

INTRODUCTION TO THE LOCAL INCLUSION TOOLKIT FOR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

A toolkit for caseworkers welcoming resettled refugees

This toolkit is produced in the framework of the [SHARE Network](#). Established in 2012 and led by ICMC Europe, the SHARE Network provides a platform for mutual exchange and learning amongst local and regional actors working on or considering resettlement, and advocates for more and better resettlement in Europe. An integral part of the wider [European Resettlement Network](#), SHARE promotes partnerships for refugee inclusion in municipalities across Europe¹.

Why a toolkit for local inclusion?

New arrivals in a country, regardless of their background, often face many of the same challenges: learning the local language, finding housing and employment, understanding new institutions and systems, and building relationships and friendships. Arriving as a newcomer through refugee resettlement can create some additional challenges, for example:

- Adjusting to a more 'permanent' home after many years spent in a transit country;
- Overcoming what might be unrealistic expectations of life in the resettlement country; and
- Settling into a new community often without pre-existing family links or social networks.

Though the toolkit focuses on refugee resettlement, many of these challenges and circumstances exist also for refugees who arrive by means of other legal pathways such as **private sponsorship** or **relocation**, and as such, the tools provided can easily be adapted for such programmes.

This toolkit includes templates and ideas that will support those working on resettlement programmes to respond to these challenges, better meet the needs of resettled refugees and support their aspirations in their new home. The tools it includes have been compiled based on successful approaches used by many SHARE Network partners and stakeholders across Europe, shared with us and our partners throughout 2012-18. First published in 2014 (as the **SHARE City Curriculum**), the toolkit was revised, expanded and translated into a number of European languages in 2018. Specifically, the toolkit has been translated into Croatian, Estonian, Bulgarian, Slovenian, Romanian and Portuguese. Each of these countries are newly establishing or expanding resettlement programmes and we hope that the toolkit will be useful for those working in municipalities which are new to hosting resettled refugees.

How can the toolkit be used?

The toolkit includes template and guidance in three categories:

- **Arrival, Reception & Orientation;**
- **Settlement Support & Integration Planning;**
- **Multi-Purpose Tools for Caseworkers.**

You can make use of just one or several tools, adapt any of the templates for use in your work, or use the toolkit material as an inspiration to develop your own approaches and ideas for resettlement and inclusion in your regional or local context. The tools can be downloaded as **word documents** so they can be edited according to your needs.

We hope the toolkit will prove helpful in the process of welcoming resettled refugees to your community. We welcome feedback, input, and additional tools you may wish to share. If you would like to connect, please contact ICMC Programme Manager, Magdalena Boehm: boehm@icmc.net.

¹ For more good practice examples in resettlement and integration, take a look at the SHARE publications '[Welcome to Sheffield: Reflections on 8 years experience of receiving resettled refugees at the local level](#)' and '[A Place to Live, a Place to Stay: A Good Practice Guide for Housing in Refugee Resettlement](#)', and ICMC's [Building a Resettlement Network of European Cities and Regions](#).

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