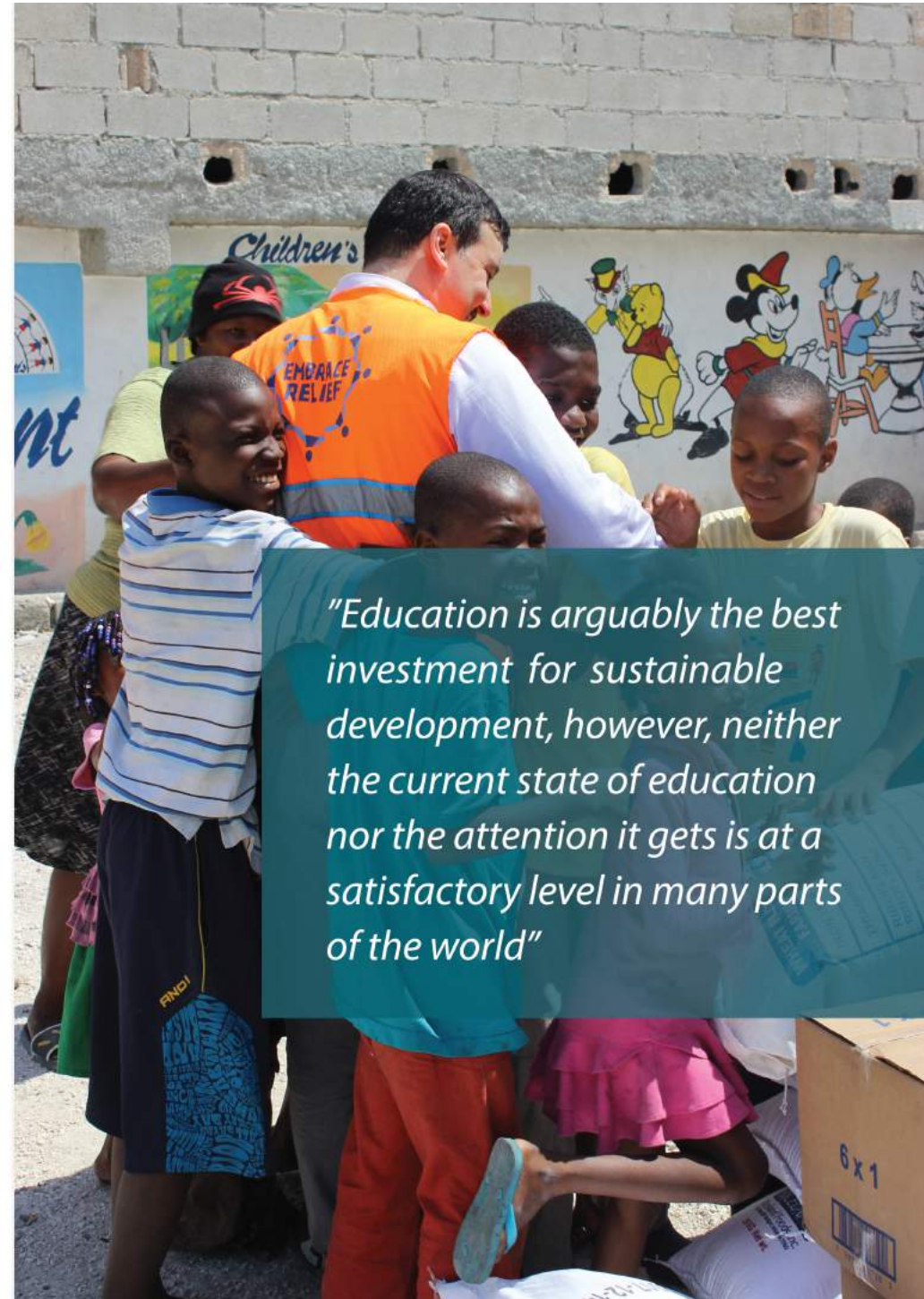
Education is arguably the best investment for sustainable development, however, neither the current state of education nor the attention it gets is at a satisfactory level in many parts of the world.

Despite dramatic improvements over the past decade, progress towards achieving universal education system has slowed in the last years. Millions of children of primary school and secondary school age are still out of school while many others drop out of school. Also, the percentage of children attending school drops dramatically if they are living in poor households and in rural regions. In addition, approximately 250 million children are currently in school but learning very little. Between one to three quarters of children from developing countries cannot read a single word even after several years in school and 3 out of 10 cannot do basic arithmetic.

EMBRACE RELIEF firmly believes in the necessity of providing quality education to bring about sustainable change in communities. Renovating current schools and improving their conditions, EMBRACE RELIEF hopes to make quality education accessible to children from all around the world and ensure that they develop qualifications that will prepare them for future professions.

Only through quality education, they can achieve to become self-sufficient individuals, who contribute to the socio-economic development of their societies in significant ways. In order to achieve this, we will continue building schools and contribute to the primary school enrollment rates of children from disadvantaged background by building schools and developing methods to encourage participation in schools in the vulnerable regions. Accessing equitable education is a human right and each individual has the right to enjoy it. We will especially work on providing quality education to children since we believe this to be the most effective way of ensuring sustainable development around the globe.

Besides formal schooling for children, vocational courses and trainings help adults, especially women, to learn skills, become qualified for employment and increase the quality of their lives while contributing to socio-economic development of their communities. We will continue our trainings taking into account the specific contextual factors as well as personal expectations and support our trainees to get professions after earning a certificate.



STRATEGIC GOAL 2: HEALTHCARE

Embrace Relief (EMBRACE RELIEF) develops long term strategies and sustainable solutions to protect lives and prevent death.

It is one of our strategic goals to increase access to health care since millions of people are still unable to receive basic medical help and treatment and as a consequence lose their lives or face significant health issues.

One of the primary goals of the organization is to address health issues that directly prevent people from participating into socioeconomic life and drive them to be dependent on others for survival. In addition to supporting health services such as medical scanning, obstetrics and gynecology, we give special emphasis on treating Cataracts, a condition of the eye that leads to impaired vision. This eye condition, which can be related to ageing, injury, disease, or simply from birth, is treatable and its removal can allow people to enjoy a healthy and productive life. The personal and social impact that cataracts can have on people's lives can be overwhelming and detrimental to socioeconomic development. Individuals affected can be prevented from obtaining and keeping employment, attending school if they are children, and possibly shunned by their community because of certain taboos related to vision impairment. EMBRACE RELIEF will help these patients, with direct emphasis on children, to receive treatment and continue their lives as before. We will build more partnerships to increase our access and continue providing healthcare to patients in our current hospitals in Africa. We hope to contribute to the opening of more hospitals and medical centers, since offering short-term solutions like distribution of pills to patients after examination only provide short-term relief and do not bring about a fundamental change in the health conditions of people.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3: CLEAN WATER

Access to water is a human right. However, more than 750 million people do not have access to clean water. Consequently, a child in poverty dies from a water-related disease every minute.

Women and children, who are often given the responsibility of water retrieval, collectively spend more than 140 million hours a day collecting this resource. Together, their lives are often endangered because of the risks posed by structural violence, wild animals, and water-borne illnesses. Despite these statistics, a merely six percent of global relief aid is allocated to water access in less developed nations.

Our goal is to develop an effective approach to provide this resource to millions of vulnerable communities worldwide. Taking into account the diverse contextual conditions that characterize many countries or regions in need, we will initiate projects through the construction of water well with hand pumps. When fresh surface water is not an option, access to water below the ground can be utilized. Community residents can manually pump this water, dispensing the resource at their own pace from wells with hand pumps. Simply installing 2000 of these wells has the capacity to serve over 4 million people.

EMBRACE RELIEF, with the support of its partners, will construct at least 3000 hand pump operated wells in vulnerable countries by 2020. We will cooperate with initiatives for water resource development and keep searching the latest technological advances in water production and distribution. We will increase our capacity of knowledge and develop effective communication channels that provide regular updates regarding the water wells. Finally, we will ensure that our projects guarantee sustainability along with proper utilization of the technology.

STRATEGIC GOAL 4: REFUGEES

According to UNHCR 2014 report on Forced Displacement 59.5 million people left their countries as a consequence of torture, conflict, violence and violation of human rights. This shows an increase of 8.3 million compared to the previous year. It has been reported as the biggest refugee crisis since the Second World War.

International Organization for Migration announced that the numbers of those trying to pass through Mediterranean reached 250.000 while more than 2000 have lost their lives during this dangerous journey. 11.8 million Syrian refugees have been displaced as a consequence of war. The numbers are expected to increase during the following years.

Currently millions of refugees do not have access to educational, medical services, housing and employment. They need emergent humanitarian aid as well as developmental solutions that will answer their natural demands. We are committed to transforming the living conditions of refugees through Educational Advancement, Medical Assistance, and Infrastructure Development. We will continue to focus on projects which will have a large scale impact on the lives of refugees and increase their chances for a more dignified life, with equal access to sustainable development initiatives. As a humanitarian aid and development organization dedicated to providing aid to people in need at their most dire moments, it is committed to developing a humanitarian approach, including the participation of vulnerable civilians in the implementation processes of all its projects.

The organization emphasizes the reinforcement of self-worth, encouraging and providing refugees a platform to achieve self-reliance. Every human being has the right to have his or her dignity respected. Ignoring the capacity of refugees to build a better future for themselves undermines this goal. For this reason,

EMBRACE RELIEF designs and executes projects, with active contributions from refugees it serves, to support self-reliance within the context of socio-economic and positive health development.

Education is a particularly relevant matter in a time when one in every 122 people in the world has been forced from their home and seek the ways of continuing their lives often under harsh conditions. There is general consensus that only through education these people can rebuild their communities and restore hope for a brighter future. Although the significant role of education in refugee communities has generally been acknowledged, there has been little institutional and organizational commitment to making quality education accessible and adaptable for refugee children. The current conditions imply that quality education is often a secondary issue in disaster and conflict resolutions, mainly because other basic human needs like shelter and nutrition imposes a high burden on host countries and humanitarian associations. Besides lack of financial resources, deficiency of trained teachers makes it difficult to promote high-quality education for refugees.

We will continue to address these challenges and urge for a renewed commitment to recognize the priority and the critical role of education for refugees. Reconstruction of communities and achieving durable solutions can only be achieved by provision of quality-education to refugee children. Our projects on opening temporary education centers for refugee children in Turkey and in other parts of the world will hopefully manage to change the lives and futures of refugee children.



"COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING"

Capacity building serves countries in significant ways. It especially provides people from rural regions in developing countries with the necessary skills and expertise to find employment and contribute to socio-economic development of their communities. Especially vocational training courses help to fight against poverty, social inequality and isolation.



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