

The background features a collage of travel-related elements. On the left, there is a green circular stamp with a portrait and the text 'REPUBLICA DE NICARAGUA'. Below it is a red circular stamp with an airplane icon. Further down is a yellow rectangular stamp with the word 'ARRIVARON' and a date '15 DEC 2010'. At the bottom left, there is a pink rectangular stamp with 'MALAYSIA K.L. INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION' and a date '20 AUG 2009'. The background also includes a map of the world and various geometric shapes in blue and orange.

GLOBAL MOBILITY AND THE ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS

THE ROLE OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The ICC World Chambers Federation (WCF) unites and serves the expansive network of more than 12,000 chambers of commerce that exist in almost every country around the world. As chambers influence the economic success of their countries, WCF works to strengthen and diversify their range of services; connect them to their international peers; facilitate the exchange of best practices and knowledge; and help them explore trade opportunities. The WCF was established by ICC in 1951 as a non-political, non-governmental body representing local, national, regional, bilateral, and transnational chambers of commerce and industry.

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Foreword

ICC and its World Chambers Federation (WCF) today unite more than 12,000 chambers of commerce worldwide, representing the diversity and dynamism of the private sector. ICC and WCF work with chambers of commerce to help promote local economic development.

As pillars of this strong network, chambers of commerce play a significant role in facilitating exchange of information, supporting job creation, and advocating policies that enable private sector growth. Chambers are also key players in skills training and professional education to help employees adapt to evolving conditions in the labour market, consequently contributing to long-term employment and the sustainable development of business locally.

As part of their activities to support a vibrant workforce, many chambers of commerce have taken a lead in assisting migrants to integrate economically in host countries. In many cases, these chambers have played a significant role in embracing migration as a positive force for local economic development and entrepreneurship.

This compendium, developed by ICC WCF, is designed to give a general overview of the role of chambers of commerce and highlight some existing best practices in promoting the economic integration of incoming workforces and thereby supporting global mobility for the benefit of business and society. By doing so, we hope to inspire more chambers of commerce under similar circumstances to develop their own schemes adapted to their local circumstances.

The movement of people is one of the key manifestations—and drivers—of global economic integration and the ever-increasing connections between societies. In the near future, ICC will engage in further strategic reflections in collaboration with its member companies, chambers, business associations and leading think-tanks, to provide further analysis and thought leadership on this topic. One of the ICC Knowledge Hubs entitled “Peace & Prosperity” will take action on such issues at the intersection of the economy and society.



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Introduction: Chambers of commerce and the economic integration of migrants

Migration is a global phenomenon which has been constantly shaping economies and societies since the beginning of mankind. According to the United Nations (UN), the number of international migrants reached 258 million in 2017¹, and has continued to grow since then.

As a whole, migration is a key contributor to economic prosperity. Migrants compose approximately 3 percent of the world's population, but produce more than 9 percent of the global GDP².

Whether from the perspective of their host countries or their countries of origin, migrants represent important human capital. Migrants replenish the shortage of labour force in countries marked by demographic crisis. They frequently bring professional skills as well as innovation and entrepreneurship. In the countries of origin, remittances from the diaspora often constitute a vast source of national economic growth.

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises “the positive contribution of migration for inclusive growth and sustainable development”. UN Members have committed to “cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights.”³

The importance of global mobility and migrants is also clearly referenced in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):

- Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
 - Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.
- Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries.
 - Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

Chambers of commerce can play a significant part in providing migrants with professional training and facilitating their employment in the private sector. In this brochure, ICC WCF aims to highlight and strengthen the role of chambers in the economic integration of migrants.

This brochure outlines some of the concrete actions undertaken by chambers to assist migrants to integrate professionally in their local host countries. In line with chambers' experiences, we classify their efforts into three broad categories:

1 United Nations, International Migration Report 2017, Highlights Key Facts
 2 International Migration for Organization, Migration and the 2030 Agenda, Page 11
 3 United Nations, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Clause 29

1. Supporting the professional integration of migrants
2. Empowering refugees in the local labour market
3. Assisting returning nationals

The examples provided in this brochure are by no means exhaustive. They are a compilation of initiatives and programmes which have been brought to our attention. ICC WCF seeks to receive more contributions from chambers playing an active role in the economic integration of migrants. Please write to us at: wcf@iccwbo.org. We will keep compiling these examples with a view to create a digital compendium that can be updated continuously.

Finally, a selection of essential references on the topic of global mobility and economic migration can be found at the end of this brochure, including official documents from the UN as well as research from regional organisations and the private sector.

Supporting the professional integration of migrants



New Kiwis

The New Kiwis programme was launched in 2001 by the Auckland Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Immigration New Zealand (MBIE). The aim of New Kiwis is to provide free recruitment and matching services between highly qualified migrants and New Zealand employers. New Kiwis originated as a solution to the lack of skilled labour and as a way to enable Auckland businesses to access an untapped pool of resources.

For more information on New Kiwis, please visit: <https://www.newkiwis.co.nz/>



New American Workforce

The New American Workforce programme is a partnership between the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce and its city government to help qualified immigrant workers become American citizens. The chamber role was critical in connecting San Diego businesses with New American Workforce to provide citizenship assistance at the workplace. By 2016, San Diego companies made up 25 percent of the 200 companies nationwide participating in the programme.

For more information on the New American Workforce programme, please visit: https://immigrationforum.org/landing_page/new-american-workforce/



Interconnection

The Interconnection programme was created by the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal and in partnership with the Government of Quebec. It aims to help newcomers find their first job in the Quebec area and helps skilled migrants integrate into the labour market by providing contacts between business and newcomers. Since the programme's creation, it has enabled 6,000 immigrants to network with nearly 1,100 companies to help them find internships, job-training, and jobs in their areas of expertise.

For more information on Interconnection, please visit: <https://acclr.cmm.ca/en/services/workforce/interconnection-program/>



UNIONCAMERE

Start It Up—Nuove imprese di cittadini stranieri

Start It Up: Nuove imprese di cittadini stranieri (New businesses of foreign citizens) is a programme funded by the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and carried out in collaboration with Unioncamere. It was implemented by 10 chambers of commerce across Italy. The aim of the programme was social and economic inclusion of 400 non-EU immigrants by providing support for professional growth, basic skills and training for start-ups, and equipping them with the needed entrepreneurial skills. A total of 434 immigrants benefited from the guidance, training and assistance offered by chambers and 409 immigrants developed a real business plan for the creation of a company.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.unioncamere.gov.it/P42A1290C189S123/concluso-il-progetto--start-it-up--nuove-imprese-di-cittadini-stranieri--.htm>

Empowering refugees in the local labour market



Design and implementation of an economic intervention model aimed at Venezuelan migration

Bogota Chamber of Commerce designed a pilot project for three years to serve Venezuelan migrants. The programme aims to generate formal economic integration of Venezuelan migrants, incorporating them into the national workforce. The programme will be implemented through three pillars:

- › Employability: reinforce connections with the private sector to facilitate job opportunities
- › Entrepreneurship: support entrepreneurship projects
- › Business strengthening: alleviate barriers and challenges in business

The project will also address matters of institutional and business articulation in order to map the necessities of the city in each one of these axes. In addition, cultural and gender perspective will be taken into account in the programme.



Refugee training for labour market integration

The Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) has been involved for the past two years in the integration of refugees in education and employment. Hamburg Chamber of Commerce established six points to integrate refugees into the labor market by

- › informing companies
- › creating awareness & mutual understanding
- › facilitating employment and dual vocational training
- › supporting self-employment
- › engaging in the network of institutions & volunteers
- › business advocacy for refugee integration

This project won the 2017 Best Education and Training category at the World Chambers Congress in Sydney. Moreover, through its Work and Integration for Refugees (W. I. R.) project, the Hamburg Chamber was able to successfully train some 4,000 refugees and pair them with Hamburg-based companies.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.hamburg.com/residents/refugees/wir/>

<https://iccwbo.org/content/uploads/sites/3/2017/11/icc-wcf-competition-hamburg-chamber-of-commerce-germany.pdf>



JCI Projects

JCI is a non-profit organisation of young active citizens aged 18 to 40. Six key challenges were identified by JCI members for refugee integration including Language; Qualifications to Enter the Labour Market; Asylum Procedures; Welcoming Atmosphere; Employment of Refugees; and Root Causes for Escape.

JCI Projects around the world include:

- JCI Germany project “Strengthen the Youth: 1000 Chances” and “Start-Up Your Future” tackled the unemployment and exclusion of refugees throughout Germany.
- JCI Zagreb (Croatia) “Asylove” project focused on helping refugees in Croatia connect with community members, enhance their speaking skills and understand local culture.
- JCI Belgium undertook stakeholder discussion with refugees from Syria and Africa.
- JCI Quadrivium (The Netherlands) focused on facilitating employment opportunities.

For more information on JCI, please visit: <https://jci.cc/> and: https://issuu.com/pedrozaraza/docs/jci_europe_refugee_report_digital

Living and Working Together: Integrating Syrians under Temporary Protection (SuTPs) to Turkish Economy



The project is implemented by the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) and targets 12 provinces with the largest Syrian refugee populations. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the economy and enhance social empowerment of SuTPs and host community members to become an asset for the local economy.

The project was initially established for a 24 month period with a budget of 15 million euros to provide economic and social resilience aids to Syrians under the Temporary Protection (SuTPs) scheme. The project involves economic analysis, capacity building for local chambers, skills and

qualification testing for Syrians, matchmaking with firms, and Turkish language courses.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.avrupa.info.tr/en/project/living-and-working-together-integrating-sutps-turkish-economies-turkey-7510>

ICC / UNHCR initiative

Refugees who either return home or have to resettle in another country need to have access to economic opportunities for their livelihoods. Post-conflict reconstruction efforts in home or host countries are driven by private sector investments in often challenging circumstances. A Letter of Intent between UNHCR and ICC was signed expressing both parties' "[...] intention to develop a framework of partnership and cooperation which includes the establishment of appropriate business engagement mechanisms under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)". The implementation of the CRRF highlights the need for UNHCR to work more closely with the private sector to deliver on a development agenda. ICC and UNHCR are cooperating to identify opportunities for on-the-ground support and investment to economies and populations impacted by the refugee crisis. A first initiative will be launched in Bangladesh this year.

One year after the historic affirmation of the Global Compact on Refugees, the first Global Refugee Forum will take place in December 2019. The forum will present a critical opportunity to build momentum towards achieving the objectives of this new commitment and strengthen collective response to refugee situations. ICC will be encouraging continued support from the private sector in these efforts.



Assisting returning nationals



YES StartUp

The YES StartUp programme is organised by the governments of Australia and Tonga, in partnership with the Tonga Chamber of Commerce and Industry. YES StartUp is a four-week business programme that provides support to returning workers by helping them to maximize the benefits of their income through starting a self-run business in Tonga.

It provides general business principals, planning, guides to building a sustainable business and additional reintegration support to seasonal workers. More than 30 YES courses have been delivered in the Asia-Pacific region involving more than 500 participants.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.abv.org.au/our-expertise/organisational-expertise/smes/>

IACC returning migrants programme

IACC returning migrants programme aims to support the Irish diaspora based in Australia considering return to Ireland. Early in 2015 the chamber conducted research about young professional migrants in Australia returning to Ireland. The chamber has engaged with government in Dublin and developed partnerships with the private sector and other organizations in Dublin. The returning programme includes practical assistance:

- › Access to Financial Services
- › Finding a job
- › Setting up a Business
- › Investing in Ireland
- › Social Reintegration
- › Business Networking
- › Tax
- › Mentoring

For more information, please visit: <https://www.irishchamber.com.au/services/iacc-returning-migrants-program>



References

Migration is on the top of international society's agenda. The United Nations is taking a leading role in helping to provide a coordinated framework for global mobility and solving the refugee crisis. International stakeholders such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the World Bank and the OECD are also engaging in migration by sharing knowledge and offering financial assistance. The European Union has conducted significant research into these issues. The private sector has also started to produce research and provide views on global mobility and the economic integration of migrants.

Below is a selection of important references for those looking to get a better understanding of the subject from an international policy perspective. This selection is not exhaustive but aims to provide a basic understanding of the key issues at stake.

International engagement

United Nations

- › New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, September 2016
https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/1
- › Global Compact For Safe, Orderly And Regular Migration, July 2018
https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf
- › Global Compact on Refugees, December 2018
<https://www.unhcr.org/5c10c1604.pdf>
- › Sustainable Development Goals
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

Selected Studies

International Organisations

International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

- › Private Sector Engagement In The Global Compact On Safe, Orderly And Regular Migration, 2017 https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/private_sector_engagement.pdf
- › Migration and the 2030 Agenda, 2018
https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/sdg_en.pdf

World Bank, KNOMAD (Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development)

- › Migration and Development, A Role for the World Bank Group, September 2016
<https://www.knomad.org/sites/default/files/2017-03/MigrationandDevelopmentReportSept2016.pdf>

OECD

- › Is migration good for the economy? May 2014
<https://www.oecd.org/migration/OECD%20Migration%20Policy%20Debates%20Numero%202.pdf>
- › Hiring refugees—What are the opportunities and challenges for employers? September 2016
<https://www.unhcr.org/594b824a4>

Regional Organisations**European Union**

- › Communication on a new Africa—Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs: Taking our partnership for investment and jobs to the next level, September 2018
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/communication-strengthening-eus-partnership-africa-new-africa-europe-alliance-sustainable-investment-and-jobs_en
- › European Agenda on Migration—Factsheets
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information_en

Private Sector**McKinsey Global Institute**

- › Global migration's impact and opportunity, McKinsey Global Institute, December 2016
<https://www.mckinsey.com/-/media/McKinsey/Featured%20Insights/Employment%20and%20Growth/Global%20migrations%20impact%20and%20opportunity/MGI-People-on-the-Move-Full-report.ashx>
- › Europe's New Refugees: A Road Map For Better Integration Outcomes, McKinsey Global Institute, December 2016
<https://www.mckinsey.com/-/media/McKinsey/Featured%20Insights/Employment%20and%20Growth/A%20road%20map%20for%20integrating%20Europes%20refugees/A-road-map-for-integrating-Europes-refugees.ashx>

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

- › Mobility and the Business Case for Migration, December 2014
<http://ficci.in/spdocument/20769/Proceedings-dec18-2014.pdf>

Notes



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