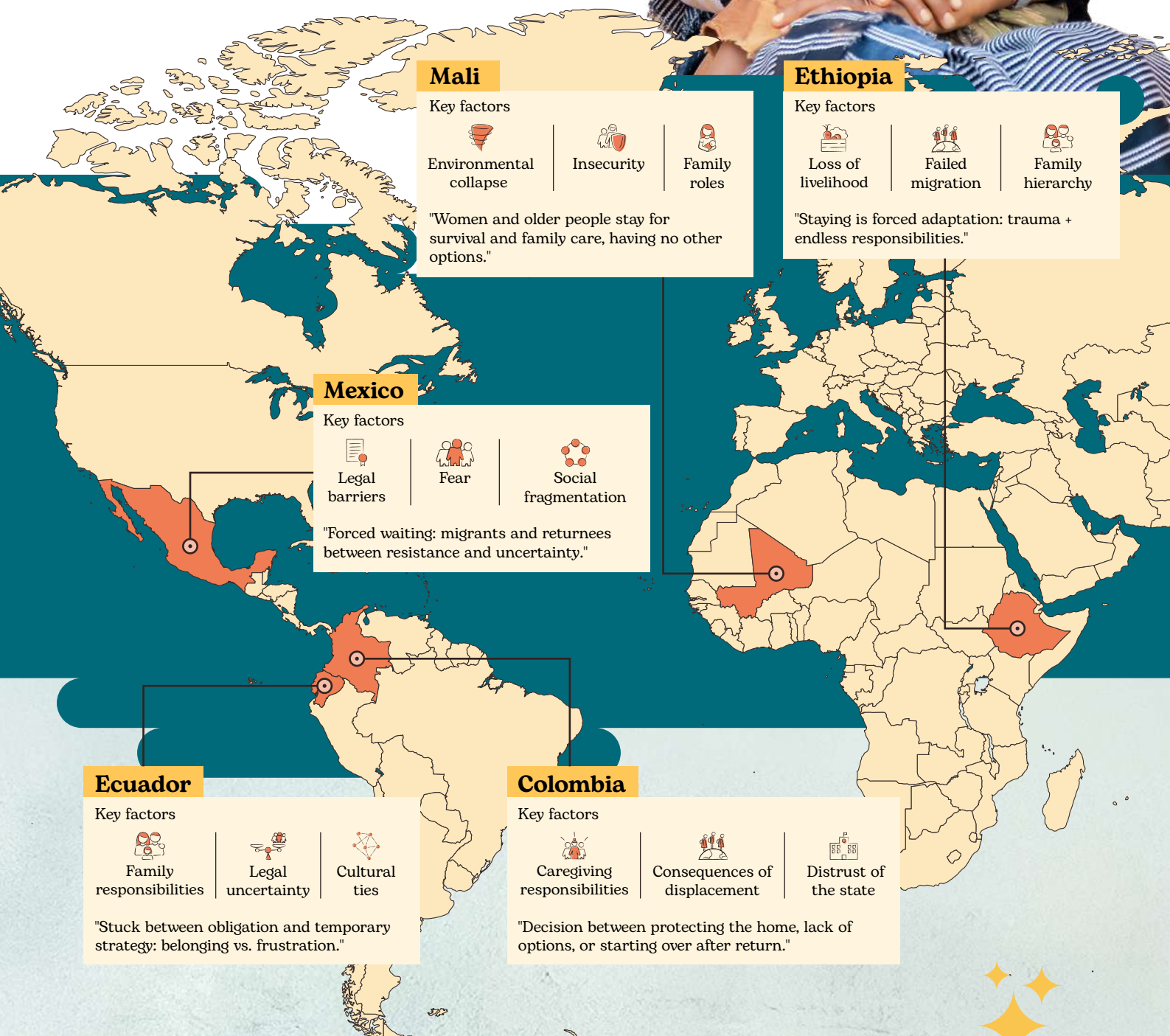


Why do they stay?

Based on thousands of surveys in Africa and Latin America, the study by Ayuda en Acción reveals that, for many people, staying is not a free choice, but a decision shaped by context, ties, and socioeconomic constraints.



Key factors of rootedness



Poverty, lack of support, and inequality

Many people do not migrate because they cannot: they lack money, information, documents, or support. In areas with weak or non-existent public services, staying is often the only option.



Caregiving responsibilities

The duty of caring for children, the elderly, or dependents affects women in particular, who take on a large share of these tasks, turning their rootedness into their duty.



Age and stage of life

Young people often want to migrate for work or independence, but they face more barriers (lack of resources, documentation, etc.). Older adults, on the other hand, often choose to stay, whether out of experience, fatigue, or family commitments.



Fear and distrust based on past experiences

Many people have already tried to migrate and have suffered violence, fraud, or deportation. Therefore, staying becomes a form of self-protection. The lack of state support only reinforces these fears.

The work of Ayuda en Acción



We fight structural inequality

by improving access to livelihoods, education, healthcare, and basic services in neglected communities, so that a lack of resources is not a barrier when deciding whether to stay or leave.



We support caregivers

especially women, by recognizing their central role at home and promoting their economic independence, participation, and a fairer distribution of responsibilities.



We promote the potential of young people

by offering them training, employability, and leadership opportunities so that they can transform their communities without being forced to migrate due to a lack of opportunities.



We accompany processes of return or permanence after failed migration experiences

with psychosocial support, legal advice, and reconstruction of life projects, so that staying is a viable and meaningful option.

