The CRISP training package on resettlement and complementary pathways was developed by IOM and UNHCR in 2020. The training content corresponds to the respective roles and responsibilities of each agency. The training takes a number of forms: the first is a modular one which is adaptable to the needs of the countries or stakeholders receiving it, and the second is a training package that covers the entire programme continuum including integration. In this latter format, the training is composed of three different courses targeting different audiences based on the context:

**Course 1:** Targets government officials involved in resettlement programme design who have an advisory role on policy and decision-making (i.e., Ministry of Interior, Justice etc).

**Course 2:** Targets state practitioners.

**Course 3:** Targets stakeholders engaged with supporting reception and integration of resettled refugees. This course was developed with the International Rescue Committee.

The training was initially designed to be delivered face-to-face, however due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was adapted for online delivery in early 2021. The second course was piloted between 6–27 May with participants from the Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) and Child Care Performance and Social Work Unit within the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) and Tusla, the Child and Family Agency. Each session was tailored to the Irish context and training requirements through the involvement of thematic experts and IOM and UNHCR’s country offices in Ireland.

Aspects of resettlement and complementary pathways, community sponsorship, refugee identification, state adjudication and missions, pre-departure arrangements, continuum of care, inter-cultural communication and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), data protection and working with interpreters were covered during the pilot. The UNHCR Global Learning and Development Centre (GLDC) provided logistical support and facilitation for the virtual delivery. Participants were also given access to UNHCR’s learning platform, in order to complete an e-learning on protection.
In focus: Expanding third country education opportunities for refugees

Global task force on third country education pathways

Increasing complementary pathways through higher education is a tangible way for states and the international higher education community to provide durable and safe solutions for refugee students. Supported by the CRISP, the Global Task Force on Third Country Education Pathways promotes and supports the expansion of tertiary education as a complementary pathway. With a diverse membership including representatives from NGOs, international and regional bodies, UN agencies and states, the Task Force is well-positioned to advocate for broader support of complementary education pathways globally.

After developing the “Minimum Standards on Third Country Education Pathways” and membership guidelines to identify stakeholders who share and further the mission of the Task Force at the beginning of 2021, the Task Force will focus on developing a website to increase its visibility and reach, building and maintaining a global Community of Practice (CoP), implementing capacity building trainings for CoP members, and engaging in targeted advocacy to create additional opportunities for refugee students to access third country education pathways.

The Task Force is co-chaired by World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and the Open Society University Network (OSUN). The Task Force Secretariat is hosted by WUSC. For more information on how to engage with the Task Force, please reach out to edpathwaystf@wusc.ca.

Update on the Opportunities Platform: scholarship opportunities for refugees

To date the site features 48 scholarship programmes, 13 of which are third country education opportunities. Thus far the site has on average 185 users per day, the majority (64%) aged between 18-34. Based on feedback received from 950 users, at least 38% have found an opportunity they were interested in and have applied or intend to apply at a later date. UNHCR is working to further engage education providers to expand the number of opportunities featured on the site while also improving the user experience.

The site can be accessed here.

Brazil - Cátedra Sergio Vieira de Mello Universities working group on education opportunities as third country solutions for refugees

Global Compact on Refugees, some CSVM Universities are exploring the possibility of providing third-country education opportunities for refugees. At the end of 2020, the first joint UNHCR/CSVM Working Group was arranged with the participation of 5 interested universities to discuss the development of pilot programs.

An initial mapping on capacities of the essential components of a third-country education program, such as student selection from refugee applicants, travel and documentation, housing, scholarships, language training, cultural orientation and psychosocial support was conducted during the first quarter of the year by each institution to identify challenges and opportunities. This assessment laid the groundwork for the identification of needs and gaps, including the need to involve additional stakeholders and incorporate learning from similar initiatives at the international level with the assistance of the Global Task Force on Third Country Education Pathways.

May 2021 – CSVM Universities and UNHCR at the WG on Education Opportunities @UNHCR /Brazil

UNHCR Brazil has been working with the Cátedra Sergio Vieira de Mello (CVSM) for the past 16 years, an Academic Network with 28 university members, that have different educational initiatives to support refugees. In line with the
**Brazil - Mapping of civil society organisations working on MHPSS**

IOM Brazil, in collaboration with the Brazilian Ministry of Justice and Public Safety (MJSP), through the General Coordination of the National Committee for Refugees (CG-CONARE), conducted a mapping of civil society organizations that provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to refugees and migrants in Brazil. An online survey was shared with 53 organisations to identify existing capacity, needs, and challenges. A workshop was held in December 2020 with 23 civil society organizations and universities to validate survey findings. Key areas that were highlighted during the validation workshop include impact of socioeconomic integration challenges on the mental health of refugees and migrants; lack of knowledge of the health system; difficulties accessing health services; capacity building needs for psychosocial service providers; and impact of COVID-19 on MHPSS needs. The findings will be published in mid-2021 to inform capacity building efforts, programme interventions and policies developed for MHPSS. Read more [here](#).

**Argentina - Training for network of community sponsorship of refugees**

In June, IOM Argentina organised a capacity building session for 16 members from the Argentinean Network for Community Sponsorship of Refugees focusing on strengthening intercultural perspectives and human rights. The virtually delivered session was facilitated jointly by IOM and Carlos Alvarez, the director of National Directorate of Ethno-Racial, Migrant and Refugee Equity. Structural conditions for inequalities, types of discrimination, stereotypes and prejudices, and intercultural approach and dialogue were among the topics covered. Participants were also provided with skills on conducting their own training sessions through practical activities and group reflections.

**Monitoring and evaluation framework for the Three-Year Strategy and CRISP**

With the support of the CRISP, UNHCR started developing an overall M&E framework for the Three-Strategy and the CRISP. To inform the process, two workshops were held in early 2021 to gather statements from States and key stakeholders to create a high-level Theory of Change (ToC).

The ToC and accompanying indicator framework are designed to reflect the full range of stakeholder contributions to the Three-Year Strategy and the partnerships required between governments, civil society, private sector partners and others to deliver it. Moving forward, the indicators that have been developed will need to be validated with States and external stakeholders.

A workshop will be organized by UNHCR in the coming months to consult on the M&E plan - specifically, the indicators, reporting frequency and analysis. The actual evaluation of the Three-Year Strategy and the CRISP will be undertaken in 2022.

**Training on accountability to affected populations (AAP)**

In November 2020, IOM conducted a virtual training to introduce AAP and protection mainstreaming to 18 IOM staff from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, the IOM Regional Office in Brussels and IOM Headquarters.

Since the training, IOM staff in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are contributing to the establishment of effective Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms (CFMs) in 2021 with the support of in-house AAP and protection experts.

The next steps will be to:

- Design a mechanism that is fit-for-purpose and takes into consideration inputs from beneficiaries;
- Put in place a documentation system and referral structure to process complaints;
- Develop protocols to record feedback and complaints received;
- Establish the CFMs;
- Raise awareness on the CFMs among stakeholders.
Update of UNHCR’s Integration Handbook for Resettled Refugees

This Integration Handbook is a key reference text on the integration of resettled refugees. It was recently updated with the assistance of NGOs, refugees, governments, academics, UNHCR colleagues and other international organizations. It was funded by the Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative (CRISP). The Integration Handbook has been updated to reflect the changing nature of integration processes and programmes and an increasingly broad range of stakeholders engaged in resettlement. The site is available here.

Project GROW: growing third-country opportunities worldwide through innovative partnership and financing

The UNHCR Division of International Protection (DIP) and the Division of External Relations (DER) initiated a process to strengthen the reception and integration of resettled refugees by engaging local volunteer mentors to provide hands-on and practical integration support to newcomers, while the financial part of the sponsoring arrangement would be raised through crowdfunding facilitated in cooperation with UNHCR’s private sector partners and structures. The current working title of this process Project GROW: growing third-country opportunities worldwide through innovative partnership and financing.

The pilot will be tested initially in Argentina in 2021 with the CRISP supporting strategic capacity building aspects relevant for institutional expansion to other countries. A multi-functional mission composed of DIP senior staff and a representative from España con ACNUR travelled to Argentina in March 2021 with the aim of discussing the pilot with the government and Fundacion ACNUR Argentina. GROW was presented to the ATCR community in June 2021. The arrival of a handful of refugees who will be supported by the pilot are expected in the coming months.

Research on the positive impact of resettlement on third-countries

Supported by the CRISP, UNHCR contracted the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to undertake a meta study of available evidence related to the impact of government-led resettlement programs across six receiving countries. The report, The Impact of Government-Sponsored Refugee Resettlement: A Meta Study of Findings from Six Countries examines findings from a meta-study of the integration outcomes and resulting impacts on receiving societies of government-led refugee resettlement across six country contexts.

The research study can be accessed here.

Update on global mapping

Supported by the CRISP, UNHCR commissioned research to map global opportunities to grow resettlement and advance complementary pathways. This project will generate evidence that helps to both guide and enhance the work of relevant stakeholders to expand access to third-country solutions for refugees. The research was conducted by the Migration Policy Institute Europe and its partner, the University of Ottawa, Refugee Hub. The findings were presented at the 2021 ATCR in June and the report Refugee Resettlement and Complementary Pathways: Opportunities for Growth will be published in September.