



# Supporting and Developing Refugee Enterprise

## Conference Programme

Friday 24 November 2006, 10.00am – 4.15pm

Regent's College, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS

- 10.00am**            **REGISTRATION**
- 10.30am**            **Introduction and Welcome**  
*Anna Reisenberger*, Acting Chief Executive, Refugee Council  
and Chair of the Refugee Enterprise Partnership
- 10.40am**            **Key note address**  
*Margaret Hodge MP*, Minister of State for Industry & the Regions, Department  
for Trade & Industry
- 11.10am**            **Refugees into Business: A Project Overview**  
*Fazil Kawani*, Head of Development, Refugee Council  
*Barbara Keating*, Web Editor, Refugee Council
- 11.45am**            **Breakout sessions**  
Topic choices\*:  
**1. Social Enterprise**  
**2. Training and Community Development**  
**3. Policy and Strategy**  
**4. RCO focused advice and website**
- 1.00pm**            **LUNCH**
- 2.00pm**            **The voice of a refugee entrepreneur:**  
*Peter Paduh*, Managing Director, Maxitech
- 2.30pm**            **Expert Panel - Refugee Enterprise, the potential, policy  
challenges and practical barriers**  
A chance to put questions to representatives from a Local Authority,  
Regional Development Agency and the Greater London Assembly
- 3.45pm**            **Concluding remarks**  
*Anna Reisenberger*
- 4.00pm**            **CLOSE**

\*see overleaf for more information on the sessions



## **Breakout sessions**

Please choose **one** of the following and indicate your choice when completing your booking form

### **1. Social Enterprise**

**Facilitated by expert staff from Social Enterprise London**

Social Enterprise is seen by many as an ethical and sustainable form of business and trading. This session will explore the role and potential of this form of business approach within the refugee community. The session will give practical ideas and models for setting up a social enterprise. The participants will be encouraged to discuss and ask questions.

### **2. Training and Community Development**

**Facilitated by expert trainers from the Refugee Council and Community Action Network**

The session will focus on the role and impact of accredited and customised training for mainstream and RCO advisors in community development. It will also consider mainstreaming services to refugee entrepreneurs. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and ask questions.

### **3. Policy and Strategy**

**Facilitated by Refugee Council policy adviser and Refugee Action community development staff**

The session will concentrate on the policy and strategic barriers faced by refugee entrepreneurs. It will focus on issues such as the 5 year rule, bank accounts and availability of start up financial assistance. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experience and be informed of the policy work that is being taken forward.

### **4. RCO focused advice and Refugees into Business website**

**Facilitated by Refugee Council web specialist and experienced Community Development staff**

The session will outline the website as an advice and support tool for RCO advisers, and will highlight the key '*know how*' issues for RCO advisers. The intention is to raise awareness and enhance the use of the web as a learning and support tool. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss support processes and key content issues.