

Global Refugee Forum Consultation in Europe

Diaspora and Refugee Workshop

Berlin, 31 August-1st September 2019

Introduction

Ahead of the Global Refugee Forum DRC organized a preparatory workshop with representatives of diaspora and refugee-led organisations from Europe on 31 August - 1st September 2019 in Berlin. This workshop is part of a series of four regional workshops funded by UNHCR to achieve **meaningful participation of refugee-led and diaspora organisations at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum**.

The workshop brought together 24 people from a range of countries across Europe. The organizations were all working in some capacity to improve the well-being and uphold the rights of refugees, asylum-seekers or the diaspora in their countries of residence, on the road from their countries of origin, or living in displacement in host countries closer to home. Some of the organizations were working with communities in countries of origin as well.

The workshop engaged individuals from these organizations in a day and a half of discussion, as part of making sure that refugee and diaspora voices are heard at the upcoming Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December 2019. The GRF has been organized as part of the follow up and accountability to the implementation of the Global Refugee Compact (GRC), and will be a forum for showcasing and discussing good practices in improving the lives of refugees, as well as making pledges to contribute to or support initiatives. The principle 'audience' for the GRF are the States who signed the Compact and who need to demonstrate their continued commitment to burden-sharing. However, in the spirit of the GRC, other actors such as private sector, NGOs, CVOs, development actors, diaspora, refugees, etc. will be present, and it is important that progress and promises are monitored, and informed, those affected by displacement.

The purpose of the workshop was therefore to extract good ideas, map existing good practices, and provoke collaboration around pledges commitments from those working at the grassroots level with refugees in Europe as well as in their region of origin. The GRF is focusing on six themes : arrangements for burden and responsibility-sharing, protection capacity, education, jobs and livelihoods, solutions, infrastructure and energy, and from these, the working groups at the Berlin meeting mainly focused on protection, education, and jobs and livelihoods ("infrastructure and energy" has less application in Europe, and 'solutions' outcomes such as resettlement and complementary pathways seem to be more within the remit of States). Below are the outcomes from the different working groups.

Discussion of themes, and outcomes

Four working groups presented the results of their shared thinking on the most important challenges, existing activities, and ideas for improved response to the following GRF thematic areas:

- Protection
- Education
- Jobs/Livelihoods
- Solutions

Over-arching, repeated themes from the groups included:

- 1) The importance of increasing inclusion of and focus on women in various aspects of work with refugees, including support to helping women access employment and self-reliance;
- 2) The need for organizations to be consulted and involved at all stages in the displacement axis;
- 3) The importance of helping new arrivals with the integration process, and the need for mutual cultural education between host community/duty-bearers, and those arriving
- 4) Education, employment and work as a really important element in the integration process
- 5) The challenges for refugees of retaining a cultural and legal identity in the new country of residence
- 6) There are many who still fall within the gaps of service provision; the most vulnerable, asylum seekers before their cases are decided, and those whose cases are rejected, those in detention. Advocacy and programmes are needed for these people

Working group sessions

The ideas presented by the groups are shown in the tables below. The tables include a column of best practice examples in each of the thematic areas, which were presented in a session at the end of the day, and have been matched to the challenges.

1. Protection

Facilitated discussion on accessing systems, status, safety, integration, countering discrimination and rights abuse

- *How can diaspora/refugee groups help themselves, and others by sharing protection information, supporting asylum info/ procedures and offering activities for integration in their country of residence?*
- *How can diaspora/refugee groups support others (e.g. other nationalities, women, new arrivals, vulnerable individuals) to avoid and counter abuse, discrimination, exclusion, and human rights challenges in their countries of residence?*

Protection was broadly interpreted by the groups, and sometimes included elements that touch on other thematic areas, such as education and solutions.

Challenge/Gap/Need	Key allies/responsible stakeholders/co-sponsors	Examples of existing good practices that can be replicated	Recommendation/potential pledge based on learning experiences
Combating/reporting hate crimes Discrimination in stop and search checks	Media Police Host community, diaspora organizations	<i>Afghan Voice Radio</i> : Raising good stories about refugees and immigrants in the media	Establish common reporting mechanism, and centres where crimes/incidents can be reported

Providing support to the most vulnerable; failed asylum seekers, those in detention centres, women, etc.		<p><i>French Refugee Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribution of food & hygiene products to asylum seekers and refugees ▪ Warm food cooked by refugees to the asylum seekers in Paris 	Identify those who are in need of support; provide outreach, financial support, legal aid, and information
Protecting migrants and refugees on the journey, e.g. in Greece	NGOs and UN working in countries of transit Governments of countries of transit Smugglers	<p><i>Human Corridors – Pilot Project</i> carried out by community of Saint Egidio with the Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy to avoiding dangerous boat travel in the Mediterranean</p> <p>Suggestion: Granting vulnerable persons legal entry into Italy with humanitarian visa</p>	Diaspora groups leading on advocacy on the importance of respecting human rights of refugees for example in Libya and Greece
Protecting those who have been forcibly returned	Global north/destination country governments NGOs and human rights organizations in countries of origin		Host countries to ensure real safety in countries of origin before enforcing deportation Improved monitoring for those returned
Tensions inside a given diaspora community; cultural/ethnic heterogeneity	Representatives from different ethnic groups, diaspora	<p><i>The Anti-Tribalism Movement:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy & Campaign to counter prejudice and hatred towards to refugees: http://theatm.org/dont-judge-dontlabel/ 	Transitional justice programmes to support reconciliation

2. Education

Discussion of access to quality education

- *What are the key challenges you observe for refugees and returnees to access (quality) education – in Europe and in your country of origin?*
- *What are the key reasons for these challenges?*
- *What examples have you observed and supported to enable better access to quality education?*

The education working groups discussed two different themes; education (primary and secondary) for children, and tertiary education/skills training for adults. The following were the challenges, activities and best practices presented.

Challenge	Key allies/ responsible stakeholders/ co-sponsors	Examples of existing good practices that can be replicated	Recommendation/ potential pledge based on learning experiences
School age children (primary and secondary education)			
Children lose a lot of time while their families are being processed for asylum	Community organizations; diaspora groups; local government, religious leaders		Accelerated asylum processing, and integration activities (as above)
Challenge for children to learn in a new, foreign language and culture	Local education authority, diaspora organizations, CVOs	<i>Teaching assistants</i> who have fluency in the language of immigrant/refugee children in their schools (Sweden and UK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Test/orientation for teachers on cultural background of refugee children in their schools ▪ Intercultural competence; mediators to solve difference between teachers and pupils especially issues based on cultural diversity! Pupil mentorship to ensure accelerated cultural integration
Children lose the ability to speak their mother tongue, and cultural heritage	Parents, community members, diaspora organizations	Diaspora-run weekend/supplementary schools (religion and cultural classes);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To commit to more transparency to gain trust in country of residence ▪ Qualified teachers, trust-building with local communities and authorities
Tertiary education and skills training (young adults)			
Language and culture as a major barrier to accessing employment	Government, local authorities; NGOs, diaspora organizations	<p><i>Mandatory schemes for language and cultural learning</i> (example of Sweden)</p> <p><i>Teach a Refugee Program</i> is an initiative that connects local citizens with asylum seekers and refugees through languages classes. Since 2016, the initiative has helped more</p>	Affirmative action in private sector entities, refugee quotas

		<p>than 863 immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers as well as unaccompanied minors find French language teachers.</p> <p>Internships (including in diaspora companies)</p> <p><i>Shadowing/mentorship programmes</i> Type form for diaspora members to volunteer. They were firstly engaged through thematic events to make them aware of the programme. They reached out to refugees through community organizations and associations, asking them what skills were most needed and wanted. We then match diaspora to refugee members in a ‘buddy’ mentor project.</p>	
Non recognition of educational and technical certificates	Government (national) and EU, diaspora organizations	<i>French Refugee Council</i> - validation of previously acquired work experience and qualification through direct involvement of the private sector, and bridging between the candidates and the employer. FRC is encouraging the French enterprises towards refugee recruitment by conducting professional training based on the needs of the future employer. FRC holds employment fairs inviting the employer to offer job opportunities	
Women are marginalized in their new cultures (esp. those from cultures that do not promote girls’ education etc)	Organizations, states, local education authorities , diaspora organizations	<i>Refugee Women GALA</i> : Building a bridge between French and refugee Women	Schemes, funding programmes to get young women into educational opportunities and to learn the language of host country, gain computer skills, etc.

3. Jobs and Livelihoods

Discussion of employment as key component of integration and inclusion, as well as self-reliance. Do local and diaspora/refugee-led businesses provide opportunities? What about access to work for vulnerable diaspora/refugee members (e.g. those with disability?)

- *What are the challenges you observe and experience for refugees and returnees to access work and employment – in Europe and in your country of origin?*
- *What are the key reasons for these challenges?*
- *What/where are the opportunities to collaborate with other stakeholders such as private sector actors to increase access to employment and skills development?*
- *Who are the partners that refugees and diaspora could already mobilize for contributions?*
- *What examples have you observed and supported to enable better access to work and employment?*

The jobs and livelihoods working groups also split across two themes; the legal and policy framework around access to employment, and practical challenges around refugees and the private sector/work environment. Issues identified in the latter area overlapped with the tertiary education working group issues.

Challenges	Allies/responsible stakeholders/ co-sponsors	Examples of existing good practices that can be replicated	Recommendation/ potential pledge based on learning experiences
Legal and policy framework			
Difficulties accessing the job market; lack of legal status to work	Governments of receiving countries in Europe; local authorities European Union Diaspora organizations	<i>Mariestad project</i> providing support for asylum seekers with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour market information • Computer courses, • Coaching and matching • Opportunities to access internships 	Timely and realistic changes in immigration and asylum laws in the EU and other developed countries allowing asylum-seekers to have access to tailored jobs and livelihood opportunities. Governments creating programmes to skill up and empower refugees and new arrivals and enable them to access work and be productive members of society through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work placements/internships • Mentorships • Right to work
Temporary status allows asylum seekers to	Governments Diaspora organizations	<i>French Refugee Council:</i> Tailored-made support for asylum seekers: helping with CV, applications, job search	

work, but without support			
Access to work/ partnerships with private sector			
Refugees and asylum seekers often find it difficult to present the right skills, language skills, or qualifications to find work in Europe	Private sector local government, employment agencies NGO Diaspora organizations	<i>French Refugee Council</i> - validation of previously acquired work experience and qualification through direct involvement of the private sector, and bridging between the candidates and the employer. FRC is encouraging the French enterprises towards refugee recruitment by conducting professional training based on the needs of the future employer. FRC holds employment fairs inviting the employer to offer job opportunities	Increasing access to employment for refugees through highlighting their skills and qualifications and benefits to the host economy. This will help lessen the burden on the welfare budget and improve community relations and help in the integration process for refugees. Conditional fund towards more job opportunities and work enrolment by hosting country governments and companies. E.g., employ 50% refugees, 50% locals; provide trainings, and provide permissions.
Women are particularly excluded from job market	Diaspora organizations Local government initiatives Women's rights organizations, private sector	Refugee women's empowerment through support for cooperative groups to establish businesses such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and crafts • Fashion • Restaurant business • Domestic services • Or any business 	Provision of sponsored/affordable childcare
Refugees lack capital for setting up their own businesses (in neighbouring countries and in Europe)	Diaspora organizations, donors, NGOs, private sector	Micro-finance and diaspora remittances to support refugee entrepreneurs in neighboring countries	

4. Solutions

Discussion about resettlement, voluntary return, local integration, complementary pathways, as applies to the European diaspora and their fellow refugees in host countries nearer home;

- What are the key challenges for refugees to access formalization of their status in countries in Europe?
- What are the key challenges facing refugees in countries neighbouring home countries to achieve resettlement, local integration, return home?
- What are the best examples of ways in which the diaspora can play a role in facilitating solutions?
- What are the opportunities for engaging other stakeholders, including academic institutions, civil society, private citizens in resettlement and complimentary pathways as well as other solutions?

No working groups discussed solutions as a theme, since it was felt this was less appropriate for diaspora groups in Europe than for refugee groups and individuals in neighbouring host countries. However, some examples of solutions practice were provided at the end of day 1, and these are included below. The integration issues described are also covered in the protection working group discussions above

Challenges	Key allies/responsible stakeholders/ co-sponsors	Examples of existing good practice replicated	Recommendation/ potential experiences
Integration of refugees into host societies	Governments Job services Diaspora and refugee organizations, CVOs, Private sector	<i>2nd Friend</i> : Professionals of the diaspora community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing professional support • Accessed via sms-phone email web • Helpline (NGO, government, private sector, individual) • Professionals share experiences • Guide based on practices • Empowerment • Create opportunities • Help establish ideas for the future • Self-reliance 	Set up community centre that helps the family learn language, get training for some vocational work, to raise awareness about gender equality so women have the same right of education and work as well as men. Engage the refugees with the host community through language cafes and enhance the idea of voluntary work for refugees so they can mingle with society.
Providing information for effective integration into new country; navigating the system	Politicians Local government Host community Diaspora community	<i>Early integration for asylum seekers</i> - a project going on in the city of Mariestad since January 2018. 170 asylum seekers from 13 nationalities and coming from 15 nearby cities (46% women) are participating in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved communication between communities ▪ Funding and support for diaspora groups to take the lead on integration advice/guidance

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language courses, society orientation • Labour market information • Health education • Computer courses, English, cultural trips. • Coaching and matching • Opportunities to access internships <p>In cooperation with civil society actors and institutions and experts</p> <p><i>Yaar e.V.:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with migration organizations to support refugee and asylum seekers and new arrivals e.g. training on how to negotiate systems in the host countries <p>Provision of legal aid</p>	
Barriers to refugees settling and finding work in neighbouring host countries	Neighbouring host country governments Donors to the CRRF process and GRC	Allowing refugees to access national systems (education and work): Turkey	Vocational/tertiary education in refugee camps
Refugees/immigrants are not politically engaged in their new country	Diaspora and refugee community		Train refugees on political and cultural situation in their new country
Difficulties of protecting culture/heritage from country of origin	diaspora and refugee community Local government	<i>Afghan Academy International</i> Refugee Library and Study Centre providing educational opportunities and a creative inter-cultural hub with dedicated programmes and activities. Venue for studies and information and reference platforms	

		<p><i>'Celebrating Syria Festival'</i> (Swedish Syrian association) A festival of arts and culture about Syria's culture and history 2 years of running 2017-2018, one week of concerts, exhibitions, workshops, films, talks and discussions. Showcasing work of Syrians Train professional and policy makers on cultural background of immigrants/ refugees</p>	
Inter-generational gap	Teachers, other community members, religious leaders, diaspora, etc.		Promote dialogue between older and younger generations to ensure cultural traditions are passed down while integration is fostered

5. Energy/ Infrastructure

No working groups discussed energy and infrastructure as a theme, since it was felt this was less appropriate for diaspora groups in Europe than for refugee groups and individuals in neighbouring host countries. The focus in any mention of energy issues was on the need for more innovative, green and sustainable energy sources in refugee camps in neighbouring countries, but no special on-going activity was presented as a best practice.

6. Support to populations back home

On the final morning, the working groups examined different aspects of partnership with, and support to, communities back in countries of origin, as well as refugee groups in neighbouring countries.

The following were the issues raised as important concerns, and some suggested good practice interventions on-going, or suggested:

Challenge	Allies/responsible stakeholders/ co-sponsors	Examples of existing good practices that can be replicated	Recommendation/potential pledge based on learning experiences
Education and skills training			
Low quality service provision in refugee	Donors, UNHCR, NGOs, diaspora	Syrian organization in Sweden working to educate Syrian children in various aspects of health so they can	

camps in neighbouring countries		get back to the region and train midwives in the refugee camps	
Low level of education in country of origin	Government, donors, NGOs, Diaspora organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghan academics are returning to Kabul and offering their teaching and research skills • <i>Young Women Leadership program</i> in East Africa: Skills training for women, talk about GBV, employment skills, social action projects (Tanzania, Somaliland, Uganda) • Afghan group providing skills training for IDPs • Scholarships for marginalized groups in Somalia for children missing out on a tertiary education 	
Lack of economic and educational opportunities	Government, diaspora, private sector	TC technology Remote Diaspora Volunteers connects diaspora individuals with skills to groups, youth groups etc. in Sudan to help with proposal development etc.	Investment in Somalia in youth opportunities and work experience, in partnership with government and NGOs. Foster entrepreneurship and business
Protection			
Divisions and tension between communities in country of origin	NGOs Diaspora organizations	<i>Sports events</i> in Zimbabwe bring people together from across the political spectrum for reconciliation <i>Syrian Youth Assembly</i> , an organization by refugees for refugees, helps build peace and better understanding of political freedom	
Lack of protection and security for high-profile individuals and returnees	Diaspora organizations INGOs UN National, Local authorities	<i>Hazara United movement</i> : Legal aid and advocacy for journalists and others in trouble with the authorities in Pakistan <i>Monitoring returnee well-being</i> after their return, providing funding and connections to human rights groups (Bhutan, Afghanistan)	
Lack of justice in the context of a conflict	Human rights organizations, media, donors	<i>FORWARD</i> : Gathering testimonies from women who have left the country on what took place	

Diaspora engagement			
Lack of engagement on the part of diaspora groups to support those back home	Media Diaspora organizations	<i>Afghan Academy</i> (http://www.afghanacademy.org.uk/) running media programmes to educate diaspora about the problems being faced back home <i>ATM</i> : Media engagement to articulate refugees narratives seeking support for countries of origin to create opportunities for local communities	

Three good practices in Europe presented and most highly rated at the workshop

#1: Early integration of asylum seekers in Mariestad/Sweden. Usually, integration services are not for asylum seekers, so a special project has been implemented that includes a range of activities: language classes (for analphabets – via an Afghan teacher), vocational training, internships, coaching, matching, skills mapping, CVs, health education, social and environmental events, partnerships with civil society partners (e.g. for computer classes, flower design, women groups and guitar classes – creating free-of-charge activities for asylum seekers), hiring Swedish nationals far from labour market.

#2: Changing narratives via employment in France. Refugee employment as an entry point for changing narratives – showing that refugees can be contributors. The French Refugee Council reach out to large employers – match-making with skills of refugees. Awareness on opportunities for employers to create jobs for refugees (incentives, support schemes). Partnership pending w. APEC (employment agency for highly qualified workers). Employment fairs to show success stories.

#3: Afghan Academy International - Community-initiated organisation: Self-funded by the community. Preserving memory and cultural identity. Library and study center – digital platform in addition to physical space. Build trust, reestablish confidence, peace-building – as a basis to manage multiple identities. Cultural hub for young and old. Build solidarity within the Afghan community across ethnic groups. Hub and safe place for women to meet.

Next steps

Having concentrated during the 1.5 days on achieving some degree of consensus and awareness of some of the good activities different organizations are engaged in countries in Europe, but also in countries of origin, or countries where refugee populations live near to home, the final session of the workshop was dedicated to examining how the workshop would yield results for the Global Refugee forum in December.

DRC reminded the group of the timing and content of the GRF: 16th – 18th December, a ministerial meeting but with space for civil society voices, and for side events, as well as showcased best practices.

This workshop is one of four regional events to tease out good ideas, and possible pledges that can be presented at the meeting. **A steering committee of four persons (Najib Obaid BABAKERKHAIL, Dr Sadiqu**

Al-Mousslie, Milka Yemane, Hala Akari) was selected from the group to lead the process of distilling outcomes and agreed priority initiatives, for further discussion at a global online workshop. Three examples of good practice (highlighted in the section above) were selected in an informal voting process during the workshop, as possible areas of intervention to be promoted at the GRF for scaling up or replication, but it is up to the group whether these, or others, will be taken to the GRF. There will be a meeting every two weeks for the steering committee, and the chance for all participants to contribute further to the outcome document, and key recommendations.

Anybody from the Berlin workshop may connect to the global online workshop, when it happens in November 2019; present on that call will also be representatives from the Middle East, Africa and Copenhagen workshops. Thereafter, one person from each region will be selected to attend the GRF in December 2019. Submissions of best practices or pledges, or ideas for side events, can be made by any organization bilaterally to [UNHCR](#) (online or on the template documents shared at the meeting) or as part of an agreed, multi-stakeholder effort (preferred, and part of the desired outcome of the workshop).

As part of the process of bringing diaspora and refugee voices together to make a joint statement or position more powerful, the outcome document may be use to develop a statement or policy document for the GRF. This might be complemented with reinforcing media products, such as a short video.

Milestones towards the Global Refugee Forum

1. Submit a proposal for Marketplace/Speaker/Spotlight Sessions at GRF > deadline **30 September 2019**
2. Advocacy to influence or join pledges with other stakeholders > **up to December 2019**
3. Make and submit individual or joint pledges > **up to December 2019**
4. Global online Workshop with all the regional participants > **November 2019**



Workshop Participants

Name	Organisation
Abdoullah Orebi	URNAMMU for justice & Human rights
ADAM MATAN OBE	Anti-Tribalism Movement
Assiya Majgan Amini	Afghan Academy International
Dr Sadiqu Al-Mousllie	Initiative for Civilrights in Syria - ICS (IBS)
Ehab Badwi	Syrian Youth Assembly (SYA)
Hala Akari	Swedish Syrian Association
Hammood Obaid	Rethink Rebuild Society
Hazem Aboyouness	Alseeraj for development and healthcare
Silence Chihuri	Fair Justice System for Scotland Group (FJSS Group)
Hsyan Abd Elrahim	Operazione Colomba
Jawaahir Daahir	Global Somali Diaspora
Kava Spartak	Yaar e.V.
Majid Albunni	Verband Deutschsyrischer Hilfsvereine E.V.
Mary Otuko	Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development (FORWARD)
May Samhour	Al-SeerajSweden/SyrianSwedish Democratic Network/WASL/Syrian Diaspora Network Platform
Milka Yemane	The Lemat foundation/stichting Lemat
Mr Liaquat Ali Hazara	Hazara United Movement, UK/North East Law Centre
Najib Obaid BABAKERKHAIL	French Refugee Council
Ram Bahadur Chhetri	Bhutanese Community in The Netherlands (BCN)
Reem abbas	New women connector
Rukaiyatu Ahmed	Foundation for Refugee Economic Empowerment
Samah Ahmed	Shabaka
Zubair Gharghasht	Afghan Voice CIC - Afghan Voice Radio

Regional Workshop in Europe for the Global Refugee Forum

31st August – 1st September 2019, Berlin - Germany

Consulting refugee and diaspora representatives in the lead-up to the 2019 Global Refugee Forum

<i>Day & Time</i>	<i>Session content</i>	<i>Facilitator/Presenter</i>
Saturday 31st August		
09:00	Welcome	Beatrice Mauconduit, DRC
09:15	Introductory session Introductions and warm up: everybody to introduce themselves, their organizations, what is their relationship (if any) with their country of origin, what they like most about their country of residence, and what they find most challenging and would like to change for the diaspora/refugee community	Katy Grant, facilitator
09:45	Presentation of Global Compact for Refugees, and the purpose of the Global Refugee Forum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation will focus on responsibility-sharing; collective action; and the role of diaspora and refugee groups and individuals participating in the Forum and beyond. 	Tine Vestergaard Jacobsen, DRC
10:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Session on GRF co-sponsorship groups, pledges, good practices, and about UNHCR engagement with refugee organizations <p>Questions and discussion</p> <p><i>Outcome: participants are all clear as to the aims of the GCR and GRF, and have started thinking about how to make the pledges and best practice discussions of the GRF meaningful.</i></p> <p><i>Participants gain a clear understanding of the focus and function of the co-sponsorship groups, have guidance on contributions as well as good practices, and the ways in which UNHCR has been and will be engaging refugees and their organizations in the process at the local, regional and global levels.</i></p>	Afarin Dadkhah , UNHCR
10:30	Coffee & Tea Break	
10:50	Presentation by FJSS Group of their advocacy model Questions and discussion <i>Outcome: Participants have learnt about a strong example of advocacy and influencing policy in the justice system in Scotland, as an example of a good practice</i>	Silence Chihori

11 10	<p>Presentation by French Refugee Council of their work with refugees in France Questions and discussion</p> <p><i>Outcome: Participants have learnt about a strong example of integration, inclusion and empowerment of refugees in France, as an example of a good practice</i></p>	Najib Babakerkhail, FRC
11:30	<p>Plenary discussion: Protection Facilitated discussion on accessing systems, status, safety, integration, countering discrimination and rights abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can diaspora/refugee groups help themselves, and others by sharing protection information, supporting asylum info/ procedures and offering activities for integration in their country of residence? • How can diaspora/refugee groups support others (e.g. other nationalities, women, new arrivals, vulnerable individuals) to avoid and counter abuse, discrimination, exclusion, and human rights challenges in their countries of residence? <p><i>Outcome:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A set of identified and agreed challenges to the protection of refugees and diaspora members in host countries - A set of areas in which diaspora and refugees are experiencing positive change in terms of rights, discrimination and security, and recommendations for reinforcement and expansion through showcasing of good practices and pledges towards the GRF 	Facilitated discussion
13:00	LUNCH	
14:00	<p>Working group session 1 Participants divide into two groups and discuss on the following two areas, with a focus on challenges, best practice and potential pledges</p> <p>1) Education Discussion of access to quality education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key challenges you observe for refugees and returnees to access (quality) education – in Europe and in your country of origin? • What are the key reasons for these challenges? • What examples have you observed and supported to enable better access to quality education? <p>2) Work and livelihoods Discussion of employment as key component of integration and inclusion, as well as self-reliance. Do local and diaspora/refugee-led businesses provide opportunities? What about access to work for vulnerable diaspora/refugee members (e.g. those with disability?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the challenges you observe and experience for refugees and returnees to access work and employment – in Europe and in your country of origin? 	Facilitated working groups

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key reasons for these challenges? • What/where are the opportunities to collaborate with other stakeholders such as private sector actors to increase access to employment and skills development? • Who are the partners that refugees and diaspora could already mobilize for contributions? • What examples have you observed and supported to enable better access to work and employment? <p><i>Outcome:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A list of identified and agreed challenges to realization of refugee rights in the areas of education and livelihoods, with linked recommendations for action by states, host communities, agencies, donors and other stakeholders etc.</i> - <i>A list of areas in which diaspora and refugees are experiencing positive change, and recommendations for reinforcement and expansion through showcasing of good practices and pledges towards the GRF</i> 	
15:00	Feedback to plenary on key findings	Group representatives
15:30	Coffee & Tea Break	
15:45	<p>Working group session 2</p> <p>Participants divide into two groups (different composition from previous session), and discuss on the following two areas, with a focus on challenges, best practice and potential pledges</p> <p>1) Energy and Infrastructure</p> <p>Discussion about the challenges faced by refugee populations in camps and urban settings nearer to countries of origin;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key challenges for refugees in Europe (but also in countries neighbouring home countries) to access clean energy and good infrastructure, including water supply, health services, decent housing as well as internet and phone service? • How can the European diaspora play a role to address the energy and infrastructure needs; partnerships, innovation, pledges, etc.? <p>2) Solutions</p> <p>Discussion about resettlement, voluntary return, local integration, complementary pathways, as applies to the European diaspora and their fellow refugees in host countries nearer home;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key challenges for refugees to access formalization of their status in countries in Europe? • What are the key challenges facing refugees in countries neighbouring home countries to achieve resettlement, local integration, return home? • What are the best examples of ways in which the diaspora can play a role in facilitating solutions? • What are the opportunities for engaging other stakeholders, including academic institutions, civil society, private citizens in resettlement and complimentary pathways as well as other solutions? 	Facilitated working groups

	<p><i>Outcome:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of identified and agreed challenges to realization of refugee rights in the areas of energy, infrastructure and solutions, with linked recommendations for action by states, host communities, agencies, donors etc. • A list of areas in which diaspora and refugees are experiencing positive change, and recommendations for reinforcement and expansion through showcasing of good practices and pledges towards the GRF 	
16:45	Report back to plenary on key findings	Group representatives
17:15	Summary of the day	Facilitator
19:00	Joint dinner at Malakeh Restaurant, Potsdamer Straße 153	
Sunday 1st September		
09:00	<p>Support to populations back home Discussion: identifying diaspora priorities when supporting family members, friends and the wider community in countries of origin (15 mins)</p>	Facilitator
09:15	One participant will present the best practice or innovation of her/his organization in providing support to, or partnering with, community members in countries of origin (10 mins)	TBD
09:25	<p>Two workings groups will discuss possible good practice, or commitments in the following areas:</p> <p>Working Group 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • addressing root causes • community conflict-resolution and peace building • addressing climate change as a cause of displacement – diaspora role in information-sharing and advocacy • strategic advocacy by refugees and diaspora with local, national governments, and with regional bodies towards durable solutions, integration, alternative pathways <p>Working Group 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remittances – how to optimize their targeting and use • capacity building for businesses back home • partnership; how can the diaspora and refugee groups work with communities back home • information and knowledge-sharing with other refugees, aspiring migrants etc. <p><i>Outcome</i></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A set of identified and agreed challenges to realization of rights and well-being at home, with linked recommendations for action by states, host communities, agencies, donors etc. to prevent forced displacement - A set of best practices through which diaspora and refugees have been and are able to support self-reliance, resilience building, livelihoods, protection among communities back home, and recommendations for partnership, advocacy and coordination to strengthen and expand these 	
10:30	Coffee & Tea break	
10:45	<p>Session on Next Steps: Taking the workshop outcomes to the global level Presentation of what happens next – opportunities for coordination, partnership, replication</p>	Tine Jacobsen
11:10	<p>Plenary discussion on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of representatives from the workshop group to participate in global online workshop • Consolidation of agreed best practices to be presented from the workshop • Consolidation of pledges made at the workshop to support people in displacement, in Europe and elsewhere; partnerships with donors, governments, NGOs, private sector and others to be pursued • Consolidation on agreed commitments made to financial, material, technical, information and other support to communities in countries of origin, including advocacy and engagement with governments, donors and others. <p><i>Outcome:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List of individuals to participate in global online workshop - Clear brief on what the big group has identified as collective points of action, commitments, pledges and best practice - Good ideas on how to present the aspirations and concerns as well as proposed solutions of those affected by displacement in an emphatic, eye-catching way at the GRF 	Facilitator
12:00	Summary and closure	Beatrice Mauconduit
12:15	Lunch at the Maritim Hotel Restaurant and/or Departure	All participants