

A large, stylized orange chevron pointing to the right, serving as a background for the text.

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STUDY SHOWS POWER OF CONNECTIVITY IN ADDRESSING GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

Audio Transcript

(Washington D.C., Sept. 14, 2016) - An internet-enabled smart phone can literally power the future for the world's 65 million refugees and displaced persons, connecting them to opportunities for education and training, employment, safety and healthcare, according to a new report from Accenture and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency. The report, "Connecting Refugees: How Internet and Mobile Connectivity Can Improve Refugee Well-Being and Transform Humanitarian Action," examined refugee connectivity trends and

usage and included surveys of and interviews with UNHCR staff and refugees in 44 countries on four continents and found that refugees living without connectivity are prevented from participating in the cultural, educational, political and economic activity that connectivity affords.

Marty Rodgers, Managing Director at Accenture, discusses the findings in the report.

SOUNDBITE #1:

THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION WHILE TRANSFORMING THE WORLD IS REGRETFULLY

LEAVING REFUGEES BEHIND. CONNECTIVITY HAS THE POTENTIAL, THE POWER, AND THE PROMISE TO TRANSFORM HOW WE COMMUNICATE, THE WAY IN WHICH WE RESPOND TO THE PROTECTION NEEDS OF DISPLACED PEOPLE, AND THE EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN SERVICES. ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AND MOBILE TELEPHONE SERVICES HAS A POWERFUL MULTIPLIER EFFECT, BOOSTING THE WELL-BEING OF NOT JUST REFUGEES BUT ALSO THE COMMUNITIES

THAT HOST THEM.

SOUNDBITE #2:

ORGANIZATIONS HARNESSING
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES CAN
INDEED POWER CHANGE, BOTH
SMALL AND LARGE, HELPING
ADVANCE THE WAY THEY SERVE
PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY THE
MOST VULNERABLE MORE
EFFECTIVELY AND MORE
SECURELY. ONE OF OUR GOALS
IS TO IMPROVE HOW THE WORLD
WORKS AND LIVES. WE ARE
HONORED TO HAVE HELPED THE
UNHCR DEVELOP A
COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY
FOR ADDRESSING THE
CONNECTIVITY CHALLENGE
FACING REFUGEES.

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