

# THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN **ECONOMIC** INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES

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11–12 June 2019

National Museum of Immigration  
293 Avenue Daumesnil, 75012  
Paris, France

CO-HOSTED BY:

The World Bank Group  
The European Investment Bank  
The Confederation of Danish Industry



Confederation of Danish Industry



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# INTRODUCTION

**CONTEXT:** Today, more than 68 million people have been forced from their homes worldwide, including 25 million refugees, according to UNHCR. Almost 85 percent are hosted by low or middle-income countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Uganda, Turkey, and Bangladesh. With half of the world's refugees staying for more than four years on average in host countries, the international community has moved from a predominant use of humanitarian approaches to an increasing appreciation of development responses. The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016) set out key elements of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and emphasized the private sector's role in finding solutions for refugees and host communities. The CRRF became part of the Global Compact on Refugees (2018) - to ease pressures on host communities and enhance refugee self-reliance.

**PURPOSE:** On June 11-12, 2019, the World Bank Group (WBG), the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the Confederation of Danish Industry (DI) will co-host a global event on the role of the private sector in economic integration of refugees. The event will bring together stakeholders from across the public and private sectors to develop new ways to mobilize expertise, linkages, finance, and resources in support of refugees. While a number of organizations have explored how the private sector can facilitate refugee integration into host community economies, a need remains for global lessons learned, for practitioners dealing with entrepreneurship, investment, employment, and services and business development. Following up on the adoption of the Global Compact, the first Global Refugee Forum will be held in December 2019 in Geneva, and the Paris conference on the Private Sector's Role in Economic Integration of Refugees will be able to feed its conclusions into this process. The conference also aligns with the collaborative platform for Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) on economic migration and forced displacement (2018), with the WBG and EIB as two MDBs directly co-organizing the conference.

**AUDIENCE:** The conference brings together field practitioners, investment companies and private sector firms, refugee entrepreneurs, labor market representatives, donors and development partners (incl. MDBs), chambers of commerce, and public sector actors; 15 countries are expected to be represented.

**CONTENT:** The conference will be organized around four themes:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Entrepreneurship</b>        | Supporting refugee entrepreneurship; innovation and incubation programs for refugees; youth entrepreneurship training schemes; diaspora mobilization in support of refugee entrepreneurs.   |
| <b>Investment</b>              | Impact investing to benefit refugees and host communities; private capital mobilization to scale companies employing or benefitting refugees; business-to-business deals which increase opportunities for refugees; innovative blended finance tools that benefit refugees. |
| <b>Employment</b>              | Labor policies and refugees; private sector experience in selecting, training and employing refugees; refugees' voice and representation in the labor market.   |
| <b>Services &amp; Products</b> | How corporations and small businesses adapt to the influx of refugees through market-driven approaches; private business support to supplement public aid; adapting and redesigning business models.  |

**EXPECTED RESULTS:** Building on the general lessons from the panel events on day 1, and the in-depth working sessions on day 2 (including country cases and sector discussions), the conference will culminate in the elaboration of a draft **Charter of Good Practice** on the role of the private sector in economic integration of refugees through employment, investment, entrepreneurship and services. The Principles will be developed collectively during the conference, and designed as a guide for private sector leaders, government representatives, refugee entrepreneurs, trade union representatives and development actors in their work on mobilizing private sector capital and innovation in support of refugees and their host populations. A follow-up event is planned for 2021 to report on each component of the Principles and to disseminate lessons learned.

**FUNDING:** The conference is funded by the co-organizers as well as through generous financing from DANIDA, UK Aid as part of the Jordan UK Initiative, and the World Bank Group SDG Fund.



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# VENUE LOCATION

French National Museum of Immigration  
293 Avenue Daumesnil  
75012 Paris, France

# ABOUT THE CO-ORGANIZERS

## The World Bank Group

This conference is organized in the context of the Refugee Investment and Matchmaking Platform, launched in September 2018 by the WBG to support refugees and host communities through enterprise and market development. The Platform, piloted in Jordan, seeks to mobilize the private sector in support of refugees and their host communities through several channels and is built around four key pillars, namely: (i) matchmaking, (ii) investment, (iii) policy linkages and institutional development, and (iv) global knowledge, outreach and advocacy. This initiative reflects the WBG's Maximizing Finance for Development approach to leverage all sources of finance, expertise, and solutions to support developing countries' sustainable growth. The World Bank Group is seeking ways to collaborate with an increasing number of non-traditional development partners stepping up efforts to support refugees and host communities. This work is funded through the World Bank – UN SDG Trust Fund, as well as through UK Aid as a follow-up to the Jordan London Initiative 2019 Conference. It is integrated into the upcoming World Bank Fragility, Conflict and Violence strategy, which will seek to address the drivers of Fragility, Conflict and Violence in affected countries and their impact on vulnerable populations. The event is also aligned with the Bank's new Mashreq Displacement Strategy, which aims to enhance support for the people and Governments of the Mashreq, throughout the stages of forced displacement, including support to job creation and private sector development.

## The European Investment Bank

As the EU bank, the EIB is committed to working with partners to define and deliver an effective response to the global forced displacement crisis and strengthen economic development contributions. This is being achieved by: a) focusing on the socioeconomic aspects of the crisis; b) helping communities facilitate the acceptance and inclusion of the forcibly displaced; and c) supporting economic resilience, through initiatives as investing in the private sector to create jobs and economic opportunities. The current refugee crisis is a reminder of the interconnectedness of development issues, not only with geopolitics, but with growth and investment policies in every country. The EIB is committed to aiding EU Member States in addressing the refugee crisis in host countries, transit countries and countries of origin, and coordinates the Multilateral Development Bank initiative on Migration and Forced Displacement.

## The Confederation of Danish Industry

The Confederation of Danish Industry (DI) is the largest employer organization in Denmark with over 11.000 member companies. DI is a key social partner, negotiating the largest Collective Bargaining Agreements and is a key knowledge provider on private sector growth. DI is a signatory to and vocal supporter of the Danish Tri-Partite Agreement on integration of refugees into the Danish labor market. This agreement (2016) allowed for integration of refugees following the European refugee crisis. DI is also a partner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, promoting growth and decent job creation in developing markets. Through this partnership, DI is involved in projects with its sister organizations in Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon, targeted on inclusion of refugees through labor market policies and entrepreneurship. This event takes place under DI's commitment to foster knowledge and deploy expertise on economic inclusion and public-private dialogue, as part of its partnership with the WBG and DANIDA.

# DRAFT AGENDA

## DAY 1 - June 11, 2019

08.30 Registration, arrival of participants

09.00 **Welcome and order of events**

- Benjamin Herzberg, Senior Private Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

09.05 **Keynotes: Global practices for economic integration of refugees**

- Saroj Kumar Jah, Regional Director, Mashreq Countries, World Bank Group (Confirmed)
- Flavia Palanza, Director, Neighbouring Department, European Investment Bank (Confirmed)
- Thomas Bustrup, Deputy Director General, Confederation of Danish Industry (Confirmed)

09.40 **Refugee Movements, Business Mobilization: the Role of the Private Sector**

- Raphaelle Leroy, Director of Retail Banking Corporate Engagement, BNP Paribas (Confirmed)

10.00 **Panel 1 - Entrepreneurship**

This panel will explore how to support refugee integration through entrepreneurship via incubation, impact investing, and other support programs. Panelists will discuss the entrepreneur's journey, regulatory and competitiveness challenges, and learnings from financial support schemes for inclusive entrepreneurship and enterprise growth.

Speakers

- Ahmad Sufian Bayram, Founder, Startup Syria; author of "Entrepreneurship in Exile" (Confirmed)
- Michel Botzung, Manager for Africa Fragile and Conflict Situations, IFC, World Bank Group (Confirmed)
- Baran Uçaner, Secretary General, Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce (Confirmed)
- Philippe Bernard-Treille, Investment Officer - Impact Investing, European Investment Fund (Confirmed)

Moderator: Nabila Assaf, Practice Manager, Mashreq, Gulf countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, World Bank Group (confirmed)

11.15 Coffee Break

11.45 **Panel 2 – Investment**

The second panel will discuss how impact investing can benefit refugees and host communities. Panelists will explore how private capital mobilization, innovative blended finance and global supply chain integration can help companies and employment growth.

Speakers

- Katherine Brown, Sustainable and Impact Investing, World Economic Forum (TBC)
- Katarina Mathernova, Deputy Director General, DG NEAR, European Commission (TBC)
- H.E. Dr. Adel Ahmad Al-Sharkas, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (Confirmed)
- Tim Docking, co-Managing Director, Refugee Investment Network (Confirmed)

Moderator: Kristina Mikulova, Strategist, EIB / Heike Ruetters, Neighbouring Countries Department, EIB (TBC)

13.00 Lunch

14.00 **Panel 3 - Employment**

This panel will discuss labor market policies for refugees and host communities. Panelists will present global practice from companies and governments addressing forced displacement, including regulatory, re-skilling and integration challenges and opportunities.

Speakers

- Jörg Pohl, Project Leader of Siemens Refugee Program, Siemens Germany (Confirmed)
- Johanna Sjödin, Head of National Employers, 100 Club, Arbetsförmedlingen (Confirmed)
- Meriem Ait Ali Slimane, Senior Private Sector Specialist, World Bank Group (Confirmed)
- Saad Chouihna, CEO and Partner, Saad Plast (Confirmed)

Moderator: Niels Grøn, Director, Confederation of Danish Industry (Confirmed)

15.00 Coffee Break

15.15 **Panel 4 - Services & Products**

The last panel of the day will discuss how the private sector may support and supplement public aid. Panelists will present private sector examples of how companies have helped service delivery by adapting their business models to meet the demand of refugee customer segments and markets.

Speakers

- Sasha Kapadia, Director, International Development, Mastercard (Confirmed)
- Joanna Kirk, Head of Paris chapter, Techfugees (Confirmed)
- Felipe Munoz, Advisor to the President of Colombia on the Venezuelan-Colombian Border (TBC)

Moderator: Olivier Lavinal, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank Group (Confirmed)

16.15 **Translating Ideas into Good Practice**

Outlining the methodology to draft 5 principles from each category (entrepreneurship, investment, employment, services) which will be used on day 2.

17.15 **Closing Remarks**

18.00 **Optional: Visit of the Museum**

Private after-hour guided tour for all conference participants

19.00 **Dinner Reception at the Museum**

Special address:

- Sébastien Gokalp, Director of the French National Museum of the History of Immigration (Confirmed)

## DAY 2 – June 12, 2019

### 09.00 **Opening Remarks: Elaborating Charter of Good Practice**

- Co-organizer representatives

### 09.15 **Case Studies: Good Practices and Global Learnings**

This session will be divided into four parallel sessions around one of the four main topics (entrepreneurship, investment, employment, services). Each session has four country examples. Participants are encouraged to stay in their groups for the entire session.

Room I: <b>Entrepreneurship</b>	Room II: <b>Investment</b>	Room III: <b>Employment</b>	Room IV: <b>Services &amp; Products</b>
Moderated by IFC	Moderated by EIB	Moderated by DI	Moderated by DI
<b>Case 1: My path to entrepreneurship and building a purposeful business</b>  Tareq Hadhad, CEO, Peace by Chocolate (Confirmed)	<b>Case 5: Blended finance for refugees</b>  François de Borchgrave, Managing Partner, KOIS invest (Confirmed)	<b>Case 9: Why we hire refugees, a company perspective</b>  Simon Dalsø, Account Manager, CSR and Job Development, ISS (Confirmed)	<b>Case 13: Rethinking refugees in each step of the value chain</b>  Jens Odgaard Olsson, CEO, Lifeshelter (Confirmed)
<b>Case 2: Inclusive entrepreneurship program with refugees</b>  Camille Soulier, Entrepreneurship Coordinator, SINGA France (Confirmed)	<b>Case 6: Designing a refugee investment fund: The Investment Catalyst in Jordan</b>  Pierrick Judeaux, Associate Director of Policy, Open Society Foundation (TBC)	<b>Case 10: Global private sector mobilization for refugee employment and local lessons</b>  Gideon Maltz, Executive Director, TENT Partnership for Refugees (TBC)	<b>Case 14: How and why we should change our business to service refugees</b>  Telefonica (TBC)
10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break			
<b>Case 3: Kakuma in Kenya: Turning a refugee camp into a marketplace for investment and entrepreneurs</b>  Luba Shara, Senior Operations Officer, IFC, World Bank Group (Confirmed)	<b>Case 7: Success factors in fostering investment at the local level</b>  Andreas Germershausen, Integration Chief, City of Berlin (TBC)	<b>Case 11: Creating remote workplaces for refugees</b>  Aline Sara, CEO, NaTakallam (Confirmed)	<b>Case 15: Uganda AMFRI Farms, Nordic Fruit, and Unicool partnering to source and distribute fruits &amp; vegetables to the EU market</b>  Lilian Anguparu, General Manager of Amfri Farms (TBC)

<p><b>Case 4: Entrepreneurship and diaspora networks: Lessons learned</b></p> <p>Samer Chamsi-Pasha, Chairman, SIBA (Confirmed)</p>	<p><b>Case 8: Microfunds, do they even work?</b></p> <p>Muna Sukhtian, Microfund for Women (TBC)</p>	<p><b>Case 12: How to prepare the labour market for employing refugees</b></p> <p>Husam Saleh, Co-Chair, Jordan Garment Alliance (Confirmed) ; Representative of the Textiles Labour Union (TBC)</p>	<p><b>Case 16:</b></p> <p>TBC</p>
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12.30 Lunch

13.30 **Working Sessions and Speed Writing: Design of Draft Charter of Good Practice**

Participants develop five key guidelines for each of the four themes and draft a paragraph each for the final guidelines document. This work will draw from the conclusions from day 1, as well as the country case studies explored during the morning sessions.

Room I: <b>Entrepreneurship</b>	Room II: <b>Investment</b>	Room III: <b>Employment</b>	Room IV: <b>Services &amp; Products</b>
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15.00 Coffee

15.30 **Presentation of Charter of Good Practice**

The four groups reconvene in plenary to present their guidelines, regrouped into a draft Charter of Good Practice. The Charter includes 20 principles, five from each theme (i.e. employment, investment, entrepreneurship and services).

16.30 **Closing Remarks:**

- Co-organizer representatives

# **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**