Mignote Project – Midline Survey Briefing

Prepared by EOC-DICAC/RRAD, January 2026
Funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Executive Summary

The Mignote Project, launched in September 2024, targets 500 households (300 refugee and 200 vulnerable host households) in Addis Ababa’s Lemi Kura and Nifas Silk Lafto sub-cities. Using a graduation-out-of-poverty approach, the project aims to strengthen livelihoods, social cohesion, and self-reliance.

The midline survey, conducted with 477 households, demonstrates significant progress compared to baseline. Food security has improved dramatically, with nearly 90 percent of households now eating two to three meals daily. Housing vulnerability has been reduced, with only 4 percent of households still in makeshift shelters compared to 43 percent at baseline. Access to healthcare has expanded, with 34 percent reporting full access to needed services, up from 8 percent at baseline. Employment shows modest gains, with documented full-time work rising from 1 percent to 3 percent. Household savings capacity has improved, though 73 percent of households still hold insufficient reserves.

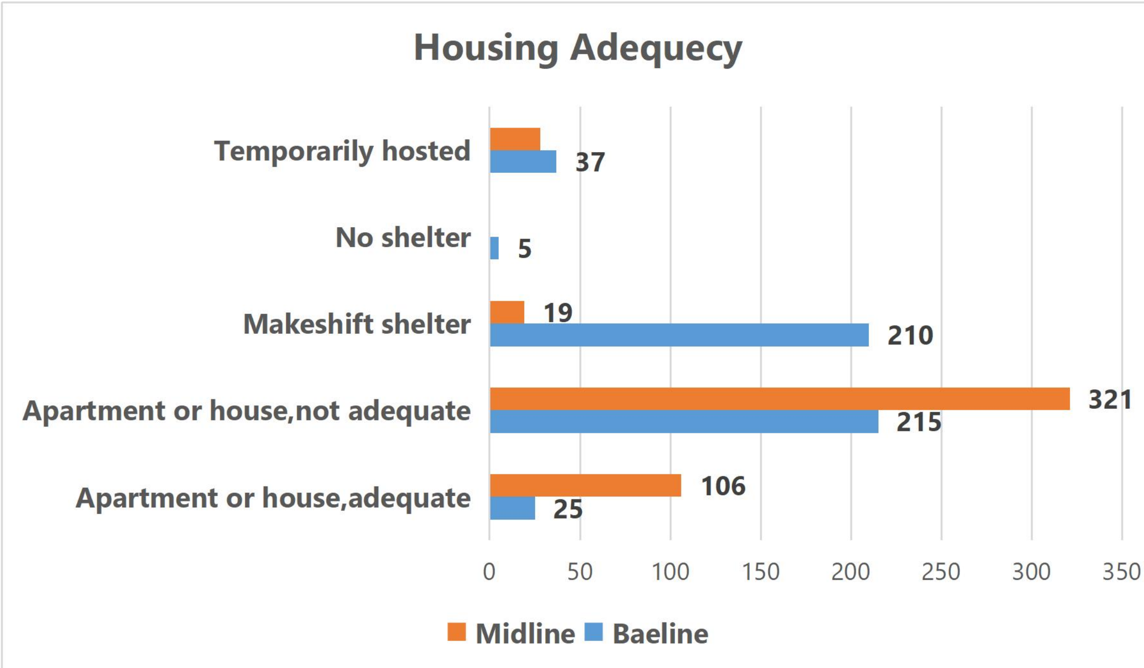
Despite these achievements, challenges remain. Half of households report safety concerns, particularly refugees exposed to political tensions. Employment remains dominated by irregular and undocumented work, leaving families vulnerable to exploitation. Financial resilience is fragile, with most households unable to cover one month of expenses.

Overall, the midline results confirm that the graduation approach is reducing extreme deprivation and building pathways to stability, while highlighting areas—employment, savings, and safety—that require intensified support in the second project year.

Narrative Results

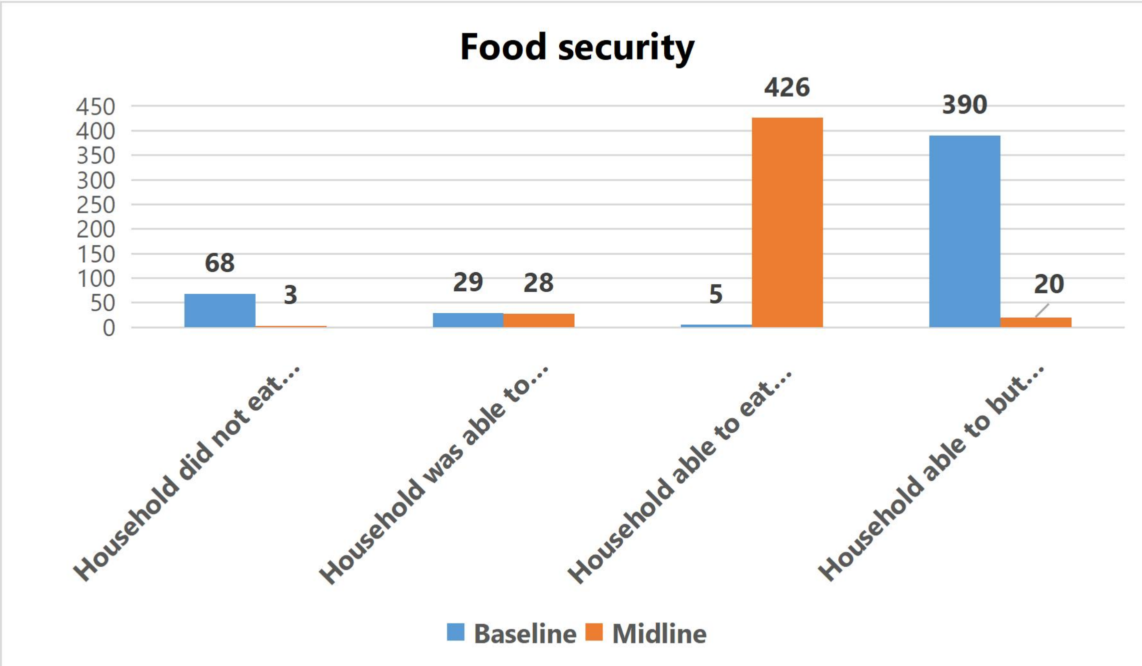
A. Housing and Rent Stability

At midline, 22.4 percent of households reported adequate housing, compared to only 5 percent at baseline. Extreme shelter vulnerability has declined sharply, with just 4 percent in makeshift shelters versus 43 percent previously. Rent payment stability has improved: 55.3 percent consistently paid rent on time, compared to 20 percent at baseline, while repeated defaults dropped from 30 percent to 13.4 percent.



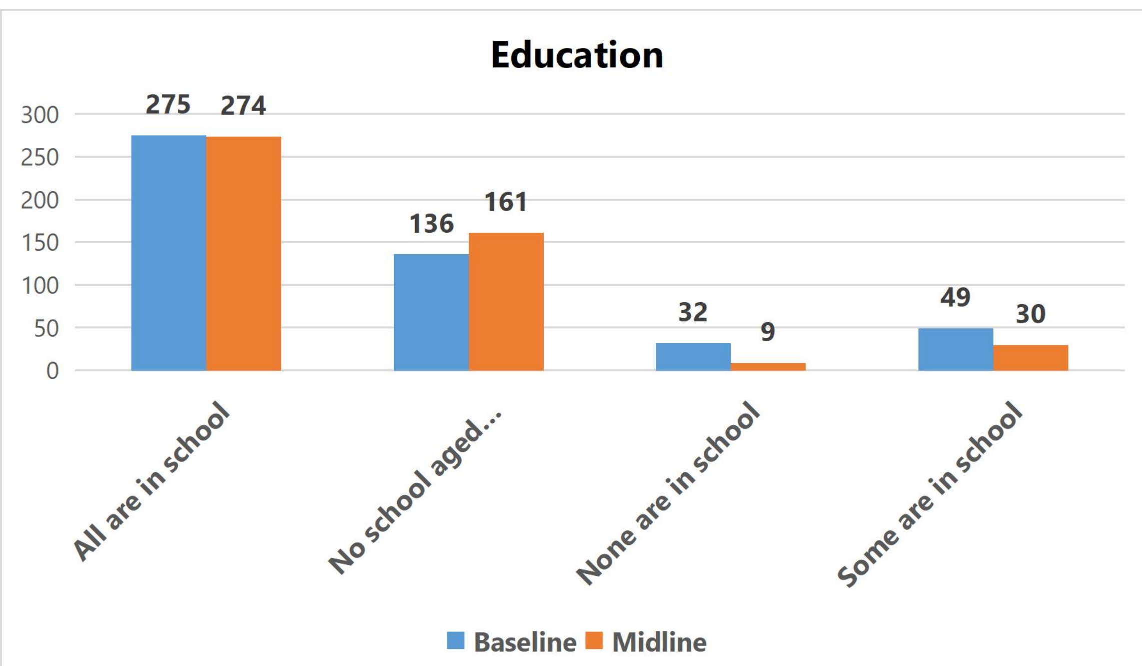
B. Food Security

Food security shows the most dramatic improvement. At baseline, 68 households reported not eating at all the previous day; by midline, this number fell to just 3. Nearly 90 percent of households now eat two to three meals daily, compared to only 1 percent at baseline.



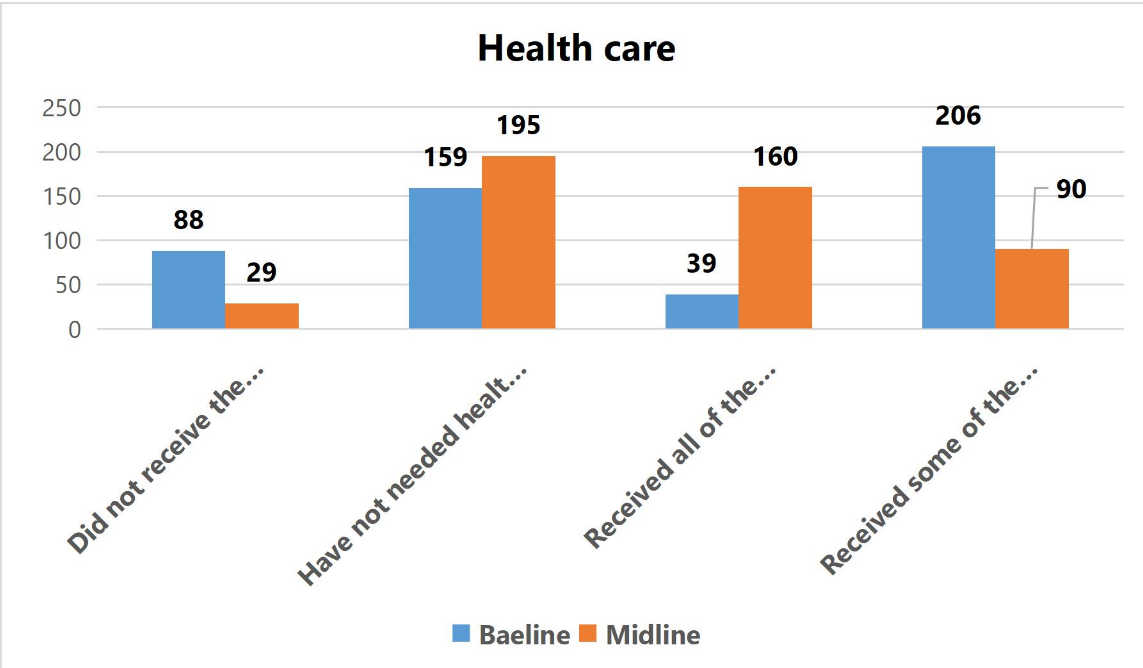
C. Education

School attendance remains strong and stable. At midline, 57.4 percent of households reported all school-aged children attending school, nearly identical to baseline. Partial and non-attendance declined, reflecting progress in addressing barriers to enrollment.



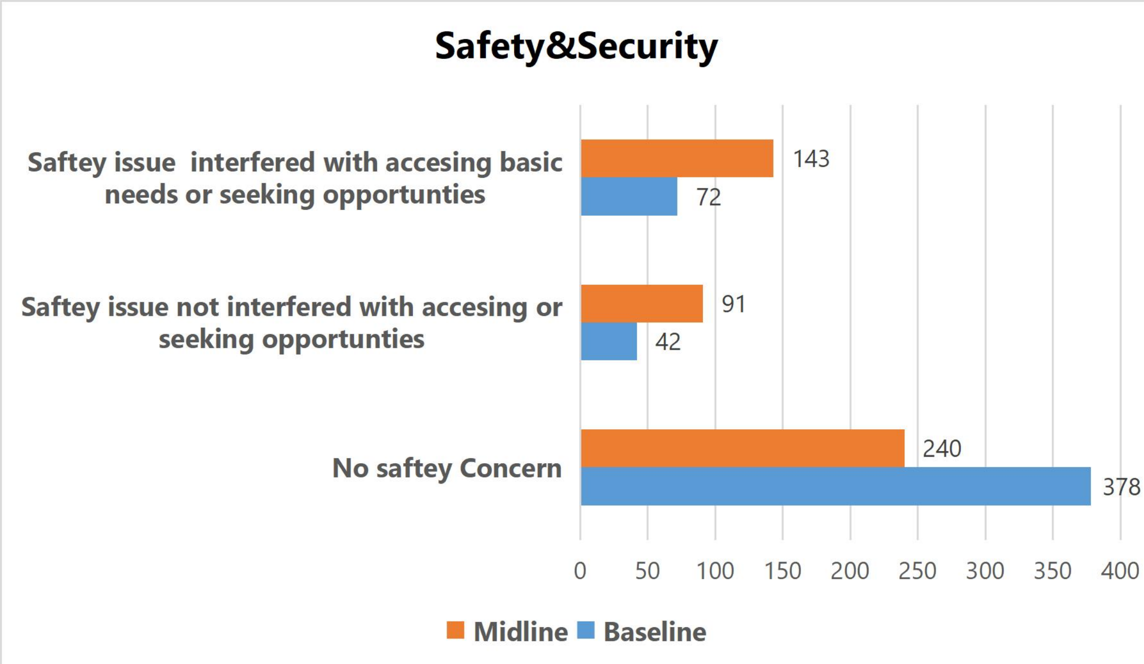
D. Healthcare Access and Health Status

Healthcare access has expanded significantly. Full access rose from 8 percent at baseline to 34 percent at midline, while unmet needs dropped from 18 percent to 6 percent. Health-related barriers to employment remain modest: 14.9 percent of households reported adult conditions limiting work, unchanged from baseline, while dependent-related barriers declined from 13 percent to 6.5 percent.



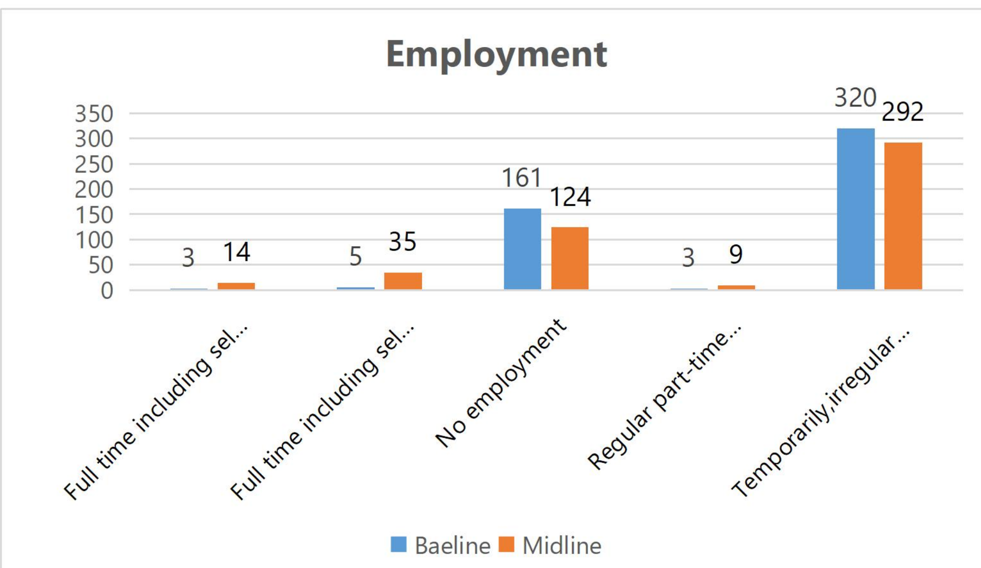
E. Safety and Security

Safety concerns have intensified. At baseline, 15 percent of households reported safety issues restricting access to essential needs; by midline, this figure doubled to 30.6 percent. Overall, half of households now report safety concerns, underscoring the impact of political tensions on refugee populations.



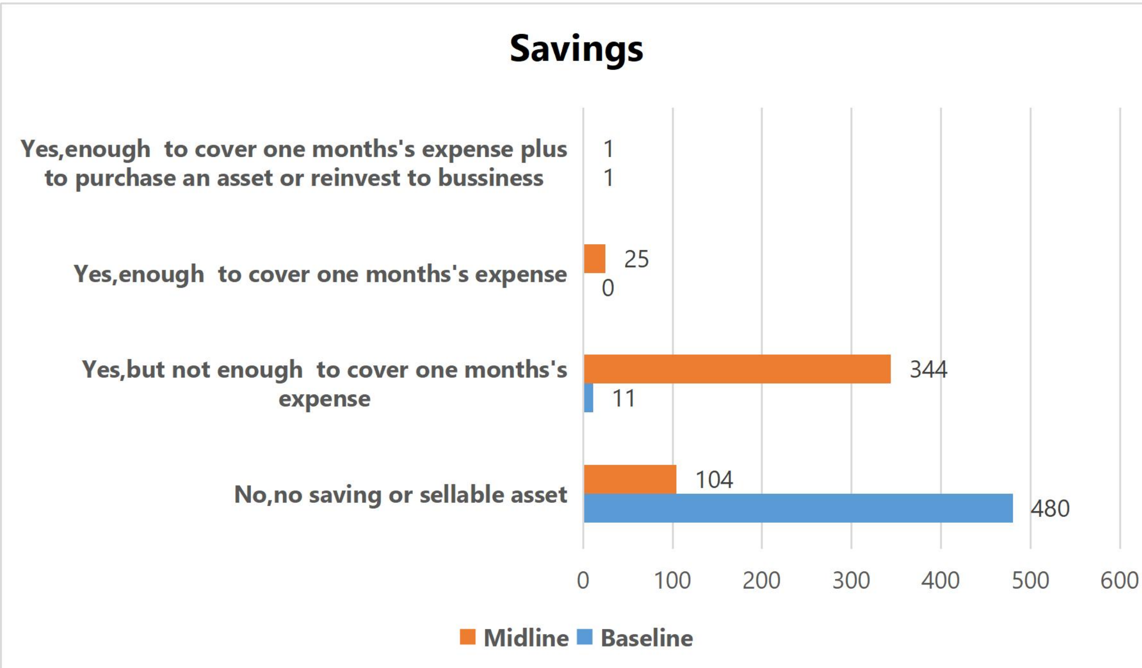
F. Employment

Employment remains precarious. Unemployment declined from 33 percent at baseline to 26.2 percent at midline. Documented full-time work increased modestly from 1 percent to 3 percent, while irregular and undocumented work continues to dominate, affecting nearly 70 percent of households.



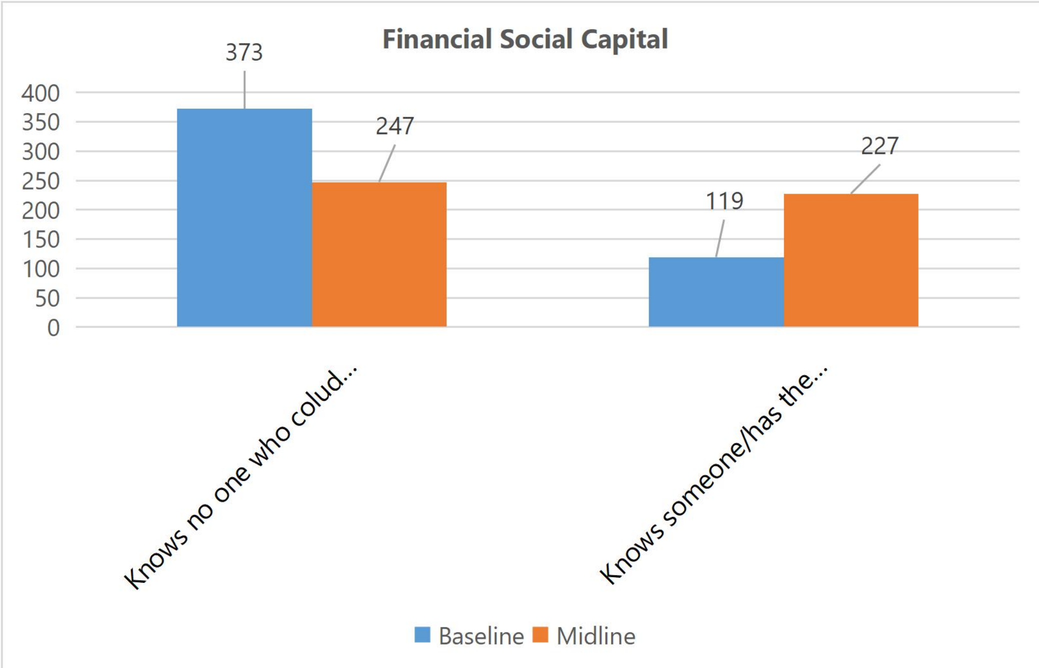
G. Savings and Financial Resilience

Savings capacity has improved but remains fragile. At baseline, 98 percent of households had no savings; by midline, this figure dropped to 21.8 percent. However, 72.7 percent of households hold savings insufficient to cover one month's expenses, and only 0.2 percent have savings adequate for reinvestment.



H. Financial Social Capital

Access to community-based financial support has strengthened. At baseline, only 24 percent of households reported access to emergency lending networks; by midline, this figure rose to 47.6 percent. This reflects growing social cohesion and reliance on informal safety nets.



<u>**Survey:**</u> The midline survey confirms that the Mignote Project in Addis Ababa is delivering measurable improvements in food security, housing stability, healthcare access, and financial inclusion. However, persistent challenges in employment, savings resilience, and safety highlight the need for targeted interventions in the second year. Sustained investment in livelihoods and protection will be critical to ensure households graduate from vulnerability to self-reliance.