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# Amicus: Communication across languages

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# AMICUS

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS • FULLFILLING HUMANITY'S NEEDS

## Problem

At the first point of contact for a refugee, be it in a camp, at a checkpoint, or on a foreign shore, language barriers can be an impediment towards filling people's most basic needs.

## Objective

To use images in overcoming language and communication barriers for refugees at the first point of contact.

## Delivery System

The icons can be printed on T-shirts, blankets, and other textiles to provide warmth and comfort to refugees as well as give them a means of communication with aid workers or volunteers. The images can also be downloaded to mobile devices or printed on flash cards.

## Why an analog solution?

Refugees' belongings (including phones) may have been lost or damaged on the journey, cell phone signals may be lost, and power may be out. T-shirts and printed goods don't crash, still work when wet, and are relatively inexpensive.

## Distribution

Kits can be distributed to aid organizations, purchased by individual Good Samaritans, or downloaded digitally to mobile devices.



## How it works?

1

Refugee needs water and finds volunteer.

Refugee points to the water droplet icon on volunteer's shirt.

Volunteer provides refugee with bottle of water.



2

