



Empowering Communities,
Growing Together

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2025



This Impact report provides an overview of the work of African Initiatives for Relief and Development, from January 2025 to December 2025.

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Foreword & Leadership Message

2025 was a pivotal year for AIRD, marked by resilience, adaptability, and unwavering dedication to the communities we serve. During a year when the humanitarian sector faced one of its worst funding shortages, AIRD stayed committed to its mission to reach where others cannot and to provide continuous support to refugees and host communities in difficult, insecure settings.

Despite the loss of major resources and a constrained funding environment that affected our operations and workforce, we continued to demonstrate our value as a trusted humanitarian partner. Our teams persevered across difficult terrains and complex environments, ensuring the continuity of life-saving services. We expanded our operational footprint, secured legal registration in Sudan, and strengthened strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, including UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and regional actors across multiple country programs. From new shelter initiatives in the DRC to the successful implementation of the SMART Fleet project in Tanzania and new donor engagements in CAR, our collective efforts reflected both credibility and impact during one of the toughest years for the humanitarian sector.

A key highlight of 2025 is our continued investment in long-term solutions and self-reliance. Through our Multi-Skilling Centers in Uganda and Tanzania, we equipped young people with practical mechanical and technical skills, providing dignified livelihood pathways and sustainable futures. These initiatives reaffirm our commitment to moving beyond immediate response towards development-oriented programming that strengthens resilience within host and refugee communities alike.

Internally, we achieved important institutional milestones. The finalization of the 2026–2030 Corporate Strategy, cascaded into 5-year respective country strategic plans and annual business plans informed by lessons from the previous strategic cycle, provides a clear roadmap for AIRD's next phase of growth, innovation, and diversification.

Looking ahead, AIRD is intentionally diversifying its programming and funding base, exploring alternative financing, private sector engagement, and sustainable social enterprise models to reduce long-term dependency on traditional humanitarian funding. Even amid global budget reductions and rising needs, we are positioning AIRD to play an expanded regional role, strengthen locally led development, and contribute to end-to-end solutions that uphold dignity, safety, and hope.

Above all, 2025 reaffirmed who we are: a dedicated, multicultural team working across borders and difficult contexts with empathy, integrity, and a shared sense of purpose. I extend my deepest gratitude to our staff, partners, donors, and the AIRD Board of Directors, whose resilience and commitment enabled AIRD to continue delivering impact against all odds.

As we move forward, we do so with renewed determination, strategic clarity, and faith in our collective mission to stand with refugees and host communities and ensure that, even in the most challenging times, no one is left behind.



Vision

Building resilient communities of displaced and host communities through sustainable development

Core Values

AIRD remains committed to: good internal governance, transparency, accountability, professionalism, sustainability, partnership, and innovation.

What We Do

African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) is a leading humanitarian organization dedicated to providing lifesaving responses for African refugees and displaced populations. Since its founding, AIRD has played a unique and critical role in delivering humanitarian assistance that saves lives and fosters resilience and recovery for both refugees and host communities.

Operating in some of the continent's most complex and challenging contexts, AIRD implements solutions that are locally responsive and globally aligned. The organization currently supports humanitarian efforts in Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Burundi, Niger, Sudan, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda, and Côte d'Ivoire.

AIRD's mission is accomplished through strong and strategic partnerships with host governments, local stakeholders, and key international donors such as UNHCR, UNICEF, USAID, UNDP, WFP, OCHA, IOM, and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. These partnerships enable AIRD to scale its impact and deliver programs that address both immediate needs and long-term development goals.

The organization's work focuses on a broad range of sectors critical to humanitarian response and sustainable development. These include:



Logistics and Operational Support, including:

- Fuel Management
- Fleet Management
- Warehouse Management
- Workshop and Asset Maintenance
- Humanitarian Transport & Logistics



Construction & Infrastructure Development – Building shelters, schools, health centers, roads, bridges, airfields, and other community infrastructure that support dignity and access to essential services.



Livelihoods & Vocational Skilling – Empowering refugees and host communities through practical vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and income-generating opportunities that strengthen employability, self-reliance, and economic resilience.



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) – Ensuring access to clean water, improved sanitation facilities, and hygiene education to promote health and prevent disease.

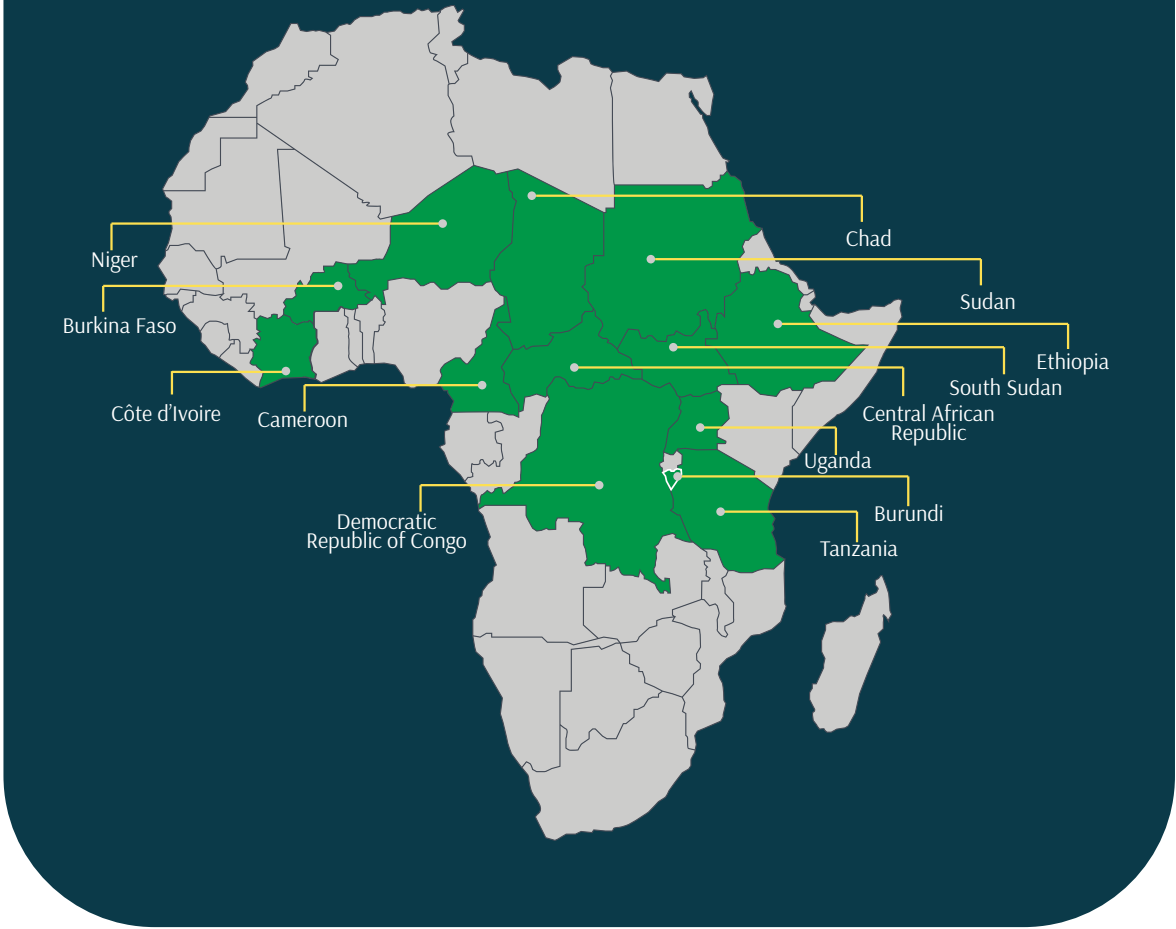


Energy Access – Providing clean and sustainable energy solutions to reduce dependency on harmful sources and improve safety and living conditions.



Third Party Monitoring – Supporting donors and partners with independent and objective assessments of humanitarian programs to enhance accountability and effectiveness.

Our Presence & Reach



Operating Environment

AIRD operates in some of the world's most fragile and complex humanitarian environments, where insecurity, climate shocks, displacement, and weak infrastructure intersect to create persistent operational challenges. From hard-to-reach border regions and refugee-hosting areas to locations with movement restrictions and volatile security conditions, our teams work daily under immense logistical and geographical constraints to ensure that life-saving assistance reaches those who need it most. These contexts demand not only technical expertise but also flexibility, resilience, and a deep commitment to humanitarian principles, as access can be unpredictable and needs are constantly evolving.

Amidst a global funding crisis and widening imbalances between available donor resources and escalating humanitarian needs, organizations like AIRD are under increasing pressure to do more with less. While humanitarian demands continue to grow in fragile settings, funding cuts risk undermining essential operational services that enable frontline response. As a logistics and operational partner supporting humanitarian actors, AIRD plays a critical enabling role in ensuring continuity of assistance, even in the most constrained environments. This moment calls for stronger, more equitable partnerships between donors and the humanitarian sector, ones that recognize the true cost of operating in fragile contexts and invest in sustainable, adaptable support systems that safeguard access, efficiency, and dignity for the affected population

2025 at a Glance



Large-Scale Humanitarian Logistics Support

- **251,940 refugees** safely relocated to camps and safer locations.
- **21,575.48 tons** of non-food items transported across refugee settlements.
- **6,283.7 tons** of Core Relief Items managed through warehouse operations.
- **5,921.5 tons** of humanitarian cargo transported in support of UNHCR and partners.

Water, Fuel and Essential Services

- **187,845.71 litres** of water were trucked for refugee operations.
- More than **8,857,528.27 million litres** of fuel were used for humanitarian fleets.
- In Chad, **3,084,527.39 million litres** of fuel were used
- **4,209,268 litres** of fuel managed and distributed by Uganda

Fleet and Mechanical Support

- **18,133.00** mechanical jobs completed across operations.
- **14,809.00** vehicle repairs conducted to maintain operational fleet
- Successful Smart Fleet pilot project in Tanzania, centrally managing 86 vehicles and 8,506 trips for humanitarian partners.

Refugee Transportation and Education Support

- **30,130** refugee and host community students were transported to vocational institutions.
- **7,725 refugees** repatriated safely and with dignity to their country of origin.
- **3,561** Congolese refugees were transported from insecure border areas to camps.

Shelter and Infrastructure Development

- **5,705** family tents were constructed in refugee camps in Chad.
- **2,489** emergency shelters built or rehabilitated in Burkina Faso, benefiting nearly 15,000 people.

WASH and Community Support

- **115,838 beneficiaries** reached in Ethiopia through WASH and monitoring programmes.
- **20,062 people** reached with hygiene awareness campaigns in Burkina Faso.

Large-Scale Humanitarian Impact Across Countries

- Over **1 million vulnerable people** were supported in Cameroon through logistics services, while in Uganda, AIRD reached an estimated 1.97 million people, including refugees and host communities
- **76,814 beneficiaries** reached in South Sudan through shelter and infrastructure programmes.

Beneficiaries reached



Overall Approximate Reach

In 2025, AIRD operations supported humanitarian assistance reaching more than 4.5 million refugees, displaced persons, and host communities.

Major Partnerships



Our Policies At A Glance

AIRD is committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and protection in all its operations. Our policies guide how we work with refugees, host communities, partners, and staff, ensuring that our humanitarian response is safe, ethical, and respectful of human dignity. AIRD maintains strong Safeguarding and Child Safeguarding policies to protect children and vulnerable individuals from harm across all areas of our work. The organization also strictly enforces the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy, promoting a zero-tolerance approach and ensuring clear reporting and accountability mechanisms. In addition, AIRD's Human Resources (HR) policies promote fairness, professionalism, and staff well-being, supporting a respectful and inclusive workplace. Together, these policies reinforce AIRD's commitment to protecting the people we serve while fostering a responsible and supportive working environment for our teams. Other policies include a code of conduct, Gender equality, and whistle-blowing, among others.

Strategy & the Way Forward

Corporate Strategy 2026–2030

- The 2026–2030 Corporate Strategy of African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) outlines the organization's roadmap to expand its humanitarian and development impact across Africa while strengthening institutional resilience. Building on lessons from the previous strategy, it focuses on improving systems, investing in people, embracing innovation, and strengthening partnerships to deliver sustainable, community-driven solutions.
- The strategy aims to significantly expand AIRD's reach by doubling institutional income, diversifying funding sources, and extending operations to new countries, while delivering integrated programs that support refugees, displaced populations, and host communities. Key sectors include logistics, WASH, infrastructure, livelihoods, energy access, skills development, and third-party monitoring, all designed to promote dignity, resilience, and local economic opportunities.
- Guided by nine strategic goals and six strategic priorities, the strategy emphasizes strengthening human capital, modernizing systems and governance, enhancing visibility and influence, fostering innovation, and deepening partnerships—particularly with local actors. Cross-cutting themes such as gender equity, climate resilience, localization, accountability, and technology integration underpin all programs and operations.
- Overall, the strategy positions AIRD as a resilient, African-led organization committed to delivering impactful humanitarian and development solutions while empowering communities and supporting long-term sustainable change.

Strategic Priorities

1. Diversification of Funding, Programs, Geographies, and Partnerships

AIRD aims to expand and diversify its funding sources, donor base, operational locations, and partnerships. The goal is to strengthen financial sustainability, broaden geographic reach, and increase collaboration with local actors to enhance resilience and local ownership.

2. Building a Robust, Fit-for-Purpose Organization

This priority focuses on strengthening AIRD internally through staff capacity development, leadership diversity, improved governance, stronger compliance systems, and modernization of ICT and operational processes.

3. Visibility, Identity, and Branding

AIRD seeks to enhance its global visibility and credibility by strengthening its communications, increasing media engagement, improving digital presence, and reinforcing its identity as an African-led humanitarian organization.

4. Delivering Greater Impact Across the Humanitarian–Development Continuum

The organization aims to deliver more integrated programs that link humanitarian relief with resilience and development outcomes, ensuring sustainable benefits for refugees and host communities.

5. Engaging and Influencing Humanitarian and Development Actors

AIRD intends to play a stronger role in shaping policy and practice by participating in global and regional platforms, producing research and evidence, and advocating for localization and African leadership in humanitarian action.

6. Leveraging Technology for Innovation and Accountability

AIRD will expand the use of digital systems and innovative technologies to improve operational efficiency, transparency, data use, renewable energy integration, and overall accountability in its programs.

Governance, Leadership & Management

The Board Members



Eng. Banteyehun Haile
Board Chair



Mrs. Speciosa Kabwegyere
Vice Chairperson



Mr. Charless Kyatoo Kirenda
Board Member/ Patron



Mr. Alemayehu Fisseha
Wolde
Board Member



Mrs. Mekuria Almaz Gebru
Board Member



Mr. Fikru Abebe Abebe
**Board Secretary/
None Voting Member**

Senior Management Team



Fikru Abebe Abebe
CEO



Marc Meyer
Director of Programs



Oumar N'diaye
**Director Business Dev't
& Strategic Partnerships**

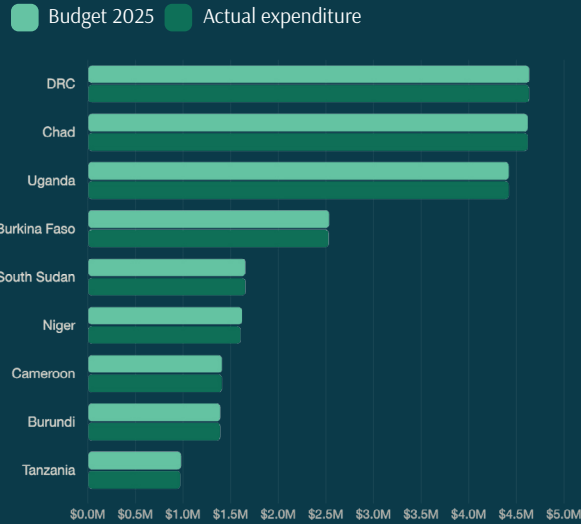


Agnes Oti-Mensah
**Finance and Administration
Director**

Financial Performance & Accountability

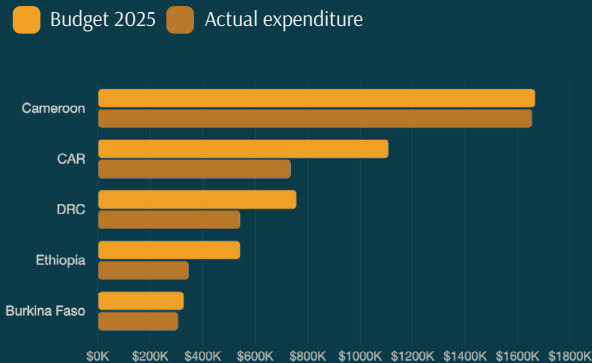
UNHCR funding by country

Budget vs. actual expenditure – December 2025



Non-UNHCR funding by country

Budget vs. actual expenditure – August 2025



OVERVIEW

Total Budget 2025 \$27.6M \$27,644,610	Total Actuals \$26.8M \$26,797,225	Overall utilization 96.9% \$847K underspend
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NON-UNHCR DONOR BREAKDOWN

Country / Donor	Budget	Actuals	Rate
Burkina Faso			
OCHA	\$327,244	\$305,836	93%
Cameroon			
WFP	\$189,480	\$177,506	94%
WFP-Maroua	\$1,476,997	\$1,476,997	100%
DRC			
UNICEF Goma	\$392,523	\$392,523	100%
UNICEF Kalema	\$74,160	\$74,160	100%
UNICEF Goma 2	\$186,334	—	—
WFP PAM ITURI	\$63,007	\$50,440	80%
WFP PAM UBANGI	\$15,601	—	—
Project Hope	\$25,000	\$25,000	100%
CAR			
USAID	\$807,438	\$443,891	55%
UNOCHA	\$250,380	\$243,302	97%
MUNISCA	\$49,529	\$47,291	95%
Ethiopia			
WFP	\$304,603	\$264,882	87%
BHA/MTI	\$237,505	\$81,192	34%
Grand Total Budget		Grand Total Actuals	
\$27,644,610		\$26,797,225	

Partnerships & Donor Appreciation

Thank You to Donors & Partners

We extend our sincere gratitude to all our donors and partners for your unwavering support throughout 2025. Your commitment made it possible for AIRD to reach refugees and host communities in some of the most fragile and hard-to-reach environments. Through your partnership, we were able to deliver critical services, respond to urgent needs, and continue bringing hope and dignity to those who need it most. Thank you for standing with us and for making this impact possible



Looking Ahead

As AIRD moves forward, the organization remains committed to expanding its impact in some of the world's most fragile and hard-to-reach environments. Guided by its 2026–2030 strategy, AIRD will continue to diversify its partnerships and funding, strengthen its institutional capacity, and enhance its visibility as an African-led humanitarian organization. By embracing innovation, leveraging technology, and deepening collaboration with local and international partners, AIRD aims to deliver more integrated and sustainable support to refugees and host communities. Looking ahead, AIRD will remain steadfast in its mission to reach those most in need, even in the most challenging contexts.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) Approach

AIRD adopts a results-based Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) approach to ensure that its interventions effectively support refugees and host communities in some of the world's most fragile and hard-to-reach environments. The M&E system focuses on tracking progress, measuring impact, and strengthening accountability to beneficiaries, donors, and partners.

Results-Based Monitoring

AIRD monitors program activities against clearly defined objectives, indicators, and targets aligned with project logframes and donor requirements. Regular data collection allows teams to track progress, identify challenges, and make timely adjustments to improve program delivery.

Field-Level Data Collection

Given AIRD's operations in remote and insecure locations, field teams play a key role in collecting reliable data through routine monitoring visits, activity reports, and beneficiary feedback. Standardized tools and reporting templates are used across country programs to ensure consistency and quality of data.

Learning and Adaptive Management

Monitoring findings are regularly reviewed to inform decision-making and strengthen program effectiveness. Lessons learned and best practices are documented and shared across AIRD operations to continuously improve humanitarian responses.

Accountability to Affected Populations

AIRD integrates community feedback mechanisms into its programs, ensuring that refugees and host communities can express concerns, provide feedback, and participate in improving services. This strengthens transparency and ensures that assistance responds to real needs.

Evaluations and Impact Assessment

Periodic internal reviews and external evaluations are conducted to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of AIRD's interventions. Findings from these evaluations inform strategic planning and future programming.

Compliance and Ethical Standards

The M&E system also supports compliance with AIRD's key policies, including Safeguarding, Child Safeguarding, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and Human Resources standards, ensuring that all operations uphold humanitarian principles and protect vulnerable populations.

ANNEX

Country programs in detail

Uganda

In 2025, AIRD continued to play a critical role in supporting the refugee response in Uganda through logistics services and targeted livelihood initiatives, working in partnership with UNHCR, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), and humanitarian partners. Through its operations, AIRD reached an estimated 1.97 million people, including refugees and host communities.

Logistics and Operational Support

AIRD's logistics operations ensured the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance across refugee settlements.

Key achievements include:

- 251,940 refugees safely transported for relocation, protection, health services, and administrative processes.
- 20,969,000 litres of clean water delivered to refugee settlements.
- 6,283.7 metric tons of Core Relief Items (CRIs) managed and distributed.
- 14,788.29 metric tons of essential non-food items transported.
- 4,209,268 litres of fuel managed and distributed to support humanitarian operations.
- 7,838 mechanical repair jobs completed to maintain operational fleets and equipment.

To support these activities, AIRD operated 12 workshops across Uganda, including main workshops in Adjumani, Bidibidi, Kiryandongo, and Nakivale, medium workshops in Kyangwali, Palorinya, and Rhino Camp, and smaller facilities in Kampala, Kyaka II, Rwamwanja, Palabek, and Kisoro. These workshops ensured the continuous maintenance of humanitarian fleets, generators, and equipment.

AIRD also strengthened fleet, fuel, generator, transport, and warehouse management systems, ensuring that logistics assets were efficiently utilized and that humanitarian partners could deliver timely assistance.

Livelihood and Community Empowerment

Alongside logistics support, AIRD implemented livelihood initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience among refugee and host communities.

Agriculture and Food Security

- 13 acres of cassava cultivated (7 acres at Rhino Camp High School and 6 acres at Lodrenga Youth Association).
- Over 2.5 tons of vegetables harvested, including sukuma wiki, amaranthus, eggplant, tomatoes, and watermelons.
- 180 beehives maintained in Bidibidi Settlement, supporting sustainable honey production.

These initiatives directly engaged:

- 1,487 beneficiaries in the Rhino Camp High School project.
- 300 students receiving hands-on agricultural training.
- 30 members of the Lodrenga Youth Association.

Including families and community members, these activities reached approximately 3,500 individuals.

Vocational Skills Development

The AIRD Multi-Skilling Centre in Mbarara, launched on 1 February 2025, marked an important milestone in promoting vocational training and youth empowerment.

During the year:

- 34 youth from refugee and host communities were trained in motor vehicle mechanics across two cohorts.
- The curriculum was aligned with UVTAB certification standards, covering engine diagnostics, auto electrical systems, motorcycle and small engine maintenance, and workshop safety.
- Students also received financial literacy training and internships in AIRD and UNHCR workshops across the country.

Education Support

AIRD continued supporting vulnerable learners through its scholarship initiative. In 2025, 22 students across secondary schools and universities received support covering tuition, accommodation, and school requirements, enabling them to continue their education successfully.

Safeguarding and Accountability

In line with UNHCR requirements and AIRD's commitment to accountability, 267 staff members, including management, participated in Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) refresher training.

Areas of Operation

AIRD's programmes supported humanitarian operations across all UNHCR operational areas in Uganda, including Adjumani, Arua, Mbarara, Bidibidi, Kiryandongo, Nakivale, Kyangwali, Palorinya, Rhino Camp, Imvepi, Kyaka II, Rwamwanja, Palabek, and Kisoro.

Key Partnerships

AIRD worked closely with UNHCR, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), humanitarian NGO networks (HINGO and INGO), and partners such as the HOPE Project to deliver assistance effectively.

Impact Success Stories

In 2019, David Azamuke walked through the gates of AIRD Uganda in Adjumani for the very first time, taking up a position as a Security Guard at the sub-office. Like many new beginnings, the early days were not easy. Adjusting to a new environment where he knew no one felt uncertain and challenging. Yet, within that uncertainty, David found something powerful to support.

Encouraged by the Human Resources team and the Sub Office Manager, David quickly understood that hard work and dedication could open doors. Their consistent guidance planted a belief in him: that even the smallest role, when handled with commitment, could lead to greater opportunities.

David didn't wait for opportunity; he created it.

While still serving as a guard, he began assisting the office cleaner during his spare time. What started as a simple act of initiative soon became a turning point. One day, the Sub Office Manager noticed him cleaning and asked who had assigned him the task. David's response was simple: it was his own initiative, driven by a sense of shared responsibility for a clean and healthy work environment.

That moment of initiative did not go unnoticed.

When his security contract came to an end in 2020, David was called back, not as a guard, but as a cleaner. For him, this was more than just a new role; it was recognition. It validated his belief that effort and attitude matter. But David's journey didn't stop there.

Assigned to the workshop as a cleaner, he found himself surrounded by skilled technicians. Instead of limiting himself to his cleaning duties, David leaned into curiosity. He observed closely, asked questions, and built relationships with the technicians. His eagerness to learn soon turned into hands-on experience. Before long, David was no longer just cleaning the workshop; he was learning to repair motorcycles and being trained for the same.

From minor servicing to complex engine repairs, David steadily built his skills through determination and practice. Today, although officially a workshop cleaner, he confidently steps in to handle motorcycle repairs when needed. His work speaks for itself; clients leave satisfied, appreciating the quality service delivered. Beyond technical skills, the workshop environment has shaped David in other ways. He has developed strong communication skills, built meaningful relationships, and grown into a confident and proactive team member. This transformation has extended far beyond the workplace.

David's journey has significantly improved his personal life. He now supports his family, contributes to his siblings' education, and serves as a source of inspiration to young people in his community. His story is proof that growth is possible, regardless of where one starts.

Reflecting on his journey, David shares a powerful realization: learning never stops. What began as a job became a discovery of his own potential, something he had never imagined before.

Looking ahead, David is determined to go even further. He is currently working toward obtaining formal certification in motorcycle repair, aiming to become a senior motorcycle technician.

His message to other young people is clear and compelling: never underestimate small beginnings. What you have today may seem small, but with focus, determination, and a willingness to learn, it can become something far greater.

David Azamuke's story is not just about career progression; it is about initiative, resilience, and the life-changing power of opportunity. At AIRD Uganda, his journey stands as a testament to what is possible when potential meets support.



Burundi

During the reporting period, AIRD provided critical logistical and operational support to humanitarian partners, enabling the safe movement, reception, and assistance of refugees and returnees across Burundi.

Key achievements include:

- 31,426 Congolese refugees safely relocated from border crossings to refugee sites and camps.
- 13,883 Burundian returnees received reception, accommodation, and assistance in four transit centers after returning mainly from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda.
- 12,786 returnees transported from transit centers to their provinces of origin.
- 5,921.5 tons of emergency relief items belonging to UNHCR and its partners were transported to various destinations across the country.
- 3,046 m³ of water were trucked to transit centers that benefited approximately 152,300 people
- 1,068,085 hot meals were prepared and distributed to refugees and returnees.

Beneficiaries Reached

AIRD's operations supported a large number of refugees, returnees, and host communities, reaching approximately:

- 31,426 refugees were relocated to their respective communities
- 13,883 repatriated persons received and assisted in transit centers before relocation to their respective communities
- 199,817 people provided with access to safe water
- 88,760 refugees who received hot meals

Programs Implemented

AIRD implemented several key humanitarian logistics programs in partnership with international agencies:

- Logistical support for UNHCR operations, including Core Relief Items (CRIs), transport services, and the management of transit centers.
- Preparation and distribution of hot meals to Congolese refugees in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP).

Major Partnerships

AIRD worked closely with:

- UNHCR
- WFP

These partnerships enabled the delivery of essential humanitarian services to refugees and returnees across Burundi.

Areas of Operation

Operations were implemented across multiple provinces, including:

- Bujumbura
- Ruyigi
- Makamba
- Muyinga
- Cibitoke

Transport services were provided nationwide to support humanitarian operations.

Program Performance & Impact

Transportation

- Reception and transfer of 12,786 returnees to their provinces of origin.
- Relocation of 31,426 refugees from border posts to refugee sites and camps.
- Transport of 5,921.5 tons of goods for UNHCR and its partners.

Warehouse Management

- Management of 4 warehouses with a combined storage capacity of 6,037 m³.
- Reception of 3,655.19 tons of Core Relief Items (CRIs).
- Release of 3,170.45 tons of CRIs for distribution to refugees and returnees

Transit Center Management

- Reception, accommodation, and meal provision for 13,883 returnees in four transit centers.
- Transfer of 12,786 returnees from transit centers to their provinces of origin.

Distribution

- Preparation and distribution of 1,068,085 hot meals to 88,760 refugees.

Impact Success Stories

One of the most remarkable journeys of returnees was that of Daniel, his wife, and their eight children returning home to Burundi after many years in exile. Traveling with such a large family required careful attention, patience, and strong coordination to ensure none of the children were separated in the movement, and none of their belongings went missing. Thanks to the combined efforts of UNHCR and AIRD, their journey was smooth, respectful, and filled with renewed hope.

Upon arrival at the transit center, Daniel and his family felt immediately supported. The children were guided to a clean and safe sleeping area where they could rest after the long trip, and the entire family received warm meals that brought comfort and strength. Daniel expressed deep gratitude for the reception, impressed by how organized and considerate the process was for large families like his.

During the return movement, Daniel was assigned an important responsibility: overseeing all the luggage of the returnees to ensure nothing was lost. With hundreds of individuals traveling together, the task was significant, but thanks to the strong logistical support from AIRD, who carried the luggage with care, organized it systematically, and registered every item in the luggage. Daniel completed his duty successfully. Not a single complaint was received, and every family recovered their belongings safely.

He praised the AIRD staff for their professionalism, kindness, and attention to detail, which reassured him that returning home was the right decision.

“I look forward to a new start with my children. Since I am back home, I will rebuild what I lost because my country is very supportive to those who had initially left”, says Daniel



Niger

In 2025, AIRD continued to provide critical logistics support to humanitarian operations across Niger, ensuring the timely delivery of assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons, and host communities.

Key achievements include:

- 4,217.34 metric tons of humanitarian goods transported nationwide
- 4,827 refugees and asylum seekers safely relocated to reception or assistance areas
- 1,946 humanitarian personnel transported to support field operations
- 1,086 mechanical interventions conducted to maintain the operational fleet
- 256,117 liters of diesel distributed to sustain humanitarian operations
- 12,000 m³ of warehouse storage space managed
- 192,000 m² of storage area managed, equivalent to more than 48,000 Non-Food Item (NFI) kits, supporting approximately 336,000 people
- 0% NFI stock loss recorded across all managed warehouses
- 0 human safety incidents reported in warehouses across all national operations

To maintain operational continuity, AIRD invested 202,238,137 FCFA in fleet repairs and maintenance throughout the year. AIRD's operations in Niger primarily targeted populations affected by forced displacement, including:

- Refugees: approximately 430,000 people
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): nearly 460,000 people
- Returnees

In total, AIRD's logistics support contributed to assisting around 940,000 displaced people, along with thousands of indirect beneficiaries who depend on the uninterrupted functioning of humanitarian supply chains.

Programs Implemented

To support humanitarian partners effectively, AIRD implemented several key logistics services in Niger:

- Fleet management and vehicle maintenance
- Humanitarian transport management
- Warehouse and inventory management
- Fuel management and distribution
- Logistics support for biometric registration operations
- Carpooling services in Agadez, implemented as a pilot initiative to improve operational efficiency

These results were achieved through close collaboration with UNHCR, AIRD's main operational partner, and with UNDSS, which provided essential security coordination in high-risk operational areas.

Program Performance and Impact

Despite financial constraints and challenging security conditions, AIRD maintained a high standard of operational performance and service delivery throughout 2025.

Fleet Management (Garage)

AIRD maintained an average vehicle downtime of two days or less, ensuring rapid turnaround of vehicles and continuous operational capacity across all bases.

Transport Logistics

The organization completed all Transport Request Orders (TIOs) received during the year, enabling the delivery of 4,217.34 metric tons of humanitarian cargo across the country and ensuring consistent supply to UNHCR-supported operations.

Carpooling Services

AIRD fulfilled 100% of carpool service requests, demonstrating the efficiency and effectiveness of this pilot initiative in optimizing transport resources.

Warehousing

Across all warehouses managed nationwide, AIRD recorded zero stock losses, ensuring the full integrity and traceability of relief items in compliance with international humanitarian standards.

Technical Maintenance

A total of 1,086 mechanical interventions were completed, with 100% of work orders opened in 2025 successfully closed, ensuring the continued reliability of the operational fleet.

Regulatory and Financial Compliance

AIRD maintained full regulatory and financial compliance, including:

- 100% compliance with Niger government regulatory requirements, allowing the organization to renew its accreditation and continue its activities.
- 100% eligibility of expenditures validated by UNHCR, with no ineligible costs requiring reimbursement, demonstrating strong financial discipline and transparency.

A major strategic achievement during the year was AIRD's renewal as the main logistics partner for UNHCR's protection program in Niger for the 2026–2029 program cycle, reflecting the strong confidence of partners in AIRD's operational capacity and quality of service delivery.

Success Story

The Importance of Biometric Registration

“My name is Abdoulaye Issa, and I come from northwestern Nigeria. My family and I fled our village because of insecurity. When we arrived in Maradi, we had almost nothing, no documents, no proof of identity, and no way to meet our basic needs.

At first, life was very difficult. Without official documents, we could not access assistance regularly. We were often told to wait or return later because our information had not yet been confirmed.

Everything changed the day the team at AIRD arrived to conduct biometric registration.

During the process, they took our photographs, fingerprints, and personal information. It was quick and well organized, and for the first time in a long time, I felt recognized as a human being, not invisible. My wife and children were also registered, and each of us received a unique identification code.

Since then, everything has become easier:

- We now receive food assistance regularly without confusion.
- Our children can access health and education services.
- We are no longer afraid of losing our documents, as our information is securely stored.
- Thanks to fingerprint verification, no one can take our identity or claim assistance in our place.

For me, biometric registration is more than a procedure; it is protection. It allows us to live with dignity here in Maradi. I am grateful to all the teams who made this possible.”



Tanzania

Key Achievements

During 2025, AIRD Tanzania played a critical role in supporting refugee operations in the Kigoma Region through logistics, transport, fleet management, warehousing, and skills development initiatives.

Smart Fleet Management

AIRD successfully piloted and managed the Smart Fleet Project in Kibondo and Kasulu. The initiative centralized the management of vehicles serving humanitarian partners involved in refugee operations. Through this system, AIRD coordinated transport requests, ride-sharing, and efficient vehicle utilization for organizations including the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Medical Teams International (MTI).

A total of 86 vehicles were centrally managed, completing 8,506 trips in support of refugee operations and humanitarian services. The partners that benefited from this include NRC in support of Wash, Shelter, and Construction activities; DRC in support of Camp management, Protection, Legal, Livelihoods, and Environment; IRC in support of Health and Education; and MTI in support of Health of the refugees.

Vocational Technical Skilling

In collaboration with vocational institutions in Kibondo and Kasulu, AIRD provided hands-on technical training to 15 graduates in vehicle maintenance and repair. The program equipped trainees with practical skills in operating modern diagnostic and repair equipment used for servicing light vehicles, trucks, buses, cranes, and generators, improving their employability and strengthening local technical capacity.

Workshop and Mechanical Support

AIRD conducted 750 motor vehicle repairs to maintain the operational readiness of vehicles supporting refugee operations. These services ensured that humanitarian partners could continue delivering assistance efficiently across the camps and surrounding areas.

Warehousing and Supply Chain Support

AIRD managed the storage of 397 tons of Non-Food Items (NFIs) destined for refugee camps, ensuring safe storage and timely distribution to support refugee needs.

Medical Warehouse Support

The organization maintained the 24/7 cold chain system at the medical warehouse, safeguarding medicines destined for refugee camps while also supporting donations to government health facilities.

Education Transport Support

AIRD transported 30,130 students from both refugee and host communities to vocational training institutions, improving access to education and skills development opportunities.

Voluntary Repatriation

AIRD facilitated the safe and dignified repatriation of 7,725 refugees to their country of origin, supporting voluntary return processes in coordination with humanitarian partners.

Emergency Refugee Transport

The organization transported 3,561 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers fleeing insecurity in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo to refugee camps in Tanzania, ensuring safe relocation.

Water Supply Monitoring

AIRD trucked 7,081,000 liters of water and distributed it to support refugees living in camps.

Fuel Management

Through its fuel management systems, AIRD dispensed 1,002,612 liters of fuel to vehicles supporting humanitarian operations, ensuring efficient and accountable fuel use.

Beneficiaries Reached

- Smart Fleet Management: 173,425 beneficiaries supported
- Technical Skilling: 15 vocational trainees trained
- Warehousing: 397 tons of NFIs supporting 226,301 refugees
- Medical Warehouse: 49 tons of medicines transported to camps benefiting 226,301 refugees and 243 host community members
- Workshop Services: 751 vehicle repairs supporting operations serving 226,301 refugees
- Repatriation: 7,725 refugees safely returned to their country of origin
- Transport Services:
 - » 30,130 students were transported to vocational institutions
 - » 3,561 asylum seekers transported to refugee camps
 - » 2,268 refugees were transported to other locations, including courts and district offices for administrative services such as marriage registration
 - » 28,609 Metric Tons of goods transported

Programs Implemented

- Voluntary repatriation of refugees to their country of origin
- Repair and maintenance of vehicles and generators (workshop services)
- Warehousing of Non-Food Items (NFIs)
- Maintenance of the 24/7 cold chain system for medical warehouse operations
- Fleet management services
- Technical skilling and vocational training for students

The Smart Fleet initiative significantly improved coordination among humanitarian partners, including DRC, NRC, IRC, and MTI. The system enhanced operational efficiency, reduced fuel consumption and maintenance costs, and contributed to lower carbon emissions. The initiative also generated significant cost savings for UNHCR, enabling resources to be redirected to additional humanitarian assistance.

Partnerships

AIRD worked closely with key partners including:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Kigoma Press Club
- Kasulu Vocational College
- Kibondo Vocational College

Areas of Operation

AIRD operated in Kasulu and Kibondo districts in the Kigoma Region of Tanzania, supporting refugee camps and surrounding host communities through logistics and humanitarian service delivery.

Impact story



“I never thought I’d have this chance,” says one young trainee with a smile, adjusting his new toolkit. In a community where opportunities for youth are scarce, African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD), Tanzania office, is impacting the lives of youth through mechanical training.

In Tanzania, where youth unemployment continues to be a major challenge, AIRD has launched a free skilling program for young people aged 18 to 25 that started in July 2025. This initiative offers hands-on training in mechanical skills, opening doors to future employment and entrepreneurship.

So far, 16 determined young men and women (one lady) have enrolled in this program, the first of its kind in their community, receiving structured technical training at no cost. Eight of these are from Kasulu, and the other eight are from Kibondo. The training lasts for 6 months. For many, it’s more than learning a trade; it’s a pathway to independence, confidence, and brighter futures.

Behind the scenes, AIRD ensures that students have access to qualified instructors, quality tools, and a

supportive learning environment, exposing them to real-world technological advancement. With ongoing investment and community backing, this initiative has the power to scale up and impact even more lives, creating a ripple effect of opportunity across the region.

This program is part of its larger mission to empower communities and tackle the root causes of poverty. By equipping youth with practical expertise, AIRD is investing in a generation that is ready to lead their communities toward growth and stability.

The program is more than training; it’s a lifeline, a bridge to self-reliance, and proof of what’s possible when young people are given the tools to succeed, and AIRD has done exactly that.

Ethiopia

Key Achievements

- Connection of three healthcare facilities to nearby functional water sources , improving access to safe water for approximately 1,500 people.
- Construction of sanitation facilities including handwashing stations, incinerators, ash pits, and placenta pits in three health facilities, benefiting 7,000 people.
- Training of 15 health and water experts on management of WASH facilities (WASHFIT).
- Training of 10 Community Hygiene Promoters (CHPs)
- Community hygiene promotion through 30 focus group discussions and 1,000 household visits, reaching 11,369 community members.

The project was implemented as part of a consortium led by Medical Teams International (MTI), with EECMY-DASSC responsible for protection services and AIRD leading the WASH component.

Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) – Somali Region

AIRD served as a cooperating partner to the World Food Programme (WFP), implementing a Third-Party Monitoring project from January to June 2025 across 4 zones, 8 Woredas (districts) and 23 woredas.

Key achievements included:

- Monitoring the distribution of 3,508.3 MT of food assistance reaching approximately 68,000 beneficiaries.
- Monitoring 991.64 MT of nutrition assistance benefiting 160,475 vulnerable individuals, including malnourished children and pregnant or breastfeeding women.
- Conducting 3,606 accountability checklists across 603 food distribution points.
- Supporting cash transfer monitoring totaling ETB 6.45 million for 838 vulnerable beneficiaries.
- Monitoring MUAC screenings for approximately 20,000 children to detect malnutrition.
- Ensuring GBV and child protection considerations were integrated into food distribution processes.

The TPM partnership concluded in June 2025 following WFP’s strategic shift toward private-sector monitoring arrangements.

Beneficiaries Reached

In 2025, AIRD Ethiopia reached approximately 115,838 beneficiaries through two key interventions: a WASH project in Afar Region (Yalo and Berhale Woredas) and a Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) project in Somali Region covering 4 zones, 23 woredas, and 603 food distribution points (FDPs).

Programs Implemented

WASH Project – Afar Region

AIRD implemented a WASH project aimed at improving access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services in health facilities and surrounding communities. Despite a temporary suspension of activities following the U.S. foreign aid stop-work order in early 2025, negotiations enabled the project to continue, allowing AIRD to complete key infrastructure works and expand activities to additional health centres.

Partnerships and Coordination

In 2025, AIRD Ethiopia strengthened its partnerships and coordination efforts by:

- Maintaining strong collaboration with Medical Teams International (MTI) and WFP Ethiopia.
- Joining the Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA), Ethiopia’s largest NGO network.

- Establishing cooperation agreements with organizations, including Finnish Refugee Council (FRC) and Inkomoko.
- Actively participating in national and regional coordination platforms, including the WASH Cluster, Shelter/NFI Cluster, HINGO and HINGO HR Working Group.

AIRD also strengthened relationships with regional and woreda government authorities in Afar, particularly the Health, Water, and Energy Bureaus and the Disaster Risk Management Bureau.

Recognition

In recognition of its contribution to improving access to safe water and sanitation, AIRD Ethiopia received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Yallo Woreda Water and Energy Development Bureau in Afar Region in December 2025.

Impact Story

A quiet transformation occurred in the heart of Yallo Woreda, Afar Region. Endaytu, a mother of four, recalls her family’s struggles before AIRD and hygiene promoters brought change to their community.

“Our children were often sick. We didn’t know the importance of keeping our compound clean, how to practice good hygiene practices, or the dangers of drinking unsafe water,” Endaytu shares. Her voice carries the weight of years spent battling illnesses that disrupted her children’s education and her ability to provide for them.

Before the intervention of AIRD WASH project, many families like Endaytu’s lacked knowledge about basic hygiene practices. Rubbish piles dotted the landscape, jerrycans used for water storage were rarely cleaned, and shared restrooms were left in poor condition. These habits fueled preventable diseases that crippled the community’s productivity and hope.

The 10 community hygiene promoters (CHPs) selected from local communities who were trained and paid by AIRD, armed with the knowledge they gained and a mission to bring change, tirelessly went house to house, sat with families and organized Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) to disseminate awareness raising messages and step-by-step demonstrations on good hygiene behavior and practices using the local language. They demonstrated how to wash utensils properly, clean and store jerrycans, and safely handle water. They encouraged households to build rubbish pits and maintain clean toilets.

The community mobilization extended beyond homes. Public spaces such as schools, marketplaces, and health facilities were cleaned, creating visible proof of the power of collective community action. Markets, a hub for traders from Afar, Amhara, and Tigray, are also used as focal points for spreading key awareness-raising messages. Through house-to-house visits, focus group discussions (FGDs), and mass mobilization campaigns, the hygiene promotion messages reached a total of 8,102 people, against the project’s target of 5,000, in Yallo Woreda, instilling practices that save lives and strengthen livelihoods.



As Endaytu (a beneficiary from Yallo woreda) reflects on the journey, she says, “we’ve learned that small actions like cleaning our water containers or sweeping our compounds can bring big changes. We now know the value of living in a clean environment, and we won’t return to the old ways.”

Yallo Woreda is now a beacon of hope, proving that communities can transform their health, environment, and future with the right support and commitment. AIRD has made all this possible.

South Sudan

Key Achievements

Infrastructure Development

In Maban County, AIRD delivered on the planned infrastructure activities:

- Rehabilitated and maintained 95.7 km of roads and an airstrip, improving access for 17,000 people.
- Constructed and rehabilitated 13.5 km of flood mitigation dykes, protecting 25,000 individuals.
- Built 503 emergency family shelters across Doro, Gendrassa, and Kaya camps, benefiting 2,545 refugees.
- Refurbished UNHCR offices, upgraded reception centres, and established a community Marram committee office.
- Installed a greenhouse demonstration garden to support livelihoods.
- Engaged 224 refugees in cash-for-work flood mitigation activities, benefiting 5,000 people.

In Renk County

- Constructed a Surgery and Sterilization Block and Male Ward at Renk Civil Hospital.
- Renovated and expanded maternity and laboratory facilities.
- Rehabilitated 2.4 km access road to the hospital.
- Built drainage systems and an Irish bridge at Transit Centre 2 to reduce flooding.

These interventions improved healthcare access and living conditions for 16,300 vulnerable individuals.

Emergency Shelter Construction

AIRD continued to address urgent shelter needs in Maban refugee camps.

- Constructed 503 family shelters for 2,545 refugees.
- Upgraded 38 shelters for persons with special needs.
- Built communal shelters benefiting 2,600 people.
- Relocated 2,545 refugees (including 27 persons with disabilities) into safer housing.

Areas of Operation

- Maban County: Gendrassa, Doro, Kaya, Yusuf-Batil camps, and Bunj host communities.
- Renk County: Transit Centre 2 and Renk Town.

Partnerships

AIRD worked closely with UNHCR, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), and the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), ensuring effective coordination and service delivery despite funding challenges.

Beneficiaries Reached

In 2025, AIRD reached approximately 76,814 refugees and host community members in Upper Nile State through infrastructure and shelter programmes.

Programme Overview

AIRD continued its partnership with UNHCR South Sudan to implement infrastructure and shelter projects aimed at improving living conditions, safety, and access to essential services for refugees and host communities. Despite a challenging funding environment that led to a scale-down of activities in Renk County during the second half of the year, the programme delivered significant results. Implementation followed agreed benchmarks and technical standards, integrating Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) considerations to ensure inclusive access to services.

The programme focused on two key areas:

- Rehabilitation and maintenance of critical infrastructure
- Construction of emergency and communal shelters

These interventions improved mobility, strengthened flood resilience, enhanced protection, and supported access to health services, schools, and humanitarian assistance.

Impact Story

AIRD South Sudan has constructed a 10×12 meter greenhouse at Doro Refugee Camp in Maban County, Upper Nile State, marking the first-ever greenhouse of its kind in the county.

This milestone forms part of the livelihood support project for refugees and host communities, aimed at boosting agricultural skills, improving seed multiplication, and increasing crop productivity and yields.

The greenhouse will also serve as a vital resource for Maban County's agricultural department, functioning as a learning and training facility for agricultural extension workers.

Beyond being a production site, the facility will act as an agricultural demonstration center. Selected refugees and host community members will be trained as trainers and community agricultural extension workers, enabling them to pass on skills that promote commercial crop production with higher yields.

This initiative is expected to bring both nutritional benefits and economic opportunities, supplementing food rations distributed in the camps while encouraging self-reliance. School-going children and students will also gain from the greenhouse, using it as a practical agricultural laboratory to learn about modern farming practices.

The greenhouse project is set to benefit more than 99,878 refugees in Doro Refugee Camp and 54,263 host community members in Maban County (UNHCR 2024 report).

Funded by UNHCR, this initiative is not only a step toward sustainable food production but also a foundation for building resilience and skills among both refugees and host communities in Maban.



Chad

Key Achievements and Beneficiaries Reached

Logistics Operations

In 2025, AIRD Chad strengthened its logistics capacity to support refugee operations across the country. Mechanical workshop performance improved through renovations, upgraded equipment, and mechanic training. A total of 4,285 work orders were successfully processed. The mobile workshop played a key role during the mission of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees by ensuring rapid repairs and the safe movement of convoys.

Fuel Management

AIRD received, stored, and distributed fuel for humanitarian operations with a total storage capacity of 1,629,000 liters. During 2025, 2,943,985 liters of fuel were received, bringing the total volume managed to 3,511,817 liters, of which 2,917,460 liters were consumed. The overall loss rate remained minimal at 0.2%, mainly due to infrastructure limitations at some fuel stations.

Warehouse Management

AIRD managed 11 warehouses with a combined capacity of 18,870 m³, ensuring the full inventory management chain from reception and storage to distribution in accordance with UNHCR standards. Warehouse occupancy ranged between 80% and 100%, reflecting the high demand for humanitarian supplies. Only 5% of NFI stock remained inactive for more than a year. To support emergency responses, 8 additional rub halls were constructed in eastern Chad.

Transport Management

Transport operations were strengthened with the addition of 17 new trucks to the fleet, enabling AIRD to meet all transport requests from humanitarian partners without relying on truck rentals. AIRD also facilitated the transport of 1,583 refugee students to and from examination centers for the Sudanese baccalaureate exams.

Refugee Relocation

In collaboration with UNHCR, CNARR, and protection partners, AIRD relocated 155,987 refugees from 44,948 households across several locations including Iriba, Guéréda, Amdjarass, Farchana, and Gozbeida. The operation included the transport of 13,596.37 tons of luggage and 136 animals, with only 5% of trucks rented for the operation.

Shelter Construction

AIRD constructed 5,705 family tents, providing emergency shelter for 28,525 refugees across camps in eastern Chad. The organization also trained and employed 25 refugee youth in tent construction techniques, contributing to skills development and community self-reliance.

Water Trucking (WASH Support)

To address water shortages in refugee camps, AIRD transported and distributed 32,287 m³ of water, supporting over 53,400 households with an average provision of 9 liters per person per day. Innovative adaptations, including converting logistics trucks into water tankers, reduced operational costs and minimized the need for rented tanker trucks.

Programs Implemented

- Logistics
- Shelter
- Protection
- WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

Key Partners

- UNHCR – Main donor supporting logistics, shelter construction, fuel management, and water transport.
- CNARR and Local Authorities – Facilitated operations and coordination with national refugee policies.
- Local Transporters – Supported relocation operations and humanitarian cargo transport.

Impact Story

From Exposure to Protection: AIRD's Shelter Response in Iridimi

When Sudanese refugees fled into Chad through the Tiné border in April 2025, many arrived in Iridimi camp with no shelter, exposed to rain and harsh weather.

In response, AIRD, working with UNHCR and CNARR, relocated nearly 56,000 people to safer areas and was tasked with urgently constructing family tents. Led by shelter specialists Barry Sorry, Ibrahima and Foudah Mahamat, teams worked day and night, engaging both refugees and local communities to secure land and accelerate construction.

In just two weeks, AIRD installed 1,282 tents in Iridimi and 345 in Oure Cassoni, providing thousands of families with safe and dignified shelter.

For families like Aisha's, this meant immediate relief: "Now my children can sleep without fear of the rain."

Building on this success, AIRD has been requested to expand its shelter support to new resettlement sites in Guereda reaffirming its commitment to protecting refugees and restoring dignity in times of crisis.



Cameroon

Key Achievements and Beneficiaries Reached

UNHCR

Warehousing

AIRD managed two warehouses in Maroua and Bertoua in compliance with UNHCR SOPs. During the year, 17.16 tons of relief items were received and 23,229.6 tons released to support humanitarian operations. A total of 13 Material Receipt Reports (MRR) were conducted without losses or incidents, despite the closure of three storage facilities during the rationalization process.

Fleet & Transport Management

AIRD managed a fleet of 115 light vehicles, 12 trucks, 12 generators, and 104 motorbikes across 8 field offices and 8 garages. In 2025, 825 job cards were processed nationwide to maintain vehicles and equipment. A total of 809 spare parts, valued at 245,242,816 XAF, were managed through six spare-parts stores. Fleet availability remained high, reaching up to 98% in some locations despite delays in spare-parts procurement.

Fuel Management

Fuel operations were managed through 35 TOM cards, 1 mobile fuel station, 2 fixed tanks, and a mobile delivery vehicle. During the year, 58,061.07 liters of diesel and 18,137.7 liters of petrol were distributed to support humanitarian operations, with zero recorded losses or theft.

Transport Operations

AIRD deployed 12 trucks and executed 89 Transport Implementation Orders (TIOs), transporting over 1.28 million tons of humanitarian cargo and covering more than 208,000 km to support humanitarian operations, voluntary repatriation, and emergency logistics.

Biometric Registration & Voluntary Repatriation (VolRep)

AIRD provided logistical support for biometric registration of 2,275 refugees and collected return intentions from 5,209 refugees across 58 villages.

The organization facilitated 48 voluntary repatriation convoys, supporting the safe return of 10,914 refugees in the East, Adamawa, and North regions of Cameroon.

PeSOP Project – West Region

Under a UNHCR-led consortium with GIZ and BMZ funding, AIRD supported the Round 2 socio-economic profiling exercise across five communes (Bafoussam 1er, Dschang, Mbouda, Kouoptamo, and Foumban).

The operation deployed 70 enumerators and 12 supervisors, covered 28,572 km, and collected data from 32,696 IDPs, strengthening evidence-based programming.

Technical Services to INGOs

AIRD expanded its technical services to six humanitarian partners including INSO, NRC, DRC, Plan International, Solidarités International, and GFM. The organization provided preventive maintenance, repairs, diagnostics, and spare-parts replacement, improving fleet reliability and operational continuity while also creating an opportunity for income generation.

WFP-Funded Operations

Third-Party Monitoring (TPM)

AIRD continued providing monitoring support to WFP operations in the South-West Region. Activities included:

- Monitoring of 40 food distribution sites
- 40 warehouse monitoring visits
- Market price monitoring in 7 markets
- Post-distribution monitoring covering 755 households (101% of planned sample)

Additionally, 18 Focus Group Discussions were conducted with 205 participants to collect feedback on food assistance and resilience programmes.

Logistics Support – PULCCA Project

- Under a logistics partnership with WFP launched in February 2025, AIRD transported 801.86 metric tons (6,407.69 m³) of humanitarian cargo across several crisis-affected regions.
- Deliveries included cereals-processing equipment, solar-powered agricultural tools, cold-chain systems, and cassava processing equipment.
- Operations deployed 97 trucks, ensuring 100% of cargo arrived safely with no loss or damage, despite challenging road and security conditions.

Key Initiatives

PeSOP Project Consolidation

- AIRD continued providing logistical support for socio-economic profiling activities in the West Region, ensuring the successful completion of data collection despite financial constraints.

Carpool Project (Closure Phase)

- The Carpool Project aimed to optimize fleet utilization among humanitarian partners through shared vehicle use. Although the pilot demonstrated cost-efficiency and improved coordination, the project was closed in April 2025 due to budget constraints.

Expansion of Technical Logistics Services

- AIRD strengthened its role as a logistics service provider by maintaining high standards in fleet management, fuel systems, and warehouse operations, while exploring opportunities to diversify partnerships and generate sustainable income.

Partnerships and Collaboration

AIRD Cameroon continued working closely with key stakeholders to ensure effective humanitarian operations:

- UNHCR – Primary partner supporting logistics operations, fleet management, warehousing, fuel management, and voluntary repatriation activities.
- World Food Programme (WFP) – Partner for monitoring activities and logistics support under the PULCCA project.
- Government Authorities – Coordination with national and local authorities ensured regulatory compliance and support to refugee identification and cross-border activities.
- Humanitarian Partners – Collaboration with NGOs and UNHCR implementing partners to improve operational coordination and logistics support.
- AIRD Headquarters – Provided strategic oversight, technical guidance, and compliance support throughout the year.

Impact Story

Rebuilding Stability Through Business Skills and Support

At 60 years old, Bonabo Regina Ule has shown remarkable resilience in the face of displacement and uncertainty. Originally from Matcho village in Konye Subdivision, she was forced to flee her home and now lives in the Makata community under Kumba 1 Subdivision as an internally displaced person (IDP).

For the past 11 months, Regina's household has been supported through assistance that became a turning point in her life. With determination and the knowledge gained from business skills training, she decided to start a small grocery shop selling essential food items within her community.

She began with a modest capital of 60,000 XAF. Through dedication, consistency, and improved business practices, Regina has successfully grown her business capital to 240,000 XAF, quadrupling her initial investment. This progress has not only strengthened her household's financial stability but also restored a sense of dignity and independence.

Like many small business owners, Regina faced challenges along the way, particularly in bookkeeping and tracking her business performance. However, with the support of her son and guidance from AIRD staff, she has now established a simple record-keeping system. This has enabled her to better manage her finances, monitor growth, and plan for the future.

Today, Regina's grocery shop stands as more than just a source of income it is a symbol of resilience, learning, and transformation. Her journey highlights the powerful impact of combining humanitarian assistance with practical skills training.

Regina and her entire household express their heartfelt gratitude for the support received, especially from WFP, which played a key role in helping her establish her income-generating activity and rebuild her life with renewed hope.



Burkina Faso

Key Achievements

Overall, approximately 41,517 people directly benefited from AIRD's interventions. The organization constructed or rehabilitated 2,489 emergency shelters, providing protection and improved living conditions for 14,934 refugees and displaced persons. In addition, 200 NFI kits were distributed, while WASH awareness activities reached over 20,062 people, promoting improved hygiene and sanitation practices.

AIRD also strengthened access to basic services through the construction and rehabilitation of 5 classrooms, the rehabilitation of 2 advanced health posts, and support for the installation of an eco-friendly charcoal production unit benefiting refugees, displaced persons, and host communities in Dori, Liptako Region.

Operationally, AIRD demonstrated strong logistical capacity by transporting over 6,020 tonnes of humanitarian supplies, ensuring efficient fleet and energy asset maintenance, and distributing 53,252 litres of fuel to humanitarian partners with an almost zero loss rate. These efforts ensured the continuity of humanitarian operations despite a challenging security and logistical environment.

Camp management and protection activities further strengthened community accountability, abuse prevention, and social cohesion among affected populations.

Despite ongoing insecurity and pressure on local resources, AIRD achieved an activity completion rate close to 100%, demonstrating strong adaptability and effective partnerships.

Looking ahead to 2026, AIRD aims to consolidate these achievements, expand its geographic coverage, and further strengthen the sustainable impact of its interventions for vulnerable populations.

Beneficiary Profile

- Total beneficiaries: 41,517 people.
- A total of 2,489 emergency shelters were built and/or rehabilitated for the benefit of 14,934 refugees displaced persons.
- Promotion of hygiene and sanitation practices benefited 20,062 people.
- 6,020,496 tonnes of NFIs and other humanitarian supplies were transported
- 1,799 tonnes of NFIs distributed based on approved requisitions
- 2302 emergency shelters built as part of UNHCR interventions
- 2,502 emergency shelters were built for the benefit of 17,514 people.
- 200 NFI kits distributed to vulnerable households with funding from FHRAOC
- 2 classrooms built and fully equipped (50 desks, benches and administrative furniture), and 3 classrooms renovated
- 2 advanced health posts rehabilitated
- 15 community latrines built
- 200 latrines/showers built
- 6 hand-operated boreholes/pumps rehabilitated

In 2025, AIRD strengthened its humanitarian response in Burkina Faso through integrated interventions supporting internally displaced persons, refugees, and host communities, particularly in the Sahel and Northern regions. The organization focused on emergency shelter, humanitarian logistics, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), camp management, and the rehabilitation of essential community infrastructure

Impact Story

Quiet Force Behind Humanitarian Operations

Mr. Evariste Ouedraogo's journey with AIRD is a testament to dedication, resilience, and the power of getting the details right.

He began in 2013 in Djibo as a spare parts storekeeper, quickly understanding that every item he managed could determine whether a vehicle reached people in need. His precision ensured operations ran without disruption.

In 2018, he became Fuel Manager, overseeing one of the most critical resources in humanitarian work. Through vigilance and integrity, he ensured that every liter was accounted for keeping missions moving even in times of insecurity.

Since 2021, as a Warehouse Storekeeper in Ouagadougou, Evariste has continued to excel, creating an organized and efficient system where supplies are always accessible when needed. During a critical moment, he helped repair twenty vehicles in record time, preventing a mission from being halted.

Beyond his technical skills, Evariste is a mentor and team player, committed to sharing knowledge and strengthening those around him.

With over a decade of service, his story reminds us that behind every successful humanitarian response are dedicated individuals ensuring everything works quietly, but impactfully.



DRC

In 2025, AIRD strengthened its multi-sector humanitarian response across the Democratic Republic of Congo, operating in North and South Kivu, Ituri, Tanganyika, Greater Kasai, and Ubangi/Bas-Uélé. Despite a challenging environment marked by armed conflict, large-scale displacement, and funding reductions, AIRD maintained essential logistical services and direct humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations.

Working in close partnership with UNHCR, UNICEF, and World Food Programme, AIRD supported refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, and host communities, strengthening resilience and ensuring continued access to life-saving services.

Key Achievements

Humanitarian Logistics and Transport

- 20,881 people assisted through voluntary repatriation and relocation operations.
- 4,655 tonnes of humanitarian supplies transported across operational areas.
- 1,391 vehicle and equipment maintenance operations conducted to sustain humanitarian fleets.

Shelter and Protection

- 2,771 shelter rehabilitation kits distributed in Kivu, supporting 13,855 people.
- 300 shelter kits and 1,617 NFI kits distributed in Ituri.
- 66,000+ hot meals provided to newly arrived refugees.

Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH)

- 316 villages certified Open Defecation Free (ODF) in Tanganyika.
- 28,333 households constructed latrines, benefiting 178,740 people.
- 6 health facilities provided with safe drinking water and 7 with sanitation services, reaching over 70,000 people

Cash-Based Assistance

- 36,017 refugees in Ituri received cash assistance covering 99% of identified needs.
- Cash assistance programs were also implemented in Ubangi in collaboration with WFP.

Beneficiaries Reached

- Kivu: 134,500 beneficiaries
-
- Tanganyika: 225,740 beneficiaries
- Ubangi/Bas-Uélé: 48,337 beneficiaries
- Ituri: 45,400 beneficiaries
- Kasai: Thousands of indirect beneficiaries and 258 repatriated refugees

Core Program Areas

AIRD implemented integrated humanitarian programs, including:

- Humanitarian logistics and transport
- Fleet and equipment maintenance
- Fuel and warehouse management
- Shelter construction and rehabilitation
- Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH)
- Cash and food assistance
- Infection prevention in health facilities
- Community protection and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Key Partnerships

AIRD's interventions were made possible through strong collaboration with international partners including UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service, as well as national institutions such as the National Commission for Refugees, provincial authorities, health zone offices, and community leaders.

Impact

Through these coordinated efforts, AIRD strengthened humanitarian logistics, improved shelter and living conditions for displaced families, expanded access to safe water and sanitation, enhanced food security, and reinforced protection and accountability mechanisms for affected populations across the DRC.

Impact Story

From Exile to Home: A Journey Back to Burundi

At Kalemie Airport, emotions ran high as Burundian refugees prepared to board flights that would finally take them home. For years, they had lived in exile in Tanganyika, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, after fleeing violence during the Burundian Civil War. What began as a search for safety had turned into decades of displacement.

Through a UNHCR-funded logistics support project, this long-awaited return became possible. With the coordinated efforts of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its partners, including AIRD, two carefully organized air convoys transported 82 refugees from Kalemie to Bujumbura, via Kinshasa.

Among the passengers were families who had built lives in displacement but never lost hope of returning home. Mothers clutched their children, elders carried memories of a country they had not seen in years, and young people many born in exile, prepared to step into a homeland they only knew through stories.

The journey was more than a physical relocation; it was a restoration of dignity, identity, and belonging. Every detail from passenger coordination to safe air transport was meticulously planned to ensure a smooth and dignified return.

This operation highlights the critical role of logistics in humanitarian action. Beyond moving people, it reconnects families with their roots and opens the door to rebuilding lives in peace. For these 82 individuals, the flights from Kalemie marked the end of displacement and the beginning of a new chapter back home in Burundi.



CAR

Key achievements

- Distribution of 300 NFI kits out of 300 planned kits
- Distribution of 600 WASH kits out of 600 planned kits
- Distribution of 700 dignity kits out of 700 planned kits
- Provision of brick-making kits to 12 management committees of 14 beneficiaries per committee
- Construction of 60 shelters for IDPs out of 170 planned shelters for IDPs
- Rehabilitation of 4 water points out of the 4 planned water points
- Construction of 3 boreholes at the 2 Bambari sites out of the 3 planned boreholes
- Establishment, training, and staffing of 7 Water Point Management Committees out of the 7 planned Water Point Management Committees
- Construction 60 latrines for IDPs out of the 170 planned for IDPs
- Hygiene awareness training for 4,492 IDP and host beneficiaries out of the 3,600 planned beneficiaries

Beneficiaries reached (WASH and shelters)

- Shelter beneficiaries reached: 360 people
- WASH beneficiaries reached for water supply: 3,500 people
- WASH beneficiaries reached for hygiene awareness training: 4,492 people

Programs implemented

- WASH & Shelter Program

Main partnerships

- Urban Planning and Land Registry Department
- Water Resources Department

Impact Story

From Exile to Home: A Journey Back to Burundi

In Bambari, Central African Republic, many families displaced by armed conflict have been living in precarious conditions for years, often without adequate housing. Shelters and access to safe drinking water remain the top priorities for displaced families and host communities. With funding from USAID/BHA, AIRD launched a humanitarian assistance project in July 2023 to improve housing and hygiene conditions. During the first phase (July 2023 – July 2024), 240 semi-durable shelters were built, providing safe housing for over 1,200 people, including 30 individuals identified as highly vulnerable.



Ladji Ousmane, displaced since 2015 and originally from Mbouroutchou, now lives in Bambari with his wife and two children.

“Before, we used to sleep in a hut. Thanks to this project, I now have a shelter, a latrine, and even access to safe drinking water. It has completely transformed life for my family,” he explains with gratitude. These shelters provide more than just protection. They bring stability and hope to families seeking to rebuild their future in Bambari. The second phase of the project will continue this effort by supporting more displaced families in their journey toward durable settlement.

More Impact stories

Empowering Skills, Transforming Lives in Uganda

In Uganda, AIRD is going beyond immediate aid by equipping refugees and host communities with practical skills for long-term resilience.

Michael Nsabiyumva, a refugee from the Republic of the Congo, is one such example. He joined AIRD in 2016 as a casual worker in Nakivale. Through dedication and continuous on-the-job training, he grew into a skilled technician, specializing in the installation of Rubb Halls' essential structures for humanitarian storage.

Over the years, Michael has supported the installation of 56 Rubb Halls across multiple locations, becoming a trusted member of the operations team. Determined to give back, he has also trained eight fellow refugees, expanding opportunities and strengthening community capacity.

Today, Michael dreams of becoming a professional driver or mechanic and one day starting his own company.

His journey shows how investing in skills can transform lives, turning opportunity into expertise and individuals into drivers of change within their communities.



From Displacement to Self-Reliance: A Returnee's Journey in Burundi

For Burundi returnee Bigirimana Athanase, 58, going home in 2025 was not just the end of exile—it was the beginning of a difficult choice. After ten years in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, he had built a life defined not by wealth, but by resilience: motorbikes, cassava fields, and farming tools that sustained his family.

Athanase fled Burundi in 2015, crossing the Rusizi River to seek safety in Lusenda camp. What began as survival soon turned into stability. Through farming, he supported his family, educated his children, and even married off his daughters, milestones that reflected dignity and progress despite displacement.



When peace allowed his return, Athanase faced a painful reality: leaving behind everything he had built. His story highlights a key truth: return is not just about going home, but about preserving livelihoods, skills, and dignity gained in exile.

Today, his journey reflects the power of resilience and the importance of supporting returnees to rebuild. Because true reintegration means turning the “fortune” of exile into a foundation for a better future.

Driving Together: A Smarter Way to Deliver Aid in Agadez, Niger

In Agadez, where long distances and security challenges shape humanitarian work, a simple shift is making a big difference.

Harouna Mahamane, a driver with over ten years of experience, once watched multiple NGOs, including UNHCR, IOM, and Plan International, travel the same routes in separate vehicles, each carrying only a few. This meant higher costs, more fuel consumption, and increased strain on resources.

Today, carpooling has changed everything.

By sharing vehicles, humanitarian teams now travel together to the same destinations. This has reduced costs, optimized routes, and improved efficiency. At the same time, it has strengthened collaboration, as staff exchange insights and coordinate their work during the journey.



Carpooling has also enhanced safety, with teams feeling more secure traveling together on remote roads.

For Harouna, the impact is clear:

“Carpooling is not just transport, it’s a smarter, safer, and more human way to support our work.”

In a context where every resource matters, driving together is helping humanitarian actors go further and do more for the communities they serve.

Breaking Barriers: Sylvia Mathew’s Journey into Mechanics at AIRD Tanzania



At a busy AIRD workshop, where engines roar and tools echo through the air, 22-year-old Sylvia Mathew is redefining expectations. As the only woman among 16 trainees in AIRD’s mechanical upskilling program, she is stepping confidently into a field traditionally dominated by men.

What began as curiosity quickly became determination. Despite initial doubts from others, Sylvia remained focused on learning, practicing, and proving her capabilities every day. Today, she stands as an equal among her peers, earning respect through her skill and commitment.

For Sylvia, this training represents more than technical knowledge. It is a pathway to independence and a future she is building with her own hands. She dreams of opening her own garage, one that not only provides services but also creates space for other women to learn and thrive in mechanics.

Her journey is already creating impact. By challenging stereotypes and pursuing her passion, Sylvia is opening doors for others to follow.

Her story is a powerful reminder: when opportunity meets determination, barriers begin to break not just for one person, but for many.

Empowering Refugees in Maban Through Skills and Tools in South Sudan

In Maban, South Sudan, refugees are taking bold steps toward self-reliance, thanks to AIRD’s innovative cash-for-training program. This initiative goes beyond providing immediate support, it equips participants with practical skills and essential tools to rebuild their lives with dignity.

Recently, refugees engaged in the program received tools for gardening and construction, including hoes, wheelbarrows, spades, axes, and jerrycans. With these, they are not only learning valuable trade skills but also transforming their environment and improving access to food and shelter.



For many participants, this support is life-changing. Gardeners can now cultivate fresh produce, improving household nutrition and generating small income streams. Builders are using their tools to repair homes and communal facilities, strengthening the community’s resilience. Each tool represents more than utility it is a step toward independence, hope, and sustainable living.

Through this initiative, AIRD South Sudan is demonstrating that humanitarian support is most impactful when it empowers people with skills, resources, and opportunities to shape their future.

Bringing Safe Water to Nafto Health Post in Ethiopia

Access to clean water is a fundamental human right, especially at health facilities, where patients and staff rely on it for infection prevention, handwashing, and maintaining hygienic sanitation. Yet, many remote health posts in Yalo Woreda lacked this essential resource.

Nafto Health Post had no water system connection due to limited funding, leaving patients and staff without reliable access to safe water. With support from BHA, AIRD constructed a 120m water pipeline, installed a 2,000 m³ storage tank, built a concrete stand and tap stand with two outlets, and added a handwashing facility attached to the toilet.

essential for infection prevention and protecting medical staff from pathogens.” Mahmuda Usman, Head of Yalo Woreda Health Office, added, “We appreciate AIRD’s support, which ensures patients, staff, and the community have safe drinking water and strengthens our health system.”

This project is a crucial step toward SDG-aligned health system strengthening, ensuring clean water access for better health outcomes in Afar.



From Displacement to Hope: Sitima’s Journey in Chad

Sitima Abakar Mahamat Haroun, a Sudanese mother of five, saw her life upended when conflict devastated her village of Absouroutch. Forced to flee with her two daughters and three sons, she faced the added hardship of being separated from her husband, who went to Hamdourmane, leaving her alone to care for her children in uncertain and dangerous circumstances.

After a brief stay in the village of Birseriba, Sitima and her family continued their journey, seeking safety in Chad. In March 2025, they arrived at the Aringbote site, marking the end of a perilous and exhausting journey.



On October 6, 2025, a new chapter began: thanks to the coordinated efforts of AIRD, UNHCR, and the Chadian government (CNARR), Sitima and her family were relocated to Marassabré camp, where shelters had already been built for them. The support they received brought not only safety, but also hope for a new beginning.

Sitima expresses her heartfelt gratitude to all humanitarian partners who welcomed her family, providing them with security and dignity. Her journey reflects the resilience of refugee families and the life-changing impact of international solidarity.

AIRD Strengthens Refugee Support through Exceptional Logistical Coordination in Meiganga, Cameroon

In a recent operation supporting the registration and enrollment of refugees from Yarbang village, AIRD played a critical role in ensuring the smooth movement of beneficiaries to the Yamba enrollment center. Refugee Ahmadou, one of the participants, expressed heartfelt gratitude: “AIRD, we thank you for your logistical support in facilitating our travel. Without your help, reaching the enrollment center would have been much harder.”

The operation, part of the DGSN initiative, posed unique challenges due to its novelty and complexity. The Head of the AIRD Meiganga Office acknowledged the hurdles: “The DGSN activity, although new, was a challenge for AIRD. The logistical support through messages and unannounced visits from authorities was greatly appreciated not only by UNHCR, MINEREX, and the Police but also by the refugees themselves.”

Feedback from key partners highlighted AIRD’s professionalism and dedication:

- Jean Claude, Head of the UNHCR Meiganga Field Office, praised AIRD’s proactivity and flexibility, noting that the organization’s support was instrumental in achieving operational targets.
- Mr. Oyono, MINEREX Team Coordinator, described AIRD as “a true logistical partner.”
- Police Officer Karim, head of the DGSN team, commended Jean Claude for his charisma and exceptional team management skills.
- The Sub-Prefect of Ngaoui recognized AIRD’s tangible achievements and clear communication, encouraging the organization to continue its exemplary work.



Through its commitment, coordination, and hands-on support, AIRD has demonstrated how strategic logistical assistance can transform the experience of refugees while strengthening collaboration among humanitarian partners. This operation not only facilitated smooth refugee enrollment but also reinforced AIRD’s reputation as a reliable and respected partner in complex humanitarian contexts.

From Awareness to Ownership: Sustaining Sanitation in Nyunzu

In Mbeya village, Nyunzu Territory (Tanganyika Province), communities are taking charge of their health following the end of open defecation (FDAL). Through a UNICEF-funded project, AIRD continues to strengthen hygiene and sanitation practices with ongoing awareness campaigns.

During a recent community session, the Territory Administrator of Nyunzu emphasized the importance of accountability and local ownership, highlighting the role of community leaders in sustaining progress. AIRD mobilizers reinforced this message by engaging residents on practical actions to maintain clean and safe environments.



Today, families are actively maintaining latrines, improving hygiene practices, and promoting collective responsibility. Beyond behavior change, a strong sense of ownership is emerging—ensuring that the gains made in ending open defecation are preserved for the long term.

In Mbeya, sanitation is no longer just an achievement it is a shared commitment to health, dignity, and resilience

Rebuilding Lives through quality of services

For families like that of POUNOUGOFO Julienne, life in displacement was filled with uncertainty and hardship. Finding a safe place to live and necessities for survival were daily challenges.

Thanks to the project implemented by AIRD in Bambari, Julienne and her children were able to obtain a plot of land. With AIRD's support, they built a sturdy shelter and a latrine, ensuring a safer and healthier living environment. Cooking kits, mats, blankets, and other essential supplies were also provided, helping the family regain some stability.


A breakthrough came with the installation of a water point at the settlement. "Having access to clean water has changed our lives," "We no longer have to walk long distances or worry about unsafe water. Our children can drink safely, and we can maintain hygiene in our homes." The water point has become a lifeline for the community, improving health and daily life for all residents.



While the family is grateful for the support, they express hopes for continued improvements: the construction of a school nearby to reduce the distance children must travel, and advocacy for plots of land to grow food and sustain themselves.

The water point stands as a testament to how even small infrastructure projects can have a profound impact on displaced families, providing both dignity and opportunity for a better future.



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