



# 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.



Co-financed by  
the European  
Commission

## 'Offering shelter, support and welcome to refugees in European Cities and Communities'

**A 1.5-day expert seminar and visit programme to support the production of a SHARE Network publication on challenges, opportunities and partnerships in HOUSING for resettled refugees**

**Brussels, 20-21 February 2014**

- **Why housing?**

The availability of housing at the local and regional level determines how many resettled refugees can be received by resettlement programmes in Europe. The location and type of housing offered for resettlement, and the presence of welcoming and supportive local communities, are crucial drivers of the integration experiences and prospects of resettled refugees and their families.



With the evolution of the [Syrian refugee crisis](#) and states' pledges to resettle vulnerable refugees from the region, and the ongoing need for places for other refugee groups around the world, the ability of European cities, regions and municipalities and their civil society partners to provide shelter, extend welcome, and so fill the number of resettlement places offered by national governments is more important than ever. During the current economic crisis, affordable housing for refugees and other low income and/or vulnerable groups has become increasingly scarce, and housing remains a key challenge for local and regional policymakers and practitioners in Europe.

During 2012-13, ICMC Europe and our [SHARE Network](#) partners and stakeholders have been engaged in research to support the production of a **SHARE** good practice publication on housing, initial reception and integration for refugee resettlement in Europe. To support the final development of our publication, we are delighted to invite your attendance at an expert seminar and visit programme taking place in Brussels on 20-21 February.

- **Seminar and visit programme**

Co-hosted by ICMC and our partners the Belgian NGOs **Caritas International** and **Convivial**, the 1.5-day expert seminar and visit programme will offer participants the opportunity to:



# 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)



- hear the preliminary findings and recommendations of ICMC's programme of research on housing and resettlement, and provide feedback and input on a draft outline of the **SHARE** housing publication;
- participate in a series of themed expert roundtables to share knowledge and expertise with European practitioners and policymakers who have contributed to our research; and
- attend site visits to housing services for refugees in Belgium provided by our NGO partners **Caritas** and **Convivial**.

- **Practical information**

The seminar and visit programme will begin at 13.00 on the afternoon of Thursday February 20, and conclude at 15.00 on Friday February 21.

The [SHARE Project](#) is able to facilitate attendance of up to 20 participants from across Europe. ICMC will determine final participation based on housing, reception and resettlement quota delivery /placement knowledge and expertise, prior contributions to SHARE housing research, and the overall distribution of participants in terms of type of actors, participating countries and level and/or specific area of work.

The [SHARE Project](#) will reimburse participant travel costs to and from Brussels (based on travel costs agreed in advance with ICMC), and provide pre-booked hotel accommodation and lunches/dinner throughout the programme.

- **Event registration**

To register your interest in attending please email Lisa Fischer ([intern.europe@icmc.net](mailto:intern.europe@icmc.net)) **by Wednesday February 12 2014**.

For more information about the [SHARE Network](#), seminar and visit programme or the **SHARE** housing publication, please contact Rachel Westerby ([city.coordinator@icmc.net](mailto:city.coordinator@icmc.net)).