



Global Refugee-Led Network (GRN)

Global Refugee Forum: 13-15 December 2023

Calendar of Events and Activities of the GRN and the GRN Regional Chapters

Tuesday 12 December – Advance Day

| Time (CET) | Event | Location |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 12:30-15:00 | <p>Assessing EU External Cooperation on Asylum in light of the UN Global Compact on Refugees: Lessons Learned and Promising Practices in Niger, Serbia, Tunisia and Turkey (CEPS, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and the GRN)</p> <p>Open to the public, <u>please register to attend.</u></p> <p>This Workshop is co-organized by CEPS, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and the GRN. It examines the scope and implementation of the European Union’s cooperation instruments on asylum governance with selected third countries, and their compatibility with the UN Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).</p> <p>The workshop will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening remarks by GRN Board Member Shaza Alrihawi,• Panel interventions by Dr. Zakira Hekmat (Founder and Director of Afghan Refugees Solidarity Association and member of the GRN MENA Chapter Steering Committee) and Syed Hasnain (Founder and President of UNIRE and Member of the European Coalition of Migrants and Refugees) | Forum Geneve, Rue de Lausanne 11-19 |

| | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 14:00-16:00 | <p>Advancing Refugee Leadership and Participation as a Core Element of the ‘Whole-of-Society Approach’ (Act for Peace, Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network, Asia Pacific Network of Refugees, Asylum Access, UNSW Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, ICVA)</p> <p>Open to the public, <u>please register to attend</u>.</p> <p>This session will explore how we can more effectively work to advance refugee leadership and participation in humanitarian and development responses as a part of a 'whole-of-society' approach. Research indicates that while refugees and other displaced communities possess unique knowledge, skills, and perspectives that can significantly contribute to effective solutions in international development, their expertise and experiences are often overlooked or marginalized within the top-down governance models that exist. The session will consider and help to address the inequitable nature of knowledge production, funding, and power dynamics more broadly within the humanitarian system. The session will showcase pioneering researchLink is external and new guidelinesLink is external that were developed through extensive consultation, are co-owned, and are now widely endorsed.</p> | Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG) |
| 14:00-16:00 | <p>Addressing the Legal Needs of RLOs: Refugee-Led Research & Refugee-Led Solutions (PILnet, Asia Pacific Network of Refugees, University of Oxford Refugee-Led Research Hub)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> <p>This session will include speakers representing PILnet, the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees, the Refugee-Led Research Hub, and Newcomers with Disabilities in Sweden to amplify refugee-led solutions to addressing the legal needs of refugees.</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Petit Salon |
| 16:00-17:00 | <p>Digital Inclusion of Refugees by Refugees (Robo Co-op, Welcome Japan (supported by the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees))</p> <p>Open to the public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Grand Salon |
| 16:00-17:00 | <p>Free Movement & Free Trade for Refugees in Africa (Africa Refugee-Led Network)</p> <p>Open to the Public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Petit Salon |

| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 16:30-18:00 | <p>Bridging the Gap between Climate Action and Forced Displacement: Connecting COP28 and the Global Refugee Forum (GRN, IFRC, Oxfam, Independent Diplomat)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> <p>This panel discussion is co- which will take place as COP28 concludes in Dubai and the GRF starts in Geneva - aims to bring the insights and discussions that emerged during COP28 into the GRF space, acknowledging where the agendas converge and where shared learnings may result. Through this discussion, we bring together refugee leaders, NGOs, policymakers and other stakeholders to explore the direct implications that the climate crisis is having on global patterns of forced displacement and promote joined-up policy-making in this area. As these crises converge, the need for collective action and shared responsibility has never been more urgent.</p> | Centre International de Conférences – CICG, Geneva |
| 17:00-19:00 | <p>Shifting Power, Decision-making and Funding: Refugee Leadership in Humanitarian Responses (Oxfam, Development Initiatives, Overseas Development Institute, GRN)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> <p>This linked event will bring together refugee-led organisations, researchers, humanitarian actors and donors to explore the current state of affairs when it comes to ensuring refugee leadership in humanitarian response - with a particular focus on shifting funding to RLOs.</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Grand Salon |

Wednesday 13 December

| Time (CET) | Event | Location |
|-------------|---|---|
| 10:00-14:00 | <p>Funding for Change – RLOs Leading the Way (Asia Pacific Network of Refugees, Refugee Leadership Alliance (RLA))</p> <p>Open to the public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Grand Salon |

| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 14:00-16:00 | <p>Driving Feedback and Leadership from those with Lived Experience (Coalizione Italiana Libertà e i Diritti civili (CILD), GRN, Refugiados Unidos, Global Strategic Litigation Council for Refugee Studies)</p> <p>Open to the public, <u>please register to attend</u>.</p> <p>This refugee-led event will discuss how civil society and businesses who work on projects addressing refugee, asylum seeker and migrant issues - including NGOs and lawyers - can drive feedback and leadership from those with Lived Experience. It will discuss the importance of refugee leadership and co-design, feedback mechanisms, and how to encourage meaningful input and participation in projects and programs.</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Grand Salon |
| 15:00-16:00 | <p>Network for Dialogue (Global Refugee-Led Network)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Petit Salon |
| 15:30-17:00 | <p style="text-align: center;">**Parallel High-Level Event** Gender Equality & Gender-Based Violence</p> <p>This parallel high-level event will include GRN Board Member Shaza Alrihawi as a speaker, who will represent the Gender Audit Team and Action Network on Forced Displacement</p> | Paexpo |
| 16:00-18:00 | <p>Local Actors and the Reception and Integration of Displaced Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Pan American Development Foundation, Coalition for Venezuela & Organization of American States)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub Geneva – Grand Salon |
| 17:00-18:00 | <p>Unveiling the Refugee Participation Index Scorecard (Asia Pacific Network of Refugees)</p> <p>Open to the public</p> | R-Space Impact Hub – Petit Salon |

Thursday 14 December

| Time (CET) | Event | Location |
|------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 9:00-11:00 | The Leadership of RLOs in Latin America: Effective Synergy for Solutions (Coalition for Venezuela, Veneactiva Peru, FICU & Venezuela Global) | R-Space Impact Hub – Grand Salon |

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 9:00-11:00 | Implementing the GCR's Commitments to Women and Girls – Tools to Support Participation, Gender Equality and to address SGBV (Asia Pacific Network of Refugees, APRRN, FMRN, RWERAC, UNHCR Malaysia) | R-Space Impact Hub – Petit Salon |
| 13:30-14:30 | Nothing About Us Without Us: Brainstorming Multilateral Reform to Systematize Accountability to Affected People in the Global Refugee Response (Independent Diplomat) Open to the public This panel discussion will convene a multi-stakeholder group of actors who are working to ensure accountability to affected people and advance participatory policymaking. The objective of this event is to chart a path forward to systematize meaningful refugee participation, drawing inspiration from movements like disability rights, indigenous rights, and youth inclusion. The panel will include Mary Magdaline Tal (GRN Board Member, Africa Refugee-Led Network Steering Committee Member, and Whole World Women Association Founder and Executive Director) as a panel speaker. | The Humanitarian Hub |
| 15:30-17:30 | **Parallel High-Level Event** Meaningful Refugee Participation Co-organizers: UNHCR Advisory Board of Organizations led by Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons, UNHCR focal points This parallel high-level side event will include interventions from diverse stakeholders on advancing meaningful refugee participation. The event will include updates on the launching of the Multi-Stakeholder Coalition on Meaningful Refugee Participation. Amer Alkayed, Chair of the GRN, will be the Master of Ceremony and share closing remarks. | Palexpo |
| 13:00-14:00 | Leading Together: Building Strong Refugee and Immigrant Leaders (Better Future – member of the European Coalition of Migrants and Refugees) Open to the public | R-Space Impact Hub – Petit Salon |
| 15:00-18:00 | High-Level United Kingdom Roundtable Discussion Between the Duchess of Edinburgh and Refugee Women Leaders (Global Refugee-Led Network) Invite only | R-Space Impact Hub – Petit Salon |

Friday 15 December

| Time (CET) | Event | Location |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 8:00-9:30 | <p>Senior Level Donor Dialogue on Opportunities for Advancing Locally-Led Action and Solutions (Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN, GRN, IFRC)</p> <p>Invite only</p> <p>A selected group of donors, National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, UN organizations, INGOs and local actors will come together to engage in an interactive policy and practice discussion with the aim to foster an increased understanding between donors, intermediaries and local actors on addressing barriers and taking innovative approaches for sustainable locally led solutions. The event will galvanize support for the Global Refugee Forum pledge on advancing localization in displacement settings.</p> | IFRC Office |
| 8:30-9:30 | <p>Enhancing Collaboration Between World Bank and Refugee-led Organizations (YARID, GRN, Refugees International, World Bank)</p> <p>Private meeting – invite only</p> | TBD |
| 9:00-11:00 | <p>Virtual Discussion with Refugees in Japan (Welcome Japan, Forum for Refugees Japan)</p> <p>Virtual/Hybrid</p> <p>Opening remarks will be shared by Najeeba Wazefadost, GRN Board Member and Executive Director of the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees)</p> | R-Space Impact Hub – Petit Salon |
| 10:30-12:30 (11:00-12:30 virtual) | <p>From Refugee Inclusion to Shifting Power: Building a Global Refugee Sector that Puts Refugees First (The New Humanitarian, Asylum Access, Refugees International)</p> <p>Hybrid, Sign up to attend virtually</p> <p>For decades, forcibly displaced people have advocated for their right for self-representation. The refugee leadership movement has embarked on a transformative journey to reshape global refugee governance, challenge the roots of an exclusionary sector, elevate the voices and agency of refugees within the institutions that impact their lives, and to have a direct impact on shaping policies at the institutional, state, and global level. Hear from people involved in these efforts as the movement</p> | Hilton Geneva Hotel and Conference Centre |

| | | |
|-------------|--|---------|
| | <p>advances and it becomes essential to evaluate progress made, impact achieved, challenges ahead, and persistent gaps that need to be filled.</p> <p>Speakers include Ana Maria Diez, President of the Coalicion por Venezuela and GRN Latin America Representative.</p> | |
| 11:00-12:30 | <p style="text-align: center;">**Parallel High-Level Event**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Resettlement</p> <p>The parallel high-level side event on resettlement will include the Government of Australia, Government of Canada, Refuge Point, and Settlement Services International as speakers. Shaza Alrihawi, GRN Board Member, will also be a speaker at the event.</p> | Palexpo |