

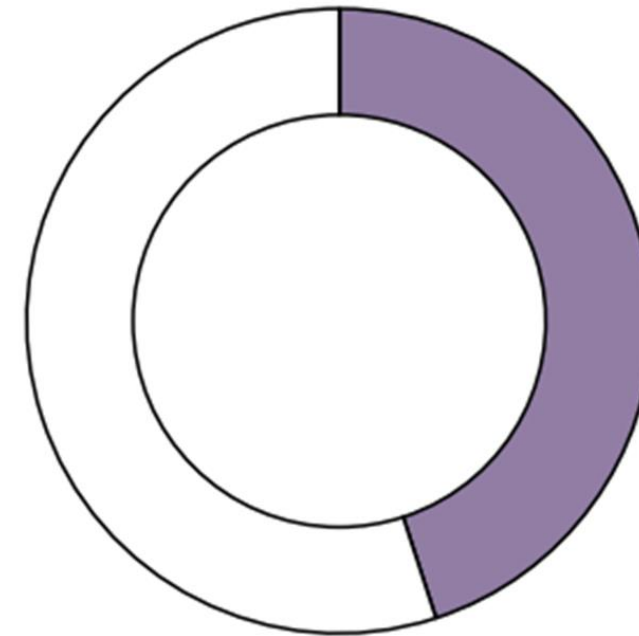
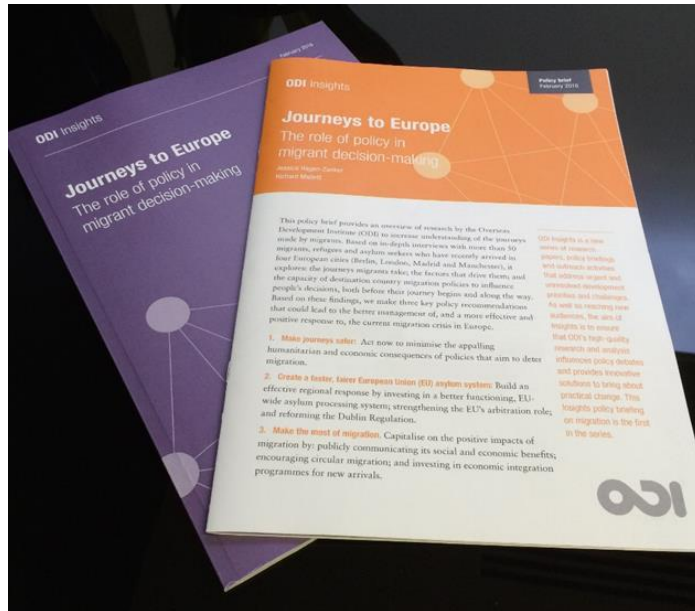


*Journeys on hold*  
*How policy influences the migration*  
*decisions of Eritreans in Ethiopia*

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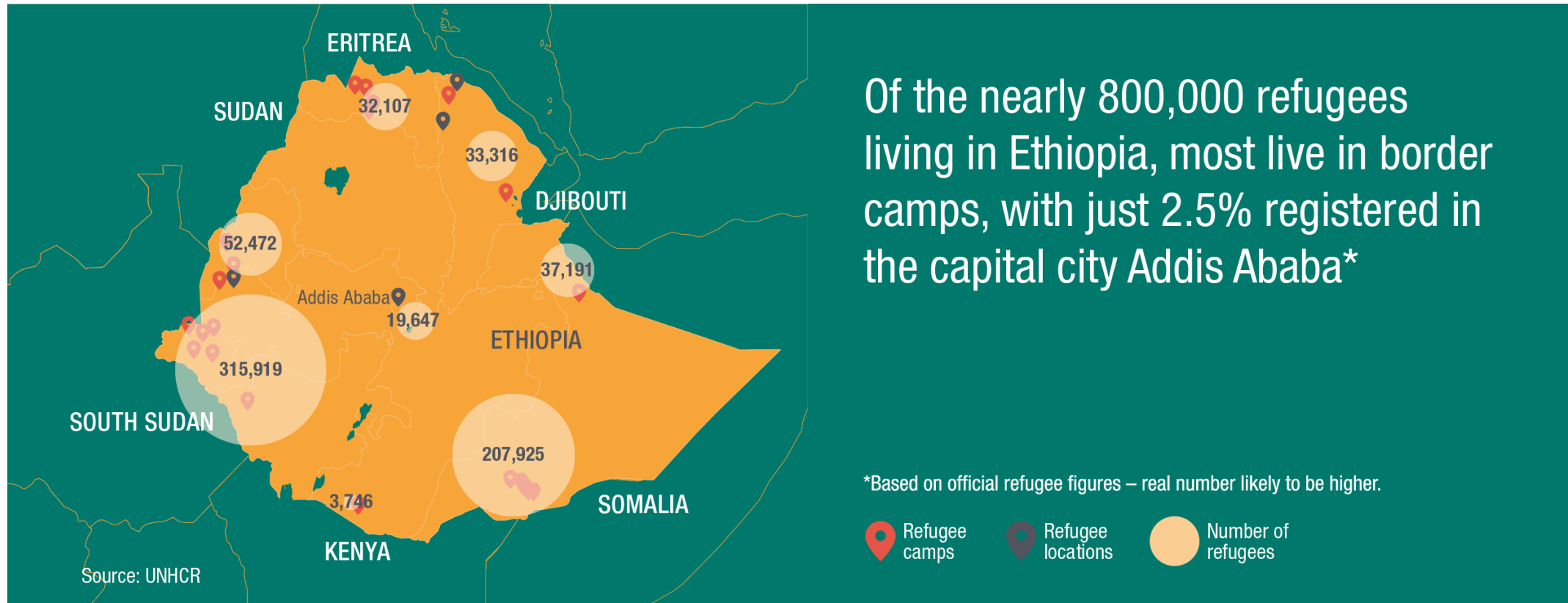
Centre for European Policy Studies, 5 July 2017

# Journeys to Europe - public policies in host countries shape destination choice



- ☒ Yes - public policy featured
- ☐ No - public policy did not feature

# Case study



# How do livelihood support and resettlement programmes shape the way Eritrean refugees think about migration?

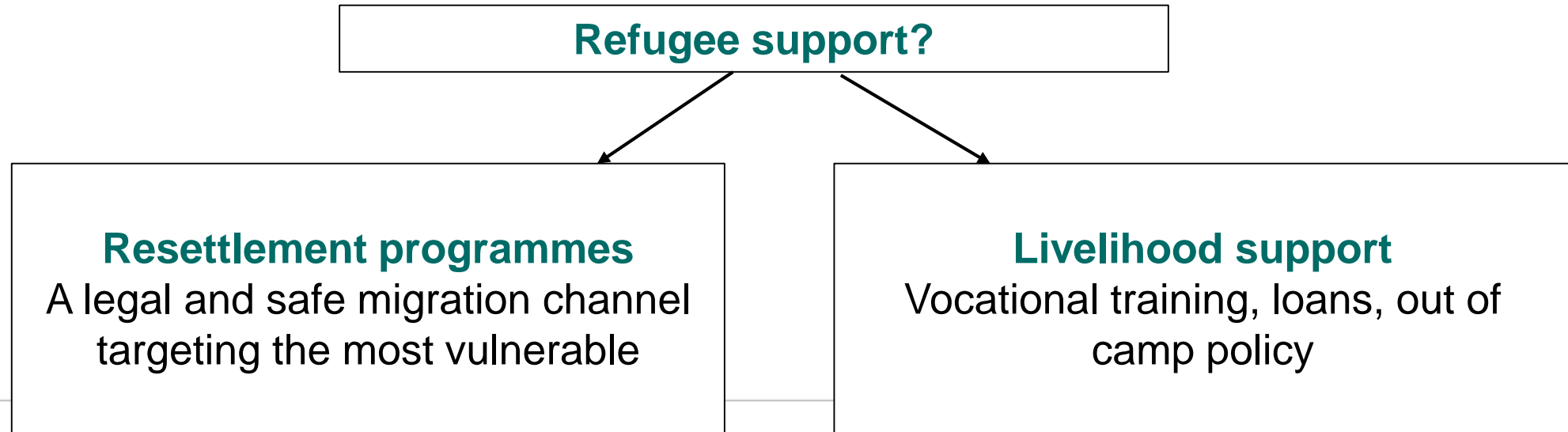
- Refugees' perceptions of their own options
- How refugees expectations and aspirations change during their journey
- Decisions about secondary movement vs. settling in Ethiopia

# Context

**Refugees in camps:** Located throughout the country and receive UNHCR/ ARRA support

**Urban refugees:** Mostly in Addis Ababa and receive UNHCR support

**Out of Camp Policy:** Out-of-camp refugees cannot access UNHCR support



# Research approach

Whether and how the provision of ‘viable alternatives’ to irregular migration influences people’s migration **decision-making processes?**

We explored this through **63 in-depth interviews** with Eritreans in camp and urban settings, light-touch quantitative analysis and key-informant interviews.



# Main Findings

1. Ethiopia is a vital country of asylum
2. Livelihood support is being offset by deeper economic and legal constraints
3. Resettlement is slowing irregular migration down



# 1

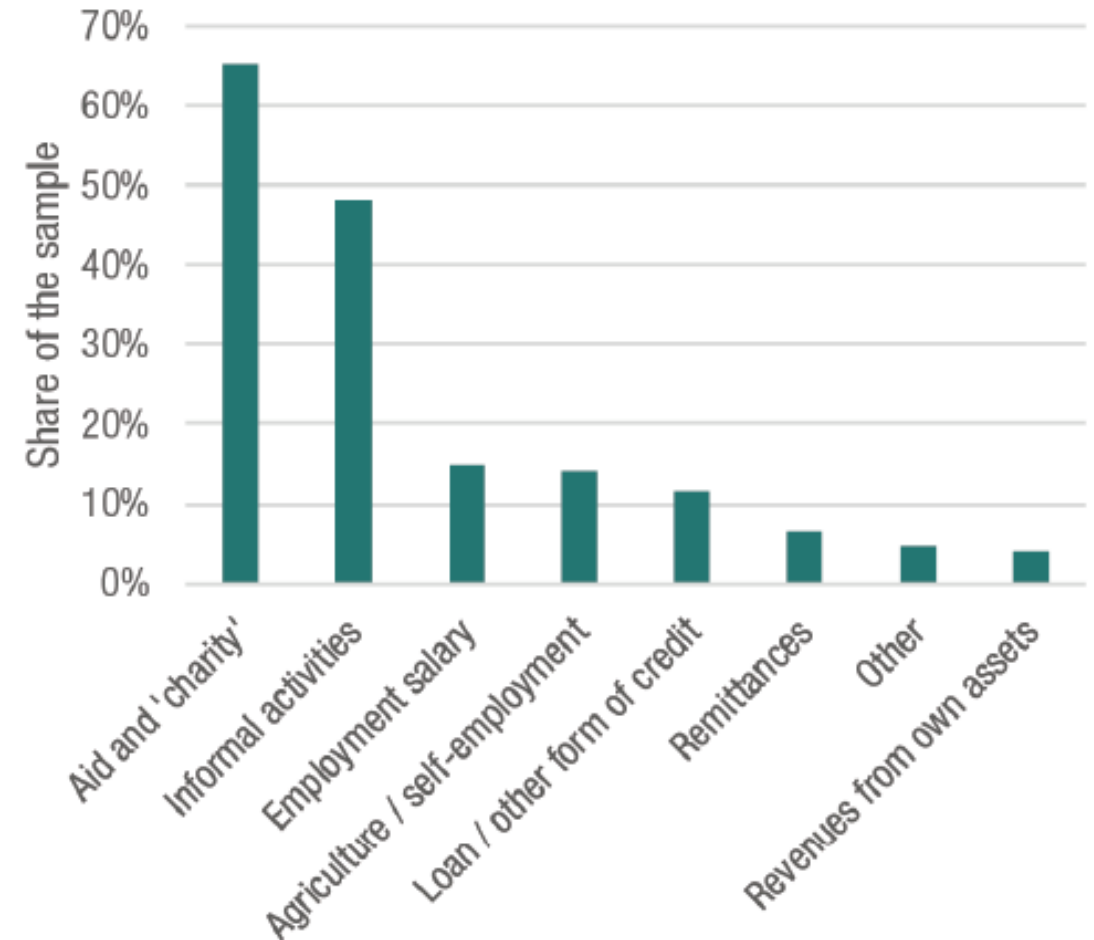
**Ethiopia is a vital country of asylum**



# 1

## Ethiopia is a vital country of asylum

Most respondents in Adi Harush rely on aid and informal activities



# An Eritrean in Ethiopia: Teddy Love's story


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Tempo Afric TV - Eritrean  
National Dialogue in Germany

# Recommendation

Ethiopia's open asylum policy should be supported and maintained

The **government of Ethiopia should be supported** to:

- assist refugees in camps *and* in urban areas
- include safe housing, education, healthcare
- learn from on-going initiatives to support urban refugees

# Recommendation

Policy measures should recognise the diversity of Eritreans living in Ethiopia

Policies and programmes need to be **tailored to different groups.**



# 2

**Livelihood support is being offset by deeper economic and legal constraints**

# Recommendation

Programming should aim to match people's different aspirations and skills

Programmes are **not always relevant** to own needs and interests.  
There are problems of **market saturation**.

Efforts should be made to

1. Re-evaluate the relevance of skills training offered
2. Expand the range of vocations
3. More support after people receive loans and training

# Recommendation

Refugee labour rights should be enhanced

**Refugees can contribute to host community economies**, but potential tensions need be considered.

The proposed Jobs Compact could be used to **leverage greater access** to work.



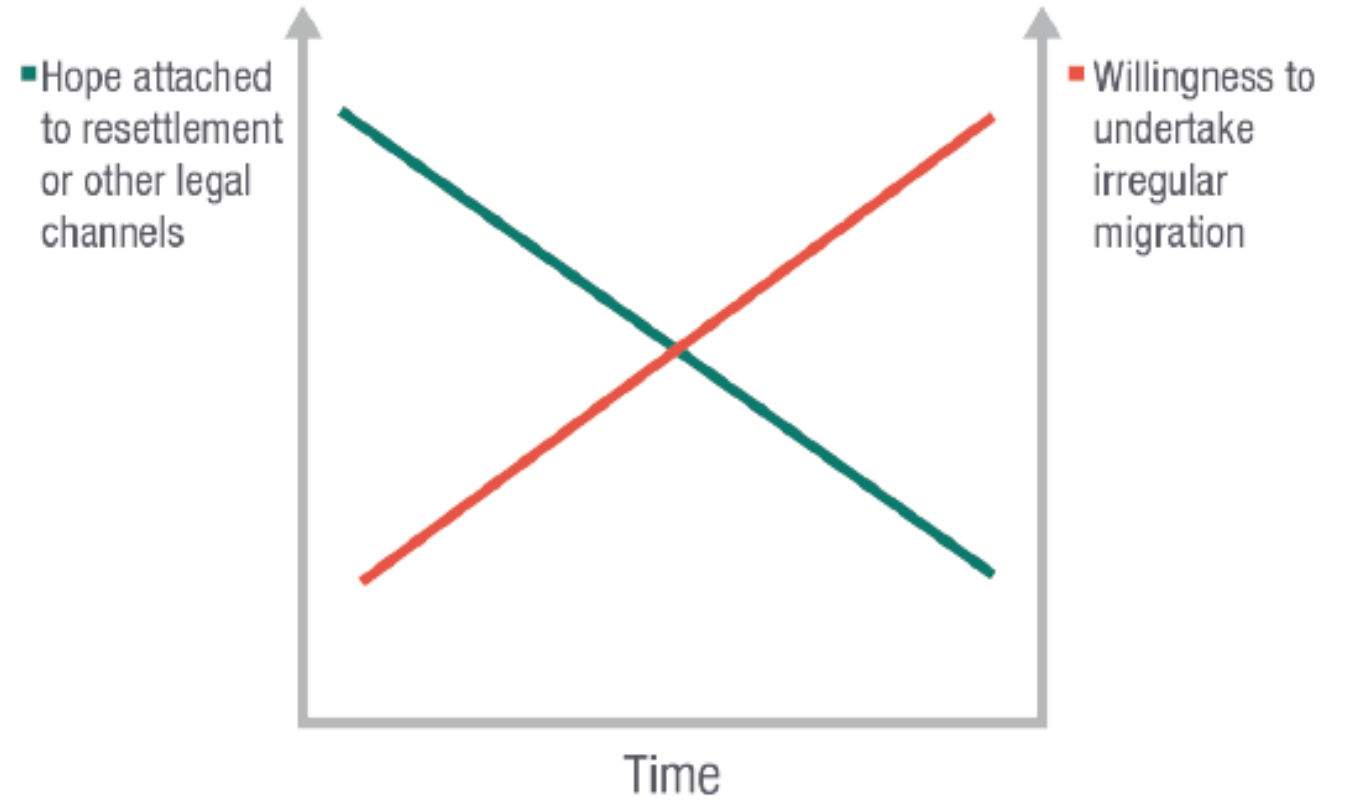
# 3

**Resettlement is slowing irregular migration  
down**



# 3

**Resettlement is slowing irregular migration down**



# Recommendation

Information about resettlement should be clearer and more accessible

Refugees **often lack accurate knowledge**

By creating a clearer and more accessible process:

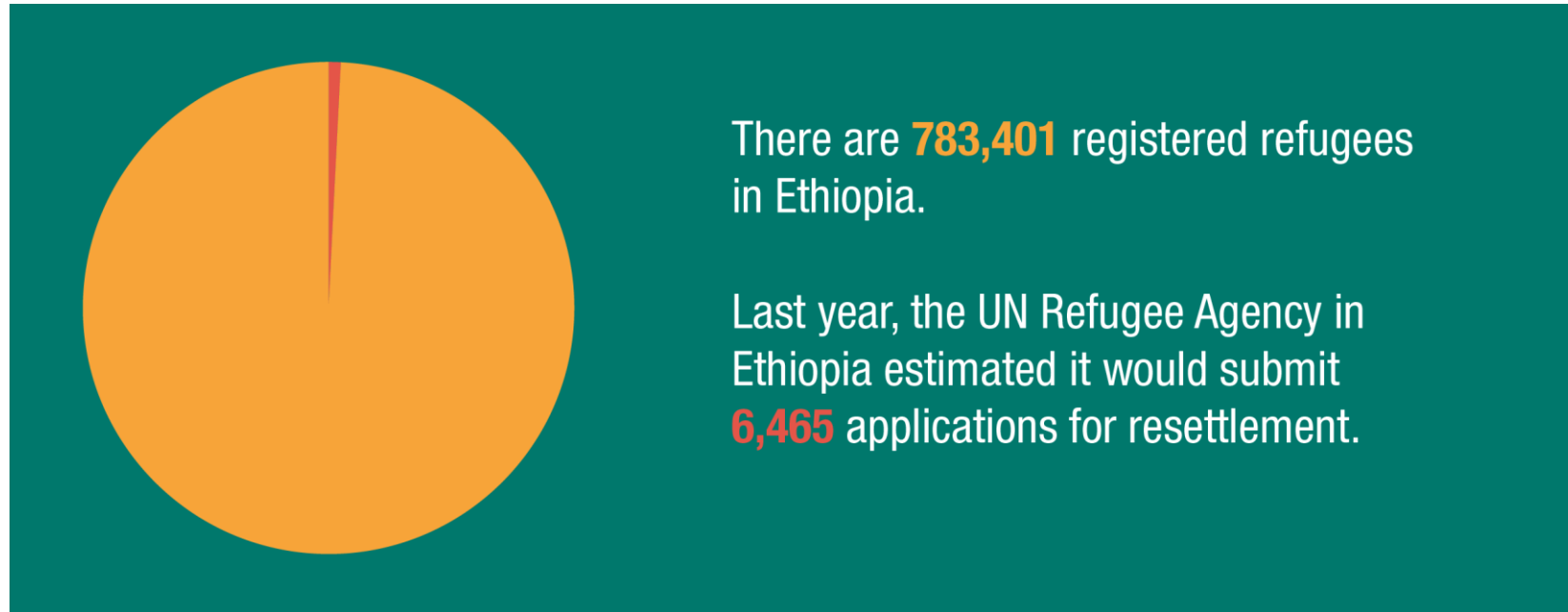
- People could make **informed decisions**
- May **suffer less mental stress**

*It might take another six months or so. Who knows? They don't tell you everything.*

*(Female, 30, Addis Ababa)*

# Recommendation

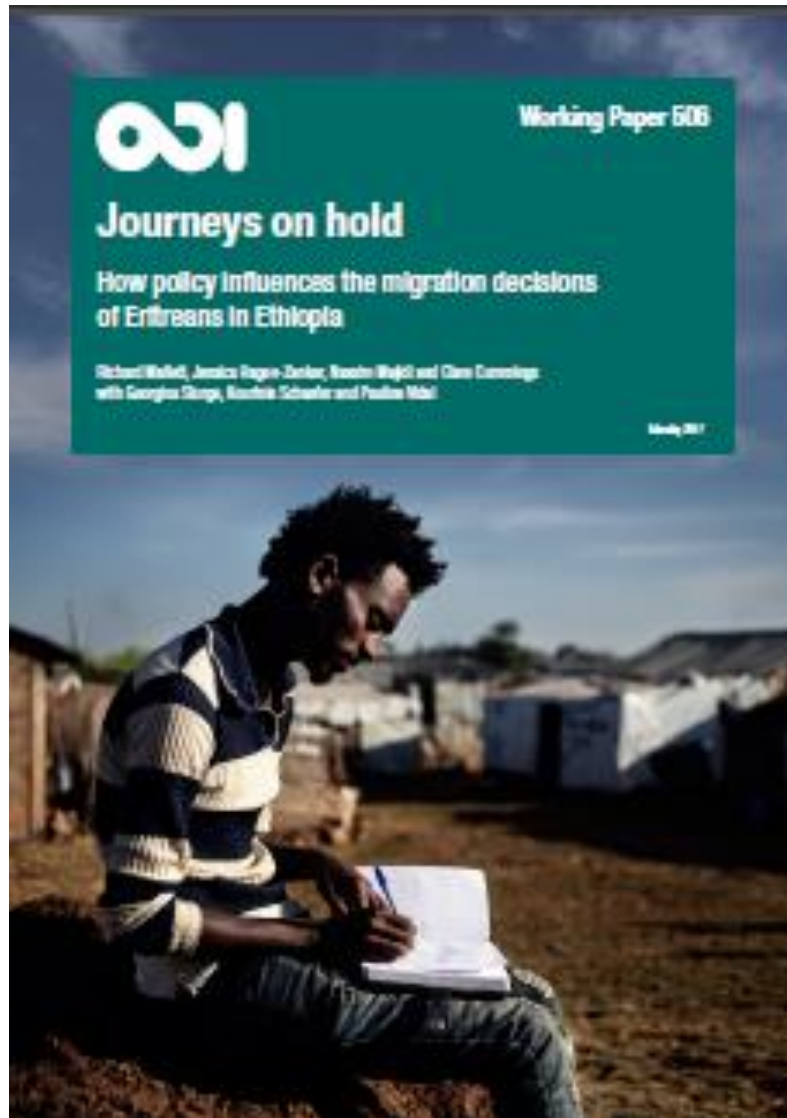
Legal pathways should be developed and expanded



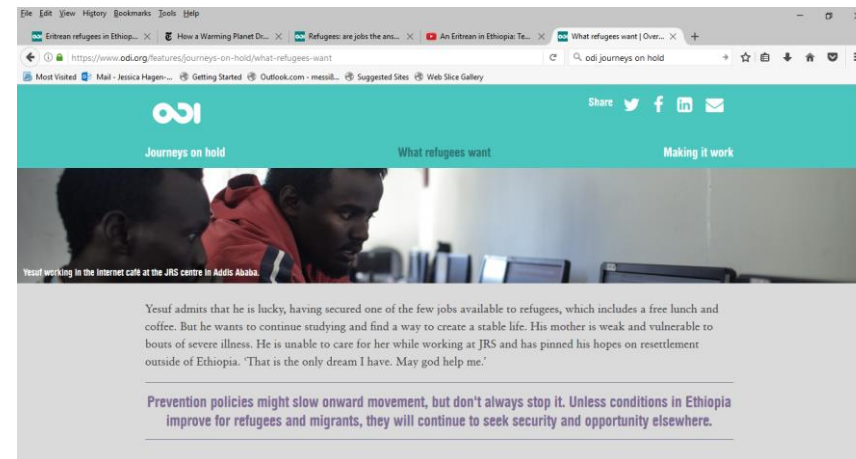
This is about **managing flows** that are happening regardless.

Options include: humanitarian visas, temporary migration schemes, quota enlargements and study scholarships

# The paper



# The scrolling site



# A short documentary

