

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WITH REFUGEES: TOWARDS A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

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The UN has argued that international migration will become the major demographic issue of the 21st century. Within this growing population of migrants, there is a substantial number of refugees, displaced by war, violence or environmental disaster in their own countries and seeking asylum elsewhere, often on a permanent basis. How do these refugees – who now number about 30 million worldwide – cope with adjusting to conditions in their new countries and rebuild community networks of support? The role of community development can be critical in providing support through a number of means – helping with education and training, accessing services, building organisations, networking across countries, and ensuring that basic needs are met. This groundbreaking collection of longer articles and short case studies, drawing on experience from 13 countries, provides a truly international perspective on the meaning of community development with refugees. It offers both theoretical perspectives to inform action and action-oriented case studies to shape theory.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Community development with refugees: towards a framework for action, *Gary Craig and Hermione Level*

Cultural justice, community development and onshore Afghani and Iraqi refugees in Australia, *Louise Humpage and Greg Marston*

A Strengths Approach to Building Futures: UK Students and Refugees Together, *Avril Butler*

Conceptualising community development in war-affected populations in Tigre/Eritrea, *Alastair Ager, Alison Strang and Behailu Abebe*

Social capital or social exclusion?: the impact of asylum-seeker dispersal on UK refugee community organisations, *Roger Zetter, David Griffiths and Nando Sigona*

Working with Lebanese refugees in a community resilience model, *Esther Doron*

A Sexual and Reproductive Health Education Initiative for young Southern Sudanese refugees in urban Egypt, *Celia Pett and Magda Ali*

Fleeing one war, finding another: support for Somali refugees in Yemen, *COMSICCA*

Agents of social change in Finnish education with refugee children, *Margaret Trotta Tuomi*

'Choices and Opportunities': Participation of unaccompanied minor refugees in the Netherlands, *Marjan de Gruijter and Rally Rijkschroeff*

Tibetan Refugees in India: integration opportunities through development of social, cultural and spiritual traditions, *Jonathan Adams*

Community Development for Asylum-Seekers in Hungary, *Elvira Jaiswal*

Golden Opportunities - Reality or Myth?: female Horn of Africa migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in the Netherlands
Florence Aate Andrew and Nelson Mono Lukayo

Vive le cirque! A French initiative for refugee youth, *Leah Bassel*