

Invitation to the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day Brussels, May 14th & 15th 2012



1 What is the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day?

It is our pleasure to invite you to the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day. The Skills Share Day is a 1.5-day event for 120-150 people, taking place in Brussels on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th May, 2012. The event will bring together practitioners in refugee resettlement, from both governments and NGOs, engage new actors and build toward a future EU Resettlement Practitioners' Network. The Skills Share Day will cover policies and practices in refugee resettlement, in countries of first asylum as well as in countries of resettlement, using the resettled refugee and the 'refugee journey' as the focus of the programme.

2 'Linking-In EU Resettlement'

The Skills Share Day is delivered within the framework of '**Linking-In EU Resettlement**', the joint IOM, ICMC, and UNHCR project that takes place from September 2011 to November 2012. The 'Linking-In' project aims to link resettlement phases, strengthen the expertise of European practitioners at all stages of the resettlement and integration process and build a network of resettlement practitioners and actors - including national, regional and local governmental authorities, NGOs, international organisations and the media - both in participating Member States and more broadly across the EU.

As part of the project we will organise a number of other activities, including resettlement multi-stakeholder meetings in individual Member States, several local practitioners' trainings and a pilot programme of innovative activities in resettlement including - but not limited to - initiatives involving private university sponsorship and engaging private business.

For more information about the 'Linking-In' project, please download the [project summary](#) and the November 2011 edition of the [project newsletter](#).

3 What will happen at the Skills Share Day?

The Skills Share Day will be an interactive event, with a focus on active participation, networking and exchange throughout the programme. It will cover the whole resettlement process, highlighting resettlement needs and priority areas, selection and pre-departure activities and the actual travel, reception and integration.

Resettlement marketplace

The programme will include the **resettlement marketplace**, an interactive event showcasing innovative resettlement practices from across the EU. In addition to market stalls, the marketplace

programme will include a series of interactive ‘pitch your practice’ events, at which those exhibiting will be invited to present further information about their work to other marketplace participants, within a set time limit. All attendees will receive a marketplace practice directory, listing good practice summaries, advice for transferring successful approaches and contacts for further exchange. The marketplace will also include a stall at which individuals and organisations can sign up to ICMC’s Charter of Principles on the Reception and Integration of Resettled Refugees.

Potential Skills Share Day participants are invited to submit successful and/or innovative resettlement practices for inclusion in the resettlement marketplace. Submissions can be made directly via the online Skills Share Day registration form, and participants can contact the project coordinators directly for an initial discussion about a potential submission.

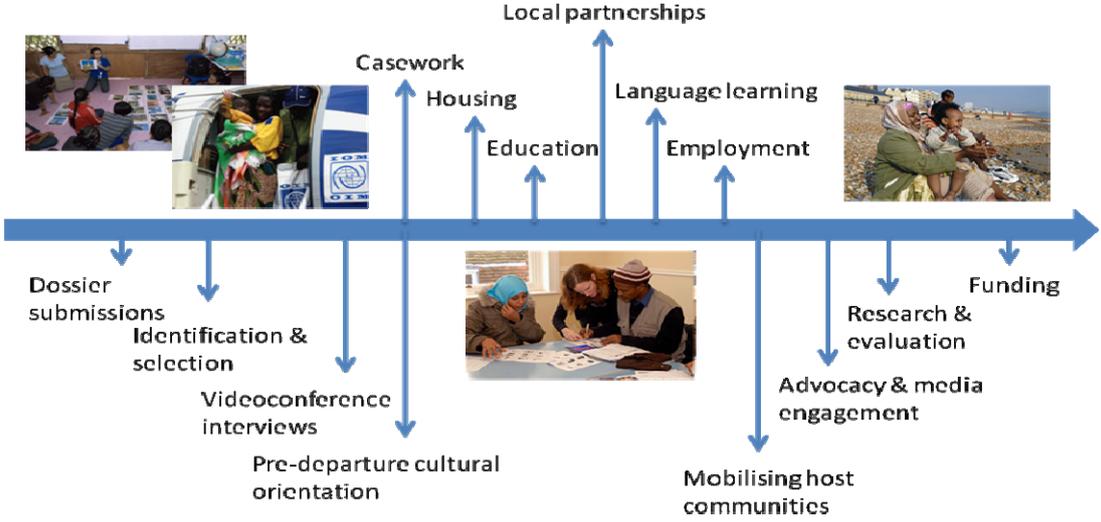
Film screenings

An evening reception and film screening will introduce several resettlement films, followed by a panel discussion with film directors, resettled refugees and media representatives. **You are invited to submit films or other cultural topics that can be shown at the event, preferably introduced by the director, refugees involved in the project or a relevant media representative.**

Workshops

The Skills Share Day will include a full programme of **panel discussions and practitioner workshops** all allowing for active participation. To ensure the inclusion of the perspectives and experiences of resettled refugees throughout, the programme departs from the practitioner-focused division of resettlement practice into defined phases - such as ‘selection’, ‘pre-departure’ or ‘post-arrival integration’ - and places the resettled refugee and his or her ‘resettlement journey’ at the centre.

The programme will situate specific workshop topics within the wider ‘resettlement journey’, with a strong focus on incorporating the experiences of resettled refugees either in person or via the use of case studies. Potential workshop topics of interest within the ‘refugee journey’ structure are set out below:



More cross-cutting workshop topics on – for example - specific refugee groups, children and young people, best practices in national ERF funding and private sponsorship will also be represented within the wider Skills Share Day **workshop programme**.

The topics included above are not definitive, and – in order to ensure the **workshop programme** meets needs and interests - the project coordinators are consulting with potential participants and other stakeholders which topics should be included.

4 Who can take part?

The Skills Share Day targets resettlement practitioners able to both share and learn practices and who are committed to undertaking effective dissemination and outreach in their respective countries. Participants will be drawn from governments, local authorities, NGOs, media, researchers, resettled refugees and other civil society actors, in addition to expert staff of UNHCR and IOM. To ensure active participation, all those attending will be required to have good English language skills.

The project is able to provide 100 funded participant places for the Skills Share Day, covering flights, accommodation, lunch, reception and a dinner. Project coordinators will select final participants based on the criteria above and others are encouraged to participate using their own resources (registration is required for all).

Those interested in participating will be invited to complete a short online registration process. The online registration process will close by the **10th of March 2012**, and final participation will be confirmed by end of March/early April.

5 Registration and further information

To register your interest in attending the Skills Share Day, please go to <http://www.resettlement.eu/civicrm/event/register?id=1&reset=1>.

For further information or comments about the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day, the 'Linking-In EU Resettlement' project or this invitation, please contact the project partners using the details below, or join the 'EU Resettlement Practitioners Network' on Linked In.

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