

Roundtable on Philanthropy and Innovative Financing for Refugee Sponsorship and Complementary Pathways

October 27 & 28, 2022 in Dublin Ireland

In partnership with the Irish Refugee Council (IRC), the Share Network is organising a Quality Sponsorship Network (QSN) **roundtable on philanthropy and innovative financing for refugee sponsorship and complementary pathways, which will take place in Dublin on the 27th and 28th of October 2022.**

The roundtable will be by invitation only and gather key actors from the philanthropic sector (private or corporate foundations), innovative financing institutions, civil society and regional and local bodies, to explore how philanthropy and innovative funding solutions can help to secure and scale up Community Sponsorship initiatives across Europe and ensure that these can respond to new needs and contexts. The roundtable will have an interactive format, providing ample space for networking and an open exchange under Chatham House Rules.

Since the first European community sponsorship scheme was launched in 2016, sponsorship programmes have expanded under highly diverse national and regional frameworks and partnerships, piloting new ways for private citizens and civil society to welcome refugees into their local communities. It is estimated that around 6,000 refugees from refugee camps and zones of conflict, have been brought to Europe under varied partnerships and frameworks (resettlement, humanitarian corridors, complementary higher education pathways) to Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain and the UK.

Firmly embedded as an objective under the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR), both global actors, the European Union and some national governments, have to date provided mostly 'one-off' financial support to increase engagement in community sponsorships. By far the largest part of the costs and resources to run community sponsorships programmes are provided by NGOs, faith-based organisations, churches and private citizens.

Community sponsorships are resource intensive and time-consuming programmes to implement, requiring both pre-arrival and post arrival activities and support. With Covid 19, the Afghan and Ukraine refugee crises, and skyrocketing housing and energy prices, the NGOs and individuals engaged in sponsorship increasingly lack the human and financial resources to address the multiple needs of arriving refugees.

There is therefore a need to bring in new actors with a willingness to engage in, support, and expand safe and legal pathways for people seeking sanctuary in Europe while engaging with local communities to provide welcome and integration. In this context, private and corporate foundations are playing an increasingly important role with contributions that are multifaceted, combining operational and policy-oriented initiatives. In the social impact investing sphere, Social Impact Bonds (SIB) will also be also looked at to address funding gaps.

The Share QSN 1 ½ day roundtable on philanthropy and innovative financing will on the first day take stock of current examples and goals of philanthropy engagement, identify needs, and explore areas for future engagement. On the second day, participants will have the opportunity to explore the **new area of innovative financing** to support access to education and employment for refugees.

Places for the roundtable are **limited** and by **invitation only**. Spaces will be **reserved to corporate and private foundations, civil society organisations and regional and local authorities, with experience/interest in community sponsorship, complementary pathways** and local inclusion for refugees, or a firm interest to support the financing of community led initiatives in the near future.

Roundtable on Philanthropy and Innovative Financing for Refugee Sponsorship and Complementary Pathways

October 27 and 28, 2022

The Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin, Ireland

Programme: Day 1

8:45 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	Opening & Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICMC Europe/Share network, Petra Hueck, Director, • Irish Refugee Council, Nick Henderson, Integration Projects Manager • Moderator for the day: Irish Refugee Council, Claire Tetart, Fundraising and Development Manager and Gavin Timlin, Ukraine Response Team
9:15 - 10:00	Setting the scene: Sponsorship, legal pathways, and local inclusion in a changing landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspectives from civil society <i>What is the state of play on sponsorship and safe pathways for refugees? What are the opportunities and challenges? How has the landscape changed and where are we moving towards in the future?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICMC Europe/Share network, Petra Hueck, Director & Gabriela Agatiello, Senior Policy and Programme Manager • Perspectives from the philanthropic sector <i>With the GCR we have seen growing support from the philanthropy sector for safe and legal pathways and community sponsorships. What are the main objectives for philanthropy organisations to support such programmes?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porticus Global, Laura Bosch, Programme Manager (European context) • ONE Foundation, Fiona Finn, General Manager (Irish context) <p>Open floor: Interactive discussion with participants</p>
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee Break
10:15 - 11:45	Interactive Panel I: Sustainability and growth of resettlement and complementary pathways linked to sponsorship <i>This panel will look at how to broaden the sponsorship base across national territories and expand partnerships for complementary pathways - including in countries of first asylum - and explore areas where funding could be most effective.</i> <p>Broadening the sponsorship base of community sponsorship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens UK, Hannah Feldmann, Senior Project Manager of Sponsor Refugees & Irish Refugee Council, Kevin O’Leary, Community Sponsorship Lead, Resettlement-based sponsorship in the UK & Ireland: how can funding support the engagement of communities, the development of sponsor groups as well as the capacity-building and training of sponsors? • Saint Stephen’s Green Trust, Sara Stokes, Grant Manager: Access to funding for grassroots sponsorship initiatives in Ireland

	<p>Expanding partnerships for complementary pathways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caritas Italy/Consortio Communitas, Daniele Albanese, Programme Manager: <i>Humanitarian and university corridors linked to sponsorship</i> • Fondazione Finanza Etica, Simone Siliani, Managing Director: <i>Supporting students through university corridors</i> • Caritas International, Willem Gordts, Integration Coordinator: <i>Developing complementary education pathways in Belgium: challenges & opportunities</i> • UNHCR Ireland, Enda O’Neill, Head of Office: <i>Development of complementary education and labour mobility pathways in Ireland: challenges & opportunities</i> <p>Open floor: Interactive discussion with participants</p>
11:45 - 12:45	<p>Interactive Panel II: Inclusion and transformative change in communities</p> <p><i>This panel will look at grassroots approaches to welcome , inclusion and engagement of communities, with a focus on small municipalities and rural areas. Can such approaches lead to transformative change? How can foundations support grassroots initiatives and what are the challenges?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickwell foundation, Susannah Baker, Founding Trustee: <i>place-based/territorial approaches to integration and engagement of communities. How do we build capacity and sustain regional and local alliances?</i> • Robert Bosch Foundation, Markus Lux, Senior Vice President, Global Issues: <i>Broadening partnerships across territories</i> • IFRI France, Matthieu Tardis, Head of Centre of Migration and Citizenship: <i>Welcoming refugees in rural communities: from innovation to systemic change of integration policies</i> • Asociación Loiolaetxea Elkartea (Jesuitas Social), Ines Vicente Barbero, Social Worker: <i>Regional coordination and community engagement in refugee sponsorship in Spain</i> • La Caixa Foundation, Carlos Fernandez, Programme Manager: <i>How can we fund grassroots initiatives that are inclusive to all?</i> <p>Open floor: Interactive discussion with participants</p>
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 - 15:30	<p>Interactive Panel III: New models of welcome</p> <p><i>This panel will look at changes in sponsorship following developments in Afghanistan and Ukraine and the need to engage communities and refugees more directly in shaping the programmes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ukraine Response Forum, Emma Lanes Spollen: <i>Flexible funding for grassroots initiatives: how do you fund grassroots initiatives and ensure accountability? What are good examples/practices? What have been some unforeseen challenges?</i> • Irish Refugee Council, Rory O’Neill, Integration Projects Manager: <i>Adapting community sponsorship to respond to Ukraine and Afghanistan arrivals</i> • Helping Irish Hosts, Angie Gough, CEO: <i>Matching initiative for hosts and Ukrainian families</i> • The Shapiro Foundation, Ed Shapiro, Trustee: <i>Supporting community sponsorship and adapting models to the displacement of Ukrainian refugees</i> <p>Open floor: Interactive discussion with participants</p>
15:30 - 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 - 16:45	<p>Parallel Discussion groups</p> <p><i>These sessions will ensure networking and an exchange between civil society and foundations on tested practices, exploring common ground and opportunities for future cooperation and engagement. Participants will seek to define a common vision and define objectives and priority areas for 2022-2025.</i></p>

	Group 1 & 2: Common vision exercise: Aligning priorities between funders and civil society organisations. What should be the priorities for the coming years?
16:45 - 17:30	Takeaways from discussion groups and Closing Remarks
20:00 - 22.30	Dinner for all participants at 1900 Restaurant & Cocktail Bar : 59 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

How to leverage innovative finance to support legal pathways and refugee inclusion

Programme: Day 2

8:45 - 9:00	Registration and coffee
9:00 - 9.15	Opening & Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irish Refugee Council, Rory O'Neill, Integration Projects Manager DLA Piper Claudia Barbarano, Senior ESG Consultant Moderator for the day: Irish Social Enterprise Network, Chris Gordon, CEO
9:15 - 9:35	Innovative financing and Social Impacts Bonds for legal pathways and refugee inclusion DLA Piper, Claudia Barbarano, Social Impact Manager: <i>Exploring the Basics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What is a Social Impact Bond (SIB) and how do public, private and civil society actors engage with it?</i> - <i>What are the benefits of SIBs?</i> - <i>What is the process for setting-up a SIB?</i> - <i>What are potential costs and risks stemming from SIBs?</i> - <i>What are the financial and social returns of SIBs?</i>
9:35 - 10:30	Open Impact, Claudio Aceto, Impact Analyst <i>In Practice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How can impact finance work for refugee inclusion?</i> - <i>Case study – SIB for labour market integration in Belgium</i>
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 - 11:00	KOIS, Clara Marköö, Associate <i>How do we measure and evaluate SIBs?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Definition of potential KPIs (hard and soft, cashable and non-cashable, measurement)</i> - <i>The operational shift: from output to impact</i> - <i>How soft outcomes can deflate or boost the hard outcomes</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Example from Egypt</i> • <i>Example from Italy</i>
11:00 - 11:30	KOIS, Claudio Aceto, Impact Analyst <i>In Practice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Case study – The Refugee Impact Bond for micro-enterprise development in Jordan</i>
11:30 - 12:00	Open floor: Interactive discussion with participants
12:00 - 13:00	Closing and Light lunch