



Empowering Girls
Helping Communities
Transforming Lives

ANNUAL IMPACT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

BEYOND BORDERS EMPOWERMENT
Jan - Dec 2025

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Beyond Borders Empowerment

Annual Impact and Financial Report 2025

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Executive Summary

In 2025, Beyond Borders Empowerment (BBE) moved beyond crisis response to focus on resilience and agency. Born from a deep understanding of the exclusion faced by women and girls in Afghanistan and refugees in the UK, our mission is to ensure that geography and gender never dictate an individual's potential. We don't just provide relief; we equip change agents. By turning survivors into leaders, we ensure that every pound invested creates a ripple effect of progress across marginalized communities.

2025 Key Achievements

- 90 girls enrolled in community learning centres in Afghanistan
- 196 girls enrolled in English classes (65 promoted to higher levels after graduation)
- 50 girls enrolled in Microsoft office package program
- 50 Women received Chevening UK scholarship guidance session
- 11 women-led startups received entrepreneurship support and referrals in Afghanistan.
- Gathering for over 100 people in London from refugee backgrounds
- 2 families supported with emergency medicine costs
- 10 families supported with emergency food and clothes after earthquake in Kunar province, Afghanistan

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A Message from the Founder

Dear BBE Family,

This year has been defined by a duality of emotion: it has been both deeply challenging and incredibly cherishing. Each time a new decree was issued, further squeezing the space in which women can breathe, I felt a heavy heart. It felt, quite literally, as though my own comfort was being taken away. It was not easy, but we made it through.

The true light in this difficult year has been the passion of our students. Our girls understand a fundamental truth: if they work hard and stay committed, no boundary can stop them. We saw the evidence of this unstoppable spirit when we received thousands of applications for every program we announced. We see it every day in our active students who show up to class, refusing to let the candle of education be extinguished in their homes.

To our students: I am so proud of each and every one of you. You are the champions of your own journeys. You have the power to make a difference and the strength to lead. You will carve the mountain to make your own way, and I urge you to remember that this resilience is the true key to success.

To our supporters, donors, friends, staff, and volunteers, and to everyone who has directly or indirectly supported our mission: Thank you. You have made these achievements possible.

I want to take a moment to pause and imagine a world where every girl is provided with the right opportunities. Together, we will be witnessing them begin to fly into unlimited spaces.

With gratitude and hope,
Sosan Founder

Founder and Executive Director
Beyond Borders Empowerment



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Background

Beyond Borders Empowerment (BBE) is a women-led, non-profit organization established in early 2024 under 15570506 registration number with Companies House as a direct response to the deepening crisis of social and educational exclusion. Our work is rooted in the reality faced by millions: from the Afghan girls denied their right to learn since 2021, to the refugees in the UK navigating the daunting complexities of integration. We exist to widen the margin of access for these underserved communities, ensuring that geography, gender, and circumstance do not dictate an individual's potential.

Our establishment was a deliberate act, grounded in lived experience and shaped by comprehensive research and community surveys. We understand that while short-term aid provides temporary relief, true resilience is built by transforming our beneficiaries into active change agents. By centering women, youth, and children as the architects of their own development, we address the root causes of poverty and inequality. This philosophy guides our diverse portfolio, which spans from English and mother-tongue literacy to digital skills and DVLA theory support for refugees. We provide the tools; they provide the courage to build self-determined, dignified futures.

We envision a world where the barriers of gender and circumstance are dismantled. Our mission is to provide the bridge. Whether it is through a virtual English classroom, a micro-business mentorship, or a driving theory class for a refugee in London, our work is about reclaiming dignity.

We take our values—Accountability, Inclusiveness, Sustainability, and Community Empowerment—deeply seriously. We know that handing out temporary relief is a kind gesture, but it is not a solution. Real transformation happens when we treat the people we serve as the primary authors of their own stories. We don't just want to solve a problem for a day; we want to equip change agents who will carry that spark back into their own families and neighborhoods.

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Context & Need: Why Our Work Matters

As we navigated 2025, the demand for our services grew as did the deepening global crisis. In Afghanistan, the ban on the fundamental rights of women and girls has evolved from crisis into the systemic exclusion of an entire generation. Today, Afghan women are navigating a world where their right to learn, work, and move freely has been almost entirely erased. This is not just a tough time to pass through; it is the very future of generations to come that is at stake.

At Beyond Borders Empowerment, we believe that staying silent is not an option when the dignity of millions is on the line. Similarly, in the UK, refugee communities and those seeking asylum continue to face steep climbs. Without targeted support in language, employment, and navigating the complexities of UK law and life, these individuals remain trapped on the sidelines of society.

We have identified four critical barriers that defined the landscape in 2025:

- For nearly five years, formal classrooms have remained closed to girls beyond the primary level. We are now witnessing a generational learning gap that threatens to leave millions of young women isolated and without a path to a professional future.
- Gender-based restrictions have stripped women of their ability to earn a living, access mental health support, or participate in public life. This has left female-headed households in a state of extreme vulnerability.
- The collapse of the local economy, combined with climate vulnerabilities and natural disasters, has left families unable to afford basic healthcare or food. These shocks hit the most marginalized, such as orphans and the displaced—the hardest.
- In the UK, from the other hand, refugees continue to face significant linguistic and systemic barriers that prevent them from truly integrating and finding the independence they deserve.

The need for intervention has never been more urgent. Without immediate, sustained support, the damage—both educational and psychological—will become irreversible. We are fighting against the permanent loss of hope.

Beyond Borders Empowerment exists to keep the doors of learning and self-reliance open, even when every other door has been shut. Our work in 2025 was a direct response to this urgency.



Programmes & Activities

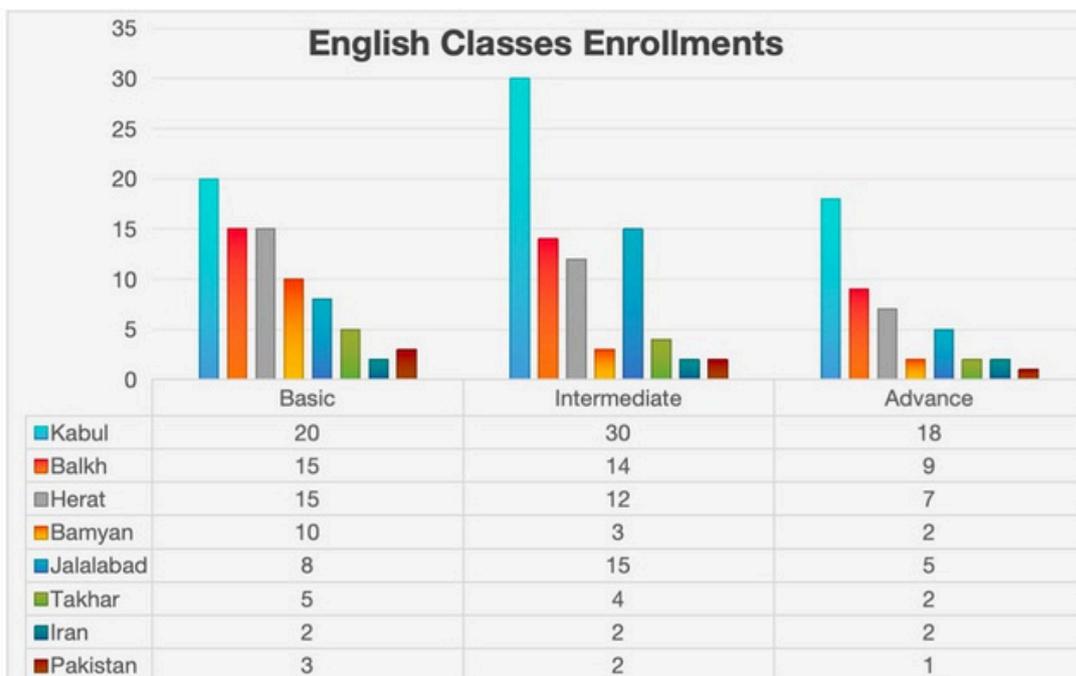
1. Our Educational Programs:

1) English Language: At Beyond Border Empowerment, we believe that education is a basic right that no circumstance should be able to extinguish. Throughout 2025, we have been honored to walk step by step with Afghan girls, serving as a bridge to the learning they have been denied. Our primary goal this year was to ensure that the "candle of learning" remained lit by providing high-quality, accessible alternatives educational mechanisms. The hunger for learning was more evident than ever; for our 2025 academic year, we received over 500 applications, and we are proud to have welcomed 196 of these ambitious students into our English Language programs.

Our specialized courses officially launched in June 2025 and successfully concluded their first cohort of 65 young women graduated and have been promoted to higher-level studies in September 2025. During these months, we utilised the comprehensive virtual English Interchange curriculum to move students through foundational and intermediate levels.

Today, our impact continues to grow. We currently have over 196 students enrolled across our Basic, Intermediate, Advanced and IELTS preparation classes from across Afghanistan and few Afghan girls from Pakistan and Iran as their access to education is limited due to displacement, lack of documents and financial constraints.

The following data illustrates the geographic diversity of our enrolled students and the levels they have achieved within our program, showcasing our reach across various provinces.



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2) Chevening Information Session

Driven by our commitment to sustainable growth and long-term educational empowerment, we hosted an expert-led information session on September 13, 2025, focused on the prestigious, fully-funded UK Chevening Scholarship. The session welcomed 50 ambitious participants joining us from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran. Our mentors provided deep dives into eligibility requirements and successful application strategies, with a particular focus on the art of persuasive essay writing.

Following the general session, we provided tailored, one-on-one mentorship to our most promising candidates to further refine their applications. This was a proudest moment for us when two of our students have been officially shortlisted for the next stage of the scholarship. We continue to support them as they look forward to pursuing their higher education on a global stage, proving that talent can defeat any restriction.



CHEVENING IN AFGHANISTAN

Beyond Borders Empowerment is proud to host a virtual info session on 13 September 2025 at 7:00 PM (Kabul Time), with expert guests guiding our community on the Chevening application process, eligibility, and opportunities.

<p>Zohra Jalal</p>  <p>Chevening Scholar, and Afghan gender equality advocate with experience in youth empowerment and women's rights</p>	<p>Mardan Khoshdell</p>  <p>Chevening Scholar and co-founder of the New Afghanistan Development Organization (NADO) Master's degree in Management and Technology from Cranfield University in the UK.</p>	<p>Negina Barai</p>  <p>Chevening and British Council alumna Two Master's degrees in Applied Human Rights (Sheffield Hallam University) and International Migration and Public Policy (U.S.E)</p>
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Join Us On Google Meet
Saturday, 13 September 2025
7:00 PM Kabul Time & 3:30 PM UK Time
Meeting Platform: Google Meet

Scan to Join



Negina Barai (Presenting)

The 3 course choices (what counts)

- Be full-time, taught in the UK, start in autumn
- Lead to a Visitor's degree (2+ part-time, Bachelor or distance learning)
- Generally must be three relevant different courses at a same university or three courses at up to three universities

Application timeline (2025/26)

- Deadline: 7 October 2025 at 09:00 UTC
- October-January eligibility self-scoring
- Self-appr. interviews
- Interview results (short, unconditional university offer by the Chevening deadline)

7:32 PM | gxd-rskd-bye

3) Empowering Women in STEM

Beyond Border Empowerment (BBE) is deeply committed to increasing the representation of Afghan girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). For too long, these fields have remained out of reach for many due to a lack of institutional support, a highly patriarchal social structure, and the persistent, outdated belief that STEM is a male-dominated domain. To challenge these taboos and address the demands of today's fast-paced digital world, we are working to empower women with the technical skills they need to thrive.

Although this program is in its initial stage, we are proud to have launched our first Computer Literacy Program. This two-month intensive course currently serves 10 young girls from across Afghanistan. These classes are led by highly qualified professionals who provide students with access to a wide range of digital resources. To ensure deep understanding and practical mastery of the digital sphere, our instructors elaborate topics in the students' mother tongue. It worth mentioning we are actively working to expand our reach by introducing a one-to-one mentorship program. This initiative will help girls navigate the complexities of international scholarship applications and university admissions, providing them with a clear, supported pathway to pursue and build successful careers in STEM.

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4) Psychological First Aid (PFA) Training

From December 25–27, 2025, Beyond Borders Empowerment organized a specialized online Psychological First Aid (PFA) training designed to equip professionals, volunteers, and community members with the tools to provide immediate emotional and practical support during times of crisis.

Led by expert trainer Rahila Poya, the three-day program saw active participation from over 40 individuals. The curriculum was carefully designed to cover the core principles of PFA, including identifying signs of acute stress and trauma, delivering compassionate responses, and establishing clear referral pathways to specialized mental health services.

The impact of this session was felt far beyond our initial expectations. We received significant interest from individuals outside of Afghanistan, leading to an overwhelming demand for BBE to conduct a future iteration of this training in English.



ONLINE TRAINING
PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID (PFA)

Online of Psychological First Aid (PFA)
Designed for professionals, volunteers, and anyone interested in providing immediate emotional and psychological support to people in distress.

Organization: Beyond Borders Empowerment(BBE)
Location: Virtual Session
Date: December 27, 28, and 29
Duration: 6:00PM - 7:00PM, Kabul Time (online session)
Format: (Google Meet)
How to Apply: Scan the QR code or complete the Google Form

Scan To Fill the Registration Form:



What is PFA?

- An evidence-informed approach used in the immediate aftermath of crises, disasters, or traumatic events.
- Focuses on offering support, practical assistance, and connecting individuals to further help when needed.

Why is it important?

- Helps reduce initial distress and supports healthy coping.
- Strengthens mental well-being and resilience during emergencies.
- Prepares individuals to respond with compassion and effectiveness in crisis situations.

More Information :

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- www.bbe.org

What you will learn:

- Key principles and steps of PFA.
- How to recognize stress and trauma.
- Techniques for offering immediate emotional and practical support.
- How to refer individuals to specialized services if necessary.



5) Our underground Schools:

In a time when the doors to formal education have been closed to many, Beyond Border Empowerment remains committed to finding a way forward. We are currently supporting three vital community-based learning centers in Kabul, aptly named Commitment, Hope, and Change. These centers serve as a sanctuary for 90 young girls—30 in each location, covering grades 7 through 12. In these safe and dedicated spaces, students continue to pursue their academic dreams, focusing on core subjects and critical thinking that the current environment seeks to restrict.

The names of these schools are not merely labels; they are a reflection of the spirit found within their walls. Commitment represents the unwavering dedication of our educators who risk everything to teach; Hope embodies the spirit of the girls who show up every day to learn; and Change signifies our collective belief that an educated woman is the most powerful force for a better future. By providing these girls with the resources and the environment they need to progress through their secondary education, we are ensuring that a generation of intellect and talent is not lost, but rather, is being nurtured in secret for the day they can step back into the light.



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2) Kid's day celebration and Eid Gifts

As part of the Bright Futures program: our Orphan Support Program, we celebrated Children's Day and Eid on June 1, 2025, with children from Mirza Hakimi Orphanage and Arezo-e-Ayenda Girls' Orphanage in Qala-e-Fathullah, Kabul. A total of 108 orphaned children (73 boys and 35 girls) took part in the celebrations, which created joyful moments of connection, laughter, and belonging.

Following a needs assessment, BBE provided each child with essential items, including shoes, school supplies, and personal necessities, supporting their education and daily well-being. This initiative reflects BBE's continued commitment to empowering orphaned children by combining care, dignity, and practical support to help build brighter futures.





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3. Our Refugee Support and Empowerment Program:

As refugee supportive organization, we believe in standing in solidarity with those seeking sanctuary in the UK, acting as a source of hope and unity. For this purpose we are pleased to had the opportunity to host refugee gathering and empowerment session in London in February 2024.

This event brought together over 100 participants from diverse backgrounds to foster a sense of community. During the session, we delivered specialized e-commerce training designed to give refugees the practical tools to start their own businesses or find employment, moving them closer to financial independence. The event brought together people from all walks of life, including business leaders, solicitors, accountants, scholars, and students, to share their expertise and support. By connecting refugees with these professionals during our Q&A and networking segments, we helped bridge the gap between new arrivals and the wider UK community, creating a lasting support network for everyone involved.



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4. Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship Program

At Beyond Borders Empowerment, we believe that lasting change starts when women are given the tools and trust to lead. Our Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship program is built on the idea that supporting a woman doesn't just change her life, it lifts her entire community. We move beyond one-time aid by providing a sustainable mix of microfinance, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship mentorship and referrals. This allows marginalized women to turn traditional crafts into viable business models. By focusing on local capacity, we help these entrepreneurs develop the decision-making skills needed to stay resilient and independent, even in the most challenging economic environments such as Afghanistan.



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The success of this approach is clearly seen in the 11 women-led startups we have mentored and referred to wider markets. We are proud to have supported ventures like Dursa (a collective of eight ventures in home décor and coffee art), Tough Hands Craft (handmade jewelry), Nafis (youth-led Afghan clothing), and Azin (traditional fashion). Our support also extends to specialized crafts like Robia Zahida Faizan's Home Decor (Nooristani woodwork), Qizil (laptop bags), Lalo (babywear), and Firoza Akbari's jewelry business, which now empowers over 60 young women. It is worth mentioning, we are enthusiastically pursuing strategic partnerships to scale this impact and reach the hundreds of other women who have approached us for help. A major step in this direction was our meeting with the UN Women team in March 2025. This collaboration is part of our commitment to building a sustainable mechanism that empowers women to support their families long-term.

5. Our Emergency Support and Relief Program

While health and humanitarian aid are not the primary focus of BBE’s work, as we mainly pursue sustainable, long-term approaches that equip communities with tools to support themselves, we do respond to urgent humanitarian needs when emergencies arise and resources are available. In May 2025, through our partners and community network, BBE supported families who were unable to afford urgent medical care, medications, and emergency treatments, helping to reduce the burden on households during acute health crises. As part of this response, two children were referred to partner NGOs for specialised medical assistance, ensuring they received appropriate care at a time when BBE’s direct resources were limited.

In December 2025, Abdul Latif (15) received emergency cash support for urgent medication. BBE is actively seeking a partner to support his and his brother’s long-term recovery.



Ahmad (9) received emergency support for his treatment in August 2025 in Kabul.

Later in the year, following the Kunar earthquake on 31 August 2025, which severely affected communities in eastern Afghanistan, BBE conducted a rapid needs assessment to understand the most immediate challenges faced by affected families. In response, we provided emergency assistance, including food and clothing, to households who had lost access to basic necessities.

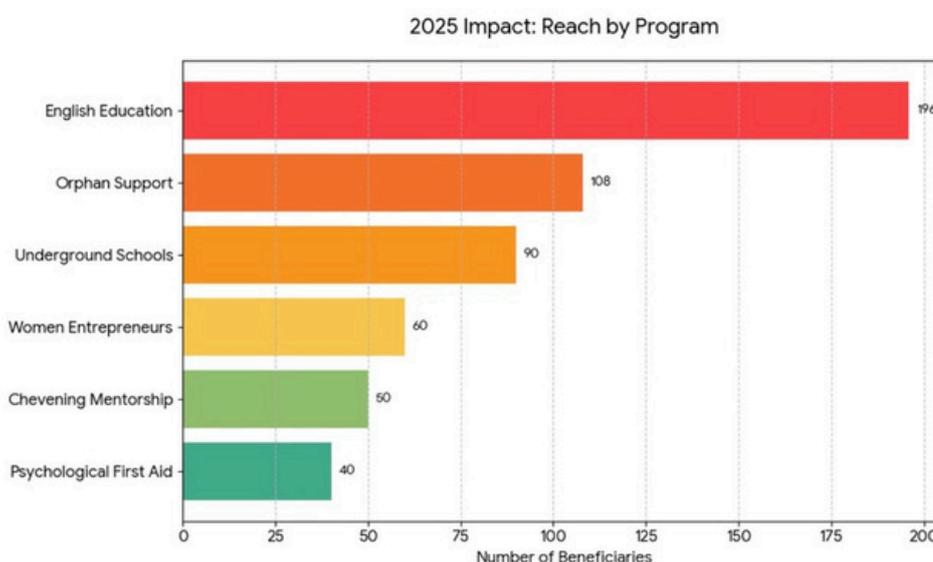


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6. Impact Summary

In 2025, our work shows a clear strategy, respond fast when people need help, yet keep building lasting strength, paving the way for growth and sustainability. By connecting with more than 500 people from Afghanistan to the UK, we've shown that even the toughest walls can't block the drive for progress. Our educational pillars reached nearly 200 students, they're not just classes but lifelines of hope, steady as a lantern against the dark of a lost generation. We are happy that our work could transform the life of 11 women through small startups and offering psychosocial and emergency support to more than 100 orphaned children,



7. Partnerships & Solidarity

Our work in 2025 was fueled by a powerful network of people who believe in our mission. Because we do not rely on a single large institutional donor, our independence is our strength. We are proud to be supported by a dedicated community of friends, public donors, and the personal contributions of our Trustees, who have invested their own resources to ensure our programs never stop. This grassroots funding model means we are directly accountable to the people we serve, allowing us to stay agile and respond to needs on the ground the moment they happen.

At Beyond Borders Empowerment, we are such a local network of capable, committed, and resilient individuals. We believe that through our sustainable approach, we can reach even more people—assisting them in their journey to becoming true agents of change.

Our work is far from over, and we cannot do it alone. We warmly welcome anyone who feels the same "stress" and urgency that we do regarding the plight of marginalized communities. Those who have been silenced and excluded need us now more than ever. If you share our vision for a world where dignity and education are non-negotiable, we invite you to stand with us. Together, we can ensure that those who need us most are never forgotten.



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8. Financial Overview and report:

Our financial foundation is built on the generosity of individuals and the deep commitment of our leadership. In 2025, Beyond Borders Empowerment was funded entirely through personal contributions and public donations. We do not currently rely on large institutional grants; instead, we are powered by a community of Friends of BBE, who believe that even small gifts can create significant change. Here is a brief of financial statement for January

We are deeply grateful to our 2025 contributors. While many small donations were received from the public, our primary support came from:

Income – January to December 2025

Source of Income	Amount (£)	Category
Trustee & Leadership Gifts 4,000	£4,000	Direct contributions from core founders
Key Individual Supporters	£800	Named community donors
Public & Anonymous Giving	£1,200	Community donations and small gifts
Total Income	£6,000	

Expenditure – January to December 2025

Allocation of Funds	Amount (£)	Category
Humanitarian & Medical Aid	£2,200	Earthquake relief and life-saving medical care
Staff Salaries	£2,040	Two full-time staff members (providing local employment)
Digital & Operations	£1,000	Website, security tools, and student data packages
Events & Education	£760	Graduation ceremonies and program materials
total expenditures	£6,000	

9. Governance and Accountability

Beyond Borders Empowerment operates with a clear, professional structure designed to ensure that every resource is managed with the utmost care. Led by board trustees, our day-to-day operations are carried out by dedicated program coordinators and volunteer implementation teams. This lean management style allows us to remain agile while staying firmly rooted in our mission. Our Board of Trustees provides the necessary strategic oversight, ensuring that our grassroots heart is matched by professional rigor and long-term sustainability.

We believe that transparency is a dialogue, not just a document. We are committed to an open reporting process that holds us accountable to our donors, our partners, and—most importantly—to the women and children we serve. At the core of our work is a zero-tolerance policy toward any form of abuse, exploitation, or discrimination. We understand that working with vulnerable and displaced populations carries a heavy responsibility; therefore, safeguarding is woven into every program we design. By maintaining these high ethical standards, we ensure that BBE remains a safe, trusted, and transparent space for social transformation.

10. The Road Ahead: Our Vision for 2026

While 2025 was about building the bridge, 2026 is about crossing it. Our strategic priorities focus on deepening our roots and scaling the models we have proven to work.

Our Priorities for the Coming Year:

- **Expanding the Classroom:** We aim to widen access to our educational centres and English/IELTS programs, ensuring that gender-based exclusion does not mean the end of a girl's intellectual journey.
- **STEM & Digital Literacy:** We will strengthen our STEM pathways and computer literacy programs, equipping our students with the technical skills needed for the global digital economy.
- **Mental Health & Psychosocial Support:** Recognizing the trauma of displacement and conflict, we are scaling our PFA (Psychological First Aid) trainings and community wellbeing initiatives.
- **Entrepreneurship:** We plan to increase our mentorship for women-led startups, moving more families from survival toward sustainable income generation.
- **Refugee support classes from access to healthcare to public and regulation awareness programs.**
- **Luanch of our women driving test class for refugee women in England**



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Thank You: A Community of Solidarity

Our achievements in 2025 were not the work of a single person or a single grant; they were the result of a collective refusal to look away.

To our students and beneficiaries: your courage is our fuel. To our donors, volunteers, and mentors: your trust has made the impossible, possible. Thank you for sharing the stress of this mission and for proving that when we stand together, borders cannot stop the flow of hope.

Join the Movement

If you believe that dignity and education are non-negotiable, there is a place for you at BBE:

Donate: Fuel our education and emergency initiatives.

Partner: Collaborate with us on advocacy and program delivery.

Volunteer: Lend your skills, your mentorship, or your professional expertise.

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