



## CONCEPT NOTE

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<b>Project Location:</b>	Nairobi, Kenya
<b>Partner</b>	Partner Organization

### Title

Partner organization & GRD Advocacy Project for Self-Reliance

### Introduction

[Global Rights Defenders](#) (GRD) is a Canadian NGO that advocates for refugee and human rights globally. As we are a small organization, our work consists of research and data collection to advocate for policy changes, strengthen protections and promotions of displaced persons rights through migration governance, and to address root causes of the global refugee crisis. We believe in the inherent dignity of every person and are committed to working towards a world where every individual has the right to seek safety and a better future, free from fear and persecution.

### Background

We choose our countries of focus based on where we think greatest attention is needed. At the time of this physical document, much of GRD’s work pertains to Africa, the Middle East and Europe - where the global refugee crisis is most pertinent.

In 2017, Kenya was listed as a pilot country to undertake tenets from the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). In 2018, though Kenya did not adopt a formal CRRF structure or process, it committed to:

1. Undertake self-reliance and inclusion measures for refugees in Kenya;
2. Facilitate the legal status for refugees with claims to citizenship/residency through marriage and parentage; and
3. Facilitate school enrolment of refugees and Kenyans.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR (2018) Applying Comprehensive Responses (CRRF) in Africa. <https://www.unhcr.org/5a8fcfff4.pdf>

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By understanding the challenges and gaps within the new Refugees Act, 2021, GRD intends to contribute to strengthened policies, laws, or frameworks in Kenya and for other countries which lack migration governance in other highly affected countries. GRD believes formidable migration governance is a key component to achieving refugee self-reliance.

### **GRD Internal Structure**

Currently our organization consists of board members and volunteers. We are a team of dedicated researchers, communications specialists, professionals, and experts who have dedicated their lives to understanding forced migration. Our team consists of individuals across the world and are composed of those with lived experiences as refugees, as well as allies.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The focus of Global Rights Defenders' actions shall be to:

1. Strengthen migration governance to protect displaced persons and increase self-reliance;
2. Address root causes of the global refugee crisis through inter alia, research, analysis, and data collection;

The key approach of Global Rights Defenders towards desired outcome would be:

3. Conduct pre-campaign research to identify the challenges and gaps
4. Work alongside those with lived experiences, refugee-led organizations, like minded organizations including I/NGOs, as well as governments;
5. Raise awareness about the plight of refugees and the refugee crisis through educational campaigns, summits, online events, podcasts, articles, reports, academic publications, videos, social media, and related; and
6. Spread awareness about the various human rights violations against displaced persons in lieu of asserted protections

### **Expectations**

1. Advocate for meaningful policy changes to achieve refugee self-reliance for refugees in Kenya;
2. Demonstrate the difficulties refugees in Kenya face in obtaining ID & Documentation;
3. Highlight the challenges refugees face in achieving self-reliance such as inability to go to access basic services, employability, etc.; and
4. Actional contributions to achieving self-reliance.

### **Outcomes**

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1. Advocate for meaningful policy changes to achieve refugee self-reliance for refugees in Kenya;
2. Facilitate/suggest solutions to regulatory challenges experienced by refugees in Kenya;
3. Organizing and spearheading relevant stakeholder engagement activities related to refugee issues – \_this includes collaborating and convening with government, both national and county, I/NGOs, Refugee-led organizations, Universities, think-tanks, and other relevant stakeholders; and
4. Clarify the challenges and opportunities related to refugee identity and documentation in Nairobi and Kakuma to inform policy and program development.

### Scope

For further discussion with partner organization, GRD is interested to learn:

- Capacity of partner organization
- Current advocacy efforts of partner organization for refugee self-reliance
- Budget for research-based project with partner organization & programming
- Interventions of highest priority for partner organization

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