

Lessons Learned from the GCFF Engagement in Forced Displacement

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Background to the GCFF

- Started in 2016 after the Syrian refugee crisis and expanded to 7 countries since
→ *Armenia, Colombia, Ecuador, Jordan, Lebanon, and Moldova*
- **Objective:** Supports refugees and host countries in MICs
- **How:** Reduces borrowing costs on MDB loans through grants
→ *\$1 in grants unlocks \$8.5 in MDB concessional lending*

44 operations so far

17m beneficiaries (6.6m refugees)



ARMENIA

3 projects

In policy reform, inclusive and sustainable housing

\$ 58.85 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 656.85 million

Total project financing



MOLDOVA

7 projects

In education, emergency response, capacity building, resilience and competitiveness.

\$ 67.22 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 557.91 million

Total project financing



COLOMBIA

5 projects

In health, housing, policy reform, and economic opportunities.

\$ 134.79 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 1.9 billion

Total project financing



COSTA RICA

1 project

In climate resilient recovery and territorial development.

\$ 20 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 370 million

Total project financing



ECUADOR

4 projects

In sustainable development, and green and resilient policy financing.

\$ 60.10 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 1.6 billion

Total project financing



JORDAN

19 projects

In health, education, infrastructure, and jobs.

\$ 622.32 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 4.2 billion

Total project financing



LEBANON

5 projects

In health, transport, and social protection

\$ 95.13 million

Funding from the GCFF

\$ 529 million

Total project financing

Topics Covered

1. Policy Reforms for Refugees
2. Economic Development and Jobs
3. Support to Public Services
4. GCFF as a coordination platform
5. Financing Instruments

Legal frameworks for refugees facilitate engagements

Legal frameworks helps us engage more strategically and less fragmented

Refugee Policy and Legal Framework: Documentation + Policy Reforms +/- National Strategy

Benefits For Host Governments

*Better engagement
with MDBs*

*Inclusion in public
services and gov.
programs*

Benefits For Refugees

*Cost-saving in
healthcare services*

*Increase revenues from
refugee econ. activity*

Right to work

*Protection, freedom of
movement and
housing*

External Assistance has been instrumental in supporting legal frameworks

13 DPOs across 5 countries: **Armenia, Colombia, Ecuador, Jordan, and Moldova**

Colombia

2021: WB and IDB coordinated DPOs

TPS for **2.4 million** Venezuelan Refugees

Moldova

4 DPOs since 2022

TPS for **124,000** Ukrainian Refugees + Asylum Law Reform

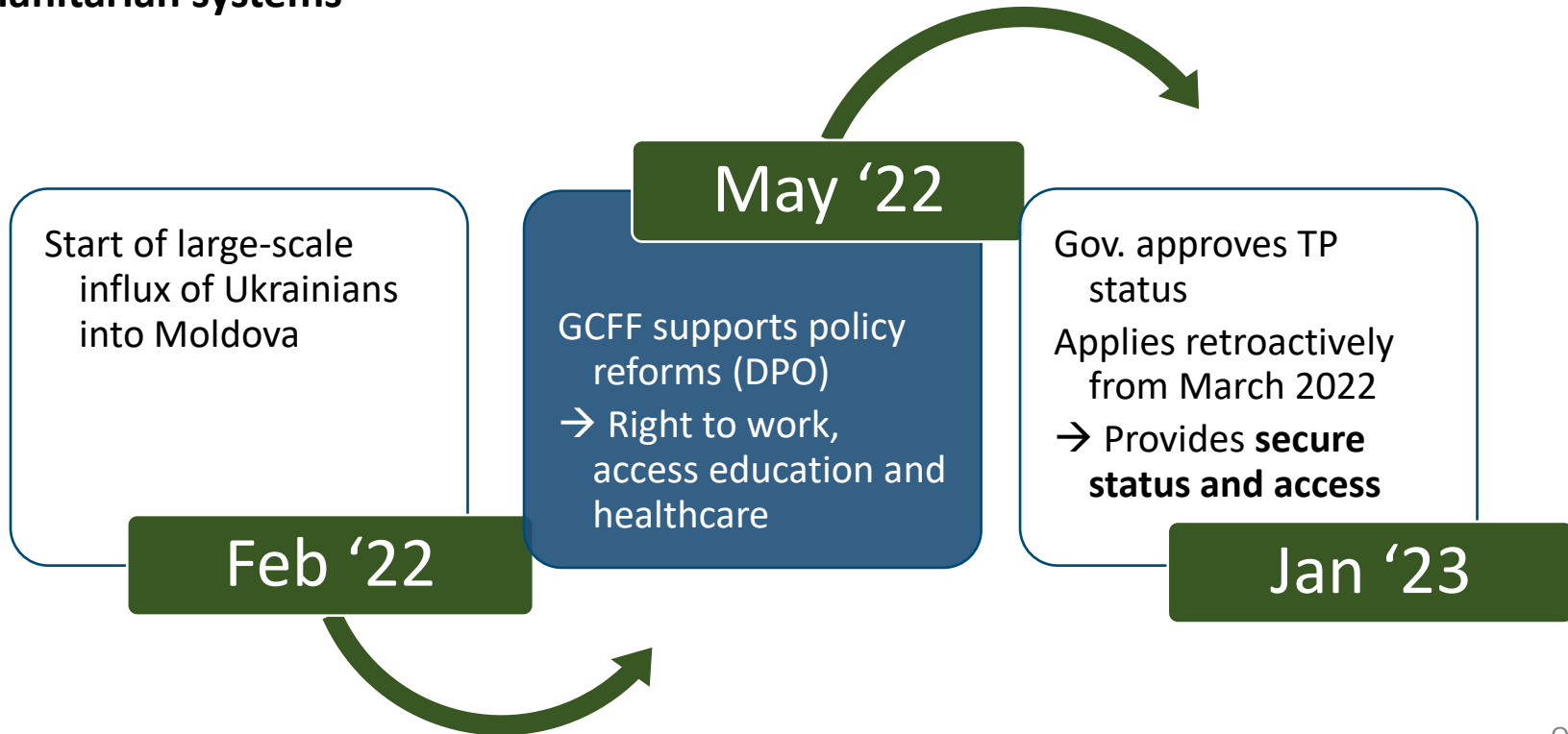
Ecuador

2020: Series of 2 WB DPOs

TPS for **97,000** Venezuelan Refugees

Early adoption of policy frameworks is critical

Rapidly documenting and regularizing refugees **avoids reliance on 'sticky' parallel humanitarian systems**



Coordination and dialogue have helped address political constraints

Policy reforms require political will, may be hard to generate due to fears of 'institutionalizing' refugee presence

What has helped?

Regional Coordination on Harmonized Policies

- Quito Process, 2018
- EU Ukraine Ref. policy framework, 2022

High Level Policy Dialogue

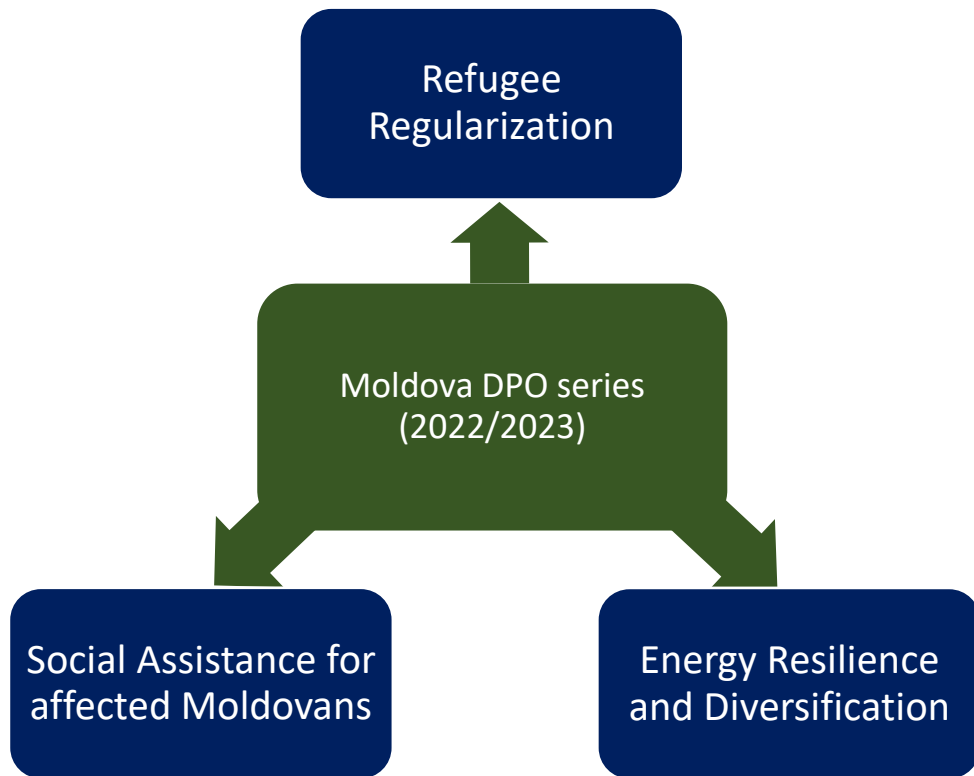
- Jordan Compact, 2016

Reforms to enable development finance

- linked to gov policies/programs
- DPOs/PforRs

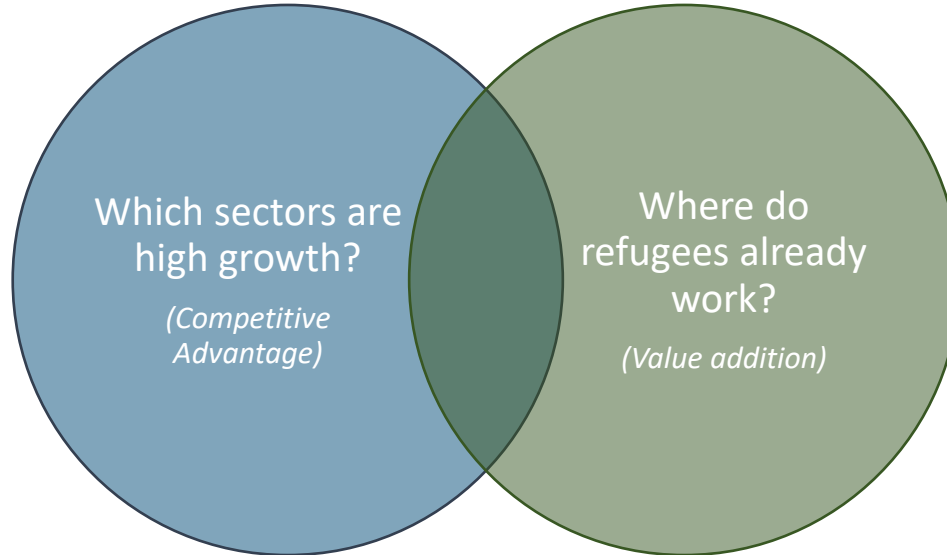
Supporting fiscal stability is a pre-requisite for Job creation

- **Refugee crises overlap with regional shocks:** Disrupted trade, FDI outflows, energy supply shocks
- Syrian conflict lowered GDP growth by 1.6 pp in Jordan and 1.7 pp in Lebanon annually since 2011
- In Moldova, energy prices rose by 400% in 2022, leading to widespread poverty and inflation



For jobs, invest in high growth refugee-intensive sectors

- *Ex. Agriculture in Jordan (65% of refugees) and Lebanon (75%)*



- ***Refugees are economic agents.*** Directing refugee labor into certain sectors and imposing labor formalization has had limited effect
- "Job projects for refugees" including through private sector interventions have proven difficult to scale

Expanding public services capacity is not enough, access barriers also need to be removed

- MDBs have been good at doing what they do best, expanding service capacity (*supply-side*)
- Education access barriers mostly supported by humanitarian funding
 - *Dropouts*
 - *Language barriers*
 - *Accreditation*
- Access barriers are traditionally a humanitarian focus, but funding is retreating
 - *3RP spent \$25 billion towards Syrian refugee response*

Support transition of public services dependent on grants

- Economic crisis → surge PHC use
660,000 in Q1 2024 (44% refugees)
- PHC initiative ~90% dependent on grants (EU/France/UN)
- Transition to government funding:
→ *Lebanon Health and Resilience Operation* continued funding for 48 PHCs across the country



Build a platform for genuine and effective partnerships

GCFF's unique convening platform promotes dialogue and coordination

- Policy dialogue
- Operational coordination
- Knowledge sharing

The infographic is divided into three horizontal sections, each with a title and a horizontal line below it. The first section, 'SUPPORTING COUNTRIES', features ten flags in two rows: Canada, European Commission, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom in the top row; and Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden, United States of America in the bottom row. The second section, 'CURRENT BENEFITING COUNTRIES', features seven flags in two rows: Armenia, Costa Rica, Jordan, Moldova in the top row; and Colombia, Ecuador, Lebanon in the bottom row. The third section, 'IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT AGENCIES', features six logos in a single row: World Bank Group, ADB, IDB, IsDB, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and European Investment Bank.

SUPPORTING COUNTRIES

Canada, European Commission, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden, United States of America

CURRENT BENEFITING COUNTRIES

Armenia, Costa Rica, Jordan, Moldova, Colombia, Ecuador, Lebanon

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT AGENCIES

WORLD BANK GROUP, ADB, IDB, IsDB, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank

Be clear about what financing instruments to use for what

Refugee crises are multidimensional, combining instruments has been critical

DPOs

- Supporting adoption of legal and policy frameworks
- Fiscal stabilization

PforRs

- Inclusion in national development programs
- Maintaining access to services (*health*)
- Support implementation of policy reforms

IPOs

- Engaging sectorally where legal frameworks are lacking
- Providing technical assistance where capacity is weak

Thank you!

**Full study at:
<https://www.globalcff.org/>**

Main takeaways

1. Support adoption of legal & policy frameworks – early on !
2. Jobs: support fiscal stability and invest in high growth, refugee-intensive areas (and beware projects that cannot be brought to scale)
3. Services: expand capacity, but remove access barriers too, and transition grant-funded systems into national systems.
4. Use distinct financing instruments for distinct purposes – and in combination
5. Build a structured platform for effective partnership