



SOCIAL INNOVATION FOR REFUGEE INCLUSION

Social Innovation for Refugee Inclusion: Maintaining Momentum and Creating Lasting Change

16-17 November 2017

Venue: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
Rue Belliard 99, 1000 Brussels

Agenda

Following the arrival of large numbers of migrants and asylum seekers in Europe from 2015 onwards, many non-traditional actors—from tech start-ups to social enterprises—have pioneered innovative solutions to foster the social and economic inclusion of newcomers. In the context of this experimentation, business has played a fundamental role, with companies on both sides of the Atlantic leveraging their potential as employers, donors, and partners in innovative alliances.

The aim of this conference is to reflect on how innovative initiatives for refugee inclusion can grow beyond pockets of good practice and inspire large-scale, long-term change. To encourage new partnerships and synergies between different stakeholders, the event will bring together a diverse group of public officials, business leaders, service designers, social entrepreneurs, civil society organisations, and refugee initiatives from Europe, the United States, and Canada.

Day 1: Thursday 16 November 2017

13:30 – 14:30 **Registration, refreshments** (EESC Reception, Foyer 5th floor)

14:30 – 14:50 **Welcoming remarks** (JDE 52)

- Adam Shub, *Chargé d’Affaires, U.S. Mission to the EU*
- Daniel J. Costello, *Ambassador of Canada to the EU*
- Elizabeth Collett, *Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe*
- Cristian Pirvulescu, *President of the Permanent Study Group on Immigration and Integration, European Economic and Social Committee*

14:50 – 15:15 **Opening speech** (JDE 52)

- Yara Al Adib, *Design Consultant and Entrepreneur, From Syria with Love, Belgium*

15:15 – 16:30 **Panel session: "How the field has matured: A progress report, one year on"** (JDE 52)

Chair: *Tamim Nashed, Policy Officer on Refugee Inclusion, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)*

- Eric Young, *The Social Projects Studio/Distinguished Visiting Professor of Social Innovation at Ryerson University, Canada*
- Luisa Seiler, *Co-founder and Director, SINGA Deutschland, Germany*
- Mireia Nadal Chiva, *Head of Community Development, ReDI School for Digital Integration, Germany*

16:30 – 17:00 **Coffee break** (Foyer on the 5th floor)

17:00 – 18:30 **Panel session: "Business, not as usual: Private sector innovation for refugee inclusion"** (JDE 52)

Chair: *Irini Pari, European Economic and Social Committee*

- Pastora Valero, *Vice President, Government Affairs, EMEAR, Cisco*
- Justina Spencer, *Manager, Global Corporate Responsibility, Deloitte*
- Samuel Engblom, *Policy Director, TCO Swedish Confederation for Professional Employees, Sweden*
- Kavita Brahmhatt, *Co-founder, Action Emploi Réfugiés, France*

18:30 – 19:45 **Evening reception** (Atrium on the 6th floor)



Day 2: Friday 17 November 2017

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration, coffee** (EESC Reception, Foyer on the 6th floor)

9:00 – 9:30 **Refugees as agents of innovation** (JDE 62)

- Maher Ismaail, Co-founder, DaliliNow.com, Germany
- Saeed Kamali Dehghan, Journalist, The Guardian

9:30 – 11:00 **Workshops**

1. **New approaches to financing social innovation** (JDE 3210)

Chair: Giuseppe Iuliano, European Economic and Social Committee

- Chris Clements, Director, Social Finance, United Kingdom
- Carolina Gario, Policy Officer for the European Social Innovation Competition, DG GROWTH, European Commission
- Anna Krzyżanowska, Head of Unit "Coordination with the EIB Group, EBRD and IFIs", DG ECFIN, European Commission

2. **Not an urban legend: welcoming refugees in small and rural communities** (JDE 2210)

Chair: Meghan Benton, Senior Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute

- Christina Pope, Regional Manager, Welcoming America, United States
- Kerstin Carlsson, Project Leader, Framtidsbyggder Dalsland Årjäng Munkedal, Sweden
- Magdalena Böhm, Project Manager, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)

3. **Improving the visibility of refugees' skills** (JDE 2252)

Chair: Inga Heemink, Acting Office Director, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State

- Alisha Molter, Project Officer, Network IQ Dissemination Project, EBB, Germany
- Kavita Brahmhatt, Co-founder, Action Emploi Réfugiés, France
- Ludwijn Braams, Managing Director, L&D Support Germany



4. Employer engagement: Innovative approaches to training and hiring refugees (JDE 62)

Chair: Laurent Aujean, Policy Officer, Unit Legal Migration and Integration, DG Home, European Commission

- Sayre Nyce, Executive Director, Talent Beyond Boundaries, United States
- Peter O'Sullivan, Resettlement Officer, UNHCR, Bureau for Europe
- Mustafa Alroomi, Web Developer & Askim Kintziger, Innovation Consultant, Cronos Groep, Belgium

5. Refugee entrepreneurship: A fast lane to work? (JDE 3252)

Chair: Liam Patuzzi, Associate Policy Analyst, Migration Policy Institute Europe

- Mireia Nadal Chiva, Head of Community Development, ReDI School for Digital Integration, Germany
- Clarelisa Camilleri, Project Manager FIBIA (Fostering Inclusive Incubation & Acceleration), European BIC (business and innovation centres) Network
- Yara Al Adib, design consultant and entrepreneur, From Syria with Love, Belgium

11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee break** (Foyer on the 6th floor)

11:15 – 12:45 **Interactive panel session:** (JDE 62)
"From niche to mainstream: Unlocking the potential of innovation for lasting change"

Chair: Elizabeth Collett, Director, Migration Policy Institute Europe

- Louisa Taylor, Director, Refugee 613, Canada
- Ben Mason, Project lead on digital innovation around refugees and migration, Betterplace lab, Germany
- David Manicom, Assistant Deputy Minister, Settlement and Integration Sector, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Laura Corrado, Head of Unit Legal Migration and Integration, DG HOME, European Commission

12:45 – 13:00 **Wrap up of the conference discussions** (JDE 62)

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch** (Atrium on the 6th floor)