‘The training has put me in a position to articulate the problems of my country clearly, and to contribute to finding solutions by being a voice for a silent majority.’

―A social worker from Uganda.

Who will be delivering the course?

The Programme Manager for the course is Dr Muna Ismail. She is a former refugee, scientist and an environmentalist with a passion for Sustainable Livelihood Development in post-conflict states.

Dr Muna Ismail

The course will be interactive, and facilitated by experienced trainers, supported by Dr Muna Ismail.

Contact Us

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Photos: Anke Leewensprung
Why Refugees as Re-Builders?

Refugees are potential rebuilders of the war-torn countries from which they fled. They have knowledge, skills and perspectives which are essential in rebuilding their home countries, when the opportunity presents itself.

In 2005, Initiatives of Change worked in partnership with leaders of the Somali community in the UK to provide courses in dialogue facilitation and conflict resolution, creating a cohort of peace-makers. In the years since these courses, some of the trainees returned to help rebuild their country.

Realising the value of that training has led Initiatives of Change to develop similar training courses for refugees of any ethnicity under the title Refugees as Re-Builders™.

The course focuses on three interlocking modules: Dialogue Facilitation, Ethical Leadership and Sustainable Livelihood. There are three levels of the course: Foundation Training, Training of Facilitators and Training of Trainers.

The long-term vision is to establish a Refugees as Re-Builders Community of Practitioners, giving peer support both in their adopted countries and in their countries of origin.

What will the participants learn?

Foundation Training
- Basic facilitation skills for dialogue between conflicting groups
- Basic concepts of Ethical Leadership for transparency in public and private governance
- Introduction to the concept of Sustainable Livelihood
- How self-reflection can be used to turn one's experience of displacement into a source of strength.

Training of Facilitators
- How to facilitate a workshop in one of the three modules of the course
- The disciplines of becoming a facilitator
- A deeper understanding of each of the modules
- How to transform the dynamics of conflict into a vehicle for trust-building
- Active citizenship
- Social Enterprise and the economics of food security in fragile societies
- Finding the inner resources to become a peace-maker
- The importance of story-telling in personal and social recovery from trauma.

Training of Trainers
- Basic principles of becoming a trainer
- How to develop skills and knowledge to deliver aspects of the three modules
- Deepen experience in how one trains and inspires others to become change-makers
- Inside-out Leadership
- Advocacy, social participation, human rights and responsibilities
- The global vision of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Creativity in protecting land and lives through economic solidarity.

‘The title itself touched me, as a refugee in the UK. I now have a better understanding of myself, of what is going on around me, and why I am here.’

—A medical doctor from Sudan.