What is the SELF-RELIANCE INDEX

The Self-Reliance Index (SRI) is a tool for measuring the progress of refugee households toward self-reliance. It supports practitioners in designing and providing effective services and can be used to target populations for assistance, highlight service gaps, and inform funding priorities.

Use of the SRI is expected to help build an evidence base for enhancing refugee self-reliance opportunities and allow for comparative global analysis. It may also promote collaboration among service providers to ensure that the holistic needs of refugee households are addressed.

Simple and holistic
The SRI is designed with simplicity in mind to provide a quick, high-level indication of key status changes within a refugee household across twelve domains associated with socioeconomic inclusion: Housing, Food, Education, Healthcare, Health Status, Safety, Employment, Financial Resources, Assistance, Debt, Savings and Social Capital.

Target populations
The SRI is designed primarily for use with urban and non-camp-based refugee populations in countries or regions of first asylum. Though untested, it might also prove useful in other contexts and with other displaced and conflict-affected populations.

Collaboration
The SRI was developed through a two-year multi-stakeholder process that consolidated input from over 20 partners, including NGOs, UNHCR, researchers, foundations, and government agencies. It is expected to evolve and improve as user feedback increases.

Where to get the SRI
The SRI and User Guide may be requested online at the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative website: www.refugeeselfreliance.org.

The Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative was launched and is co-led by RefugePoint and Women’s Refugee Commission. It is a multi-stakeholder collaboration that promotes opportunities for refugees around the world to become self-reliant and achieve a better quality of life, while simultaneously advocating for the full enjoyment of their rights.