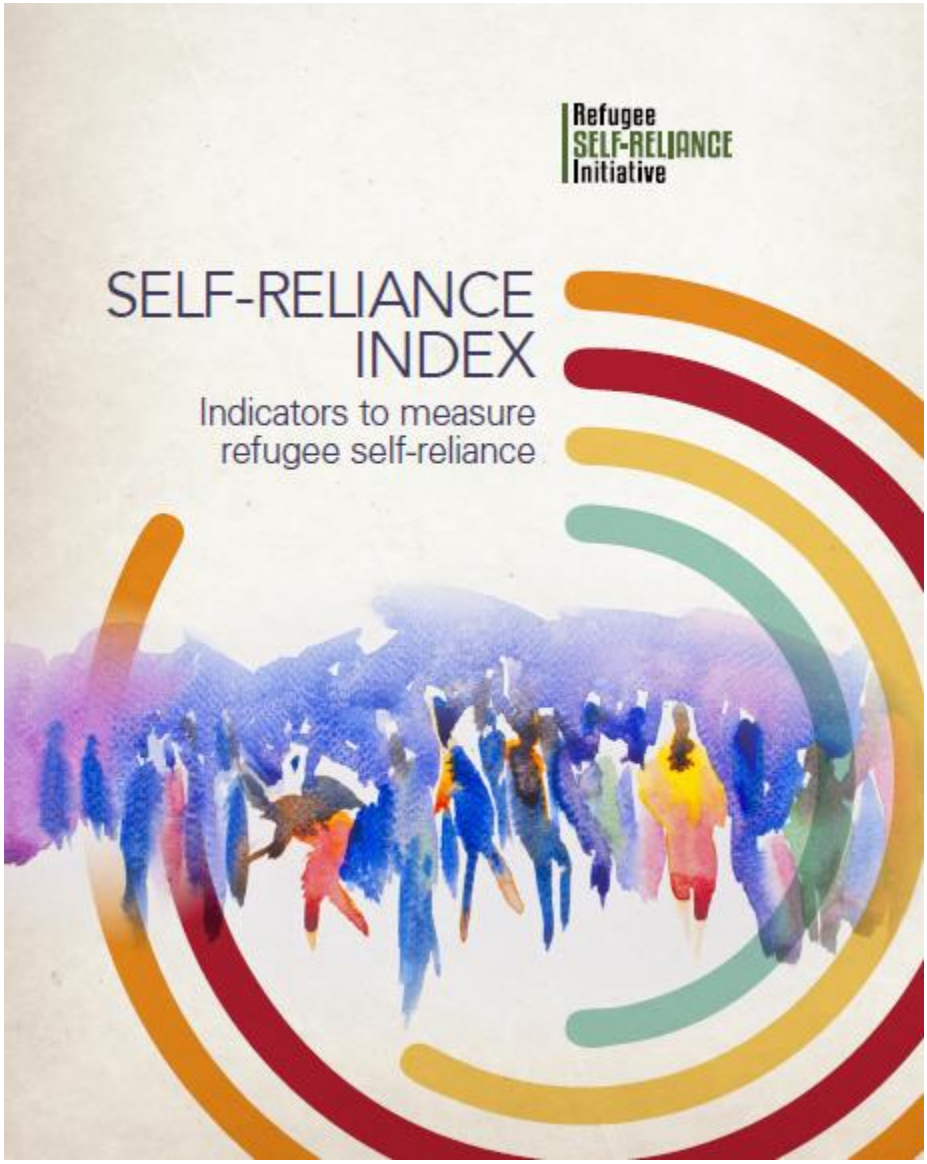
Refugee SELF-RELIANCE Initiative

Self-Reliance Index Version 1.0
Soft Launch Learning Review



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Refugee
SELF-RELIANCE
Initiative

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I. Executive Summary

The 2018 Global Compact on Refugees includes "enhancing refugee self-reliance" as one of its four main objectives. While the humanitarian community generally supports this aspiration, it is widely recognized that there are few tools to measure progress toward this objective. In 2016, RefugePoint and the Women's Refugee Commission convened a Community of Practice (CoP), now known as the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (RSRI), to address this gap, leading to the joint development of the Self-Reliance Index (SRI). Over the course of two and half years, from March 2017 to August 2019, practitioners from non-governmental organizations, government agencies, foundations, and research institutes worked together to create a simple and universal tool to measure a refugee household's progress toward self-reliance over time. The SRI Version 1.0 was made available for limited distribution from August 2019 – February 2020 during a 'soft launch' phase. The SRI Version 2.0 will be widely available in April 2020.

The soft launch phase focused on well-defined learning objectives aimed at assessing the tool's reliability and validity. At the same time, this learning cycle was aimed at building an appropriate scoring rubric for the tool. Secondary learning objectives concentrated on SRI training and integration into partner systems. Over the course of the six-month soft launch phase, partners – Asylum Access, Danish Refugee Council, HIAS, and RefugePoint – tested the SRI in Mexico, Jordan, Ecuador and Kenya respectively. The testing process included in-person and remote training of partners, self-study of the User Guide, and utilization of the SRI with client households.

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This phase produced extensive learning that informed improvements in the SRI for Version 2.0. Following assessments of interrater and intrahousehold reliability during the development stage, data collected in the soft launch phase allowed for assessment of internal consistency. Analysis of the data collected was also used to inform the final scoring system of the SRI. User experience and structured feedback from the in-person training and remote support provided additional input for the refinement of the tool, User Guide and training materials.

The iterative development of the SRI is a first global effort to create a universal tool to measure refugee self-reliance, highlighting the importance of continuous learning to understand the SRI in new settings and with new populations. As the SRI 2.0 is rolled out more widely with new partners and in new contexts, there will be a continued effort to monitor the reliability and validity of the tool. In addition, data from new contexts may inform decisions to further refine the tool's scoring algorithm, although no significant changes to the scoring system are anticipated. Objectives for the next phase will also be aimed at integrating the SRI into a variety of partner systems and investigating the effectiveness of different training mechanisms. The next phase also aims to explore how gender interacts with the use and results of the SRI.

II. Introduction

The Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (RSRI) is a collaborative effort composed of non-governmental organizations, multilateral organizations, funders, government agencies, private sector actors, research institutions and civil society that promotes opportunities for refugees around the world to become self-reliant and achieve a better quality of life.

The RSRI aims to usher in a paradigm shift in refugee response by improving standards of practice for refugee assistance, transitioning more quickly from emergency relief to sustainable development – that is, helping refugees who desire self-reliance to achieve it. In the process, the RSRI seeks to identify the most conducive environments, and the most effective models and measurements to aid global expansion of self-reliance opportunities. This includes building an evidence base for effective programming, and promoting successful refugee self-reliance strategies among key decision-makers and responders.

Co-convened by RefugePoint and the Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) in 2016 to identify and share tools focused on refugee self-reliance, the RSRI community now includes over 25 organizations and has expanded to include three mutually reinforcing strategies to achieve its goals – measurement, programming, and advocacy.

Many RSRI partners initially came together as a Community of Practice to share measurement tools related to self-reliance. It was quickly discovered that while many partners expressed the need for such tools, very few existed. This inspired the co-creation of the Self-Reliance Index (SRI). The SRI was created to track refugee household progress 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. The SRI can help fill the evidence gap around which service models are most effective; in turn, this knowledge can be used to influence policy makers, funders and responders. In addition, the RSRI will be encouraging its partners, especially research partners, to explore how programming and policy frameworks impact refugee self-reliance and host community outcomes.

The SRI was developed through a three-year multi-stakeholder process involving over 25 contributing partners, including NGOs, UNHCR, research entities, foundations, and government agencies.

At a self-reliance community of practice workshop in Nairobi in March 2017, self-reliance parameters were outlined and jointly agreed upon. Drawing on elements from existing tools such as RefugePoint's Self-Reliance Measurement Tool, WRC's Well-Being and Adjustment Index, the Vulnerability Assessment Framework and other related tools, as well as expert interviews and feedback, the first drafts of the SRI were created. From 2018, the SRI development team, led by RefugePoint and the WRC, with the guidance of academic advisors Dr. Lindsay Stark and Ilana Seff, adjusted the SRI tool indicators for improved understanding through an iterative learning process with Asylum Access/Mexico, Danish Refugee Council and Mercy Corps/Jordan, and RefugePoint/Kenya. Based on learning from observation and testing, final adjustments were made prior to the soft launch of SRI 1.0.

The SRI 1.0 was soft launched in August 2019 with well-defined learning objectives focused on testing the reliability and validity of the SRI 1.0, and the development of a scoring system for each domain and for an overall aggregate score. In addition, the soft launch learning objectives included enhancing SRI user support through the testing of the User Guide and strengthening of the SRI training materials and protocols. The partners named above received in person and/or remote training support to test SRI 1.0. Asylum Access/Mexico and RefugePoint/Kenya were able to implement the SRI with clients at intake and again after three months for two rounds of data collection.

III. Primary Learning

The primary purpose of the soft launch learning phase was to improve the reliability and validity of the tool, develop the scoring system and refine any ill-defined tool domains.

A. Reliability

Following interrater and intrahousehold reliability testing conducted in the earlier pilot phase, the SRI 1.0 soft launch phase focused on strengthening the SRI's reliability as defined through internal consistency. Internal consistency relates to "the extent to which all the items in a test measure the same concept or construct and hence it is connected to the inter-relatedness of the items within the test" (Tavakol & Dennick, 2011). Cronbach's alpha is a commonly used statistical measure of internal consistency. It may take a value from 0 to 1, where a score of '0' indicates that all items are independent from each other and a score approaching '1' suggests that all items are highly correlated. Cronbach's alpha was calculated for the set of domains included in the SRI. Combining data from both rounds of data collection, Cronbach's alpha was found to be 0.66 in Kenya and 0.64 in Mexico. Standard cut-offs for identifying acceptable levels of internal consistency are typically defined at 0.70 or above.[1] However, given that sample households may receive domain-specific targeted services, or may have experienced a shock in one or two specific domains, it is not unreasonable to expect that households may score differently on one or two domains as compared to the rest of the domains. For this reason, the academic team set the acceptable threshold to 0.60 and above, and observed values of Cronbach's alpha have been deemed acceptable by the academic team.

When assessing the internal consistency of a set during the refinement stage, it is also advisable to calculate Cronbach's alpha for subsets of all measurement items, such that a different item is removed

[1] DeVellis, R. F. (2016). *Scale development: Theory and applications* (Vol. 26). Sage publications.

from the set for each calculation. For example, for the SRI, we can calculate alpha for Domains 2-12; 1 and 3-12; 1, 2, and 4-12; and so forth, to assess whether alpha increases when a certain domain is removed from the set. An increased alpha provides preliminary evidence for domains that might be appropriate candidates for removal from the tool. For Kenya, the only domain for which removal led to a slightly higher alpha was Domain 6 (Safety). For Mexico, alpha increased slightly with the removal of domains 5, 11, and 12. Given that improvement is only slight, it was determined that the pros of keeping these domains outweigh the cons.

Finally, the extent to which each domain was correlated with the final SRI score was analyzed. This analysis revealed that all domains were correlated with the SRI score except for Domain 5 (Health Status). The findings around reliability, in combination with qualitative insights from field visits, provided rationale to adjust the response options and scoring protocol for Domain 5 (see: Section III, D: 'Finalizing SRI 2.0').

B. **Validity**

The validity of a tool corresponds to how well the tool measures what it intends to measure. Efforts to measure self-reliance among refugee households are nascent and, as such, there is no external "gold-standard" measurement of the concept against which the SRI can be validated. For this reason, the RSRI opted to employ known-group comparisons to assess validity. Known-group validity tests involve administering a tool to subjects who are known *a priori* to demonstrate different levels (or values) of the construct of interest. In the case of the SRI, the tool would be administered to households that are qualitatively known to represent low, medium, and /or high levels of self-reliance; known-group validity would be achieved if the households' SRI scores fall into the corresponding low, medium, and/or high ranges.

Partners were asked to assist in the known-group testing process by identifying households that they considered to reflect low, medium, and high self-reliance. Partners were then instructed to include these households within the enumerators' full list of households to interview – such that the enumerators were blinded to their colleague's pre-SRI classification of the households – and interview them as part of their full 60-household sample (see Appendix A for the instructions provided to partner coordinators). The academic advisors engaged by the RSRI assessed the extent to which these households' final SRI scores matched their pre-SRI classifications. Partners were also asked to perform a similar exercise during SRI follow-up assessments (see Appendix A for more details).

The SRI development team encountered difficulties in ensuring that partners had a shared understanding of what low, medium, and high levels of self-reliance entail. The success of known group validity tests relies on selecting households that accurately represent different levels of self-reliance. Through the remote management of this process, the SRI development team learned that more hands-on, in-person support is needed to ensure known group validity tests are carried out correctly. The team is not confident that *a priori* categorizations of households were correct, thus negating the utility of the subsequent validity comparison. Additional in-person guidance, along with additional validity tests, are planned in the next phase of learning.

C. **Scoring**

One of the most critical objectives of the soft launch phase was to develop a scoring rubric for the tool. The scoring process was iterated using the empirical data collected in Kenya and Mexico. Using data

to inform the scoring process helps ensure that the SRI will be valid and useful to partners across multiple country contexts. When designing the scoring rubric for SRI 2.0, priority was given to optimizing the tool's validity – such that the final score would signal useful information about a household's overall level of self-reliance – while also keeping the process as straightforward for users as possible. Some domains contribute more (or less) to self-reliance than do others. For example, a household that relies on assistance to meet all of its basic needs (Domain 9) should not have an aggregate score on the higher end of the SRI score spectrum. In order to ensure that the aggregate scores reflect these considerations, soft launch data were examined across a variety of dimensions.

Two rounds of data were collected in both soft launch sites, with a subset of Round 1 households interviewed again in Round 2. In Kenya, 57 and 34 households were interviewed in Rounds 1 and 2, respectively; 59 and 33 households were interviewed in Mexico for the two rounds of interviews. For context, the majority of Asylum Access clients in Mexico were recent arrivals from their countries of origin and were generally unable to meet many of their basic needs. The RefugePoint clients in Kenya had been in the country for varying lengths of time at the point of their interviews.

An average of all domain scores was calculated to assess the tool's validity and performance (see Appendix B for SRI 1.0 domain scores). Overall, using this SRI score derived from an average of all scored domains, households in Kenya scored significantly higher than those in Mexico (see Table 1). While the relatively higher scores in Kenya as compared to Mexico were expected given the contextual differences described above, the overall scores in both countries (using the average method described above) appeared too high given what was known about the households' statuses. For example, more than half of the households in the Kenyan sample relied on assistance for at least one basic need and yet the mean and median final scores hovered around 4.0. Similarly, 50% of the households in Mexico relied on at least *two* forms of assistance, and yet the median SRI score for all Mexican households is 3.3.

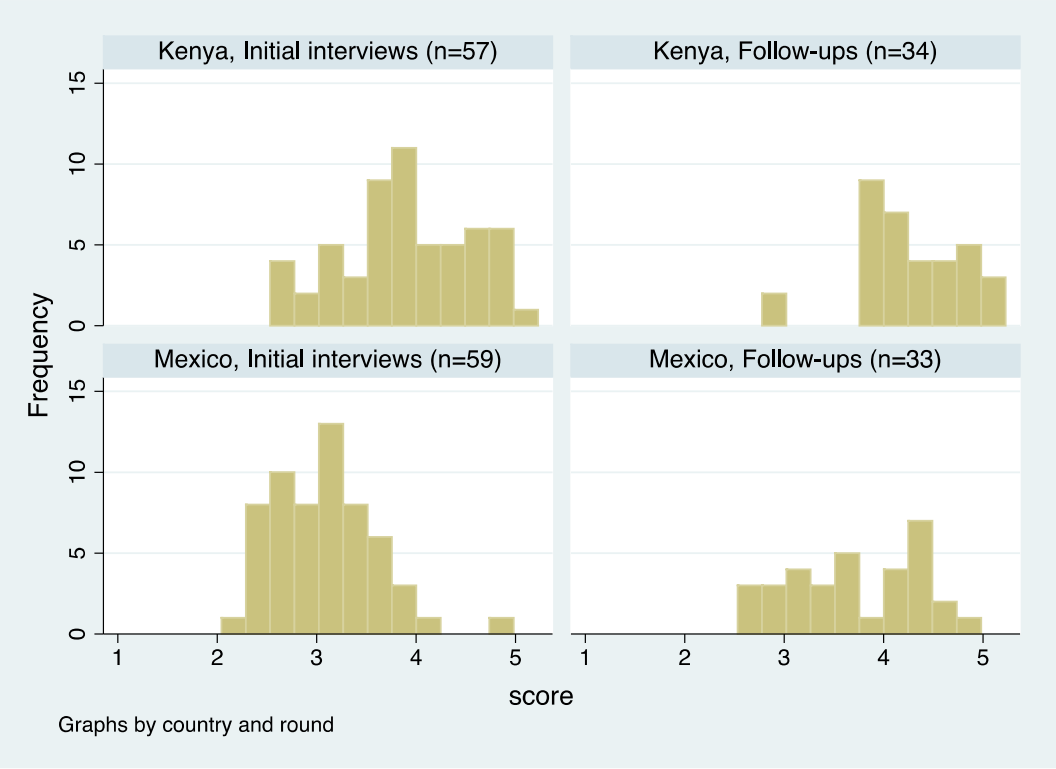
Table 1. Basic summary statistics

	Kenya	Mexico
Initial interviews		
Mean SRI	3.90	3.07
[SD]	[0.65]	[0.51]
Median SRI	3.92	3.05
# of initial interviews	**57**	**59**
Follow-ups		
Mean SRI	4.29	3.72
[SD]	[0.55]	[0.63]
Median SRI	4.23	3.67
# of follow-ups	**34**	**33**

This skewing of the data is further demonstrated in Figure 1, which depicts the distribution of SRI scores by country and round of data collection. Using a simple average of scored domains, it was found that no households in Mexico -- where it was acknowledged that many interviewed households were decidedly **not** self-reliant – scored below a 2. These findings suggested that the final scoring system

needed to ensure that households known not to be self-reliant score on the lower end of the SRI distribution.

Figure 1. SRI score distributions, by country and round



Each SRI domain had been carefully selected and developed after thoughtful consideration of the factors that contribute to self-reliance. Although all domains in the SRI reflect some aspect of self-reliance, not all domains contribute to the construct equally. For example, there would be no circumstance in which a household that did not eat any food the day prior (and thus scored a '1' on domain 2) would be considered highly self-reliant, but yet it is easier to imagine a scenario in which a household might not currently have strong social networks but could still be considered self-reliant overall. These qualitative distinctions imply that certain domains might matter more than others in contributing to a household's self-reliance, and suggest that certain domains should feed in to the final SRI score in differentiated ways.

The fulfillment of four conditional statements was assessed to ascertain the extent to which responses on these key domains aligned with overall scores (see Table 2). It was determined *a priori* that the scoring system should be adjusted such that these conditions were met for at least approximately 50% of relevant cases. The following conditions were assessed for domains 1, 2, 6, and 9 (Housing, Food, Safety and Assistance respectively).

Table 2. Domain-specific data checks

Domain	Condition	Number of cases in which condition holds		Conclusion
		Kenya	Mexico	
1 Housing	SRI score is less than 3 for households with a domain score of 1.	N/A	2 out of 2	Acceptable
2 Food	SRI score is less than 2.5 for households with a domain score of 1 or 2.	**0 out of 17**	**2 out of 12**	Adjustments needed
6 Safety	SRI score is less than 3 for households with a domain score of 1.	N/A	5 out of 12	Potential adjustments needed[2]
9 Assistance	SRI score is less than 2.5 for households with a domain score of 1.	**0 out of 15**	**2 out of 16**	Adjustments needed

D. **Finalizing SRI 2.0**

Upon reviewing findings related to the tool's reliability, validity, and overall performance, along with qualitative insights provided by trainers and data collection partners, changes were made to the SRI with regard to domain response options, domain scores, and the overall scoring process.

Domain-specific response option changes: The response options for Domain 5 (Health Status) have been changed such that '1' and '3' have been combined, and '2' and '4' have been combined. The new Domain 5 options will be presented as follows:

> *"Does anyone in your household currently have a physical or psychological health condition that interferes with income-generating activities?*
>
> 1. Adult(s) in household has health condition that interferes with employment.
> 2. Dependent(s) has health condition that interferes with adult employment.
> 3. None of the above

These reformulated response options address the confusion that arose in relation to temporary versus permanent health conditions, the status of which is not always known. Respondents no longer need to identify whether the condition is temporary or permanent. Long-term conditions will be picked up in repeated administrations of the tool and may also be noted in the comments section below the domain.

Domain-specific scoring: Domain 2 (Food), response option 2, will now be scored as a '1', along with response option 1, since both reflect a severe food shortage. Additionally, Domains 1a (Housing Adequacy) and 1b (Rent) will not be averaged together to create a single Domain 1 (Housing) score; instead they will be incorporated into the final score as separate domain scores. This will add extra weight to the housing situation and will also help distinguish between different types of housing vulnerability – i.e. type of shelter versus affordability of shelter.

[2] Improvement in this condition was observed with the proposed changes in Section III, D: 'Finalizing SRI 2.0'. As such, no changes to the scoring of Domain 6 were ultimately needed.

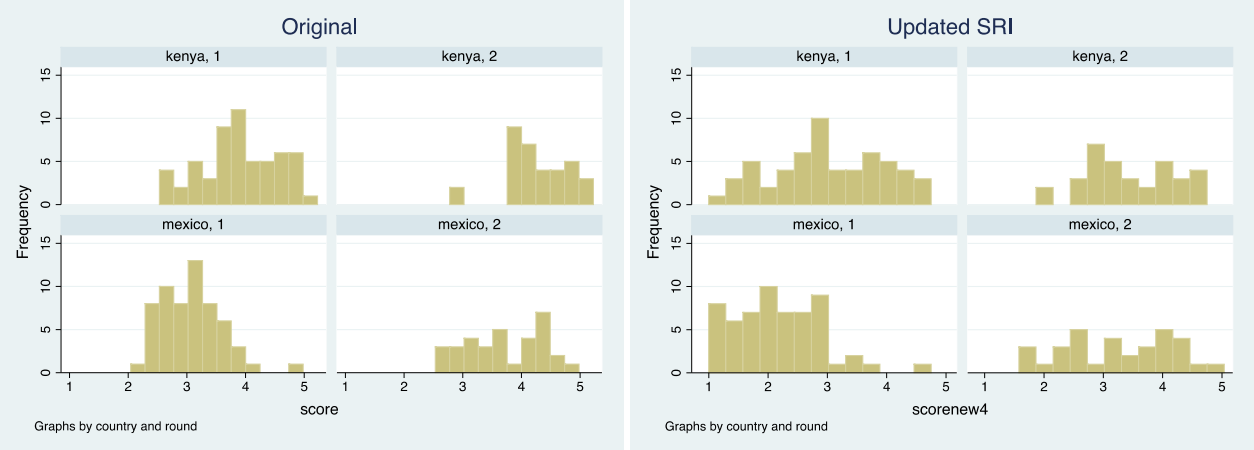
Overall SRI score: Following the calculation of all domain scores (see Appendix C for the updated domain score rubric), the final aggregate SRI score will be calculated. First, all scored domains, excluding domains 2, 5, and 9 (Food, Health Status, and Assistance), will be averaged together. Next, the following amounts will be subtracted from this average as follows:

Domain 2: Subtract (5-score2)*0.15
Domain 5: Subtract (3-score5)*0.1
Domain 9: Subtract (5-score9)*0.2

Finally, final scores below 1 and above 5 will be recoded as 1 and 5, respectively.

These scoring changes were tested using the soft launch data to assess the performance of the updated version of the tool. Figure 2 compares the distributions for the original and updated SRI scores. The distribution of updated scores more closely matches what was expected of sample households given the team's contextual knowledge and insights from the partner organizations. Additionally, following these score updates, more than 50% of all domain-to-SRI scoring conditions outlined above were achieved.

Figure 2. SRI score distributions, original and updated versions



IV. Secondary Learning

The secondary objectives of the soft launch concentrated on efforts to improve the Self-Reliance Index user support including the training process and User Guide. In addition, learning was focused on identifying ways the SRI could be integrated into an agency's existing monitoring systems.

A. SRI User Support

The SRI captures a wide variety of indicators through a conversational household assessment rather than a verbatim questionnaire. Given these attributes, training has been provided to practitioners to ensure their consistent use of the SRI. During the soft launch phase, the SRI training program was primarily delivered in person and reinforced by the User Guide (see Table 3 for training support provided to soft launch partners)

Table 3. SRI training: Soft launch partners

Partner Name and Program Type	Partner Location	Initial user-guide only training	Formal training			Remote Support	Notes
			In Person	Supplemental Distance training	# trained		
Asylum Access Legal assistance	Mexico	No	Yes	No	9	Yes	In-person training and field testing was conducted three months (May 2019) prior to the soft launch, additional training and remote support was provided to kick off the soft launch. Remote support is ongoing.
Danish Refugee Council / Mercy Corps Various programs	Jordan	No	Yes	No	15	Yes	In-person training was conducted in October 2019, including field testing. Remote support is ongoing.
HIAS – Livelihoods intervention	Ecuador	Yes	Yes	No	28	Yes	In-person training was conducted in December 2019. Training included staff from Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama and Peru. HIAS conducted User Guide-only field testing carried out between August and November. Remote support is ongoing.
RefugePoint – Holistic program model	Kenya	No	Yes	Yes	15	Yes	In-person training and field testing was conducted five months (March 2019) prior to the soft launch, additional training and remote support was provided to kick off the soft launch. Remote support is ongoing.

The SRI training is made up of five key components – 1) overview of self-reliance key concepts; 2) introduction to the SRI; 3) contextualization of the SRI; 4) SRI practice and review; and 5) review of the SRI's integration into existing systems (Appendix D). To assist partners in understanding the SRI, a number of iterations were made to the training course during the earlier testing phase; however, two critical improvements were made during the soft-launch phase.

The SRI training provides an opportunity to immerse practitioners quickly into the concepts and experience of using the SRI. Training experience indicates that common issues arise when first becoming

familiar with the SRI, and most of these issues are adequately addressed in the SRI User Guide. The training approach was adjusted to introduce the User Guide into the practitioner experience from the first day to allow staff to become acquainted and comfortable with the User Guide in order to easily find information and references following the training and when engaging with refugee clients.

In addition, ensuring the consistent use of the SRI is a key focus of the training process. While much of the training process is built around practice, the introduction of sample case scenarios provided for rich discussions to interrogate assumptions, increase the ease of using the SRI and discuss scoring criteria. During the training, these scenarios provided a primer for practitioners before meeting clients and were also used to "test" practitioners during the training process to ensure comprehension of the SRI.

The utility of the User Guide to SRI users has been affirmed throughout the soft launch phase. Feedback received from partners throughout the process has been integrated into the User Guide, creating a more comprehensive resource capable of responding to key user questions. Practitioner review of the User Guide coupled with modest remote support demonstrated that reference to the User Guide was nearly sufficient for solid comprehension of the SRI during a round of testing in Ecuador (see Table 3). Finding ways to enhance the User Guide to provide users more experience in practicing with the tool will be a key consideration going forward. Attention will be given to making the User Guide more navigable to permit real-time reference to it.

The SRI was developed to be a universal tool and thus much of the language in the tool is general as opposed to context specific. As such, contextualization of the SRI has been an integral part of the SRI training process. This process allows practitioners to consider what self-reliance looks like in their location and to build a common understanding of the terminology for each domain. Refugees, like all people, live complex lives and their situations do not always fit easily into the response choices provided in the SRI. It is therefore important for staff to discuss the widely varying situations they have encountered with their clients in order to reach common agreement on terms and scores; having these discussions prior to using the SRI will increase the consistency of use by all staff members.

Given frequent staff turnover in the humanitarian field there is a need to continue to develop remote learning capacity and tools, including online learning modules, for individual learning as well as remote support. Lastly, supporting refugees to achieve self-reliance is generally understood to require holistic and long-term interventions. Currently, most refugee programs are short-term and sector specific. As such, use of the SRI is raising questions on how to follow refugee clients when program and funding cycles are short-term and how to strengthen referral mechanisms when programs are single-sector. These are areas for further investigation with partners when considering how to integrate the SRI with a large number of clients and a wide variety of programs.

B. SRI and Systems Integration

To date, SRI users have employed three different data collection methods when using the tool. In Kenya, the CommCare Platform was employed by RefugePoint. The advantages shown in using CommCare included the automatic scoring function as well as the relatively navigable format. In Jordan, Kobo was widely used by the DRC monitoring team for SRI data collection. As Kobo does not include an automatic scoring function, syntax was developed to enable automatic scoring. Finally, Ecuador and Mexico decided to employ paper- and Excel-based data entry for the pilot phase. All of the data checks and skip logic capabilities of digital platform-based entry that increase accuracy during the assessment are lost in this format and this added a level of delay for the user in regard to the scoring and data analysis.

XLSForm and XForm documents have been developed to facilitate integration of the SRI into CommCare, Kobo and ODK data collection platforms. These will be available to users in all the languages in which the SRI is currently available (English, French, Arabic, Spanish, Kiswahili).

V. Additional Learning

Throughout the development process there has been wide-ranging interest in the SRI. Over the past six months over 45 requests for the tool have been recorded through the RSRI website, including from humanitarian and development NGOs, UN agencies, academic institutions and government/multi-lateral organizations. Several RSRI partner agencies have requested presentations on the tool to their livelihoods and other program staff and have attended the available training opportunities indicating a high-level of interest to learn more about the tool.

Feedback from practitioners during the soft launch phase signaled enthusiasm in implementing the tool with clients to target services and measure client progress towards self-reliance. Anecdotally, several practitioners using the tool during this phase noted that the "discussion format" of the SRI provided an opportunity to build a rapport with their clients and allowed for a better understanding of their refugee client households, allowing for improved services. During training, practitioners noted the opportunity the tool provided for supporting referral pathways and improving interagency coordination across a response as well as coordination between various program units within an agency. Finally, user feedback emphasized the value of the User Guide in addressing a significant number of questions that come up when learning to implement the SRI.

VI. Limitations

The SRI has a few limitations to consider. First, given a time-limited soft launch phase, in conjunction with various delays in partner countries due to funding and humanitarian situations, less data was collected during this period than anticipated. As such, amendments may be made to the SRI in the future after examining the tool's performance across additional country contexts. Second, practical and in-depth discussions related to systems integration (i.e., how a partner may integrate the SRI into its existing M&E systems in support of programs) were also limited due to time constraints. However, it is expected that this will be an area of focus following the release of the SRI 2.0. Finally, to date, the SRI has been applied in refugee contexts only. Exploration of the tool's utility and validity in other settings will be of interest in the next phase.

VII. Conclusion and Next Steps

The SRI soft launch learning phase focused on testing the tool's reliability and validity along with developing its scoring system. Secondary learning objectives were focused on the SRI as a usable tool for partners. The SRI soft launch data provide insight into the performance of the SRI across different settings and the SRI 1.0 has been revised based on the feedback from this phase of learning.

The SRI 2.0 will be launched in April 2020 with the expectation of expansion of its use in new countries. While the SRI was developed with non-camp-based refugee populations in mind, there is great interest in utilizing the SRI with other populations, such as the internally displaced and camp-based refugee populations. Expanded feedback from users and learning will contribute to the continued improvement of the SRI. Subsequent learning will continue to focus on validity testing, along with refinement of the scoring system. Additionally, more efforts will be made to identify ways to integrate the

SRI, a holistic tool, into partner monitoring tools that are often sector-based, as well as to experiment with distance learning capabilities. Lastly, learning objectives will be further developed to examine the SRI with a gender lens. Given the great interest in the SRI, it is hoped that a wide variety of partners will use the tool and contribute to the ongoing learning to build an evidence base around refugee self-reliance outcomes.

Refugee SELF-RELIANCE Initiative

Appendix A: Self-Reliance Index: Soft Launch

Known group comparison instructions

Stage 1

1. Consider the ranges of self-reliance by reviewing the SRI and agree on a common understanding of low, medium and high self-reliance by using the following as a guide:
    a. Low self-reliance: Consider a client who would score a 1 or 2 in each of the domains. A household that falls into this category is very reliant on assistance, possibly coming from multiple organizations and/or sources. A household with low self-reliance is often just barely able to meet the basic needs of its members and, should a source of assistance or income suddenly stop, the household may not be able to acquire food or even stay in their current living situation. A household in this category may also be so focused on making ends meet that its members would be unable (either due to time, spirit, focus, etc.) to seize on a new opportunity to better their situation.
    b. Medium self-reliance: Consider a client who would score an average of 3 (some 2s and some 4s) in each of the domains. A household that falls into this category is getting by. Such a household can likely sustain a small shock but *may* fall into a precarious situation in the face of a large health or income shock. However, if the status quo continues, the household may be able to eventually put aside a small savings.
    c. High self-reliance: Consider a client who would score a majority 4s and 5s in each domain. Please recognize that, depending on your organization's services, you may not have any current client households that fall into this category. You might even consider households that previously received support from your organization but have since "graduated" from eligibility due to improvements in their well-being and self-reliance.
2. Think about all of your clients (and even former clients who have graduated from your services); review client databases if necessary. It is critical that the staff member generating this list of households is familiar with clients' situations, otherwise he or she will not be able to select households that truly reflect a distribution of low, medium, and high self-reliance. To help with this task, the relevant staff may even want to connect with local leaders or others in the community who know the community members very well. Further, please remember that the individual who generates this list should not also be the person who conducts the SRI interviews.
3. Identify five households each, that fall into the low, medium, and, high self-reliance categories. If there are no households with high self-reliance among your clients, select 7-8 low and 7-8 medium households. You may need to consult with others (such as community leaders) to ensure you can accurately identify households that meet these criteria.
4. Enter information for these households in the table below. Use the ID that will be used during SRI data collection.

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	Household ID	Low, medium, or high
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

5. Ensure that these 15 households are interviewed during data collection. **DO NOT share this list or your assessment of these households with enumerators.** Please send this list back to the SRI learning team when you transfer your baseline data.

Stage 2

1. Review the list of households interviewed in Stage 1. Think about households that you have interacted with in some capacity since this initial interview (perhaps through additional service provision, follow-up case management appointments, referrals, etc.).
2. Using these interactions as references, try to think of 5-10 households that you feel have improved in self-reliance since the Stage 1 interview. Perhaps you know that a household has seen improvements in one or more specific domains; or, you may simply observe that a household seems to be doing much better off in general. Similarly, try to think of 5-10 households that you feel have worsened with respect to self-reliance since the first interview. Perhaps, for example, you know of a household where a member lost a job and had to move out of their house.
3. It is critical that the staff member generating this list of households is familiar with clients' situations, otherwise he or she will not be able to select households that truly reflect improvements or declines in self-reliance. To help with this task, the relevant staff may even want to connect with local leaders or others in the community who know the community members very well. Further, please remember that the individual who generates this list should not also be the person who conducts the SRI interviews.
4. After you have identified 5-10 households for each of the two categories, enter information for these households in the table below. Use the ID that will be used during SRI data collection.

	Household ID	Improved or Worsened
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

Appendix B. Original scoring rubric

Domain		Copy answers from tool	Instruction	Enter score	Instruction	Value	Instruction	Final domain score
Housing	1a		Item #		---->	=E2	---->	
Food	2		Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 2 '3' = 3 '4' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Education	3	Is score from tool 0? If yes, skip rest of domain	Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Healthcare	4	Is score from tool 0? If yes, skip rest of domain	Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Health status	5		Item #		---->	=E6	---->	
Safety	6		Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Employment	7		Item #		---->	=E8	---->	
Financial resources	8		- IF '6' is not selected, then score is '1' - IF '6' is selected AND any other option is selected, then score is '3' - IF '6' is the only option selected, then score is '5'		---->	=E9	---->	
Assistance	9		Count of items		3 or 4 items = 1 2 items = 2 1 item = 3 0 items = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Debt	10		Count of items		4 or 5 items = 1 2 or 3 items = 2 1 item = 3 0 items = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Savings	11		Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 4 '4' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->	
Social capital	12a		Item #		Response '1'= Score of 1 '2'=5	=Transformation of response	Average of 12a and 12b	
	12b		Item #		Response '0' = Score of 1 '1' = 3 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response		
							Average of scored domains:	=(Sum of scores/number of domains scored)

Appendix C. Final scoring rubric

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Domain		Copy answers from tool	Instruction	Enter score	Instruction	Value	Instruction	Final domain score					
2	Housing	1a		Item #		---->	=E2	---->						
3	Rent	1b	Is score from tool 4? If yes, skip rest of domain	Item #		Response '1' = Score of 5 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
4	Food	2		Item #		Response '1 or '2'' = Score of 1 '3' = 3 '4' = 5	=Transformation of response	Use in L16						
5	Education	3	Is score from tool 0? If yes, skip rest of domain	Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
6	Healthcare	4	Is score from tool 0? If yes, skip rest of domain	Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
7	Health status	5		Item #		---->	=E6	Use in L16						
8	Safety	6		Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
9	Employment	7		Item #		---->	=E8	---->						
10	Financial resources	8		- IF '6' is selected AND any other option is selected, then score is '3' - IF '6' is the only option selected, then score is '5'		---->	=E9	---->						
11	Assistance	9		Count of items		3 or 4 items = 1 2 items = 2 1 item = 3 0 items = 5	=Transformation of response	Use in L16						
12	Debt	10		Count of items		4 or 5 items = 1 2 or 3 items = 2 1 item = 3 0 items = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
13	Savings	11		Item #		Response '1' = Score of 1 '2' = 3 '3' = 4 '4' = 5	=Transformation of response	---->						
14		12a		Item #		Response '1'= Score of 1 '2'=5	=Transformation of response	Average of 12a and 12b						
15	Social capital	12b		Item #		Response '0' = Score of 1 '1' = 3 '2' = 3 '3' = 5	=Transformation of response							Final SRI Score:
16							Sum of scores/number of domains scored:			- (5-score2)*0.15 - (3-score5)*0.1 - (5-score9)*0.2			Recode <1 = 1 Recode >5 = 5	
17														

Refugee SELF-RELIANCE Initiative

Appendix D: SRI Training Agenda

Self-Reliance Index (SRI) Training
Four-Day Training Agenda
AGENCY – CITY, COUNTRY
DAY MONTH YEAR – DAY MONTH YEAR

Training Day #1 Agenda	
Time	**Item**
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome / Introductions
9:30– 10:30	Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (RSRI) Overview & Purpose of the SRI
10:30 – 11:15	What Is Self-Reliance?
11:15 – 11:45	Break
11:45 – 12:30	Review of the SRI
12:30 – 13:00	SRI User Guide Detailed Review
13:00 – 14:00	Break
14:00 – 14:45	SRI User Guide Detailed Review
14:45 – 15:45	SRI Use Guide Comprehension: Plenary Discussion & Observations
15:45 – 16:00	Break
16:00 – 16:30	SRI Use Guide Comprehension: Plenary Discussion & Observations
16:30 – 17:00	Day 1 Training Review Form (Individual)
17:00 – 17:15	Closing Session & Departures

Training Day #2 Agenda	
Time	**Item**
8:00 – 8:30	Welcome / Review of Day #1
8:30 – 9:15	SRI Role Play
9:15 – 10:00	SRI Role Play: Plenary Discussion & Observations
10:00 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 11:00	SRI Time Tests
11:00 – 11:45	Probing Police SRI User Exercise
11:45 – 12:30	Probing Police: Plenary Discussion & Observations
12:30 – 13:00	SRI Scoring Review
13:00 – 14:00	Break
14:00 – 14:45	Launching the SRI: Best Practices Review & Application Strategies

REFUGEPOINT

WOMEN'S REFUGEE COMMISSION

14:45 – 15:15	Platforms for SRI Use: Reviewing and Understanding the Tool
15:15– 15:45	Platform SRI Role Play
15:45 – 16:00	Break
16:00 – 16:30	Platform SRI: Plenary Discussion & Observations
16:30 – 17:00	Day 2 Training Review Form (Individual)
17:00 – 17:15	Closing Session & Departures

Training Day #3 Agenda	
Time	**Item**
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome / Review of Day #2
10:30 – 13:45	SRI Field Testing
13:45 – 14:45	Lunch
14:45 – 15:45	SRI Field Testing Review: Plenary Discussion & Observations
15:45 – 16:00	Closing Session & Departures

Training Day #4 Agenda	
Time	**Item**
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome / Review of Day #3
9:30 – 12:45	SRI Field Testing
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 – 14:45	SRI Field Testing Review: Plenary Discussion & Observations
14:45 – 15:45	Charting the Course: Training Review & Next Step Planning
15:45 – 16:00	Closing Session & Departures

**Note: Previous trainings have highlighted the important role field testing with agency clients can be in mastering the SRI and giving direct experience using the tool. It is important that logistical arrangements be made well in advance with the agency/agencies participating in the training to plan for field testing, identify households to be visited, and ensure proper platform support / data entry methods are available to trainees. Please contact the RSRI to develop context-specific field testing plans.*