



# SHARE

Building a resettlement network for European municipalities, cities and regions [www.resettlement.eu](http://www.resettlement.eu)

## THE SHARE PROJECT

The SHARE network will facilitate structured dialogue and exchange of expertise between experienced resettlement countries planning or considering resettlement.

With a worldwide membership, staff and operations working with migrants and refugees in more than 40 countries, ICMC Serves and protects uprooted people - refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants - regardless of faith, race, ethnicity or nationality.

Since its creation in 1951, ICMC has identified and accompanied one million refugees for resettlement. Additionally, ICMC provides expert resettlement personnel through the ICMC-UNHCR Resettlement Deployment Scheme to support UNHCR resettlement activities in field offices around the world.



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## 'Cities that Care, Cities that Share - A European Resettlement Network Engaging Cities and Regions'

### The SHARE Project

Although national governments are responsible for the selection of refugees for resettlement, regional and local authorities play a central role in offering reception and integration support once refugees have arrived. The success of national refugee resettlement programmes thus depends on the commitment, ability and partnerships of cities, municipalities and regions. The overall objective of the **SHARE Project** is therefore to build a European resettlement network of cities, regions, their civil society partners and other local actors that creates sustainable relationships, disseminates best practice, builds capacity, creates partnerships and strengthens commitment to protection.

**SHARE Project** activities offer structured dialogue, exchange of practice and networking between cities and regional actors and between experienced and emerging resettlement countries planning or considering resettlement. The **SHARE Network** is an integral part of the wider **European Resettlement Network**, and facilitates the inclusion of local and regional actors in the network as new resettlement stakeholders. Led by ICMC Europe and funded by the European Commission, the **SHARE Project** began in March 2012 and will continue until end 2013.

### 2 Project partners

ICMC Europe leads the **SHARE Project** in partnership with UNHCR, the lead SHARE city of Sheffield, the EURO CITIES network, associate city partners including Paris, Munich, Aachen, Manchester and Créteil, the NGOs ACCEM, France Terre d'Asile, ProAsyl, British Refugee Council, Refugee Action (UK), Dutch Refugee Council, Red Cross Austria, and the networks CCME and ECRE.

### 3 Project activities

- **Building the SHARE Network**

ICMC, the lead SHARE city of Sheffield and the British Refugee Council together produced the key SHARE networking publication '[Welcome to Sheffield: Reflections on 8 years experience of receiving resettled refugees at the local level](#)'.

Intensive outreach to regions, cities and local actors across Europe by ICMC and the network of project partners has significantly grown the **SHARE Network** - since the project was established, over 300 individuals from 13 European countries have directly participated in **SHARE Project** activities, events and initiatives, and many more have accessed project resources and publications on the dedicated **SHARE** webpages at [www.resettlement.eu/page/share-project](http://www.resettlement.eu/page/share-project).

- **City exchange visits**

From October 2012 to September 2013, the [SHARE City Exchange Visit Programme](#) facilitated nine 2.5-day city peer review and exchange visits for mixed delegations of local and regional authorities, NGOs, local and national media, universities and other resettlement actors and stakeholders. The **City Exchange Visit Programme** was hosted by the lead **SHARE** city of Sheffield and a partnership of UK cities and NGOs delivering the UK resettlement programme.

Each visit programme was tailor-made to match the interests and priorities of visiting delegations, and specialist visits were convened for European media and NGO Press



# SHARE

The ICMC Europe office in Brussels works to promote resettlement in Europe and to build European resettlement capacity and expertise.

It facilitates practical cooperation, knowledge exchange and opportunities for networking amongst all resettlement actors in Europe, including international organisations, European institutions, national governments, NGO's, regional and local authorities, resettled refugees, community organisations and others.

For more information about the SHARE Project please contact:  
Rachel Westerby  
City Coordinator, ICMC  
[city.coordinator@icmc.net](mailto:city.coordinator@icmc.net)

or visit our website at  
[www.resettlement.eu](http://www.resettlement.eu)



Officers and 2 countries not currently operating national resettlement programmes (Austria and Poland). A total of 85 delegates from 10 EU countries attended the programme.

- **Training & capacity-building**

The **SHARE Project** has worked in partnership with the **European Resettlement Network** to organise a number of events and initiatives focused on building resettlement skills, capacity and partnerships, with a particular focus on new and emerging resettlement countries.

In June 2012, together with the Danish Immigration Service, Danish Refugee Council and the Danish municipalities of Faxe and Faaborg-Midtfyn, **SHARE** and the **European Resettlement Network** organised a 4-day 'look and learn' visit to Denmark for 30 participants from new and emerging resettlement countries. In November 2012, in partnership with UNHCR, the German Red Cross and ProAsyl, **SHARE** and the **European Resettlement Network** facilitated a 2-day resettlement symposium for 40 German participants, with input from resettlement experts from Canada, Sweden and Denmark.

- **Exchanging best practice**

In May 2013, in partnership with the Committee of the Regions, the **SHARE Project** facilitated a half-day event '**A City Says Yes! Welcoming resettled refugees in Europe**'. Chaired by the Mayor of Lisbon, the programme explored the role of local and regional authorities and their civil society partners in mobilising support for refugee resettlement amongst citizens, and influencing resettlement and integration policy at national and European levels. The event launched the **SHARE** and ProAsyl publication ['A City Says Yes! Reflections on the experiences of the Save Me campaign to promote refugee resettlement in Germany'](#) that captures the successful tools and approaches of the grassroots, city-based German 'Save Me' campaign for refugee resettlement.

In June, in partnership with city of Lyon, Grand Lyon and the NGO Forum Réfugiés-Cosi, the **SHARE Project** facilitated ['Refugee Resettlement - partnerships for a durable protection and reception in France and the United Kingdom'](#), a half-day conference held in the city of Lyon on the occasion of World Refugee Day 2013. The conference will bring together experts from regional and city authorities, civil society organisations and housing organisations from France, Belgium and the UK to exchange experiences and debate the role of regional and city authorities and their civil society partners in providing housing for resettled refugees.

In October 2013, UNHCR will lead ['The Business Case for Diversity - local, regional and national partnerships for the labour market integration of resettled refugees'](#) a 1.5-day event in the Hague. The event will further develop the exchange on how to engage business in refugee employment, and to promote partnerships and good practice in refugee labour market integration for local and regional employment services, NGOs and private businesses. The event will build on the outcomes of the refugee employment and private business workshop facilitated by the **European Resettlement Network** in Brussels in December 2012.

The **SHARE Network Conference**, taking place in Brussels in late October 2013, will bring together **SHARE** partners, participants and stakeholders to review the achievements of the **SHARE Project** to date, and to input into priorities and activities for the **SHARE Network** during 2014-15.