Entrepreneurship ideas for rebuilding lives

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Refugee support

Refugee entrepreneurship through food and collaboration with the charity sector (UK)

Syrian refugee **Imad Alarnab** together with charity **Help Refugees** opened a <u>pop-up kitchen</u> to raise funds for a children's hospital in Syria's Aleppo region. Imad's Choose Love Kitchen wants to invite customers to "experience the true taste of Syria." They served a traditional three-course Syrian meal, cooked by, what Help Refugees say is "one of the most famous chefs from Damascus." The pop up featured celebrity staffs, events and promotions, which helped it gain significant media attention. Imad subsequently had more opportunities to cook at several charity events, which helped it gain popularity. He then received further support that helped set up his <u>restaurant</u> in London.

Child care centre in refugee camp open to both local and refugee children (Greece)

The Non-Profit Association for the Promotion of Culture and Environmental Awareness 'Mikros Dounias' was founded in September 2017. It is an early childhood care institution in a refugee camp where both local and refugee children between 2 and 5 years old can spend their day. They began as a small group of parents who share the same pedagogical vision. They organise activities for children to learn and play in nature, following the pedagogy of forest and outdoor education. Their teachers also come from all over the world to implement new methods of childhood education in nature, which are not yet known or implemented in Greece.

During the day in Mikros Dounias, children are free to choose where they want to be, if they want to participate in offered activities, when they want to play or rest. No lack in team spirit is observed due to the latter: children collaborate effectively when they want or need to and not when they have to. Learning in Mikros Dounias is based on action, experience and exploration. They try to always have an eye and an ear open, in order to understand what each child wants to learn and to support him/her in this research. The collective dimension of learning derives automatically, as the learning needs and ideas of each child inspire his/her companions. They speak in English and Greek but also try to speak in the mother tongue of the children.

Techfugees: Using tech for community building and support

<u>Techfugees</u> is a non-profit social enterprise co-ordinating the international tech community's response to the needs of refugees fleeing war, famine and persecution.

It was created in September 2015 following a call on Facebook from Mike Butcher, Editor-at-large of TechCrunch in Europe, in response to the picture of Aylan's lifeless body on a Turkish beach. A few days later, 300 people were brought together in London for a first conference, followed by a hackathon to generate tech solutions that could directly help refugees. Support was huge with money, time and skills freely given by the tech community. Techfugees has since grown to 11,000 members, joined up with the Digital Humanitarian Network and is now a truly global movement.

Politically independent, Techfugees brings together tech entrepreneurs and engineers with NGOs and agencies to workshop ideas and solutions through a series of conferences and hackathons. It focuses on grassroots innovation and delivering 'real tech for real refugees', consulting closely with agencies on the ground to test and deploy any tech solution. Successes include bringing WiFi to the refugee camp in Calais, enabling displaced people to contact embassies, loved ones and charities. GeeCycle.org is a platform enabling people to donate their old mobile device to a refugee. New initiative Basefugees is a web-based, open source platform that matches technology solutions to NGO 'challenges' with the aim of solving real-world problems faced by refugees. These precise solutions will undoubtedly positively impact the lives of refugees, and it is evident that this collaborative, transparent methodology is already changing society for the better.

Breadwinners - Employing and training young asylum seekers through bread (UK)

Founded in 2016, <u>Breadwinners</u>' mission is to improve the wellbeing of refugees and create a community where they can thrive in the UK. They are a grassroots charity providing work experience for refugees and young people seeking asylum at their London and Brighton market stalls and through their online bread delivery service. They also provide employability training, mentoring and social networks for their programme participants. Asylum seekers work as market stall assistants as well as run their online shops and wholesale services. Breadwinners also work closely with their volunteer mentors who support youths on their UK journey.

Arte Migrant (France)

<u>Arte Migrante</u> is a circle of sharing with the aim of creating human connections through art, a space where people meet to exchange talents, stories, songs, dances ... smiles, verses, images, poems. Arte Migrante is a collective of people: it's all those who want to create a community while sharing food, music, and art in all its forms.

No social discrimination, no age limits, no political faith.

It works on a potluck model. Everyone brings something to eat and share, and if they want, their instrument, favourite book, or just their story.

It's an inclusive and inspiring space that gives people the stage to share a music, a dance or their story. These events build empathy and stronger connectedness between locals and refugees.

How to start your own Arte Migrant:

1) Find a partner venue that would offer the space for free. Arte Migrant in France was hosted by a self-managed social centre.

- 2) Spread the word, start a facebook event. Reach friends and migrants.
- 3) Set up the tech microphones are good assets to have, collect your list of performers (Ask around if people want to present something and let them know when would be their turn on stage)
- 4) Bring food, drinks and your own set of cutleries (would be good to have somewhere to wash the dishes after)
- 5) Event typically starts with food, drinks and casual conversations then the performances and sharing start on stage
- 6) Always a good idea to end it with good music and some dancing!
- 7) Wash and clean up together before saying goodbye

Trampoline House

Founded in 2022, Weekend Trampoline House continues the concept and activities of the former Trampoline House, which was established more than 10 years ago as a volunteer-run community centre for persons in the asylum system. Weekend Trampoline House is a gathering place for displaced people as well as Danish citizens and international residents, who work for a more humane refugee policy in Denmark together.

Germany

- The Human Safety Net (THSN):
 <a href="https://www.thehumansafetynet.org/programmes/our-programmes/ou
- Code Door: https://codedoor.com/
- Redi School: https://www.redi-school.org/
- Kiron: https://kiron.ngo/en/

SocialBee

• SocialBee: https://www.social-bee.de/ - unfortunately, there is no English website.

Summary: SocialBee is a service provider for diversity. Experts for successful + sustainable integration in the labour market. They aim to create new opportunities - both for people and for companies. They tackle integration entrepreneurially and make it concrete in nationwide + holistic projects. In this way, they promote diversity in the workplace, resolve any resentments in the workforce and strengthen corporate customers from small family businesses to DAX corporations from the inside out with lived diversity. For years they have been helping companies from various industries across Germany to successfully transform their workforce into the 21st century - by jointly developing tailor-made integration projects and filling vacancies. They also help migrants to enhance their professional skills to transfer to the labour market.

• Über den Tellerrand: https://ueberdentellerrand.org/start-englisch/

Scattered Hospitality / Rifugio Diffuso (Italy)

A project that focuses on providing accommodation for refugees in the area of Torino, Italy.

Starting Year: 2008

http://www.migrantitorino.it/?p=52679

The project aims at tackling the refugee crisis and the lack of temporary housing facilities by promoting the reception of refugees, people with subsidiary protection, asylum seekers and people applying for international protection, by

local families in their own private apartments. The project supports both the hosting family and the refugee, through financial support and realisation of support and supervision services. The hospitality is aimed at giving to refugees the

possibility of a transition between the asylum hospitality and the phase in which the refugee starts an independent life in the European society. The family hospitality, lasting from 6 to 12 months, is an opportunity to build a network,

to improve knowledge and capacities, to find a job. For families, it is an opportunity to live multiculturalism and solidarity in their houses.

The action was motivated to answer partly to the problem of the hosting period foreseen by the SPRAR system (Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees) considered not being enough to provide refugees with all the

skills and resources useful to continue independently the complex process of social inclusion. Moreover, the existing hospitality system demonstrated serious limitations in terms of capacity to create a social network around the refugee,

and of the risk to create dependency from the small subsistence aid provided during the limited months of hospitality. The idea was conceived in 2008 by the Municipality of Turin with local associations and cooperatives. In 2015, the first year of Rifugio Diffuso under the SPRAR program officially starts.

Rapid prototyping

100 day challenge (Nesta)

https://media.nesta.org.uk/documents/100_days_to_change_a_system_v8.pdf

The 100 Day Challenge enables front-line staff and citizens from across a health and care system to collaborate and experiment with new ways of working. These cross-organisational teams test new solutions that achieve real results for people and communities over a three-month period. Senior leaders are involved throughout – from setting the initial area of focus, to supporting the scale-up of successful ideas