Higher Education Supporting Refugees

UNHCR – Division of Resilience and Solutions

Paris, 22.5.2018

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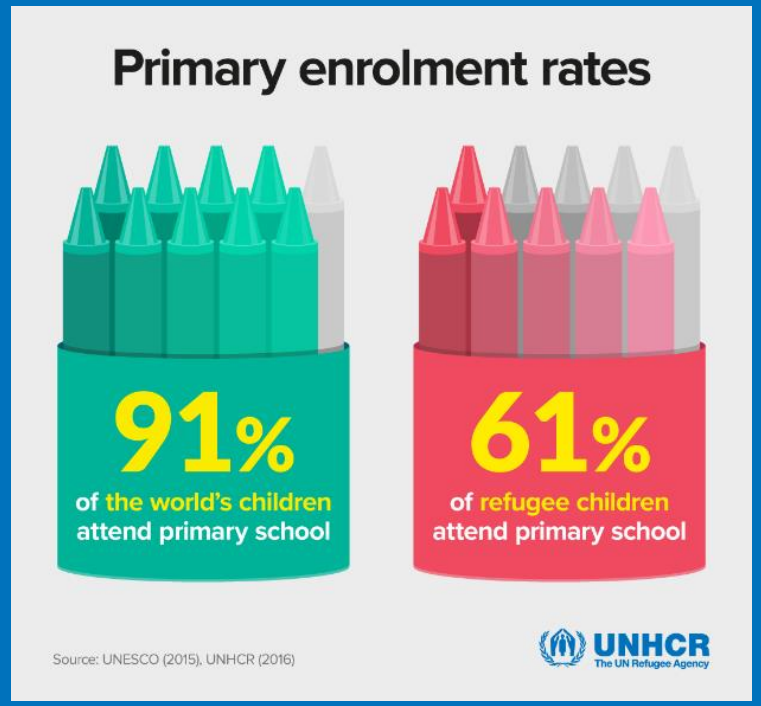
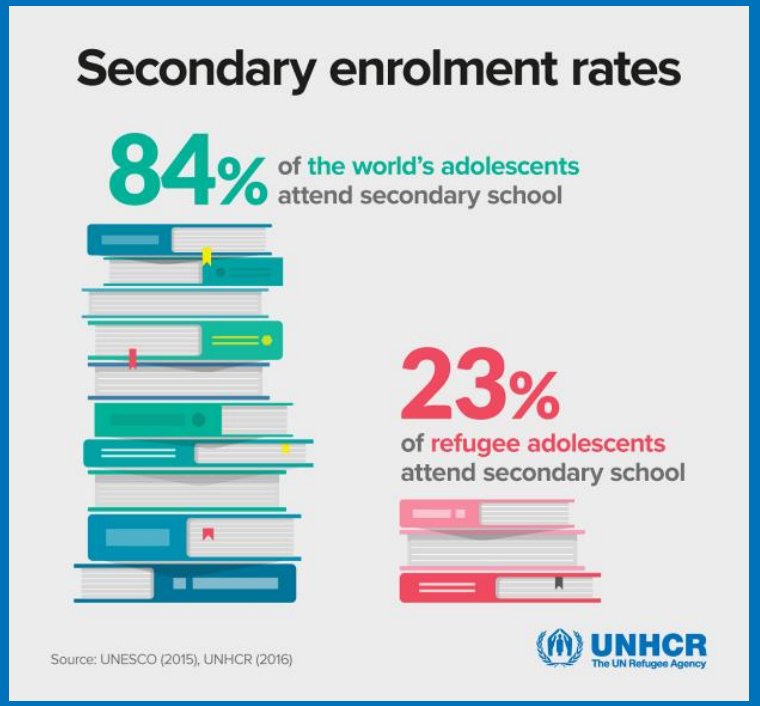
The UN Refugee Agency

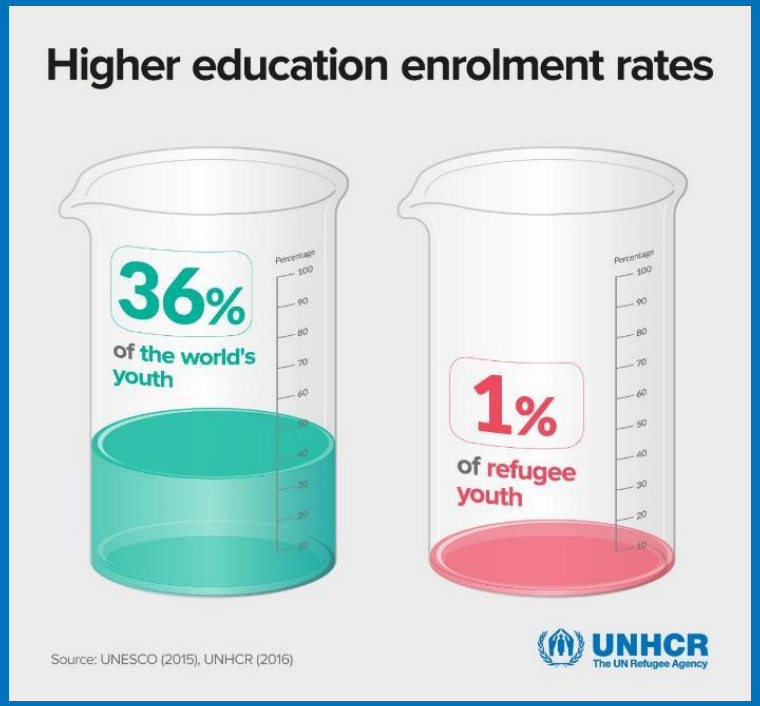
Key Messages:

- Millions of young refugees are missing out on education, and need access to durable solutions.
- Higher education is a path to solutions for refugees, that can be expanded through scholarships as well as connected learning programmes.
- UNHCR promotes the active inclusion of the refugee community in designing and implementing programmes and research.

Millions of young refugees are missing out on education







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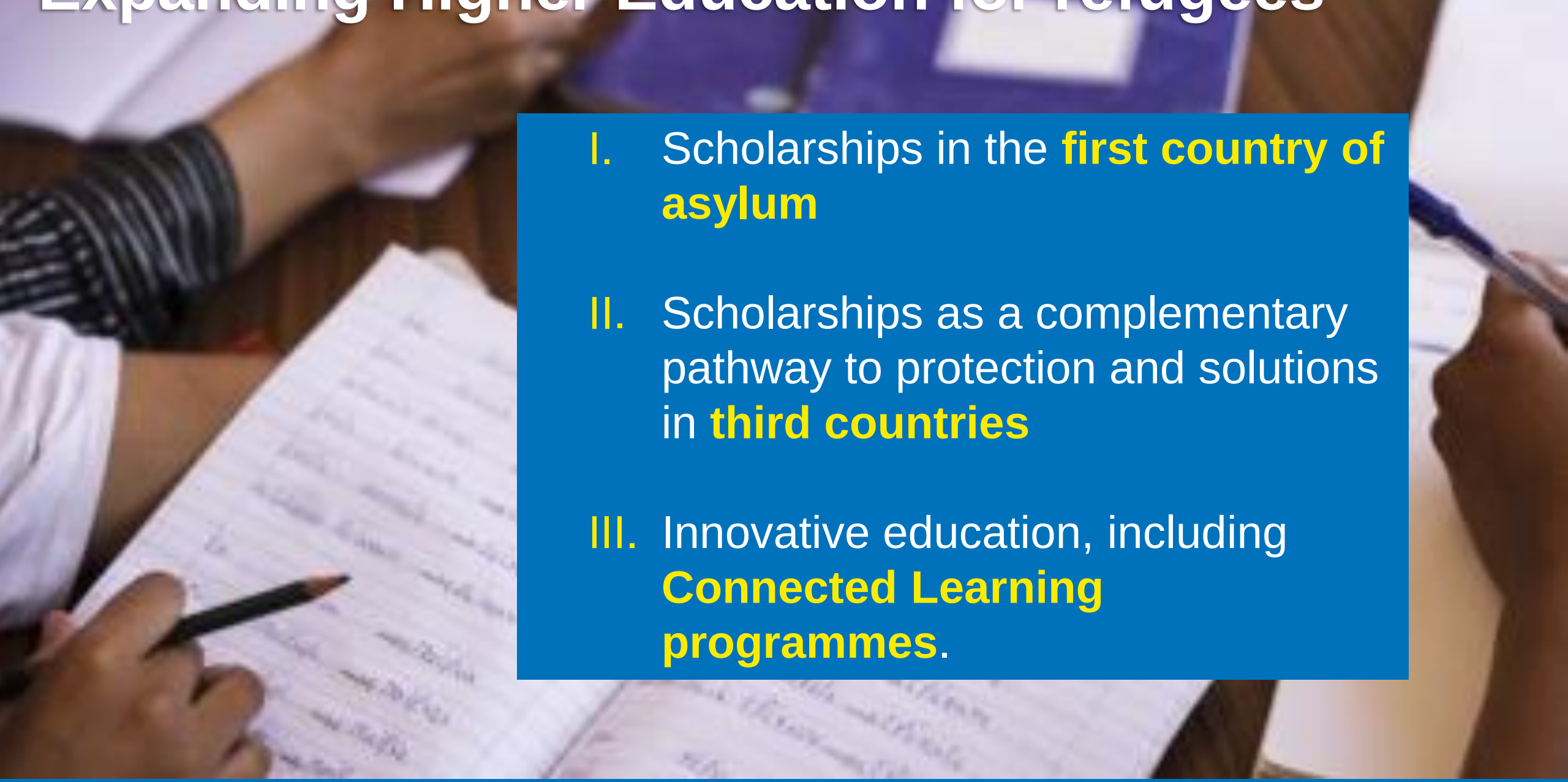
Expanding Higher Education for Refugees



I. Scholarships in the **first country of asylum**

II. Scholarships as a complementary pathway to protection and solutions in **third countries**

III. Innovative education, including **Connected Learning programmes**.

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DAFI Programme

- Refugees study in their first country of asylum
- Since 1992, supported over 14,000 refugees
- Comprehensive support for students
- In 2017 over 6,700 DAFI students accessed higher education in 50 countries

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Complementary Pathways & Scholarships in **third countries**

Key considerations

- Legal status in the country of study
- Legal advice on the possibility of remaining after completion of studies
- Individual needs: cultural, contextual, educational, learning needs, disabilities, language proficiency, documentation
- Financial support: living costs, travel costs, study costs, possible ability to work alongside studies
- Counselling and psychosocial support,
- Family reunification

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Japan International Cooperation Agency

CAMPUS FRANCE

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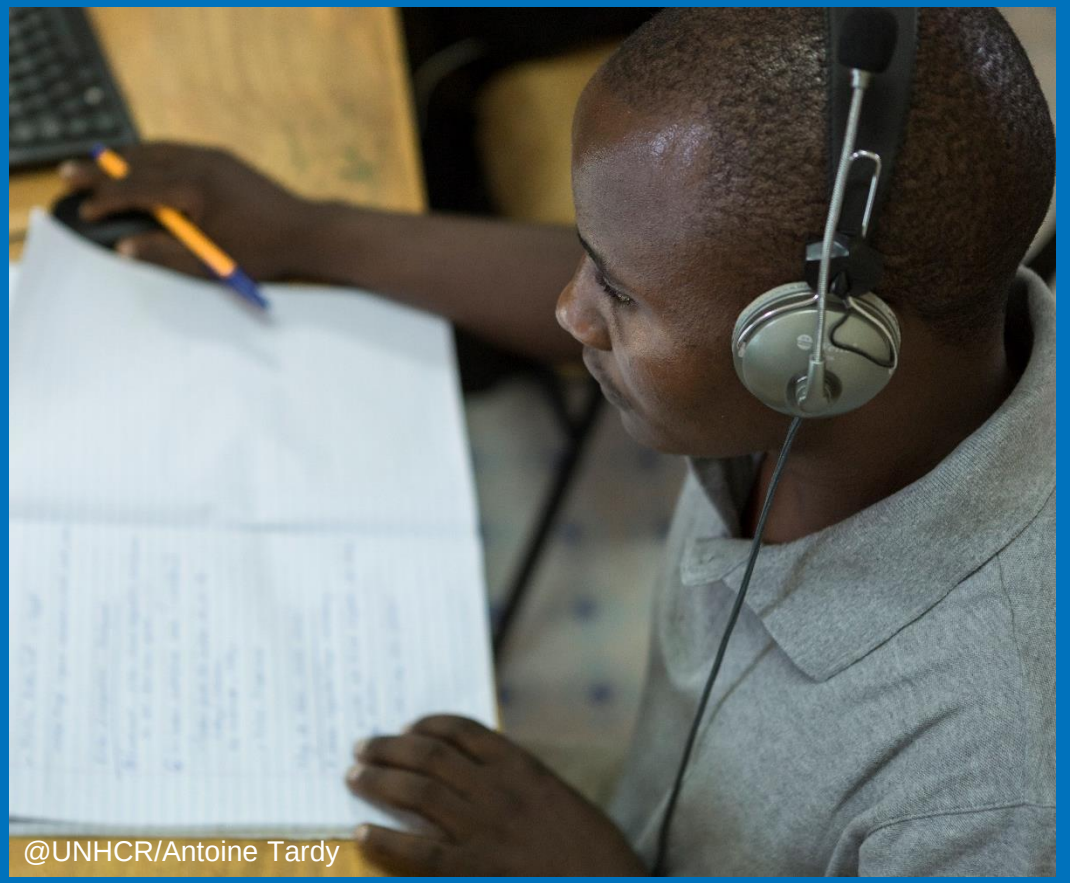
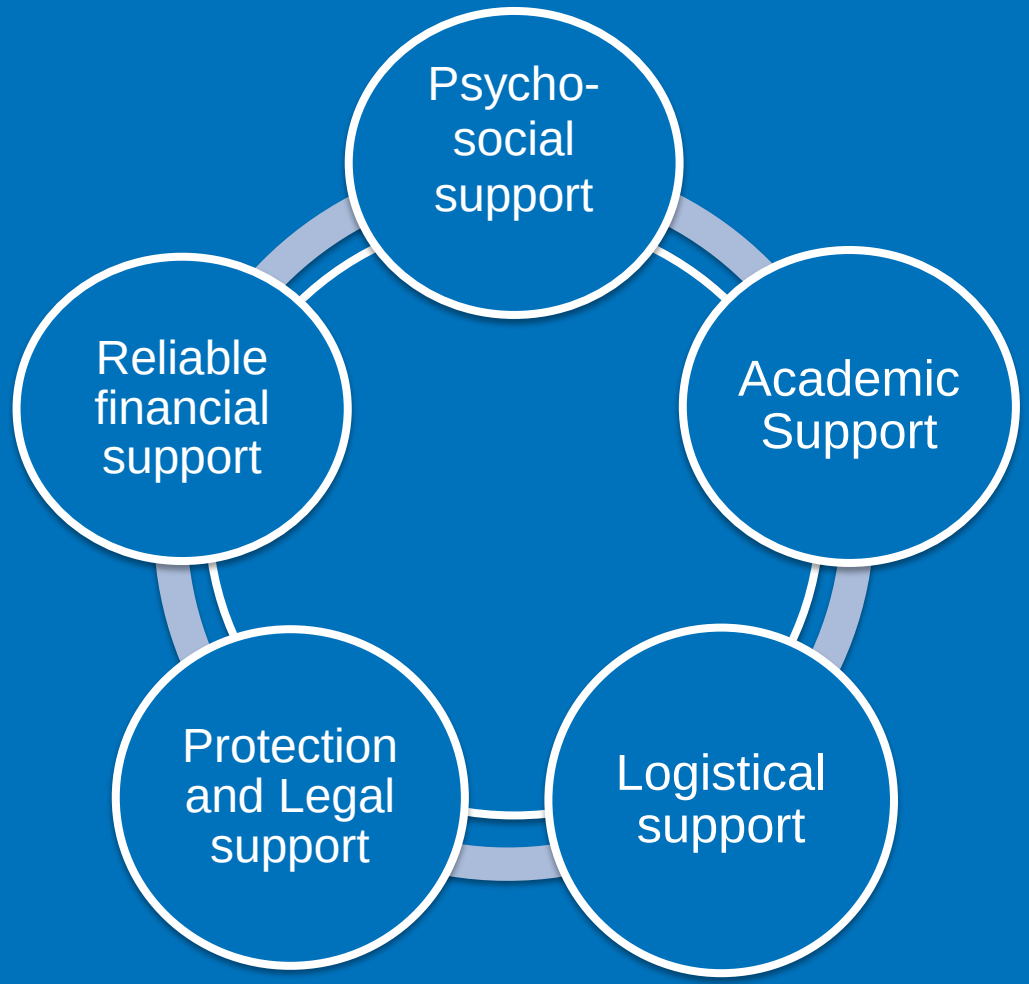
Connected Learning in Crisis Consortium

- Blended learning programmes that bring accredited programmes to refugees in fragile contexts.
- Founded by UNHCR & University of Geneva in 2016.
- 6,500 students in 12 countries since 2010
- Established the groundwork for a dynamic community of practice

- Partners include *Southern New Hampshire University, InZone University of Geneva, the Australian Catholic University, Jesuit Worldwide Learning and more…*



Refugees require additional support at university



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UNHCR co-designs research projects with the refugee community

Youth Education Programme:
Youth led & youth owned

Activities in the field

Research Design & Methodology

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