



Identification, Dissemination and Exchange of good practice in
Local Employment development and promoting better governance

Refugees Into Jobs , London - UK

Background on organisation	Refugees Into Jobs was set up in 1997 by a partnership between Brent and Harrow councils, health authority and refugee communities in northwest London. Initial funding was from SRB challenge fund from Government Office for London. The project has since been funded by the London Development agency and the Home Office, as well as by ESF and ERDF.
Purpose of the project	To empower refugees through employment and help them overcome the barriers preventing access to the job market in Northwest and West London. A particular focus was on the ability of refugees to fill key skill gaps in education, health and engineering and the recognition of relevant qualifications gained abroad. An important factor was also provision of basic information and guiding refugees through the complex re-qualification procedure.
Geographical focus	Northwest and West London.
How have you worked in partnership?	Partnerships were set up with local hospitals, local authority, education departments and local schools. Contacts were in particular established through meetings and conferences.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Special programme to help health professionals specifically refugee doctors, programme for refugee teachers.- Feasibility study regarding engineers and teachers.- A job search training programme.- Careers advice as well as grant scheme, which is addressing the individual need as well as assessing the beneficiaries and referring them to training.- Refugees Into Jobs also run a job club, medical journal club and teachers club.
Target groups	Refugees and asylum seekers
Particular successes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Serviced more than 3000 clients from 74 nationalities. Helped 35% into employment.- Helped 100 refugee medical doctors into employment.- Produced feasibility study for refugee engineers and teachers.- Run innovative programme for refugee teachers.- Helped many families into employment and the impact that the family

change from living on the public fund into buying a house and moving to better area and start paying tax.

Lessons learnt

- The recognition of qualifications gained abroad is of key importance in facilitating access to employment for highly skilled migrant populations – local partnerships can have an important role in facilitating this process.
- It can be beneficial to concentrate on particular employment sectors when supporting people through the re-qualification process.