The project aims to facilitate regional networks and dialogue to help secondary cities in the Horn of Africa better address the challenges and opportunities related to refugees in urban settings. Peer networks and knowledge exchange will help the cities identify solutions to improve living conditions and opportunities for both refugees and host populations, reduce the risk of conflict, and provide access to basic services for all vulnerable city residents. The initiative, implemented by Cities Alliance, is funded by the European Union, through its Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF for Africa).

1 Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
A FOCUS ON SECONDARY CITIES IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

The project will be implemented in 4 countries and 7 cities in the Horn of Africa, Arua and Koboko in Uganda, Borama and Gabiley in Somalia, the Kakuma-Kalobeyei cluster in Kenya and Assosa and Jigjiga in Ethiopia.
Context
Cities around the world are experiencing the emergence of an unprecedented refugee situation that is often sudden and massive in scale. Forced displacement is at an all-time high; over 70 million people worldwide are fleeing their homes as a result of persecution, conflict, generalised violence, or human rights violations. Whether they are crossing international borders or seeking refuge within their own countries, most refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are now living in urban or semi-urban areas, instead of camps or purpose-built settlements.

This shift has put considerable pressure on cities, especially fast-growing secondary cities in developing countries that are already struggling to meet the needs of their populations. The situation is especially acute in the Horn of Africa, which hosts approximately one-fifth of the world’s refugees. Uganda is one of the largest refugee-hosting countries in Africa, closely followed by Ethiopia and Kenya.

CRRF: Inclusive Urban Development and Mobility - Regional Network and Dialogue
Within the framework of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, CRRF: Inclusive Urban Development and Mobility project, Cities Alliance aims to facilitate regional networks and dialogue that will foster peer networks and knowledge exchange on the challenges and opportunities related to refugees in urban settings in the Horn of Africa.

Anticipated Results
The project has a two-fold objective: to increase the safety and well-being of displaced populations and their host communities living in urban or peri-urban settings; and to reduce inequalities between these groups by supporting established regional networks and dialogue processes that will foster learning and partnerships. It places special emphasis on the inclusion and participation of displaced persons in economic and social life, improved livelihoods, and greater access to quality basic services for refugees and vulnerable host populations in secondary cities in the Horn of Africa.

Regional networking and dialogue give secondary cities the opportunity to exchange experiences on best practices and lessons learned, helping them identify solutions to provide better services to all vulnerable city residents. The project is expected to improve living conditions and opportunities for refugees and their hosts and reduce the risks of rivalry and conflict – resulting in greater well-being and safety. By building peer networks and a platform for dialogue across city representatives, it will also promote innovation, learning, and the adoption of best practice.

“For millions of migrants, cities serve as the first points of arrival, transit hubs and ultimate destinations.”
Cities Alliance Global Programme on Cities and Migration

Cities Alliance is the global partnership supporting cities to deliver sustainable development. With its global programme on Cities and Migration including the EUTF funded project, Cities Alliance has made a long-term commitment to supporting secondary cities in low-income countries that have to manage large inflows of migrants and refugees.

European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa

The European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa was launched by European and African partners at the Valletta Summit on Migration in November 2015. The EUTF for Africa was established to deliver an integrated and coordinated response to the diverse causes of instability, irregular migration and forced displacement.

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