



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

The SHARE Project

1 Why SHARE?

Although national governments are responsible for the selection of resettled refugees, 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 – and of the future Joint EU Resettlement Programme - thus depends on the commitment, ability and partnerships of cities, municipalities and regions.

The overall objective of the **SHARE project** is to build a European resettlement network of cities, municipalities and regions. The **SHARE network** is an integral part of the wider EU Resettlement Network, and facilitates the inclusion of local and regional actors in the network as new resettlement stakeholders.

The **SHARE project** offers opportunities for structured dialogue, exchange of practice and networking between cities and regional actors, and between experienced and emerging resettlement countries planning or considering resettlement.

2 SHARE Partners

The **SHARE project** is led by ICMC, in partnership with UNHCR, the city of Sheffield (UK), EURO CITIES, Horton Housing Association (UK) and the NGOs ACCEM, France Terre d'Asile, ProAsyl Germany, British Refugee Council, Refugee Action (UK), Dutch Refugee Council, Red Cross Austria, the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME) and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE). Associate partners include the cities of Munich, Aachen and Paris. The SHARE project will take place in Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

3 SHARE Activities

• **Building the SHARE network**

ICMC Europe and the UK city of Sheffield, together with a partnership of resettlement cities and NGOs in the Yorkshire and Humberside region in the UK, have published '*Welcome to Sheffield – Reflections on 8 years experience of receiving resettled refugees at the local level*'. Launched at the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day (May&(h in Brussels), '*Welcome to Sheffield*' will encourage participation and engagement in the **SHARE network**, particularly amongst cities and municipalities in new and potential resettlement countries.

The **SHARE project** has enabled additional representatives from cities, regions and municipalities across Europe to attend the EU Resettlement Skills Share Day, and to input into national multi-stakeholder resettlement events and meetings in their home countries. The **SHARE Project Steering Group** and '**Think Global, Act Local – the future of the EU city and region resettlement network**' final project conference will develop strategies for the continuity of the **SHARE network**.



- **City ‘look & learn’ exchange visit programme**

SHARE will incorporate a programme of **‘look & learn’ city exchange visits** hosted by a partnership of UK cities and NGOs led by the city of Sheffield. Each visit will be attended by mixed delegations from one or more visiting cities with 6-8 representatives from city/municipal authorities, NGOs and the media. The 2.5-day visits will incorporate a city peer review workshop and discussion day, and a programme of visits to local practitioners working in thematic areas of interest such as health, housing, education and employment. Visiting city delegations will pre-select visit activities from the ‘a-la-carte’ menu provided by the UK partnership.

- **‘Save Me’ – mobilising cities & citizens for resettlement**

Begun in Munich in 2008, and now active in cities and smaller municipalities across Germany, the ‘Save Me’ campaign successfully mobilised local citizens as volunteers in support of the resettlement of 2500 Iraqi refugees, and engaged local and regional authorities in advocating for the programme to take place. Following the success of this ‘ad-hoc’ Iraqi resettlement programme, the German government recently announced a quota programme of 300 resettlement places in Germany every year.

The **SHARE project** will capture and disseminate the successful practices and approaches of the German ‘Save Me’ campaign. It will use the experience and expertise of practitioners from German cities with successful ‘Save Me’ campaigns to produce the *‘Save Me: A City Says Yes!’* publication, a manual on German experiences and strategies to campaign and engage citizens, cities and regions in resettlement.

Additionally, the **SHARE project** will facilitate an English-language version of the ‘Save Me’ website, and the **SHARE network** will host the **‘Experiences from the Save Me campaign in Germany’** event in Brussels, targeting European actors and launching the *‘Save Me: A city Says Yes’* manual.

- **Sharing knowledge & building capacity**

The **SHARE project** will facilitate several training and capacity-building events and initiatives for cities, and create a number of resources to strengthen the **SHARE network** and build the capacity of its members.

The **SHARE project** will develop and pilot a one-day resettlement curriculum for cities and regions, and bring together city and municipal authorities from Central and Eastern Europe to discuss refugee resettlement in the region. In addition to a number of country desk reports on the role of local and regional authorities in Europe, the **SHARE project** will produce a guide for local authorities on providing housing for resettled refugees and an *‘EU Directory of Cities, Regions & Networks’*.

- **Cities, resettlement & human rights**

Many cities have made commitments to upholding and protecting human rights, including as international cities of refuge, human rights defenders and cities of sanctuary, and the **SHARE project** will mobilise and extend these commitments for the benefit of refugee resettlement.



The project will facilitate a one-day humanitarian cities event in Utrecht, bringing together 20 European cities involved in human and migrant rights networks with those cities that have made public humanitarian pledges. City participants will reflect on the role of city rights networks in increasing local, regional and national resettlement capacity and engagement.

4 Further information

For further information about the SHARE project, please contact Rachel Westerby, City Coordinator at ICMC Europe (city.cordinator@icmc.net) or visit www.resettlement.eu.