

Good Practices about

Building the **future** with migrants and refugees



MIGRANTS
REFUGEES

1. Including Migrants and Refugees: Work, Security and Health for All

Initiative: **ForMigra**

Actor: **Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo**

Location: **Brasil**

Further info: [Formigra - Scalabrinianas](#)

In an online and free format, ForMigra is a Training and Education Programme in Human Mobility and Forced Displacement promoted by the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of São Carlos Borromeo-Scalabrinianas, through the Migrant Assistance Centre (CAM), together with five different universities located in Brazil. With the university extension action started in May 2022, ForMigra aims to offer free training courses to employees or volunteers of aid organisations or NGOs working on behalf of migrants and refugees, university students and other interested parties from all over the country so as to further deepen the theme of migration and refugee. During the course of one year, the project offers at least 20 courses on different topics ranging from mental health of migrants and refugees, repatriation, deportation and expulsion, advocacy training for the development of public policies on migration and refugee, etc.

Initiative: **Helpline for Migrant Workers**

Actor: **Don Bosco for Migrants**

Location: **India**

Further info: [Db4m launches helpline for migrant workers](#)

Don Bosco for Migrants (DB4M) has been initiated by the Salesian Provincial Conference of South Asia to reach out to migrant workers in India. Most of the provinces have set up a "Migrants Desk" and launched various initiatives. Among them, the helpline is available for migrant workers, but also other vulnerable or needy callers in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Odiya, Kannada, Bengali, Manipuri, and English, but more languages have been added afterwards. The number has fifteen lines which allow them to engage with fifteen callers at the same time. Connecting source and destination areas, legal aid, advocacy to get minimum wages, decent work and living conditions, to listen to their grievances, to assist in procuring their entitlements are the main services offered. The phone also acts as a "watch" against child labour, bonded labour and human trafficking.

Initiative: Migrations et conflits : entre perceptions, faits et réalités de vie

Actor: Caritas Internationalis; Justice & Paix

Location: Belgium

Further info: [Formation for citizens on migration and conflicts](#)



Caritas Internationalis and Justice & Paix offered a course to better understand migration for Belgian citizens. Specifically, the training was intended for teachers and facilitators who wish to develop the issue of migration with pupils or young people. It aims to offer the tools to grasp the complexity of the migratory phenomenon and more particularly the link that can exist between natural resources, conflicts, and migrations. In particular the training offered a global look at migration, how to then present the migration in the press and analyse the multiple causes of migration. The second part focused on specific cases, namely the mineral exploitation in Congo and its consequences in terms of conflicts and population displacement and the application for international protection in Belgium. A conclusion addressed political and civilian avenues to address migration issues.

Initiative: Housing Project for Displaced People

Actor: Caritas Nampula; Catholic Peace organization Denis Hurley Peace Institute

Location: Mozambique

Further info: caritasnampula@yahoo.com.br

The Catholic Archdiocese of Nampula, located in Northeastern Mozambique, constructs houses for internally displaced people, victims of terror attacks in Northern Mozambique. A total of 3,170 people benefited from the housing project, under the direction of Caritas Nampula and thanks to the support of the Catholic Peace organisation Denis Hurley Peace Institute. In the project, funded by CEDES (Comissão Ecuménica para o Desenvolvimento Social) and other NGOs, each house took approximately 5 days to be built. The IDPs worked on the construction assisted by people from the neighbouring host communities. CEDES and the other organisations started the construction of 300 houses while the Archdiocese of Nampula built other 200 houses. The project followed a government-approved prototype of the house that consists of two bedrooms and a living room.

Initiative: Formation course for pastoral workers

Actor: Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People

Location: Angola

Further info: [CEPAMI prepara novos líderes para a Pastoral das Migrações](#)

Within its advocacy work, the Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People (CEPAMI) of Angola, led by the Scalabrinian Sisters, organised a formation course to prepare pastoral workers to minister in the dioceses and parishes in view of a better reception and social integration of migrants and refugees in the Church and the society. The workshop took place over four days in August 2022 and saw the participation of people from seven dioceses in Angola, as well as of various migrants, refugees, and returnees already integrated in the parish commissions of the Pastoral Care of Migrants. The event addressed themes such as the Magisterium of the Church and the Pastoral Care of Human Mobility, while also providing legal information to assist pastoral care agents to better understand the social and migratory context as well as the national legal framework.



Initiative: Maison du Migrant

Actor: Caritas Mali

Location: Mali

Further info: [La Maison des Migrants à Gao au Mali](#)

The Maison du Migrant in Mali was established in 1990s by Caritas Mali to receive new migrants arriving in the country and having difficulties integrating, potential migrants from Gao to prepare them to integrate into their new environment, migrants in transit, and victims of human trafficking. The project aims to raise awareness of the realities of migration and migrants' rights among the populations of Gao as well as the migrants received. The program envisages different activities, ranging from conference-debates for religious leaders, civil society, and political and administrative authorities of Gao, audio visual sessions dedicated to the local population, radio sessions carried out in secondary schools to reach children who are potential candidates for migration and therefore are exposed to the risks of exploitation, and sharing of former migrants testimonies.

Initiative: **Alianza Migrante**

Actor: **RED CLAMOR**

Location: **Ecuador**

Further info: [Red CLAMOR](#)

RED CLAMOR joined with the Fondation Crea tu Espacio and CARE in the Alianza Migrante (Migrant Alliance), whose objective was the collective preparation of a document that collects proposals focused on the inclusion and exercise of the rights of asylum seekers, migrants, and repatriated Ecuadorians. The document called "Proposals for the Inclusion and Exercise of the Rights of Communities in Human Mobility" is the result of a collective construction that saw the three groups of populations protagonists under the motto "Nothing on migrants without migrants". This document is divided into three sections: proposals of the repatriated Ecuadorian population, migrant population and people in need of international protection. The document was publicly presented, accompanied by an open letter addressed to the presidential and vice-presidential candidates, the National Assembly and the Andean Parliament, during the 2021 election campaign.

Initiative: **Workshop on human trafficking for migrant workers**

Actor: **SACBC; CEMIRDE**

Location: **South Africa**

Further info: cemirde@hotmail.com

The Episcopal Commission for Migrants, Refugees and Displaced Persons (CEMIRDE) of the Episcopal Conference of Mozambique (CEM) held a workshop in South Africa to raise awareness about human trafficking for people on the move. The initiative covered the Archdiocese of Johannesburg, Bloemfontein Archdiocese, and the Diocese of Rustenburg. The month-long workshop was mainly for Mozambican mine workers in South Africa, but it was also presented to other migrant communities working in the mining industry and in other sectors. The essence of the content reached the people that are going to be able to take some action when faced with situations similar to trafficking and the issue of safe migration. The workshop also provided some explanations concerning the types of visas that miners and their families could use. Among the proposals, there was the extension of the period for family visits to Mozambican workers and a preparation of young people wishing to emigrate by diocese of origin.

Initiative: **Vietnam Stories Exhibition**

Actor: **Caritas Czech Republic**

Location: **Czech Republic**

Further info: [Exhibition Vietnam Stories: How do Vietnamese live in the Czech Republic?](#)

Vietnamese in the Czech Republic, including citizens and non-citizens, are the third-largest ethnic minority in the country. There is an entire cohort of third generation Vietnamese growing up there. That's why the travelling photographic exhibition held within the MIND Project tries to raise awareness within the civil society of the potential that Vietnamese people bring with them when arriving in the Czech Republic. At the same time, the exhibition aims to highlight how Vietnamese are an integral part of Czech society and everyday life. And it does so through photographs of homes, workplaces and ceremonial halls of Vietnamese people present in the country that yet are still considered strangers, so as to try to shift the narrative and help local communities understand the importance of building the future with migrants and refugees.



Initiative: **Formation and Training Manual - Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees**

Actor: **Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference**

Location: **South Africa**

Further info: [FORMATION AND TRAINING MANUAL](#)

In order to promote the formation of pastoral agents as well as lay people working with people on the move, in May 2022 the SACBC Migrants and Refugees Office published the Guidelines for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees. Stressing the importance of an ongoing formation, the manual aims to offer suggestions that can help dioceses and parishes but also civil society and volunteers to work together in welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees. By providing an overview of the national and international legislation on Human Mobility, as well as of the teachings of Sacred Scripture and the Magisterium of the Church and the experiences of the different organisations working on human mobility, the booklet offers recommendations and suggestions to be used as a reference and training guide by the Diocesan Pastoral Care Agents in their ministry.

Initiative: **Kenn Project**

Actor: **Migrants Commission of the Archdiocese of Malta**

Location: **Malta**

Further info: [Proġett KENN - Migrants Commission](#)

In March 2022, the KENN (“Shelter”) Project was launched to encourage Maltese families and religious orders to welcome, protect, and integrate migrants by creating alternative accommodations for them. By pairing migrants with host families for 3 to 6 months, this two-way initiative provides a home as well as legal and social assistance to migrants, while also representing, to Maltese hosts, an opportunity for cultural exchange and socio-cultural integration. Young homeless migrants living in detention and/or open centres have the priority, while hosting can take place either at a family home or a private residence. Lastly, both hosts and migrants are provided with assistance and support during the whole experience.

Initiative: **Refugee Sponsorship Initiative**

Actor: **Archdiocese of Brisbane**

Location: **Australia**

Further info: [Refugee Sponsorship Initiative](#)

The initiative provides a way to connect with and support refugee families as they settle and find a sense of home in Australia. To this end, Brisbane’s Inclusion Team invited Archdiocese of Brisbane parishes, school communities, and Church agencies to welcome and sponsor refugee families as part of a new initiative launched in partnership with Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia. Two programs are available: the Group Mentorship Program and the Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot. The first one is designed for community members to fundraise and build social networks around a refugee household that has already arrived in Australia. The second one is designed for community members to fundraise and build social networks to welcome a household who has been granted a humanitarian visa but is still waiting to arrive in Australia.



Initiative: **Pastoral guidelines for migrants**

Actor: **Vietnamese Bishops' Commission for Migrants**

Location: **Vietnam**

Further info: [Auxiliary Bishop Louis Anh Tuan Nguyen](#)

More than 40 priests in charge of ministries for migrants in dioceses and for religious congregations attended a major national conference at the Bishop's House in Nha Trang, Khanh Hoa province, on the care of migrant workers and people on the move. The conference was an opportunity for participants to share their practical experiences in offering pastoral care, draw useful lessons, give pastoral suggestions to help one another, and show communion with one another. But, the meeting was also the chance to re-evaluate pastoral guidelines for local priests to carry out their ministry and support migrants to allow them to practise their faith properly. The guidelines, which have been issued by the Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, and tested by local dioceses since 2017, have been formally approved by the Vietnamese bishops.

Initiative: **Assisting migrant workers in Malaysia**

Actor: **Archdiocese of Ende**

Location: **Malaysia**

Further info: [Father Reginald Piperno on a mission to help migrants in Malaysia](#)

The Episcopal Commission for Migrants, Refugees and Displaced Persons (CEMIRDE) of the Episcopal Conference of Mozambique (CEM) held a workshop in South Africa to raise awareness about human trafficking for people on the move. The initiative covered the Archdiocese of Johannesburg, Bloemfontein Archdiocese, and the Diocese of Rustenburg. The month-long workshop was mainly for Mozambican mine workers in South Africa, but it was also presented to other migrant communities working in the mining industry and in other sectors. The essence of the content reached the people that are going to be able to take some action when faced with situations similar to trafficking and the issue of safe migration. The workshop also provided some explanations concerning the types of visas that miners and their families could use. Among the proposals, there was the extension of the period for family visits to Mozambican workers and a preparation of young people wishing to emigrate by diocese of origin.

Initiative: **Welcome Centre for Refugees**

Actor: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)**

Location: **Cambodia**

Further info: [JRS Cambodia](#)



JRS Cambodia tries to provide welcome places where people can heal and grow strengthened, even be touched by the Spirit themselves so that they will move out and help other people in precarious situations. The organisation operates a welcome centre in Phnom Penh, accompanying and serving urban refugees and members of the Montagnard ethnic group through social assistance and education. Leaders of the teams are former refugees and migrants themselves. JRS Cambodia advocates for stateless people as well, assisting with the attainment of documents and education. It also publishes research on relevant issues concerning refugees, and coordinates with the Metta Karuna reflection centre in Siem Reap, where visitors can come to heal and raise awareness about the struggles they face in a safe, interfaith environment. Each year, JRS Cambodia organises a regional workshop at the centre.

Initiative: **Capacitación y formación migratoria**

Actor: **Instituto Católico Chileno de Migración (INCAMI)**

Location: **Chile**

Further info: [Capacitación y formación](#)

INCAMI carries out training and education on migration. There are four different available courses, based on the audience. The first one is juridical formation for Pastoral Teams for Human Mobility and focuses on what is INCAMI and how to be a partner, besides explaining practical procedures involving migrants and refugees. Then, there is a school on migration for public officials that pay more attention to bureaucracy, such as visas, access to fundamental rights, validation certificates, and to national and transnational legislation. Furthermore, there is a course for business people on hiring foreign persons in companies, with specific modules on, job offer, the employment contract, work permit, possible affiliations, etc. Finally, the work self-management course provides migrants with instructions on contact networks, objectives, interactions within the work environment, in addition to learning on negotiation and problem solving.

Initiative: Parish Integral Human Development Ministry

**Actor: Episcopal Commission of Migrants and Itinerants (ECMI)
Malaysia**

Location: Malaysia

Further info: [Ministry for Migrants & Refugees](#)

In each Diocese migrants and refugees are included in the synodal process, and involved in parish migrant ministry, like hospitality, ministry of the word, choir communion ministry. Migrants are also included in the Parish Pastoral Council, with at least one migrant leader and three young people to be appointed as a member of the council. Then ECMI also looks into the faith formation of migrants and refugees and provides them with pastoral programmes in their mother tongue. They don't look only at Christian but from an interfaith perspective. All the different nationalities are invited to pray together or to celebrate Feasts from different countries and cultures. The integration process is promoted as well through the home encounter of migrants and local families. Finally some skill building workshops are lined up, like financial literacy education for better integration.

Initiative: Sponsorship Program for Refugees

Actor: Diocese of Montreal

Location: Canada

Further info: [APPI - Parrainage de réfugiées](#)

Together with the Quebec Government, the Archdiocese of Montreal has been running a sponsorship program for several years. The Archdiocese acts as a guarantor for individuals, groups and parishes who want to bring over refugee families from refugee camps, providing them with administrative support for the sponsorship procedures. The Archdiocese provides financial support to both hosting individuals, groups and parishes - becoming refugees' sponsors - and the refugees. The sponsor and the Archdiocese commit themselves for one year to provide for the basic needs of the sponsored family (e.g. housing, furnishings, food and clothing, school enrolment for the children, etc). In total, 47 parishes have taken part in the programme, and in the last six years the Diocese of Montreal has sponsored more than 1000 people.



Initiative: **Towards an intercultural pastoral care**

Actor: **Migratio**

Location: **Switzerland**

Further info: [Verso una pastorale interculturale](#)

Responding to the increasingly intercultural Swiss context, where 40% of the Catholics present in the country have a migrant background, the Conference of Swiss Bishops (CES) and its Commission on Migration (Migratio), together with the Central Roman Catholic Conference of Switzerland (RKZ) launched new pastoral guidelines for an intercultural pastoral care in Switzerland. Aiming to promote the formation of pastoral workers and raise awareness on the pastoral care of migrants and refugees, the guidelines focus on the importance of a multicultural context offering to all levels of the Church some concrete recommendations to shift towards a positive vision of migration, inviting everyone to realise the opportunity that migratory flows bring.

Initiative: **Cash for Work**

Actor: **Cáritas Ecuador**

Location: **Ecuador**

Further info: [Cash for work: una alternativa de empleo e integración](#)



This project is used as a mechanism of integration between host communities and population in human mobility. People in vulnerable situations thus receive financial aid in exchange for public service work. So doing, those people are allowed to meet their main needs. Work has been done to restore infrastructure and public spaces, such as the renovation of a church and a park. From this system benefited: 60% of people in migration and 40% of the host community. The process involves four phases. Diagnose and identify where the community project will be implemented. There must be the participation of the parish to guarantee the methodology and the integrative end of the process. Identify potential volunteers and what is the level of specialisation required to carry out the project. Once the process is developed, a proposal is made of the activities and budgets needed to implement the cash for work.

Initiative: **Le Pont**

Actor: **Diocese of Montreal**

Location: **Canada**

Further info: [Le Pont](#)

In February 2022, a second reception centre (Le Pont 2 - Laval), added to the first Le Pont house, was opened for migrants and refugees arriving in Quebec. By offering personalised care for each new family arriving and directing them towards the adequate community and government organisations, the centre offers vulnerable people temporary housing and services while encouraging them to integrate into the host community. Furthermore, in order to properly guide refugees in their asylum application and towards access to adequate administrative and health services, Le Point also created a guide of steps and resources available during the refugee claim. Le Pont acts like a bridge between the beneficiaries and the host community, valuing the potential of each and every one. With this project, in four years the Diocese of Montreal has welcomed more than 700 people from over 50 different countries.



2. Enhancing the Potential Contribution of Migrants and Refugees to Development

Initiative: **GOT project - Generating Work Opportunities**

Actor: **Caritas Mali**

Location: **Mali, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal**

Further info: [Contact Caritas Mali](#)

The GOT project aims to enhance migrants' and refugees' contribution to development by increasing their social and economic inclusion. The initiative, led by ENGIM in partnership with Caritas Mali and ISCOS, provides migrants, refugees, and potential returnees with vocational training and technical skills to improve their access to income-generating activities, while promoting the culture of entrepreneurship, helping the integration of young people, and addressing poverty through economic empowerment. Of the potential migrants involved, some had the opportunity to receive study grants to continue their specialisation path, others to carry out internships in companies, and others to receive start-up grants. The project also supports and monitors businesses and micro-enterprises, through training and increasing income of employees.

Initiative: **Pravasi Bandhu**

Actor: **Caritas India**

Location: **India**

Further info: [Pravasi Bandhu](#)

The programme was launched to address the dire need of migrant workers and implemented in the prominent source states where migrants travel regularly in search of better livelihood. The main focus is to create awareness among the potential migrant workers at source locations by providing pre-departure training and a safe migration process. Also, migrants, particularly women, are provided skills training, livelihood and benefits, while their children receive educational assistance. Migrants are registered to social security benefits through migrant resource centres. Furthermore, interaction with the contractor and a network of contractors and labour associations are functionalized for linking migrant workers with employment opportunities. The services are provided through help desks at the source states and Migrant Resource Centres at the destination.

Initiative: Emprendedurismo para Mujeres Migrantes

Actor: Comisión Episcopal de la Pastoral de Migrantes e Itinerantes (CEMI)

Location: Argentina

Further info: [manual emprendedoras 2021](#)

The complete title of the project is "Empowering migrant women entrepreneurs in Argentina: a project to accompany, strengthen, and train migrant women in the development of sustainable livelihoods". It was supported by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives of the Embassy of Canada in Argentina. In the awareness of current gender inequality, which is accentuated when it comes to migrants, this project aimed to improve the quality of life and economic sustainability of migrant family groups by strengthening the skills, knowledge and self-confidence of migrant women who want to start or improve their ventures throughout Argentina. Within this framework, this manual was developed to provide guidance to women entrepreneurs as a source of income for their families and for the personal development of each of them.

Initiative: Evangelization in a time of crisis

**Actor: Aid to the Church in Need (ACN International);
Diocese of Pemba**

Location: Mozambique

Further info: [Radios bringing hope to those living in fear of terrorism](#)

The initiative aims to continue the Church's mission in the current situation of war by using radio. Indeed, radio is the one means that still offers the possibility of maintaining contact with people isolated by the war, the pandemic, the lack of resources and inaccessibility, and bringing them comfort and consolation through catechesis, spiritual formation, and the possibility of still participating in the celebration of Holy Mass. Thanks to the help of ACN, it has also been possible to create new programmes and at the same time hire airtime on other local radio stations in order to further extend its range. Accordingly, ACN has also been improving signal reception and provided solar-powered radios for the remote and isolated communities that have no electricity supply. Each radio has been entrusted to the care of a community leader.



Initiative: Catholic Accompaniment and Reflection Experience (CARE) Programme

Actor: US Conference of Catholic Bishops Office of Migration and Refugee Services

Location: United States

Further info: [CARE Program](#)



CARE is committed to connecting Catholic volunteers with fellow community members who are undocumented immigrants, asylum seekers, unaccompanied children, and their families in need of accompaniment and spiritual support when integrating into their communities or when reporting to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's or having other civil or criminal encounters. The program also works to increase awareness regarding existing migration policies and their impacts on communities, promoting solidarity and building more robust communities of welcome. A toolkit training guide has been made available for the use of Diocese, Parishes, communities and individuals who wish to learn more about the accompaniment and pastoral support of immigrants at community level.

Initiative: Assisting Ethiopian Returnees

Actor: Vicariate Apostolic of Jimma-Bonga

Location: Ethiopia

Further info: info@cbce-gs.org

The Catholic Church has implemented a system within the Diocese of Jimma-Bonga to assist returnees women that had migrated to find a job in the Middle East and come back after traumatic work experiences and exploitation stories. The first phase of the assistance focuses on psychological treatment and healthy welcome. Then, returnees are accompanied in their social reintegration. That happened through offering practical training and micro projects like small shops, restaurants, etc. in collaboration with the local government, who takes part by providing houses or pieces of land for these people. In this way some of these returnees can get back a quiet life.

Initiative: Empowerment through Training

Actor: Comboni Missionaries

Location: Uganda

Further info: [Comboni St Martin](#)

The Comboni Missionaries project includes training in the following: hand crafts, carpentry, metal fabrication, gas welding, tailoring, and hairdressing. They also train people in agro-processing and they also do animal rearing. Dairy farming is also part of training with goats, sheep and cattle. For these projects to be effectively carried out, the missionaries have set up structures for education, youth training, economic empowerment of women, food security through farming, agribusiness, economic and financial literacy and the facility has workshops for different areas. The Comboni Missionaries have established a Multipurpose Skilling & Fabrication Facility on the boundary of Palorinya Settlement. The facility employs a workforce that comprises 75% refugees and 25% host community members.



Initiative: Digital Inclusion program

Actor: Jesuit Mission; Jesuit Refugee Service

Location: Malawi (Dzaleka camp)

Further info: [Refugees in Malawi finding hope through resilience](#)

The Digital Inclusion program in Malawi aims to teach digital skills to refugees to enhance their opportunities to find work in digital platforms. The project, offered in partnership with the French technology start-up Konexio, provides training in various computer skills to young Francophone refugees to equip them with skills to take jobs online and earn income. The first course was initiated in July 2019. The training is designed to offer both online learning and onsite instruction by course facilitators. After completing coursework for three months, course participants proceed to freelance work which is the practical part of the training. During freelance training, students explore various platforms they can use to acquire jobs online. The final goal is to empower refugees to be leaders that not only live in a camp, but live a productive life and contribute positively to their communities.

Initiative: **Migrants and Disadvantaged Communities project**

Actor: **Caritas Dhaka**

Location: **Bangladesh**

Further info: rd.dro@caritasbd.org

The ITC centre in Sirajdikhan, Dhaka Division, is dedicated to safe migration, worker protection and family support. Over time, it has been able to reduce illegal emigration by 60% through its Migrants and Disadvantaged Communities project in order to protect the right of the most vulnerable groups of the population to a better life. As thousands of Bangladeshis migrate abroad without the correct papers due to the lack of work, Caritas staff hold meetings on a regular basis to provide useful information and explain how to fill out the necessary papers. Volunteers also reach out to migrant families, encouraging them to save remittance money. It also runs a health awareness programme and offers computer literacy courses. These are particularly successful among unemployed young people.

Initiative: **Refugees and migrants' Vicariate**

Actor: **Diocese of Arua**

Location: **Uganda**

Further info: [Priests Working With Refugees & Host Communities in Arua Diocese](#)

The services offered to the refugees are divided into four clusters: Sanctification, Empowerment of Pastoral Workers, Social Justice programs, and Administration and Management. Under Sanctification, celebration of liturgies and sacraments are provided in all chapels and refugees' settlements. Under Empowerment of Pastoral Workers, catechists, priests, deacons, and religious working in the Refugee Vicariate receive appropriate training, and are appropriately resourced, facilitated and ministry fit. In addition, youth in the Refugee Settlements are empowered through training in faith and morals. Under Social Justice Programs, activities geared towards peaceful coexistence between the refugees and the host communities. Thanks to the help of various Pastoral Workers in the Vicariate, many young refugees were able to improve their skills in different areas.

Initiative: **Pastoral Immigration Centres**

Actor: **Local Church**

Location: **South Korea**

Further info: cbck@cbck.kr

Fifteen dioceses in South Korea are working for migrants and refugees. Each Diocese has a Committee for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Foreign Residents. One or two priests from each diocese are in charge of the Pastoral immigration centre, working in strict cooperation with the sisters and brothers of Congregation who are present in the Diocese. The services and activities for migrants and refugees, beyond their legal status, consist of religious work, social work, management of the Center. In particular liturgies and masses are guaranteed, but also multicultural projects, language lessons, consulting, child protection and medical service. Every community in the pastoral immigration centre of the archdiocese, has a meeting once a month to share information and all the activities of the Dioceses.

Initiative: **"Libero di essere me stesso" (Free to be myself)**

Actor: **Centro Ascolto Diocesano G.B. Scalabrini per immigrati**

Location: **Italy**

Further info: [**"Libero di essere me stesso": in sei mesi più di mille persone aiutate**](#)

The G.B. Scalabrini diocesan listening centre for migrants is located in the parish of Sant'Agostino in Reggio Calabria. It offers a listening service for the problems migrants face during their first reception or integration. Within this, the project Libero di essere me stesso (Free to be myself) aims to guarantee migrants freedom in meeting their needs first of all for survival, then for knowledge and training. The initiative foresees four phases: the renovation and opening for migrants of the Casa Farias; the collaboration with the Scalabrini Listening Centre, especially for the accompaniment to autonomy of migrants in need and distress; the emergency intervention, with the service of street and hospitality workers, vocational training, and the promotion of job opportunities.

Initiative: **The Rerum Novarum Centre**

Actor: **Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific**

Location: **Taiwan**

Further info: [FAQ for Migrants](#)

The Rerum Novarum Centre in Taiwan belongs to the Society of Jesus and provides asylum for migrant workers abused by their employers, including female workers who have been abused or exhausted in mind and body. The Centre also runs a telephone hotline in different languages and a Sunday training session that provides migrant workers with legal information, legal aid, accompaniment in health matters, psychological support, wage negotiation, and other kinds of professional services so as to raise awareness to issues connected to the workplace. Following the process of digitization, migrant workers in Taipei have been provided with a “city migrant worker’s electronic care card”, thanks to which they can have access to all the information related to common problems and the related numbers for assistance.

Initiative: **Wielkopolska Common Cause**

Actor: **Caritas Polska**

Location: **Poland**

Further info: [Wielkopolska Common Cause](#)

The project aims at improving the integration services for third country citizens in the Province. The project provided migrants with advisory points and counselling services (integration, professional, legal, and psychological support), Polish language courses, courses about values and laws in Poland, daycare centres for children, measures to strengthen their integration process, and meetings with employers. The initiative also aimed to improve the knowledge of employees with regards to regulations related to foreigners’ integration, and also to improve their skills to enhance their professional service. This included the sharing of good practices among employees of different organisations, training for the personnel and a practical handbook for all those working with third-country citizens.

Initiative: Social Project for refugees' work integration

Actor: Allamano Foundation of the Consolata Missionaries

Location: Portugal

Further info: [Integração no mercado de trabalho para a autonomia de jovens refugiados](#)

The Allamano Foundation of the Consolata Missionaries, in Águas Santas (Maia), promoted a social project addressing refugee integration through job opportunities. Firmly believing that the first step towards independence is finding work, the Foundation supported refugee residents in learning Portuguese. Then, it engaged employers in the areas of catering, logistics, orders and installations, asking them to provide professional internships for resident refugees in their companies. Some residents and refugees have started working and have been hired by a construction company. By working, refugees and residents have the chance to improve their Portuguese language, to socialise, to integrate more easily the hosting society, and to have better perspectives. Once their financial autonomy is reached, the mission can be considered accomplished.

Initiative: Pathfinder - The Refugee Career Incubator

Actor: Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Location: Global

Further info: [Building Self-reliance](#)

Pathfinder is a programme developed by JRS to respond to the need for employment and satisfying career paths of young refugees. The opportunity to work and be self-reliant make refugees feel they can contribute positively in rebuilding their lives as well as become agents of positive change and growth in the hosting communities. The programme operates as a bridge from academic and vocational education to professional and community involvement. It indeed provides preparation for tertiary school, teacher training, vocational and professional courses to prepare young refugees to further their education and to embark on working life. This is done through three different steps: initial skills assessment of the assisted refugees, training in identified skills, support and assistance in employment (CV writing and preparation for job interviews), including links with potential employers and job/internship opportunities.

Initiative: **CESFOM - Scalabrini Training Centre for Migrants**

Actor: **Scalabrini**

Location: **Mexico**

Further info: [CESFOM](#)

Promoted in collaboration with UNHCR, the Scalabrini Training Centre for Migrants aims to assist people on the move in achieving their professional and personal goals while promoting their integration into the host community. To this end, the project organises mixed groups made up of recent migrants and refugees and local individuals of the Tijuana community, offering services to improve their employment, educational and personal development opportunities. The free services include: craft workshops, basic education (primary, secondary, literacy, language teaching, and digital literacy), music therapy, spiritual strengthening, certification and revalidation of documents, training for human rights defenders and other educational and community activities.

Initiative: **Service Centre for Labour Market Integration of Migrant Women in Saxony-Anhalt**

Actor: **Caritas Association of the Diocese of Magdeburg**

Location: **Germany**

Further info: [Labour Market Integration for Migrant Women](#)

Run by Caritas Association, together with the European Educational Centre for Work and Society, and Minor - Project Office for Education and Research, the "Service Centre for Labour Market integration of Migrant Women in Saxony-Anhalt" aims to improve the labour market integration of migrant women. The joint project provides them with tailored, needs-oriented counselling (supporting them in the search for a job, for childcare, or housing), while also implementing measures to coach and qualify them. To this end, the initiative raises awareness among key players in the labour market, and it engages against structural barriers that migrant women can face in the German labour market: German courses, empowerment activities, and professional preparation and entry into the labour market (writing applications, interviews with companies, support in entering the labour market) are offered to all assisted women.

Initiative: Social Project for refugees' work integration

Actor: Allamano Foundation of the Consolata Missionaries

Location: Portugal

Further info: [Integração no mercado de trabalho para a autonomia de jovens refugiados](#)

The Allamano Foundation of the Consolata Missionaries, in Águas Santas (Maia), promoted a social project addressing refugee integration through job opportunities. Firmly believing that the first step towards independence is finding work, the Foundation supported refugee residents in learning Portuguese. Then, it engaged employers in the areas of catering, logistics, orders and installations, asking them to provide professional internships for resident refugees in their companies. Some residents and refugees have started working and have been hired by a construction company. By working, refugees and residents have the chance to improve their Portuguese language, to socialise, to integrate more easily the hosting society, and to have better perspectives. Once their financial autonomy is reached, the mission can be considered accomplished.

Initiative: Pathfinder - The Refugee Career Incubator

Actor: Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Location: Global

Further info: [Building Self-reliance](#)

Pathfinder is a programme developed by JRS to respond to the need for employment and satisfying career paths of young refugees. The opportunity to work and be self-reliant make refugees feel they can contribute positively in rebuilding their lives as well as become agents of positive change and growth in the hosting communities. The programme operates as a bridge from academic and vocational education to professional and community involvement. It indeed provides preparation for tertiary school, teacher training, vocational and professional courses to prepare young refugees to further their education and to embark on working life. This is done through three different steps: initial skills assessment of the assisted refugees, training in identified skills, support and assistance in employment (CV writing and preparation for job interviews), including links with potential employers and job/internship opportunities.

3. Involving Youth

Initiative: **Naweza scholarship**

Actor: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)**

Location: **Malawi**

Further info: [Transformative Education for Refugee Girls](#)

Naweza is a Swahili word that means, “I can.” Realised in partnership with the Fidel Götz Foundation, the initiative aims to equip refugee girls with the capacity to increase their access and improve the quality of their education, security, and overall well-being. The project wants to offset secondary school fees for refugee girls to study at boarding schools outside the Dzaleka camp; award scholarships for refugee girls to attend Malawian universities; and operate Girls' Clubs that provide life-skills training and menstrual health workshops for primary school girls and young women. Naweza increases the availability and quality of gender-responsive education at upper primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. This improves retention, academic performance, and economic stability. Increasing capacity creates more space and support for girls to succeed.

Initiative: **JuMiLo: Young Migrants as Guides**

Actor: **IN VIA, Catholic Association for Girls' and Women's Social Work**

Location: **Germany**

Further info: [Young Migrants as Guides](#)

Through the project, young people between 16 and 27 years old, with a migrant or refugee background, are trained to be “guides” of other young people with a migrant or refugee background, actively participating in their integration. The project generates a mutual benefit empowering both the “guides” and the migrants assisted. The “guides”, who are offered pedagogical support and counselling as well as training and qualification courses, have the opportunity to learn about their own abilities and strengths and contribute to the integration of young migrants and refugees. On the other hand, the assisted migrants are helped to understand the German school system (with concrete support in courses and workshops) and to integrate within the local community (through leisure activities).

Initiative: Sponsorship program Don Bosco Vocational Training Center

Actor: Salesians of Don Bosco

Location: Palabek Refugee Resettlement Camp, Uganda

Further info: [Educational Support for Young Refugees from Palabek](#)

The Don Bosco Vocational Center in the Palabek Refugee Camp has been offering education and vocational training to young refugees to prepare them for employment. Within the camp, the centre offers mechanics, sewing, construction, agriculture, hairdressing and solar energy courses, training, to date, more than 600 young people, mainly refugees wishing to return to South Sudan and contribute to their country. There also is a special sponsorship project helping youth attending school outside the camp. And a similar sponsorship program is offered to older youth to learn a profession that they can then implement in their own country once they return there. Skills such as tailoring, carpentry, plumbing, hairdressers, catering, or others, are given to them to improve their livelihood and help them find a job.



Initiative: Comboni Schools

Actor: Comboni Missionaries

Location: Egypt

Further info: vicar@vic-egypt.org

Centres of community, faith, education, culture, health care, food support and hope. For Sudanese and South Sudanese refugees in and around Cairo, the schools offer a sense of belonging and security to a community, uprooted and traumatised by violence in their countries of origin and struggling to make ends meet in Egypt. Refugee families' ongoing financial struggles often prevent many of their children from benefiting from the social advancement their education promises. The Comboni Missionaries are seeking to remedy these systemic hurdles that stand in the way of their flourishing by giving these children the opportunity to study and then to enrol in Egyptian universities, and so a chance for a better future. The missionaries own two schools in Cairo. The bigger one has classes from kindergarten to high school. Children are also offered breakfast as many of their family struggle to provide them with daily food.

Initiative: Hands-On Mentoring

Actor: The Archdiocese of Vienna; Caritas Wien

Location: Austria

Further info: [Hands On](#)

In 2015, the Catholic Action and the Catholic Youth Organization of the Archdiocese of Vienna together with Caritas started the mentoring project “Hands-on” to help young adults – both locals and migrants – to integrate into the labour market. The project aims to support young people between the ages of 14 and 26 in their search for a job or apprenticeship, by engaging managers, business men and women, engineers and other professionals figures to work as “mentors” for 1.5 hours per week for one year. On one hand, the mentors participating in the project are offered, by the association, regular support by a social worker as well as workshops on professionally relevant topics. On the other hand, the mentees often establish a personal relationship and friendship with the mentors, while they are being taught to develop self-confidence and realistic objectives that will eventually help them to face the world of labour on their own.

Initiative: The Accelerated Learning Program (ALP)

Actor: Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Location: Nigeria

Further info: [Forcibly displaced children's return to school](#)

The education system in Nigeria has been severely impacted by the ongoing crisis, leaving more than 2 million children out of schools. The Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) launched by JRS Nigeria in Borno and Adamawa State aims to assist forcibly displaced children to be integrated into the mainstream school system. The project facilitates children's access to formal education by supporting their non-formal education first, which means by providing them with literacy and numeracy lessons before they are introduced to formal education classes and programmes, so that their integration is as easy and complete as possible. The initiative, carried out in JRS’ supported schools, aims to accompany displaced children towards their return to school, fostering their access to all levels of education, especially higher education.



Initiative: Finestre - Storie di rifugiati

Actor: Centro Astalli

Location: Italy

Further info: [Finestre - Attività nelle scuole](#)

The project has aimed to encourage reflection, especially among young people and students, on the theme of exile, particularly through direct contact with refugees and listening to their life stories. The heart of the project consists of direct encounters with those who have lived the experience of exile at first hand: letting their lives speak for themselves, giving their experiences a voice. An encounter capable of overcoming many prejudices and clichés. The Centre provides teaching materials to work in class with students on the project's themes. After the meeting with refugees, which remains the focus of the project, Centro Astalli offers the classes involved with some in-depth study proposals. Finally, all the students involved in the project are invited to participate in literary competitions inspired by the project themes that Centro Astalli itself organises.



Initiative: A Godfather for Tomorrow

Actor: Salesians of Don Bosco

Location: France

Further info: [Promote Social Insertion of Migrant Minors](#)

In 2021 the Don Bosco Institute in Tulle, which has been running for several years a reception platform for unaccompanied minors, launched the "A Godfather for Tomorrow" project, aiming at promoting the social inclusion and integration of migrant minors. Developed as a sponsorship system for young migrants' integration, whether they are minors or coming of age, the initiative offers them various activities related to sports, art, and culture. The special feature of the programme, however, is that in carrying out these activities the young migrants are accompanied by the so-called "godparents" or "godmothers," engaging with their "godchildren" to share together moments two to four times a month. The relationship established is mutually beneficial, giving both the young migrants and their godparents someone to talk to and spend time with so they do not feel lonely but integrated.

Initiative: The Urban Education Project for Refugees

Actor: Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Location: Thailand

Further info: [The Urban Education Project for Refugees](#)

The Urban Education Project for Refugees supports at-risk asylum seekers and refugee youth who are left out from the existing educational services. There is a special focus on youth and unaccompanied minors who are fending for themselves. They can join a six-month practical training course - to learn basic Thai and English language skills and vocational training such as computer skills, beauty treatments or sewing. All students can join the courses free of charge, and they can access a financial package to help with expenses for housing, food and transport. The project also promotes awareness and understanding in the Thai community of the dilemma of asylum seekers and refugee children. One way it does this is to arrange for the students in each batch to meet students in Thai schools.

Initiative: Young ACAT Stand Up for Human Rights

Actor: ACAT (Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture)

Location: Luxembourg

Further info: [Stand up for Human Rights Programme](#)

Young people with and without migrant and refugee backgrounds can get into conversation about longing and belonging through different art activities. All these activities aim to raise awareness of human rights while also providing safe spaces for creative expression, free exchange and intercultural encounters. To this end, Young ACAT Stand Up for Human Rights organises events such as: a Human Rights Festival; a Free Artistic Expression service - including workshops in dance, music, film, photography, and painting; a Human Right Education service supporting educators in school and non-school settings, a Dialogue of Cultures and Belief to promote the sharing of experiences and the active engagement of young people from different cultural and religious backgrounds; and other exhibitions.

Initiative: Movimiento Juvenil Scalabriniano

Actor: Misión Scalabriniana

Location: Ecuador

Further info: [Mision Scalabrianiana](#)

The Scalabrinian Youth Movement is composed of young migrants, refugees and the local population that is articulated to weave a network of support and inclusion through four lines of action: training, communication and promotion, organisational strengthening and socio-cultural self-management. The Scalabrinian Mission works in community spaces and educational centres, with the aim of building a culture of peace. To this end, there are youth groups in different parts of the country, and there are also shelters where children and adolescents can live safely. Among the various projects there is the development of the training school “EscalANDO” that brings together the participation of 73 adolescents and young migrants with the local population. Within a year, the training will cover three areas strengthening youth social activism: observation, construction, and transformation.



Initiative: Moving People Changing Places

Actor: Catholic Education South Australia

Location: Australia

Further info: [Catholic Education South Australia | Year 6 Migration](#)

Catholic Education South Australia provides different learning resources and experience for 6 year old students of Catholics Australian schools on the question of migration and migrants. Contents have been created to deepen students’ understanding of what asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants are and what their contribution to Australian society. Students can also visit the Migration Museum, which offers a range of multimodal resources. Another tool at teachers and students disposal is a plan for a 6-lesson sequence for exploring the topic of migration and refugees.

Initiative: **Change**

Actor: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Europe**

Location: **Europe**

Further info: [CHANGE](#)

The educational project brings together students, teachers, and refugees, aiming to increase awareness and participation of young students (13 -18 years old) on the topics of migration, refugees and living together. Through a 6-stage educational course, CHANGE provides the opportunity for teachers to inspire students and encourage them to develop critical thinking about migration and refugee issues, and for migrants and refugees to encounter students and share their experiences, hobbies and interests. The course envisages 6 stages going from self awareness, critical information, changing perspectives, representing judgements, dealing with prejudices, to getting into action. The final goal is to educate young people about the positive impact of migrants and refugees in host societies and encourage them to take action to change things in their own schools and local communities.

Initiative: **Good Shepherd Phuket Town**

Actor: **The Good Shepherd**

Location: **Thailand**

Further info: [Good Shepherd Phuket Town](#)



The project was born with the intent to provide holistic assistance for migrants from Myanmar. Three programs are now open to target the different needs of the Burmese population: education, health care, and empowerment. In the learning centre, migrant children receive basic education. They learn Thai, Burmese, Math, Science, Art, Music, and English. The health care programme aims to build trust and friendship in an environment of co-operation with migrants. Monthly community nursing, medicine, case assistance, doctor referrals, health counselling, health education and assistance are provided to patients. With the goal of addressing the exploitation and abuse they have suffered, the empowerment programme offers migrants assistance in helping them to get through the process of obtaining their legal documents, teaching them about their rights and developing their skills.

Initiative: The Frans Van Der Lugt Centre

Actor: JRS Lebanon

Location: Lebanon

Further info: [Lebanon: Returning to childhood](#)

The JRS Frans Van Der Lugt Centre in Bourj Hammoud provides formal and informal education to refugee children, youth, and adults. The Centre operates two different programmes: one addressing students who otherwise would not be able to attend school - through informal early childhood and primary education; and another one for those already enrolled in the national schools system who need additional learning support - through morning support courses for secondary students before their afternoon classes. While envisaging education opportunities for children, the social centre also provides adults with programs and training aiming to make them learn new skills. In this way, refugees can learn new skills and establish a source of income, becoming more independent and self-confident.

Initiative: Pedro Arrupe Youth Center

Actor: JRS Greece

Location: Greece

Further info: [JRS Greece Centres](#)

The Pedro Arrupe Youth Center is a Social Integration Center that aims to facilitate the integration of young migrants and refugees, as well as disadvantaged Greek children, into the Greek education system through after-school programs and cross-cultural activities. Almost 200 children from 6 to 18 years old, who are already enrolled in the Greek school, are assisted in the homework they have for school and provided with leisure activities (arts, sport, environmental education activities, etc.). The aim is to help them build their personality, to discover their talents and to develop interpersonal relationships in a humane environment. For many of them the centre becomes a safe place to express their concerns and thoughts, knowing that there's always someone who will listen to their problems.



Initiative: International Formation Centres for Young People

Actor: Scalabrini International Migration Network

Location: Switzerland

Further info: [Internationales Bildungszentrum G.B. Scalabrini](#)

The International Formation Centre for Young People, run by the International Scalabrini Centres in Solothurn, addresses young people (aged 17 - 30) interested in the phenomenon of human mobility. The education offer is opened to young people wishing to discover and experience new welcoming ways of seeing migrants, while also having the opportunity to work with local churches and parishes contribute to the vitality of the Catholic mission of the Church, and with schools and universities to raise awareness about the positive impact of the encounter of different languages, cultures, and religions. The same centre has been opened in other cities in Germany, Italy, Brazil and Mexico, with the same goal: building a future where new cultures and mentalities meet.

Initiative: Youth Program

Actor: The Catholic Centre for Immigrants

Location: Canada

Further info: [Youth Program | CCI](#)



In addition to two different sponsorship agreements, the Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI) also offers programs and services aimed at helping refugees settle and integrate into their new community. Among these programs is the Youth Program. The Youth Program addresses newcomer youth (aged 14 - 29) by involving them in different activities aimed at promoting their full integration into society. Newcomers are invited to participate in free recreational activities and to expand their social network, while also receiving assistance during their school year as well as with English or French language courses. Furthermore, the initiative offers support in writing resumes and job searching, connecting young newcomers with local community centres and employment or volunteer opportunities.

Initiative: Findus project

Actor: Diocese of Münster (St. Mariä Himmelfahrt Vechta) and Caritas

Location: Germany

Further info: [Projekt Findus - St. Mariä Himmelfahrt](#)

The Findus project targets young migrants and refugees between the ages of 4 and 13, who, thanks to this opportunity, are accompanied by volunteer “godparents”. These “godparents” or “mentors” (“Paten”) meet with the child once a week, for two to three hours, to do something with them according to their wishes and needs. All volunteer “godmothers” and “godfathers” become additional reliable caregivers who, besides the family, take their time to offer leisure activities or even just listen to the children. In order to do so, they are prepared in a professional manner and they receive training through monthly meetings. The personal accompaniment of a child for two to three hours per week makes them feel listened to and cared for, giving them the opportunity to gain trust and to integrate into the new society.



4. Becoming a Synodal Church

Initiative: **Psychosocial support to displaced people**

Actor: **Caritas Nacala; CAFOD; MANOS UNIDAS; ACN International**

Location: **Mozambique**

Further info: projects@acn-intl.org ; caritasnacala@gmail.com

Thanks to the ACN support, the Church in Mozambique could conduct training courses on psychosocial support to ensure psychosocial and pastoral care of people severely traumatised by the terror. Meanwhile, around 400 displaced children have been receiving assistance from the Caritas Diocesan of Nacala, as part of the Humanitarian Assistance Project for the displaced people of Cabo Delgado, co-financed by CAFOD and MANOS UNIDAS. The assistance is being done through the spaces Amigos da Criança (Friends of Children) where educators watch over the education, fun, and health of children. Through arts and sports they managed to overcome the shyness and linguistic difficulties of the children. The Caritas of Nacala also offered 'active listening' for adults, which is a space for sharing stories that were experienced, with a view to overcoming the difficulties in the process of the war traumas.

Initiative: **Multipurpose Adolescent Centre**

Actor: **Caritas Bangladesh; JRS; CRS**

Location: **Bangladesh**

Further info: ed@caritasbd.org

Three leading Catholic charities launched the Multipurpose Adolescent Centre to assist thousands of Rohingya Muslim refugees in Bangladesh who fled deadly bouts of persecution in Rakhine state of Myanmar. The Centre aimed to help the psychological development of children, provide counselling and skill development to adolescents, care for expectant mothers, childcare, and care for children with special needs. The Centre also took care of pregnant women and children with special needs. JRS funding for the project was mainly for protection sectors, whereas CRS provided support for disaster risk reduction, shelter and protection. The two international agencies were not only donors but also technical supporters and advisers for Caritas. JRS funds 11 child-friendly spaces that have already reached about 4,000 beneficiaries with basic education.

Initiative: Building the Future through Community Sponsorship of Refugees

Actor: ICMC; Canadian Embassy to the Holy See

Location: Virtual

Further info: [Long-Term Expansion of Community Sponsorship](#)

The agenda provided an opportunity for exchange and dialogue among those working on community sponsorship around the world. It focused on promoting exchange among those working at the grassroots level, including refugees themselves, and the governments and international organisations that help enable their efforts. Participants had the chance to discuss best practices, challenges and possible solutions. They called for improved dialogue, sustainable funding, and support for volunteers. The workshop concluded by acknowledging its own role in building a new community of sponsorship actors and stakeholders at the international level, and the vast potential of sponsorship to harness the capacities and goodwill of communities in receiving refugees.



Initiative: Pastoral Program

Actor: The Catholic Centre for Immigrants

Location: Canada

Further info: [Pastoral Program](#) | [CCI](#)

Among the programs and services for the integration of refugees into their new community, offered by the Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI) is the Pastoral Program. By offering newcomers the possibility to make contact with the appropriate faith communities and meet their spiritual needs, the program stresses the importance of spiritual support for a full integration. To this end and to promote forms of participation in building a welcoming community, the Pastoral Program works with faith groups and newcomers while also trying to expand CCI's partnership with faith communities through networking and creating partnerships with different refugee-serving groups to assist in advocacy and protection of refugees.

Initiative: **Interfaith Platform of Central African Youth**

Actor: **CCFD - Terre Solidaire**

Location: **Central African Republic (CAR)**

Further info: [RCA: femmes médiatrices de paix](#)

The Central African Youth Interfaith Platform (PIJCA), brings together about twenty denominational youth associations, including Catholics, Protestants, and Muslims, promoting the values of living together and leading very concretely to reconciliation. In CAR, the PIJCA, supported by CCFD - Terre Solidaire, encourages women to be ambassadors of peace. Within the Platform, hundreds of young women were trained as social mediators to help communities and families deal with their everyday problems and regain their self-confidence so as to live in peace and solidarity. Being that women in CAR have many contacts in society, once they have been trained in peace and security issues, these get spread throughout the society. In this way, this network is gradually being built up of mediators who train other mediators, who will in turn dedicate themselves to sharing their experience with others.

Initiative: **BRYCS - Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services**

Actor: **USCCB; LIRS**

Location: **The United States**

Further info: [About BRYCS](#)



Formed by a collaboration between the US Conference of Catholic Bishops/Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB/MRS) and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), BRYCS presents the nation's largest online collection of resources and good practices related to refugee and immigrant children and families. Believing that collaboration and sharing of information improves access and services, BRYCS aims to avoid fragmented experiences and to support refugee families in their new culture and in their path towards self-sufficiency and long-term integration. To this end, BRYCS facilitates networking among diverse refugee-serving organisations, from schools to refugee resettlement agencies and community-based organisations, and helps agencies to develop programs for refugee children, youth, and their families. In addition, BRYCS website offers several online training and webinars to ensure a safe and caring environment for children and youth.

Initiative: **“Reech eng Hand” project**

Actor: **Archdiocese of Luxembourg; ACAT; Caritas; JRS; Justice et Paix**

Location: **Luxembourg**

Further info: [Reech Eng Hand](#)

“Reech eng Hand” is a diocesan project highlighting the importance of welcoming and working WITH migrants and refugees arriving in Luxembourg. Working mainly with locally engaged volunteers, the project, coordinated by a diocesan working group, sees the commitment of various parishes, associations, and religious communities organised locally with migrants and refugees living in these parishes. Among the activities carried out by the project, there are: awareness-raising of pastoral and religious communities, advocacy, support to migrants and refugees in finding accommodation by providing houses, land and flats in parishes, as well as to look for a job. Local groups of Reech eng Hand are also present in camps, offering school lessons to young people, supporting migrants and refugees in administrative and social procedures, organising cultural activities outside the camp.

Initiative: **SACBC workshops on Migration for Diocesan Coordinators**

Actor: **Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC)**

Location: **South Africa**

Further info: [SACBC workshop for Diocesan Coordinators](#)

From the 21st to 23rd October 2019, over forty-five Diocesan Coordinators met for a three-day workshop on migration. The workshop, organised by the SACBC Migrants and Refugees Office together with the Society of Jesus South Africa, the Parliamentary Liaison Office, SIHMA, and Lawyers for Human Rights, aimed to strengthen the implementation of the Bishops 2019 Plenary Resolutions and support the development of a network at diocesan, metropolitan, and national level to jointly establish coordinated responses with regards to the welcoming and integration of migrants and refugees in South Africa. Each attendee was invited to share personal stories and best practices on migration in their respective dioceses so that everyone could learn from one another. Similar workshops have been organised over the years, bringing together Diocesan Coordinators from across South Africa so as to inform and empower them and, through them, both dioceses and parishes.



Initiative: “Church, House of Charity - Synodality and Coordination”

Actor: Congregations for Oriental Churches

Location: Syria

Further info: [L’Église se mobilise avec la société pour une charité active](#)

The three-day conference organised by the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, saw the participation of the Apostolic nunciature, local bishops and patriarchs, foreign delegations, and representatives of local humanitarian agencies, to focus on the future, with particular attention to young people. The Conference provided the opportunity to identify priorities, share challenges, strategies and good practices. For example, an interactive platform for the registration of aid projects (“Hope Center”), putting donors and beneficiaries in direct contact, was presented by a young person from Aleppo and represented a good practice that ROACO agencies and the Congregation for Oriental Churches could replicate and use as a model for connection and information. Several concrete proposals were finally made to experience a synodal journey involving everyone, from the Catholic Church to the humanitarian organisations and the civil society.

Initiative: Humanitarian Corridors for Afghan refugees

Actor: CEI, Caritas, Sant’Egidio Community, the Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy, the Waldensian Table, IOM, ARCI,

Location: Italy

Further info: [Safe passage for Afghan refugees](#)

Associations, religious congregations, communities and individual citizens in various Italian regions will be hosting Afghan asylum seekers who were forced to flee their country due to one of the world’s most severe crises. The humanitarian corridors are a concrete example of the positive impact of close collaboration between the Church, the State, and local non-governmental organisations. Promoting a safe and legal entry for vulnerable people, the project provides beneficiaries with shelter and support towards self-independence and full integration into Italian society through housing, legal aid, language classes and enrollment in schools for children and employment help for adults. This *modus operandi* already allowed over 5,300 refugees to safely enter Europe, and more arrivals from Lebanon and Libya are expected in Italy.