

For Refugees, Place Matters

When a refugee arrives in a new country, the place where she is sent makes a big difference in whether she will thrive.

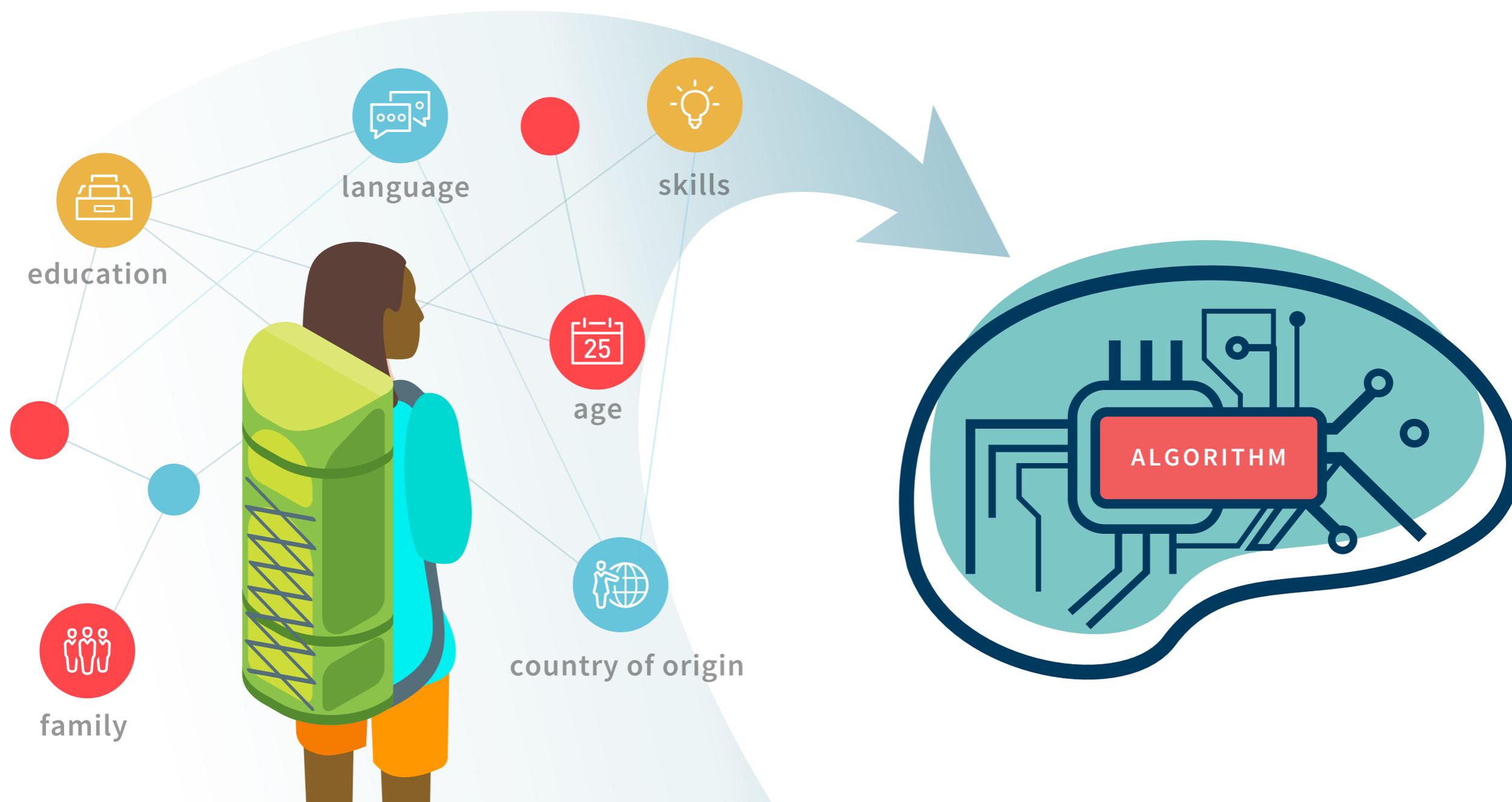
If the location is a good fit, she's more likely to integrate into her community.

If not, the location can act as an obstacle to integration.

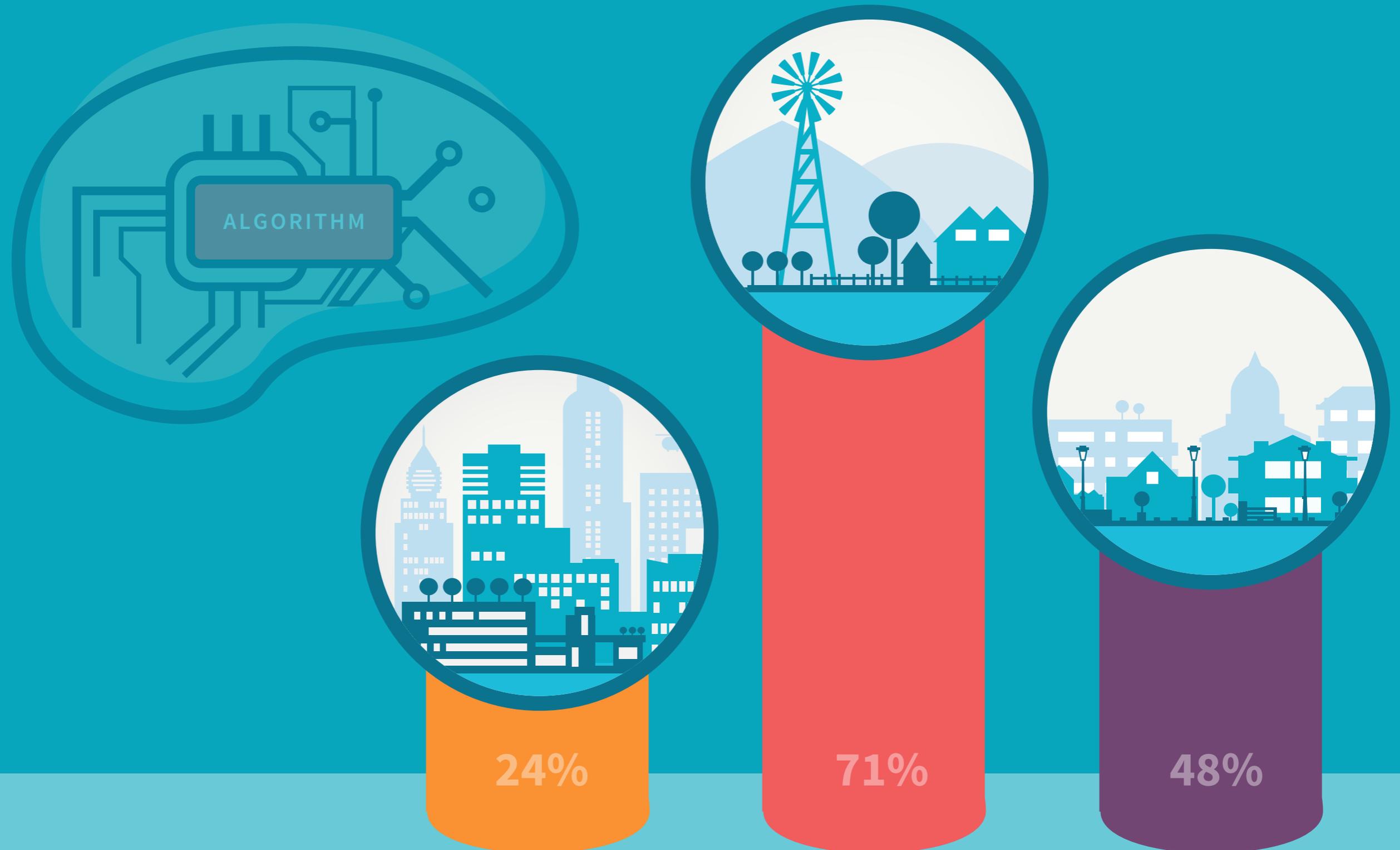


Usually, governments don't take this into account when resettling refugees. But now a new tool enables them to make **better matches between people and places**, boosting the chances that refugees find work, acclimate, and put down roots.

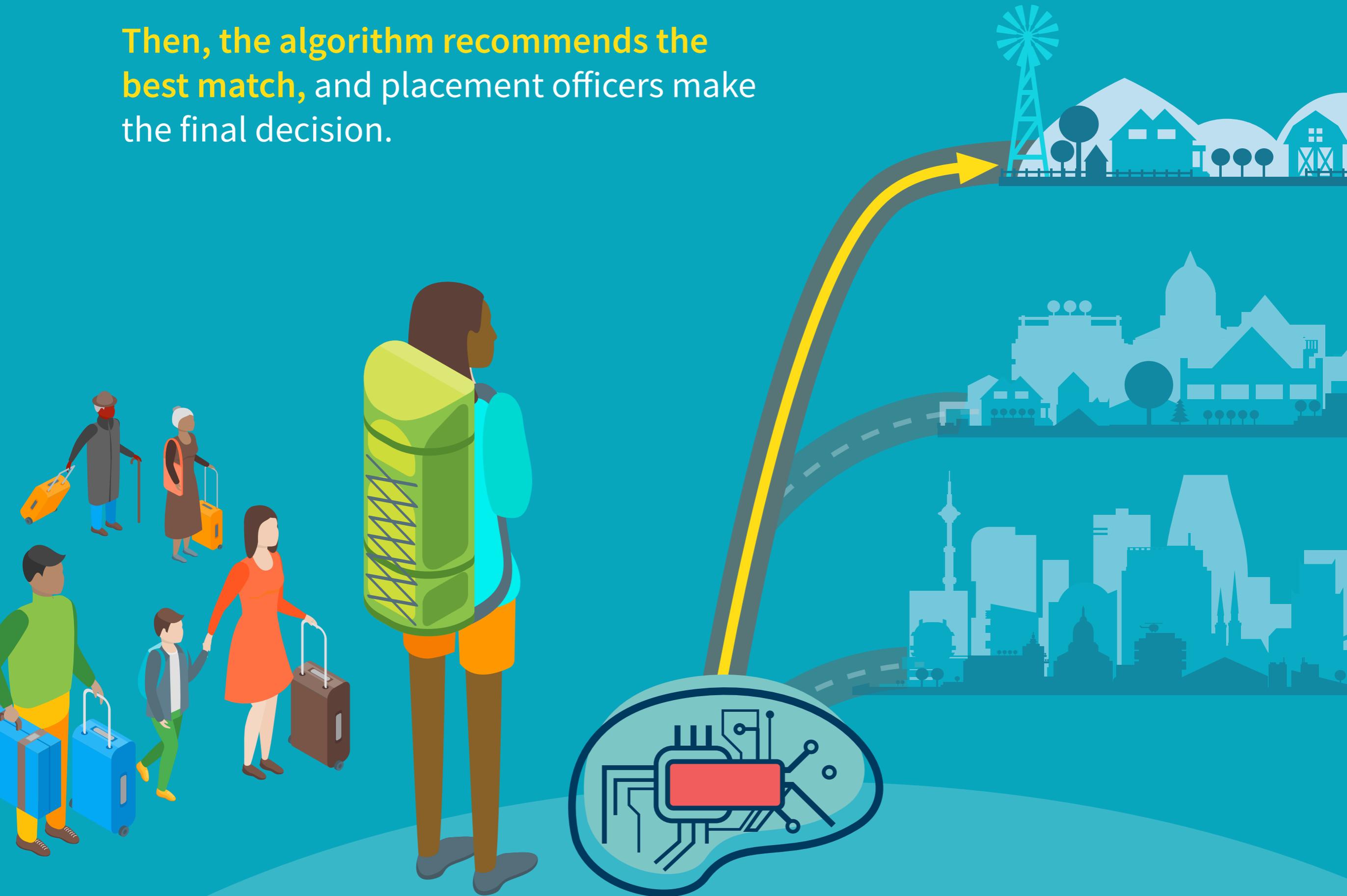
First, historical data on refugees and their experiences is input into an algorithm.



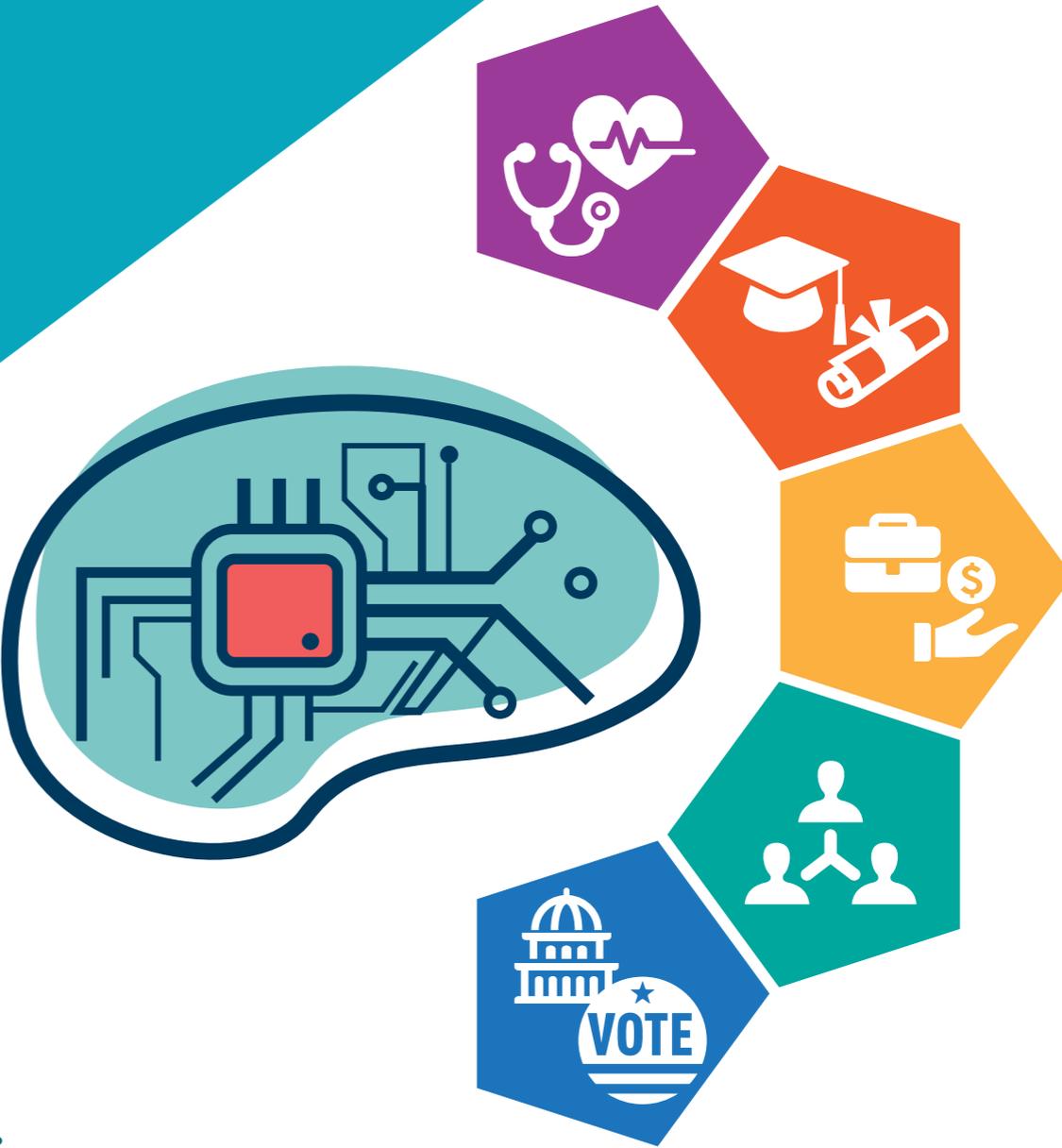
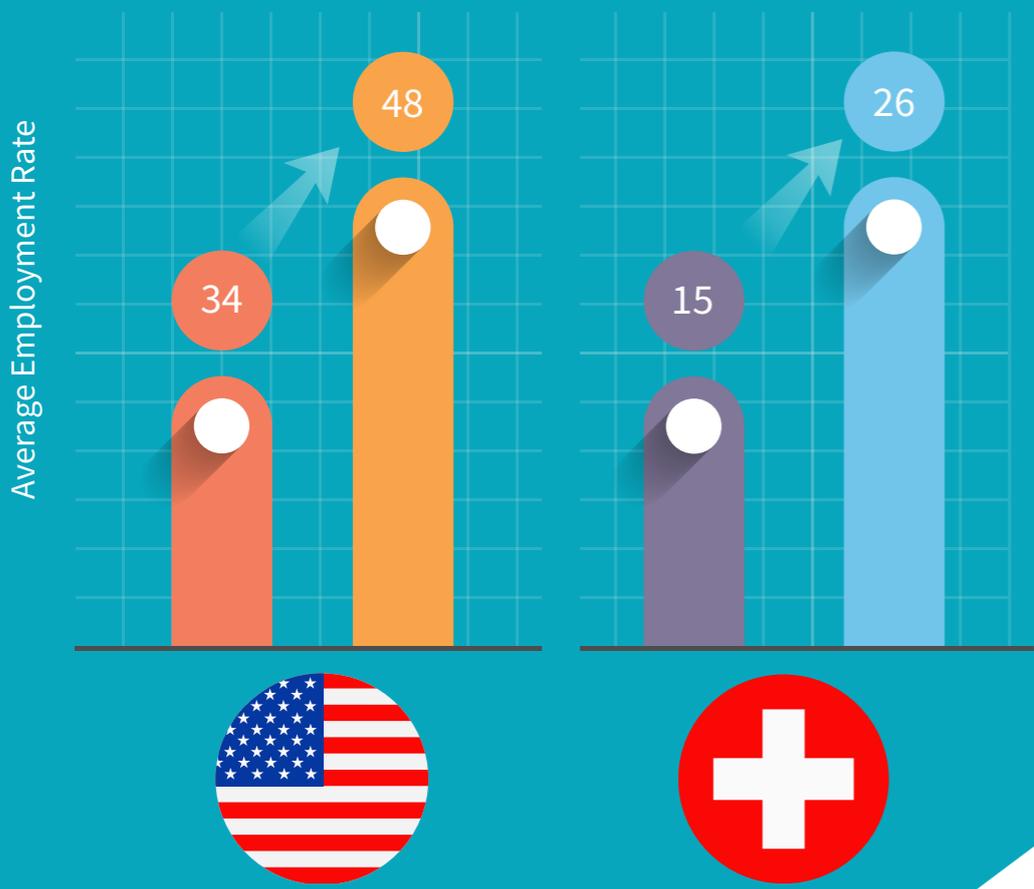
Next, the algorithm predicts a refugee's probability of success at each resettlement location, based on trends and patterns in the historical data.



Then, the algorithm recommends the **best match**, and placement officers make the final decision.



Refugees placed by the algorithm would be **40–70 percent more likely** to find jobs, according to tests in the United States and Switzerland.



Employment is just the beginning.
Countries can use the algorithm to improve refugee integration in education, health, or any area where there's data.

As countries around the world pilot test the algorithm, this **technology is reshaping the way we think about refugee resettlement**. With the right tools, we can not only help refugees rebuild their lives; we can also **unlock their potential** to contribute to their new home countries.

