

Virtual Refugee Nation

A digital nation for refugee participation — a new model for meaningful representation through digital governance.



Imagine if... **118 M+** people
scattered across the world were
connected through one platform

◆ **68.7M**

Internally Displaced Persons

◆ **28.5M**

Refugees

◆ **9.0M**

Asylum-Seekers

◆ **7.2M**

People in Need of
International Protection

◆ **6.0M**

Palestine Refugees

Dispersed Globally.

Connected Digitally.

Acting Collectively.

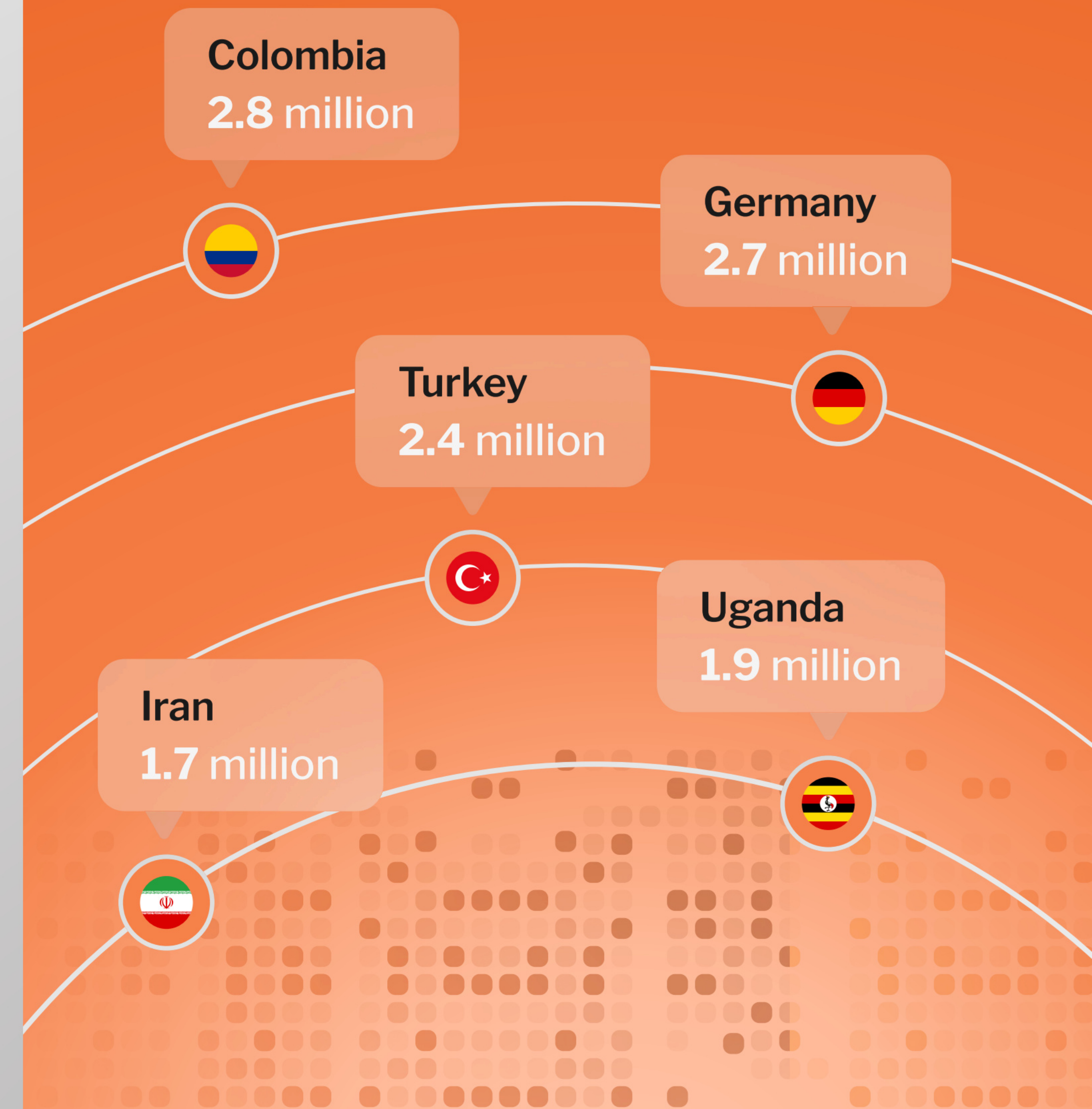
The Current Reality

Too often, global refugee responses are reactive to crises instead of proactive.

118 M+  people displace as of **2026**

This makes the system less effective and less efficient. Refugees, their organizations, and their lived and professional expertise need to be part of shaping solutions from the start, helping the system move **from reactive response to proactive action.**

Top 10 countries hosting displaced populations



Bringing Refugees to the Table

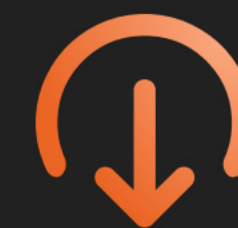
“ Nothing About
Us Without Us ”



Refugees are still too often consulted after priorities and solutions have already been defined.



Meaningful engagement means having a role in shaping decisions, setting priorities and co-manage responses.



Developing solutions from the beginning, and influencing the policies and responses already underway.

Refugees are *already* contributors

Refugees bring skills, networks, lived experience, and a strong interest in making the system work better. VRN can help connect and mobilize that capacity at scale.



This isn't a new idea — **it's the next step.**

R-SEAT works to make refugee responses more effective by positioning refugees as equal partners in the decisions, policies, and solutions that shape their lives.

Refugee-Led and Evidence-Informed

Grounded in lived experience, research, and thematic expertise.



Institutionally Connected

Designed to work with governments, international organizations, and refugee-led organizations.



Technology Enabled

Built with trusted technology partners to create a safe, sovereign platform for refugees to connect, organize, and act at scale.



VRN is how we make that participation structured, verifiable, and scalable.

Introducing

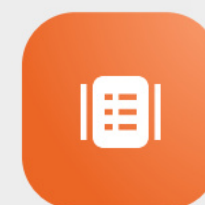
Virtual Refugee Nation

A digital nation designed to connect refugees globally and enable collective action, collaboration, and decision-making at scale, making global refugee responses more effective, coordinated, and responsive.

A digital civic ecosystem where displaced people can:



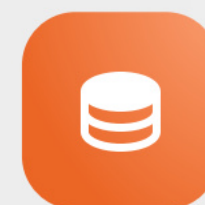
Become verified digital citizens



Engage in governance, contribute ideas, and take part in collective decision making



Participate in governance and community decision-making



Build trusted digital identities while maintaining ownership of their personal data.



Engage in digital work, education, and future opportunities through trusted partners.

What is **Virtual** **Refugee** Nation?

Built Around Four Pillars

The core principles guiding
the VRN ecosystem.

01

Collective action

02

Trusted identity

03

Digital governance

04

Global community

How **VRN** Works

01

Join

Open to all forcibly displaced persons: refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, stateless persons, and persons in refugee-like situations lacking formal recognition.

02

Verified identity

Membership is verified through partnerships with trusted refugee-led organizations, NGOs, and legal service providers with offline community-based methods for low-connectivity contexts.

03

Digital citizenship

Citizens maintain secure, portable digital IDs with cross-border recognition and interoperability.

04

Engage & contribute

Citizens participate in ministries and decision-making, and can access digital identity and service tools.

05

Vote & delegate

Citizens vote directly on policy matters or delegate their voting power to a trusted individual, a delegation that can be reassigned or revoked at any time.

06

Collective action

Representation in global fora, access to digital credentials and employment tools, and inclusion in collective advocacy and service pipelines.

Digital Citizenship



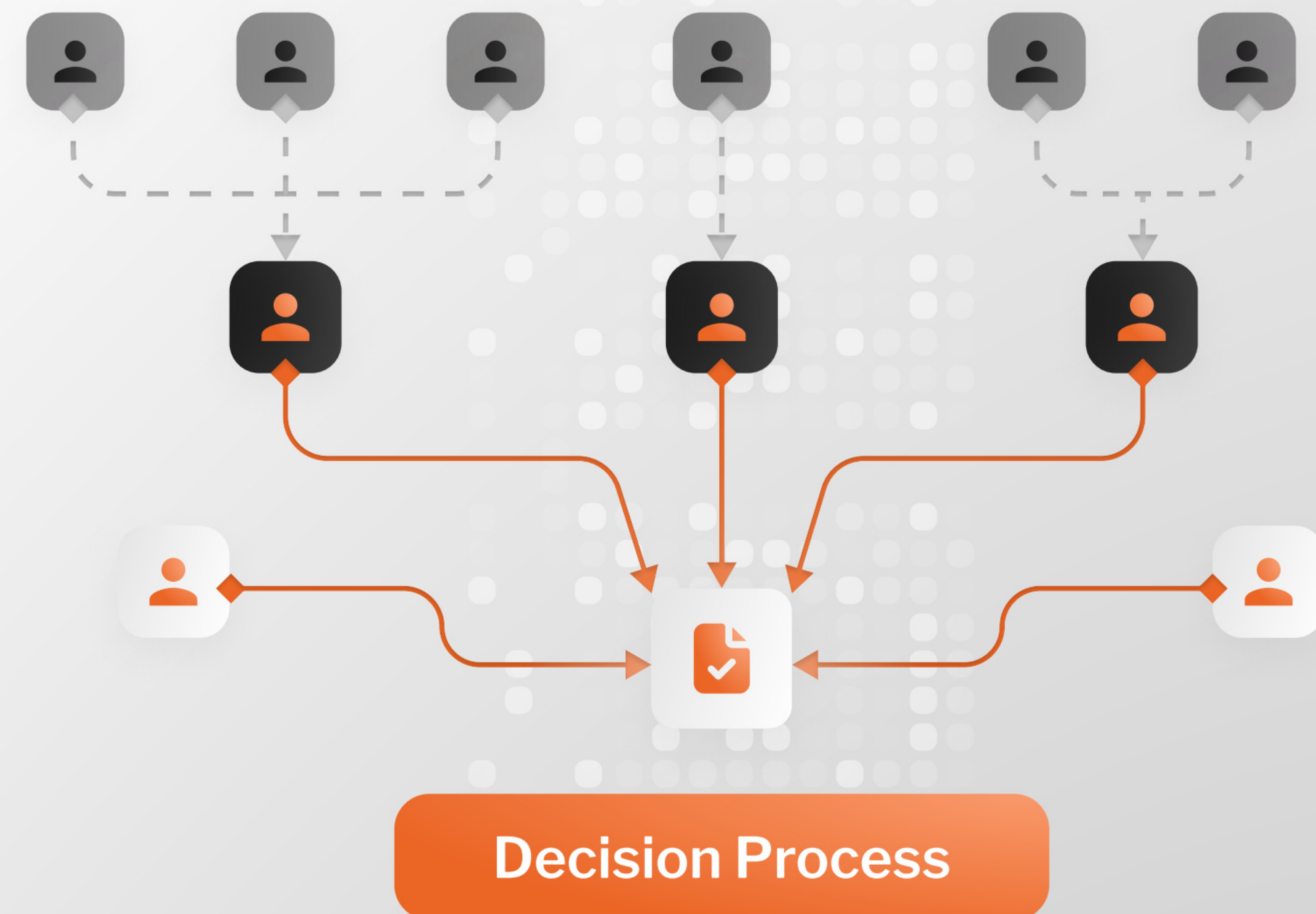
Digital Credentials Wallet

A borderless digital nation designed to enable refugees to participate, collaborate, and shape decisions together.



Liquid Democracy

A flexible, transparent model that combines direct and representative democracy.





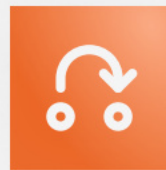
Vote

A citizen can vote directly



Delegate

Delegate to someone they trust
or with relevant expertise



Reclaim

Change or reclaim that
delegation anytime

VOTE

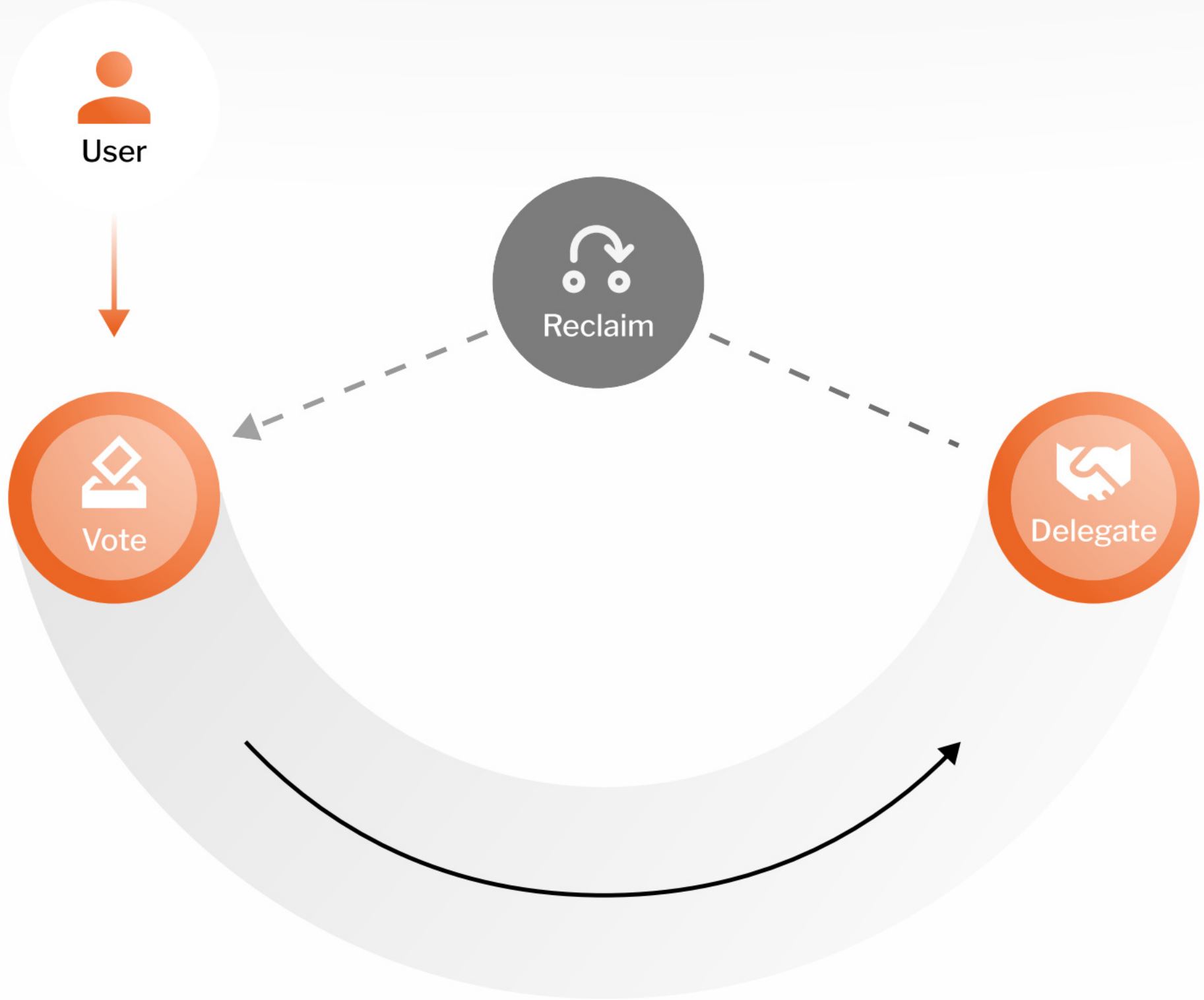
Proposal #14

Should VRN prioritize the
Ministry of Education in
2026?

Vote
directly

Delegate
my vote

Proposed by Amina H ♦ Open for voting 3 days left



DELEGATE

Proposal #14

Should VRN prioritize the
Ministry of Education in
2026?

✓

DELEGATE TO SAMUEL O.
Samuel vote: YES

Reclaim my vote

Proposed by Amina H ♦ Open for voting 3 days left

Governance Structure

A transparent process that allows citizens to **contribute, deliberate, make decisions, and follow ideas** through to action.

How a decision actually moves through VRN, from idea to action.



Propose

Elected officials and community representatives create proposals



Discuss

Community shares ideas and perspectives



Delegate

Citizens can delegate their vote to someone they trust



Decide

Citizens vote and make a collective decision



Implement

The decision is turned into action

PROPOSAL

Proposal

#27



Create a mentorship programme connecting new citizens with established ones

New citizens often struggle to navigate the platform in their first weeks. Pairing them with experienced citizens from their region could improve participation.



Supporting: **18+ netizen**

Comments: **42 participants**

Support this proposal

Add your comment

Proposed by **Yusuf A** ♦ Open for discussion

Refugee-Led Ministries

An initial structure designed to grow
and evolve with the VRN community.



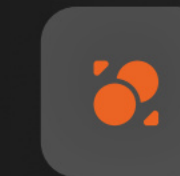
Potential ministries
simulate **governmental
functions** — without
territorial claims.



Education



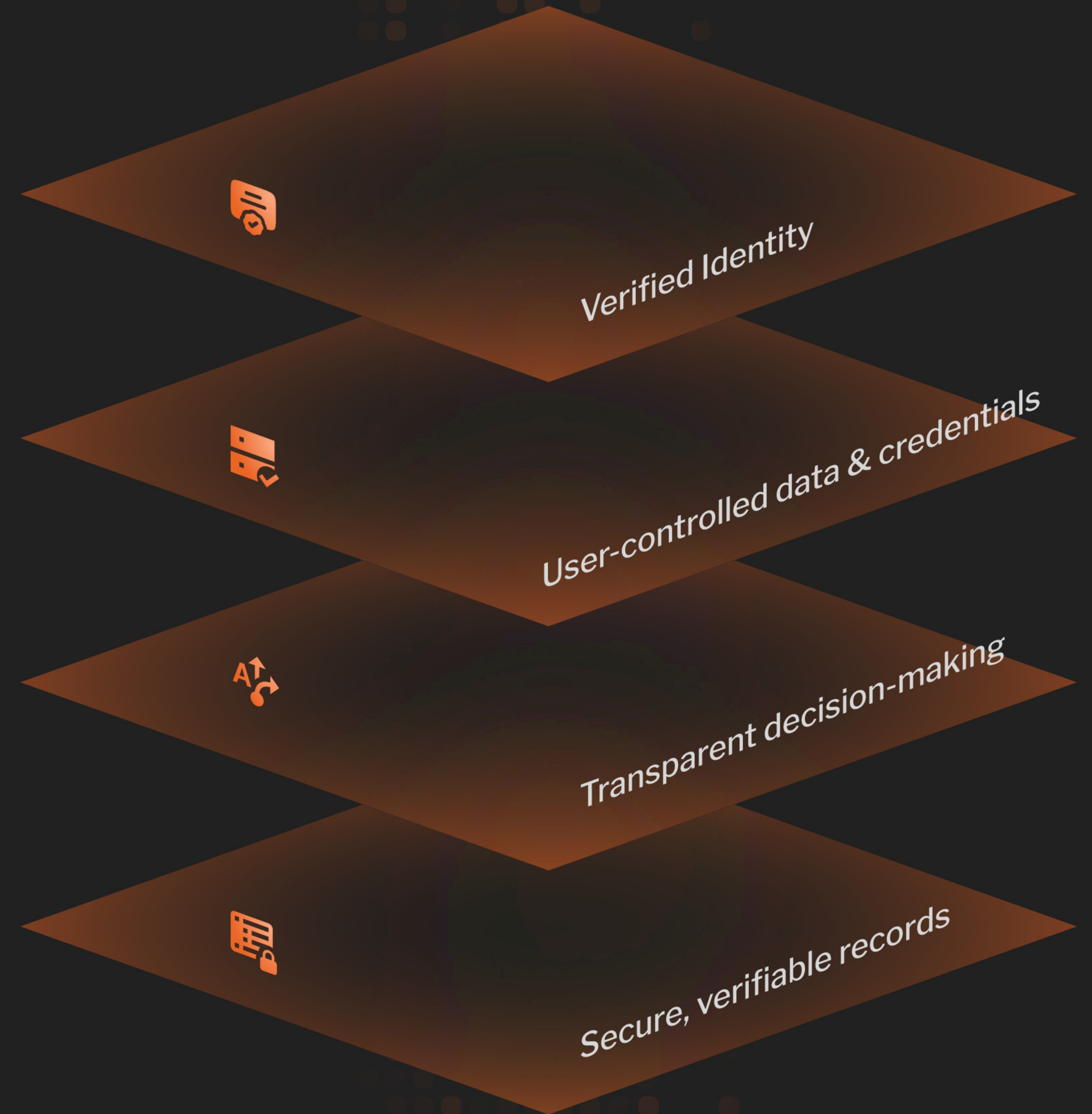
Global affairs &
advocacy



Economic
empowerment

Technology Built for Trust

The technology behind VRN should make collective action at global scale secure, private, trusted, and verifiable.



The VRN Platform

One digital space to connect, contribute, decide, and act together.

- ◆ Home / dashboard
- ◆ Ideas & proposals
- ◆ Voting & delegation
- ◆ Wallet & credentials
- ◆ Collective initiatives
- ◆ Citizen profile



Growing Together

A phased path from a small
pilot to **global scale**.

Long Term Goal:

Institutionalized refugee-participation mechanisms in 20 countries — VRN accelerates and scales what R-SEAT is already building toward.

Phase 1

300 pilot users

Across East Africa, MENA, South Asia and South America. First digital IDs issued and first ministry launched.

Phase 2

2,500–5,000 citizens

First VRN-wide democratic vote, plus additional ministries established.

Phase 3

10,000 citizens

Ministries fully operational, with active partnerships and independent evaluation.

How the **pilot** works:

1. Start with a small, diverse cohort, engaged through trusted refugee-led and institutional partners.



2. Support inclusive onboarding, including facilitation where digital access or literacy may be a barrier.



3. Co-design and test the model, with citizens shaping the platform, governance, priorities, and future expansion.

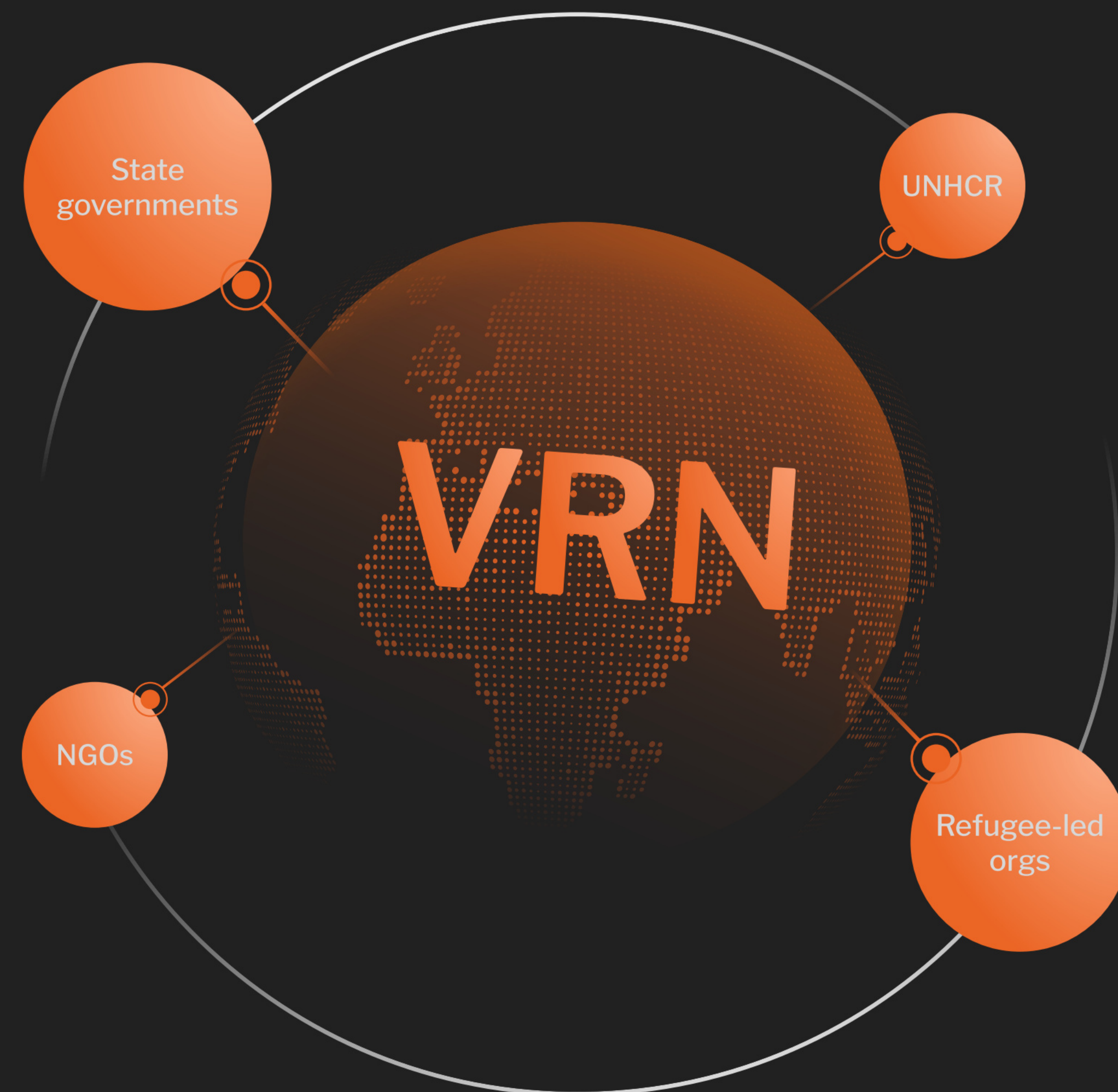


VRN

Complementing Existing Systems

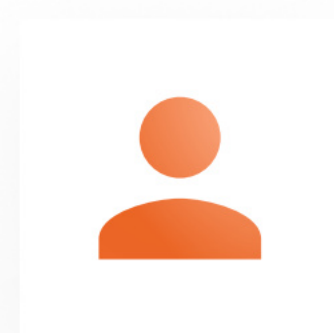
VRN is designed to strengthen, not replace, the existing refugee ecosystem.

It creates a new digital layer for refugees to connect, organize, contribute expertise, and act collectively alongside governments, UNHCR, NGOs, refugee-led organizations, and other partners.



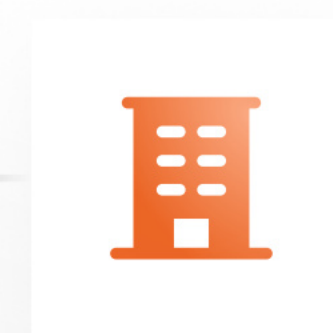
Why This Matters

VRN unlocks shared trust between refugees and the institutions working alongside them



For refugees

Connection, belonging, collective agency, trusted identity, expertise and opportunities.



For governments

Access to refugee expertise at scale, better-informed decisions, trusted engagement, and more effective responses.

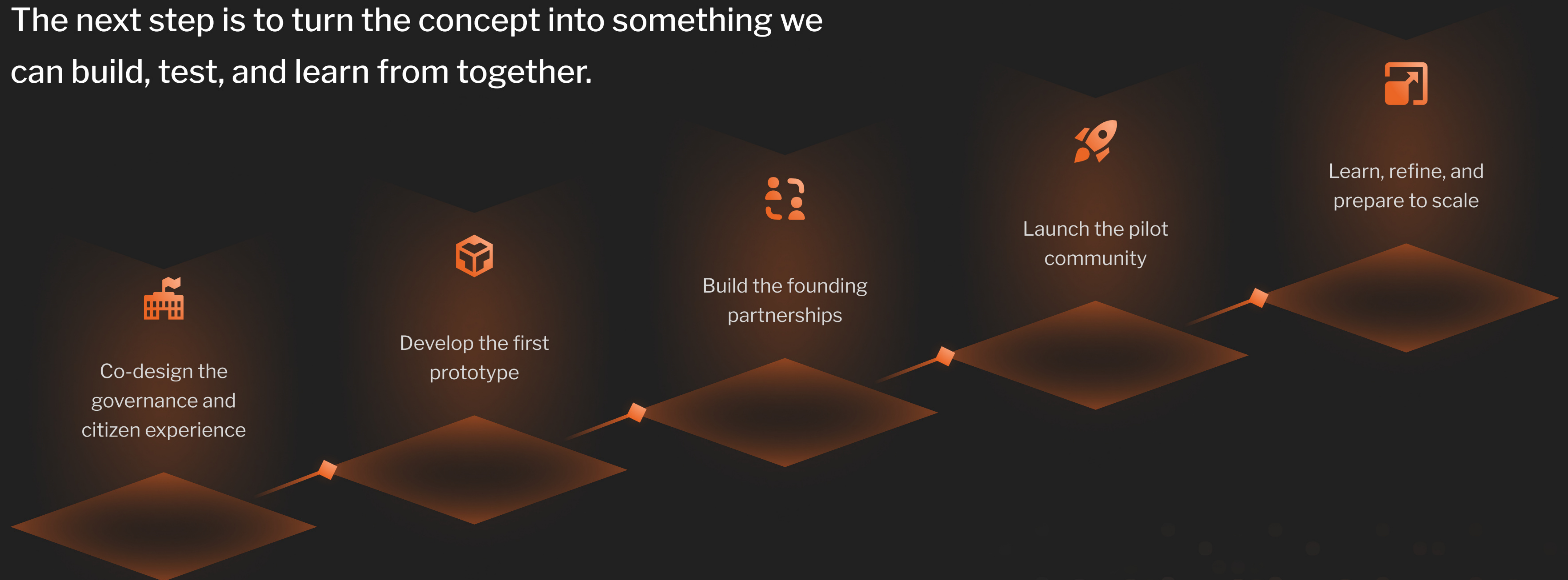
A Shared Opportunity

VRN must be co-built across communities, institutions, and disciplines.



From Vision to Pilot

The next step is to turn the concept into something we can build, test, and learn from together.



A Place to Belong. A Future to Build.

Displacement can take people far from home, but it should not take away their ability to belong, contribute, and shape the future.

Connect. Belong. Act. Build together.