THE ROHINGYA PROJECT
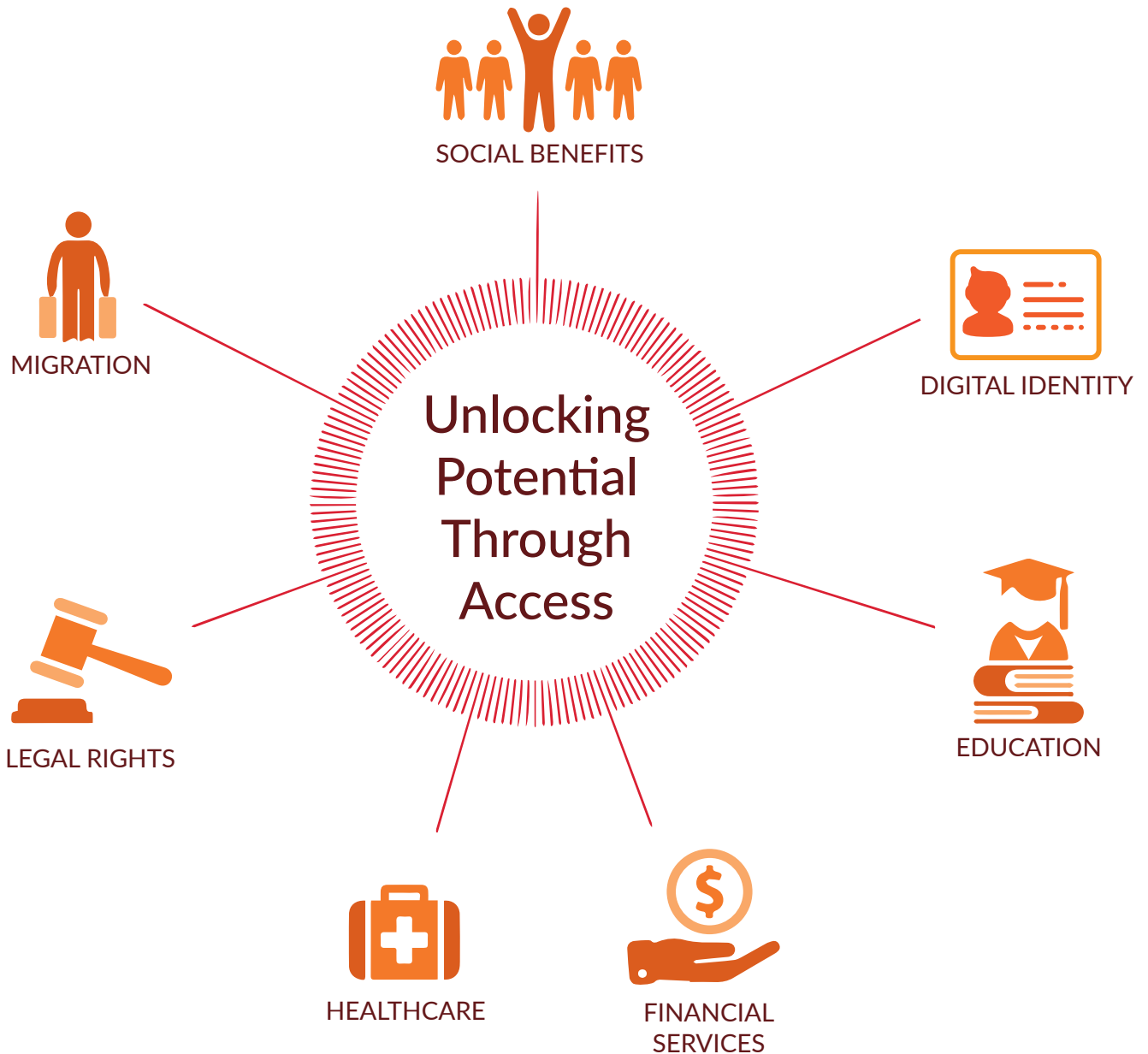
[R] PROJECT

A ROHINGYA INITIATIVE

WHAT IS THE ROHINGYA PROJECT?

The Rohingya Project is a grassroots initiative to uplift and empower the stateless and financially excluded Rohingya people by creating a secure and transparent digital ecosystem.

SOCIAL BENEFITS

MIGRATION

DIGITAL IDENTITY

Unlocking Potential Through Access

LEGAL RIGHTS

EDUCATION

HEALTHCARE

FINANCIAL SERVICES

FEATURED ON

the guardian

REUTERS

Medium

UNDP

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

NIKKEI

abc

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rohingya Project is a grassroots initiative that aims to uplift and empower the Rohingya diaspora scattered all over the globe through the creation of an efficient, secure and transparent digital ecosystem that can be accessed through a Digital ID as an access key.

Over 30 years Rohingya have lived in a limbo of statelessness. Driven out of their ancestral land, living largely undocumented in different countries across the world and denied even basic rights that people take for granted, the struggles the Rohingya diaspora face are severe. As a result of their stateless condition, the 3.5 million Rohingya live as an invisible people on the margins, and are vulnerable to destitution, human trafficking, and other maladies.

The Rohingya Project is targeting a central issue the Rohingya diaspora face as a result of statelessness: financial exclusion. Many second and third generation stateless Rohingya live on the margins in their host societies and encounter significant obstacles in generating a livelihood and keeping themselves out of poverty. The goal of the Project is to connect these Rohingya to opportunities to learn, equip and empower themselves and the wider Rohingya diaspora through technology and empowerment.

Through the creation of a secure and international Blockchain-leveraged ecosystem, those Rohingya who for years have been sidelined can be given access to a range of financial applications and other services to encourage collaboration, innovation and entrepreneurship. The platform will tap into the entrepreneurial potential of the Rohingya community and offer options to counter their exclusion from the mainstream.

Over time, the Project will strive to be a space where the stateless Rohingya can organize themselves and support their own on-the-ground and virtual initiatives to further their community's interests.

While the world may know the Rohingya now as only victims, the Rohingya Project's mission is to bring their dignity back.

OBJECTIVES

To create a digital ecosystem to uplift and empower the stateless Rohingya in diaspora both economically and socially.

To offer a range of Blockchain-based applications to encourage entrepreneurship and financial sustainability within the Rohingya community.

To achieve a number of UN Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty eradication, social marginalization and others.

To provide support and capacity-building to Rohingya-led community initiatives on the ground.
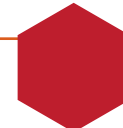
To encourage Rohingya diaspora self-organization and collaboration.

To come up with a strong Proof of Concept for community empowerment that can be shared with other stateless and marginalized people.

BACKGROUND OF ISSUE

According to the United Nations Refugee Agency, over 10 million people in the world are considered stateless. Of these 10 million, more than a third belong to the Rohingya diaspora. While much media attention has focused on the plight of the Rohingya embroiled in the recent conflict in Rakhine, Burma, much less attention has been paid to the struggles which the stateless Rohingya face worldwide on a daily basis.
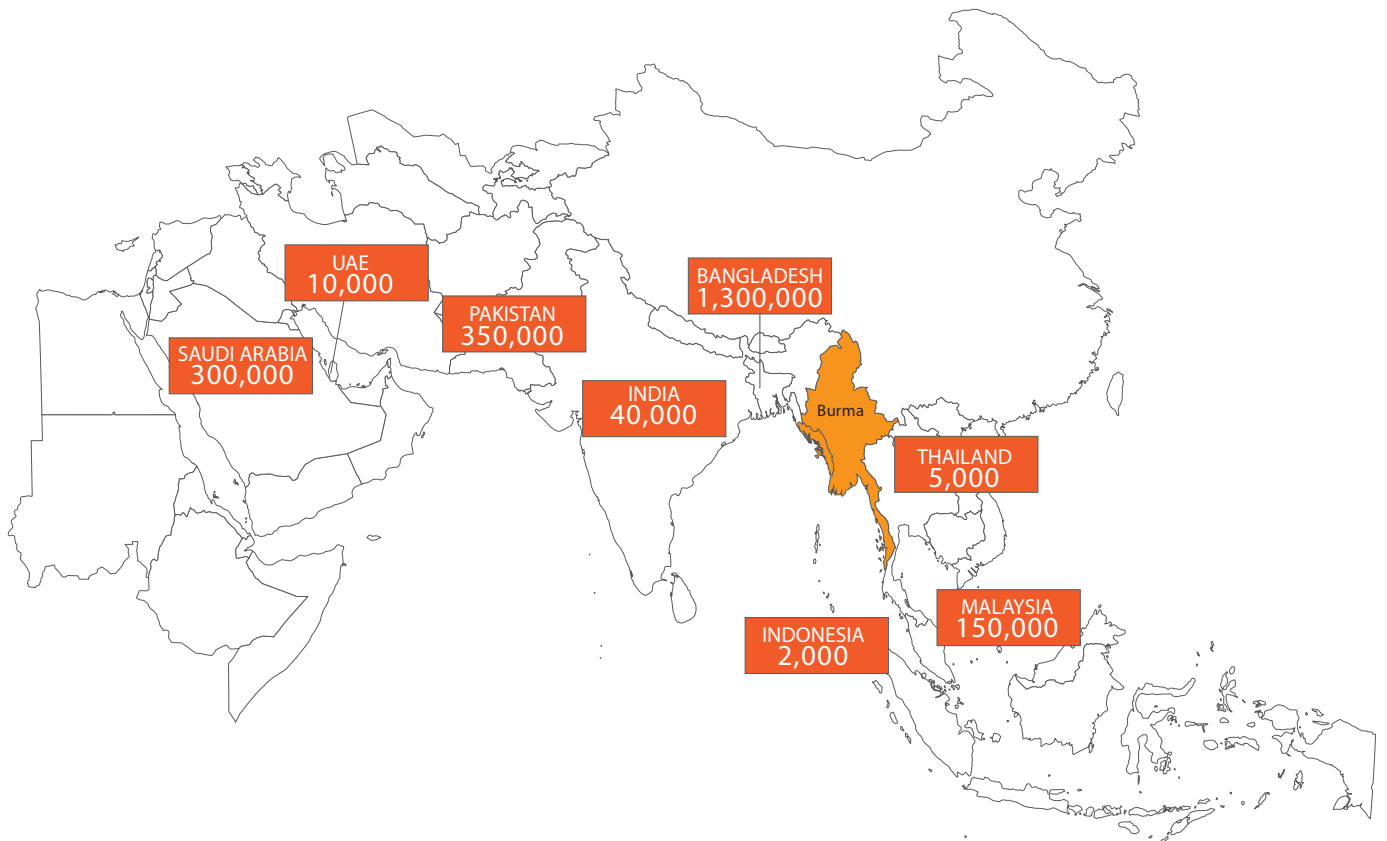
BEING STATELESS

As defined by Article 1 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, a "stateless person" is someone who is not classified as a national by any state under its law. While many stateless individuals are considered refugees, it is not a necessary condition for statelessness. In fact, only a minor portion of stateless people are refugees. Statelessness can apply to individuals in both migration and nonmigration situations. A person who has never crossed international borders may still be identified as stateless depending on his or her status. Rohingya are entering into third generation of statelessness

CHALLENGES

The primary challenges faced by stateless individuals all relate to lack of recognized identification. Many basic human rights taken for granted in most states depend to a large degree on the availability of nationality by the individual. Government and private services require identification such as a passport or national ID card as a norm before allowing access. The ability to open a bank account, visit a health clinic or travel freely within the country are thus denied or made increasingly difficult for stateless individuals such as the Rohingya. As per the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusions' report The World Stateless released in 2014, "The harsh reality for many stateless persons is a story of lack of opportunity, of lack of protection and of lack of participation."

EST. STATELESS ROHINGYA WORLDWIDE

UAE
10,000

BANGLADESH
1,300,000

PAKISTAN
350,000

SAUDI ARABIA
300,000

INDIA
40,000

Burma

THAILAND
5,000

MALAYSIA
150,000

INDONESIA
2,000

WHO ARE THE ROHINGYA ?

Rohingya are the indigenous ethnic minority of Burma (Myanmar) mainly residing in Rakhine state, and have been in this area for centuries. Four million Rohingya population are estimated around the world from which more than 2.5 million are forced to flee and live in diaspora mainly in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, India, Thailand, Indonesia and others. Rohingya were listed as ethnic group and enjoyed full rights of citizenship of Burma even after the country's independence in 1948 from Britain. The Burmese Military government introduced a new law in 1982 which delisted Rohingya from ethnic group and revoked their citizenship.

Rohingya are considered the most persecuted minority in the world. They are made stateless in their own ancestral land, denied citizenship and have been subjected to systematic persecution for decades

EXCLUDED PEOPLE

People who lack adequate access to basic financial services

2.5 billion*
People Financially
Excluded Worldwide

*THE GLOBAL FINDEX DATABASE 2014
Measuring Financial Inclusion around
the World by the World Bank

NO ACCESS TO :

> Capital
> Credit
> Transaction Services
> Insurance Services
> Saving Services
> Investments

Access to financial services is essential for people to be economically and socially integrated in today's society.

INVISIBLE PEOPLE

1.1 billion*
People without proof
of Identity Worldwide
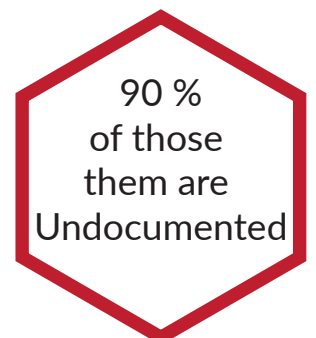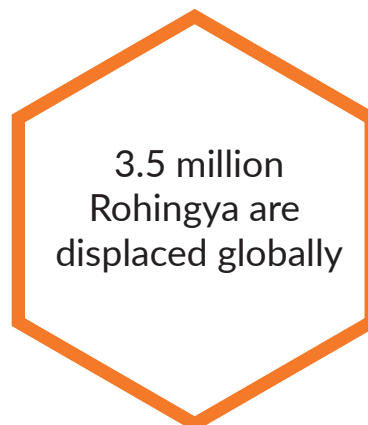
*World Bank Group launched the
Identification for Development (ID4D)

3.5 million
Rohingya are
displaced globally

90 %
of those
them are
Undocumented

LACK OF ACCESS AND FINANCIAL EXCLUSION

Not only financial services, such as opening a bank account or obtaining capital and credit but also:

Identity such as providing that are Rohingya and they belong to Arakan

Healthcare such as health insurance, vaccinations, and maternal care

Education such as enrolling children in school or applying for scholarships

Legal Rights such as owning property, or receiving an inheritance

Migration including seeking asylum and crossing borders legally and safely

Social Benefits including food vouchers, pensions, or cash transfers

Gender Equality including prevention of early and child marriage

FACTORS THAT LEAD TO FINANCIAL EXCLUSION

Poverty and lack of access to capital resources

Lack of access to Technology

Lack of Identification

Illiteracy

Social exclusion

PROJECT PHASES

The Project will go through 3 Phases :

PHASE 1
Developing the foundations

PHASE 2
Scaling & Economic and Social Empowerment

PHASE 3
Constructing A Virtual Community

REGISTRATION PROCESS

A vital part of being recognized as a refugee, and more specifically, a Rohingya, is the assessment and verification process. Our unique multi layered verification methodology is broken down into a series of interviews and assessments that rigorously test on 5 areas: Geographical, Social, Language, Cultural, and Occupational. The registration process will not be restricted to one geographical location only but will extend to Rohingya diaspora communities globally in different locations.

HOW DO WE VERIFY THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR THE DIGITAL ID?

Our unique multi-layered verification methodology is broken down into 5 tests;

Social

Geographical

Language

Unique Cultural Tradition

Profession
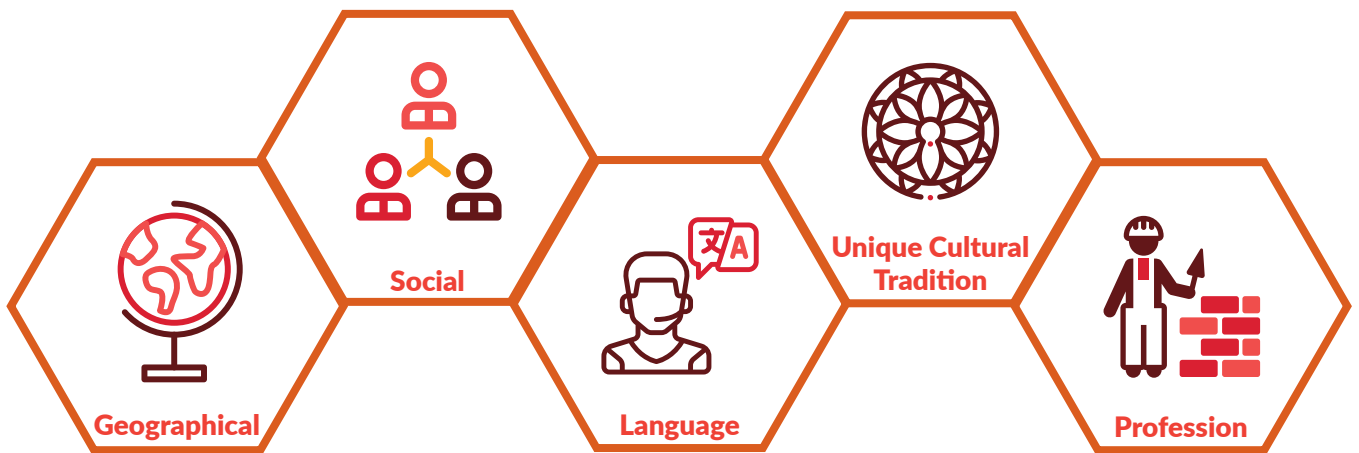
"The methodology is built in such a way that only a true Rohingya can pass it" -
Muhammad Noor, Project Co-Founder

LEVERAGING BLOCKCHAIN

Blockchain technology is a mathematically ensured cyber security technology for rapid and immutable identification of modifications in digital data and intelligent devices. Blockchain is decentralized, peer-2-peer, cryptographically secure, and not controlled by any government or banks - which means no single party can compromise a person's data.

Using their own unique Blockchain-based digital identities and crowdfunded resources, Rohingya diaspora communities will have the foundation to empower themselves economically and socially.

WHY BLOCKCHAIN?

Blockchain technology empowers individuals to control their own data and share it with trusted entities. The decentralised nature of this technology means no single party can compromise a person`s identity. Which makes it:

▶ Secure

▶ Unalterable

▶ Defendable

▶ Verifiable

▶ Transparent

More importantly:

▶ It can run autonomously which also makes it very cost efficient

PARTNERS

evernym

Digital Identity

DATARELLA

Community Token

atoplus

Fintech

BITNATION
GOVERNANCE 2.0

Smart contract

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Research

R vision

Media

PROPY

Decentralized Record

PROJECT END GOAL

CREATING A VIRTUAL COMMUNITY

DIGITAL RIGHTS

E-COMMERCE

DIGITAL ASSETS

REMITTANCE

NOTARISATION

P2P LENDING

CONSENSUS

SMART CONTARCT

FINANCIAL SERVICES

TOKENISATION

TRUSTEES

MICRO FINANCING

WAQAF

SECURITIES

SOCIAL UPLIFTMENT

DIGITAL IDENTITY

CROWDFUNDING

EDUCATION

EQUITY

HEALTHCARE

INSURANCE

EMPLOYMENT PORTAL

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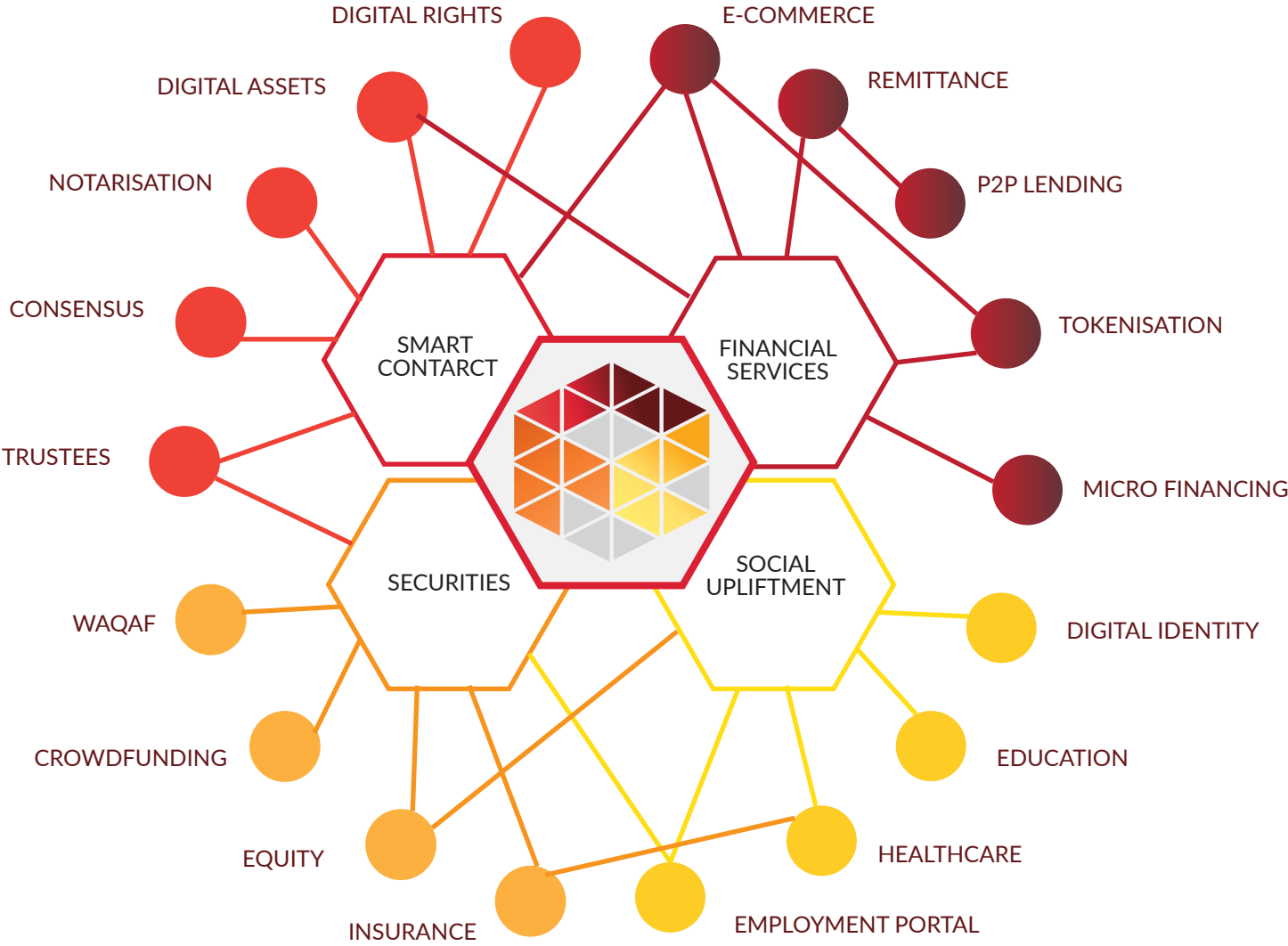
What United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are we targeting?

By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property inheritence, natural resources, appropriate new technology

By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all men and women, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

By 2030, reduce to less than 3 percent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 percent

By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment of decent jobs and entrepreneurship

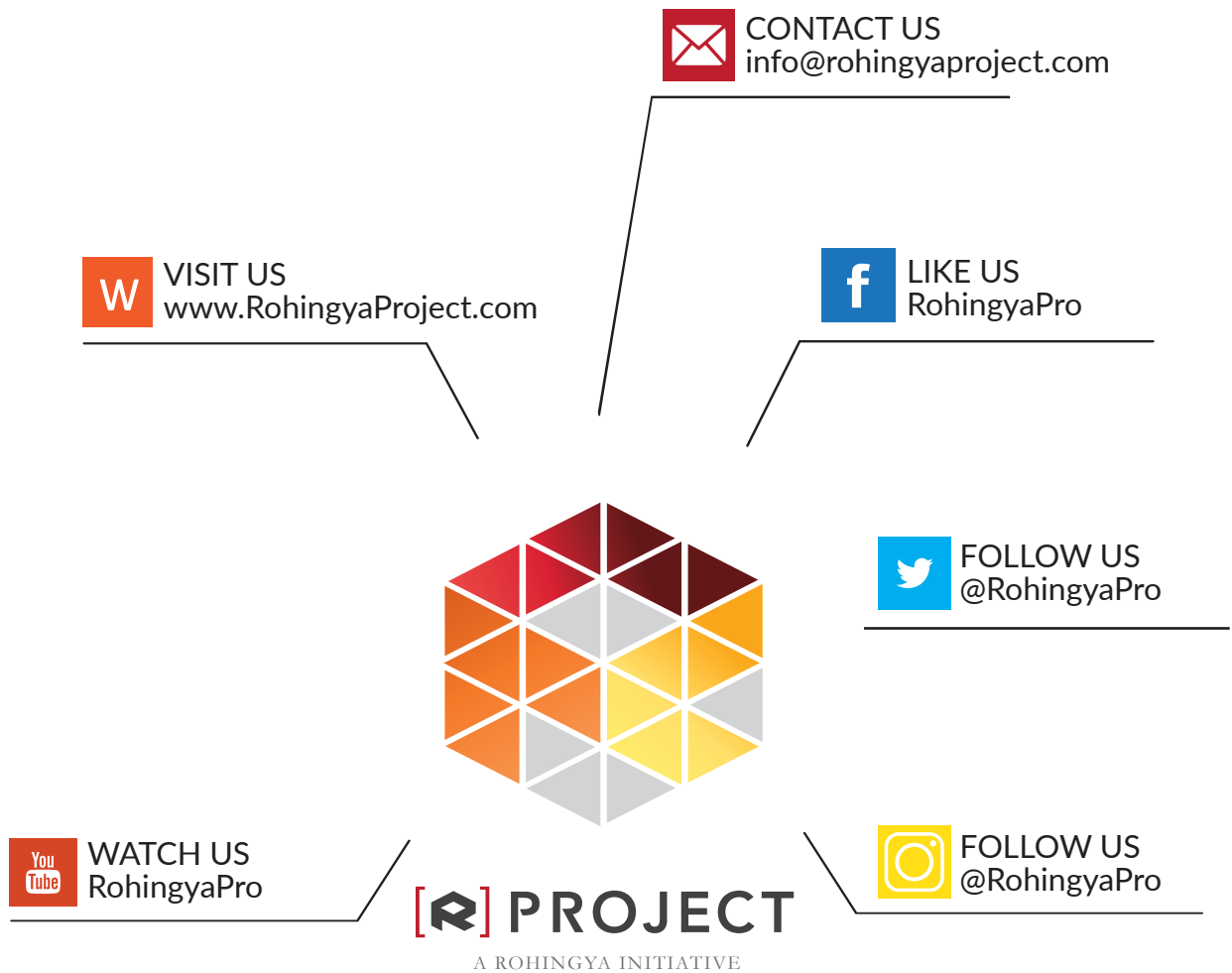# How can you be involved in the Rohingya Project?

Strategic Partnerships on Execution of Blockchain and Financial Applications

Sponsorship & Donor Contributions to Fund Operations and Digital Execution

PARTNERSHIP

SPONSORSHIP

SUPPORT
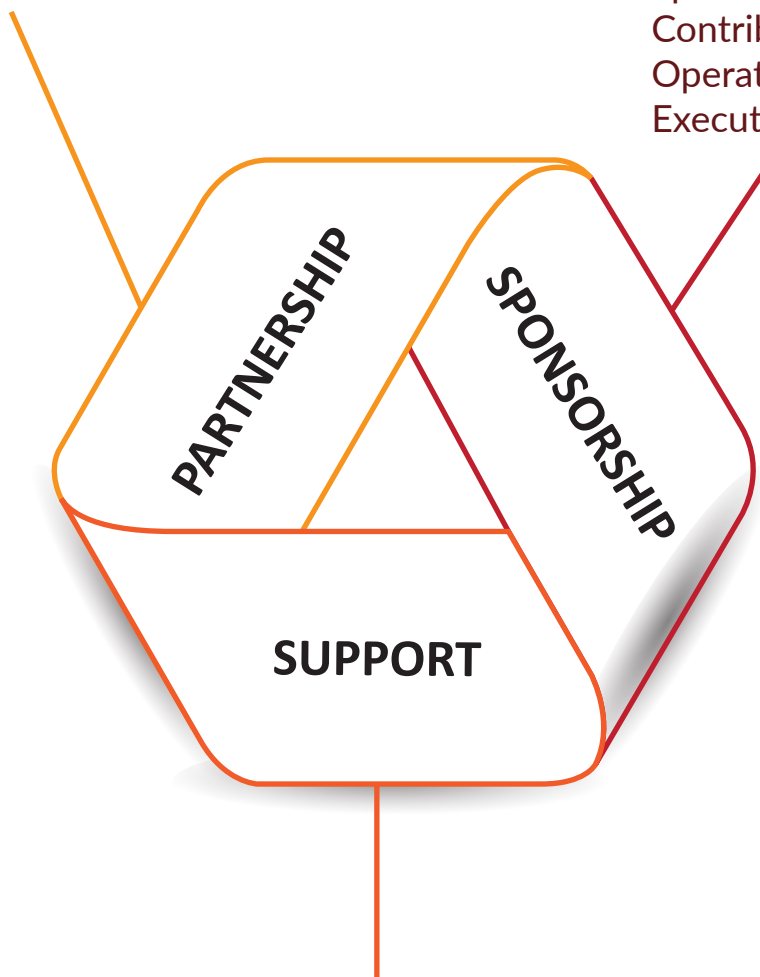
Agreements with Stakeholders to facilitate access to basics and/or advanced services such as training, capacity building, legal rights, volunteering, etc.

CONTACT US

✉ **CONTACT US**
info@rohingyaproject.com

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Our goal is to give dignity back to the Rohingya