



Center for Evaluation
and Development

Session 2:

Key findings on how EUTF interventions responded to the refugee crisis in Horn of Africa (HoA)

Thomas Eekhout

M&E Specialist

C4ED – FFU

March 2024





Outline



I. EUTF goals & strategy (2 min)

II. Preliminary Results (20 min)

1. Targeted populations and project adaptation
2. Impacts
3. Relevance

III. Preliminary conclusions (10 min)

I. EUTF goals and strategy

Finance projects to create sustainable economic opportunities for target groups in countries of origin.

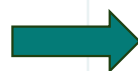
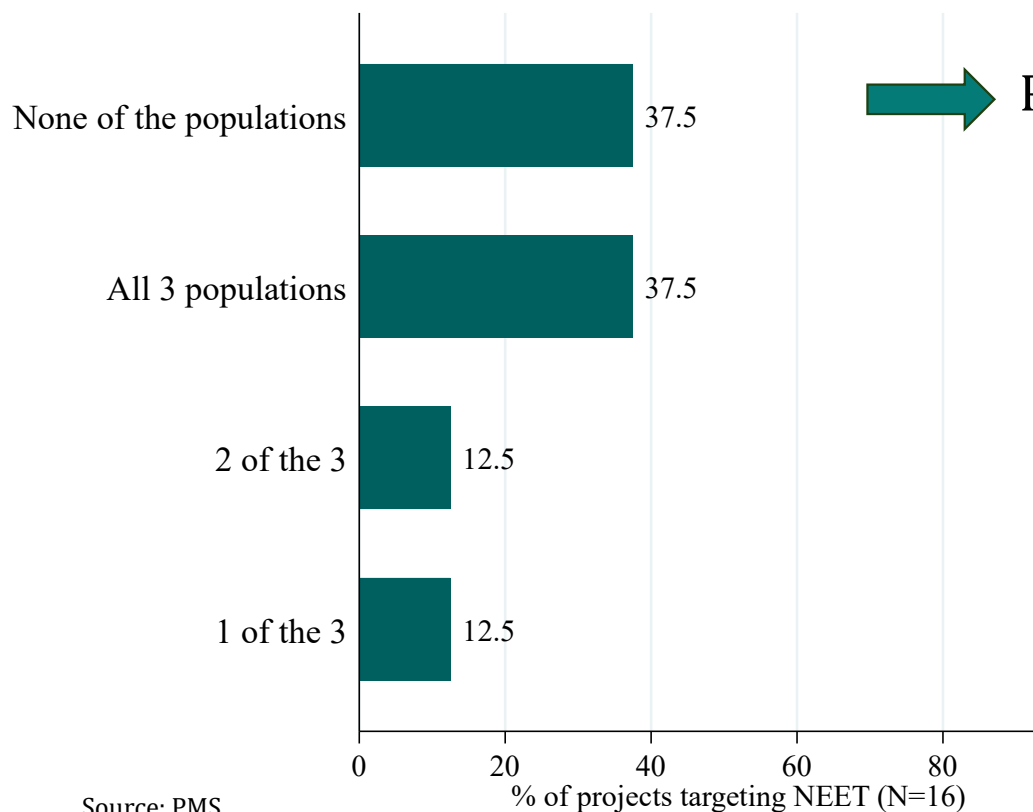
- Strengthen the skills, employability and improve employment of vulnerable groups, particularly:
 - Not in Employment, Education nor Training (NEET)
 - Youth
 - Female
 - Returning migrants (in Sahel Lake Chad)
 - Refugees (in the Horn of Africa)
 - Internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Tackle root causes of irregular migration & better understand the drivers and dynamics behind forced displacement and migration
- Support host communities

II. Preliminary Findings

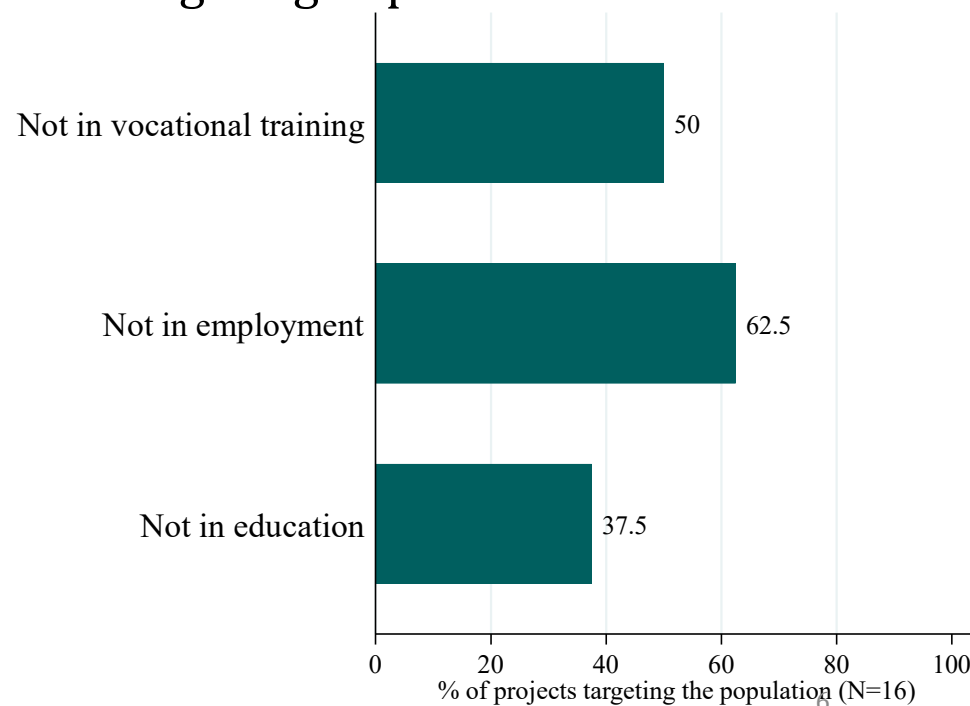
1. Targeted populations
2. Impacts

Targeted populations by EUTF interventions in HoA

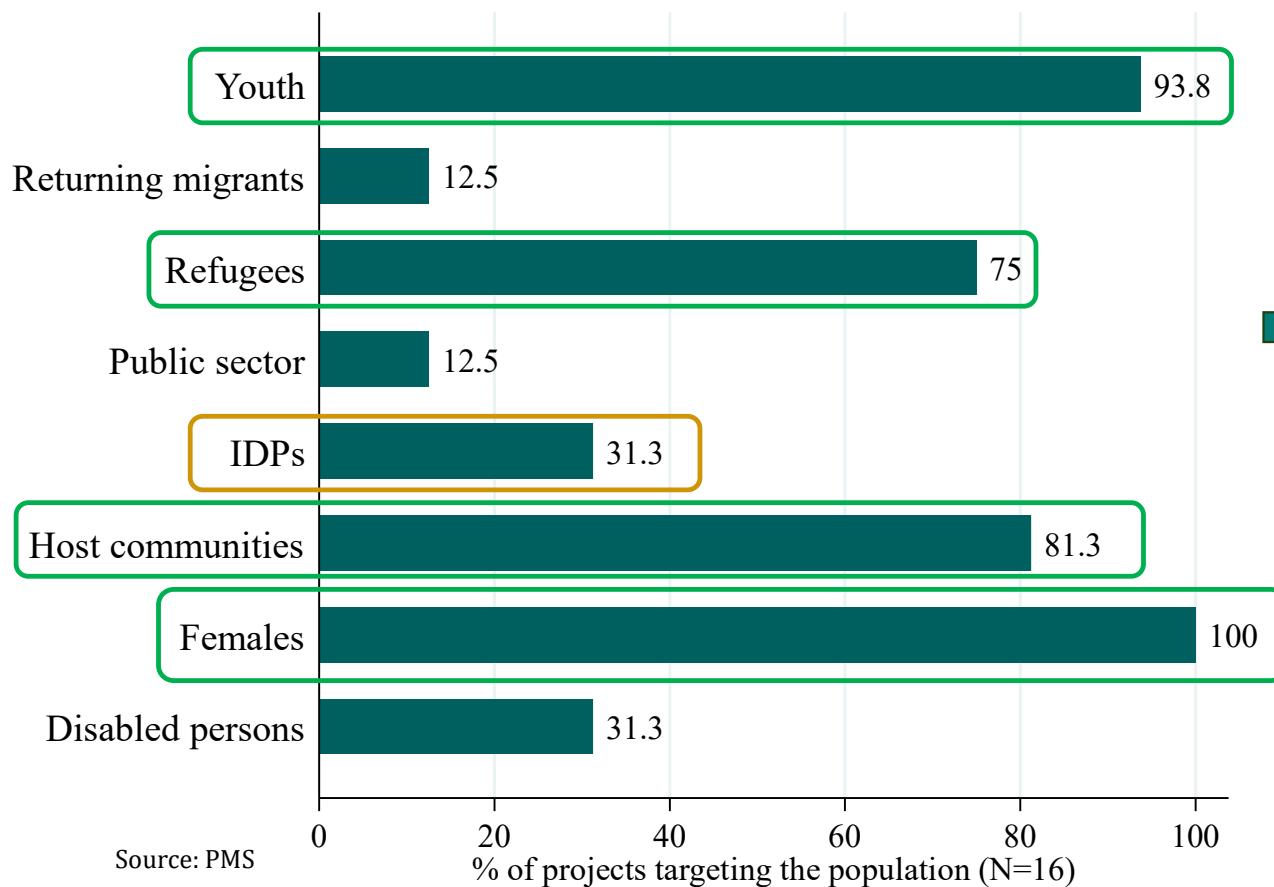
Results from the Project Manager Survey (so far)...



Partial targeting of persons NEET

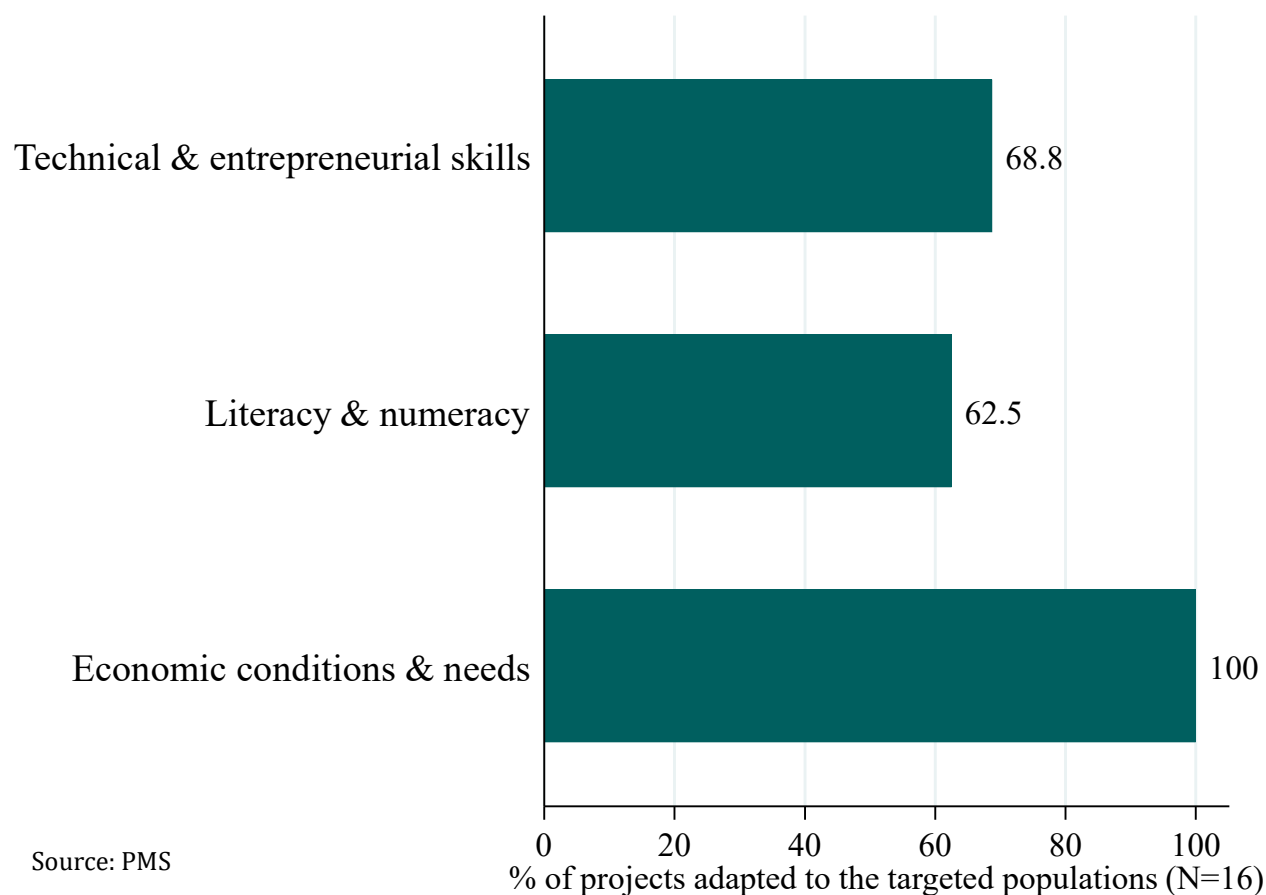


Targeted populations by EUTF interventions in HoA

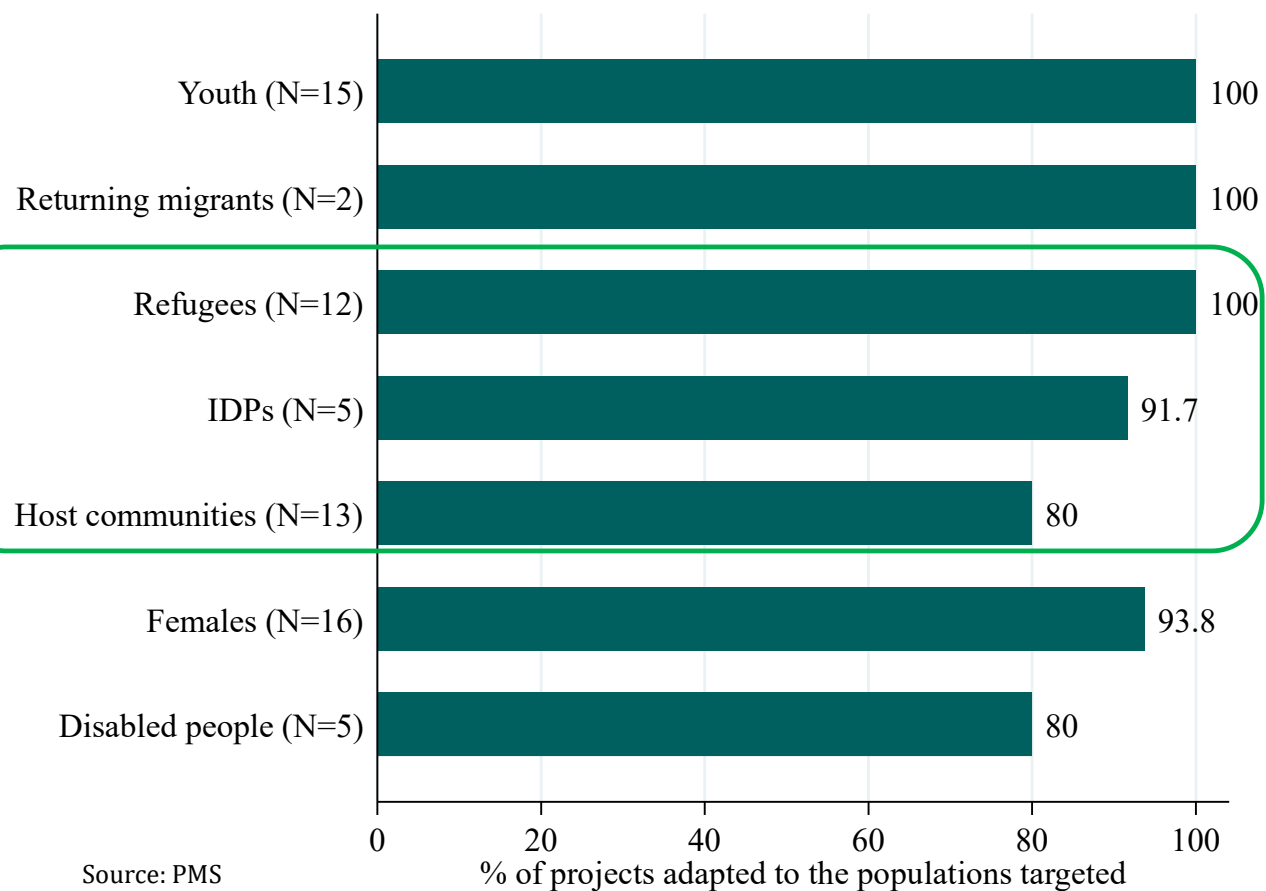


➔ Most projects targeted populations exposed to the refugee crisis.

Adaptation of interventions to targeted populations in HoA



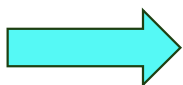
Adaptation of interventions to targeted populations in HoA



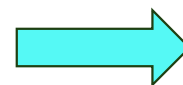
High level of adaptation of the projects to the targeted populations particularly exposed to the refugee crisis

Impacts of the EUTF interventions in HoA

Promotion of (decent)
employment



Increased livelihood
and resilience



Increased social
integration
&
Decrease of intention to
migrate

**Promotion of (decent)
employment**

Increased livelihood
and resilience

Increased social
integration
&
Decrease of intention to
migrate

Overall, positive impacts on employment

- ✓ Trainees open new income generating activities (IGA) or become apprentices but...
... Only males and nationals reach better working conditions (RISE-Uganda).
- ✓ VSLA beneficiaries use loans to invest in (family) IGAs (STEDE – Ethiopia).

Promotion of (decent)
employment

**Increased livelihood
and resilience**

Increased social
integration
&
Decrease of intention to
migrate

Income:

✓ New jobs provide an additional source of income (RISE - Uganda & STEDE - Ethiopia)

Resilience:

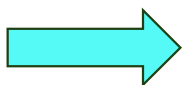
✓ Increased food security (STEDE – Ethiopia)

✓ Increased capacity to save money (STEDE – Ethiopia)

• No increased access to bank services (STEDE – Ethiopia)

• No impact on self-perceived resilience (RISE - Uganda & STEDE - Ethiopia)

Promotion of (decent)
employment



Increased livelihood
and resilience



Increased social
integration
&
Decrease of intention to
migrate

Social integration:

- ✓ Increased refugee's involvement in community groups & belief that they can find community support in case of emergency (RISE - Uganda).
- ✓ Improved overall social cohesion of host community members (STEDE – Ethiopia) ...
- ...But not among refugees (fear to lose rights to migrate to another country).

Migration:

- Not in the ToC (RISE – Uganda).
- ✓ Reduction to intentions to migrate outside Africa but not internally (STEDE – Ethiopia).

Findings from R2 (Migration)

- Overall, intentions to migrate are usually within the country (toward cities) and, to a lower extent, neighbouring countries.
- For those who intend to migrate plan to do it formally for educational and economic reasons.
- Refugees usually demonstrate higher levels of intentions to migrate:
 - To their home country and make use of the soft and technical skills learned.
 - Few mentioned intentions to migrate to Europe or United States of America.

Principal barriers to employment

Overall:



Limited capital to open an IGA.

Refugees:



Language barriers (not for the refugees in Somali regional state of Ethiopia).

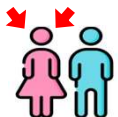


Legal barriers.



Limited capital.

Females:



Social constructs and gender roles.



Limited capital.

- ✓ Development of skills & access to finance to promote employment
+ Potential of unlocking saving capacity and social integration should work in favour of migration outcomes.
- Nuanced results on access to decent employment for refugees and females (despite having gender sensitive projects).
- × No evidence of efforts from IPs to overcome language and legal barriers of refugees to find employment.
- × Employment and intentions to migrate also depend on institutional framework & macroeconomic context.

III. Conclusions

Preliminary conclusions

As of now, limited quantitative data from the portfolio of projects:

- *50% of projects managers in HoA responded to the PMS*
- *2 projects provide evidence on impacts (STEDE – Ethiopia & RISE – Uganda)*



Most projects targeted populations exposed to the impact of the presence of refugees



Most projects adapted to the needs/profiles of the targeted populations (context based)



Projects had positive impacts on employment and income of the populations supported.

However, vulnerable populations (refugees and females) require additional support to reach decent working conditions.



Mixed results on social integration as the projects do not tackle the challenges of language and legal barriers faced by refugees.



Beneficiaries do not show clear willingness to migrate outside the country.

Not all projects intend explicitly to reduce the intention to migrate. Employment & income-related outcomes seem disconnected to the intentions to migrate.



Center for Evaluation
and Development



Thank you

Q & A