



To sustain growth and innovation in NWE, new enterprises are needed, including enterprises of recognised refugees who are re-starting in their host countries. Enter to Transform's target group are the 67% of 271.630 recognised refugees in the participating countries Netherlands, Germany, Ireland and France (Eurostat, 2017) who have a business background and the experience to become entrepreneurial again. The project helps to raise the number of recognised refugees re-starting businesses in NWE by increasing the entrepreneurship capacity of the target group and the guidance capacity of institutions who assist them.

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Interreg **North-West Europe** **Enter to Transform**

European Regional Development Fund



Enter to Transform

Restart your business!



Social Innovation as Tool in ENTER to TRANSFORM

The project offers social innovation to assist recognised refugee re-starters (RR) to become ready for business creation. Candidates with business experiences in home countries have potential to restart, but need specific mentoring to adapt to the NWE economy & its ecosystems.

The project develops a supportive environment of hubs, functioning through mentoring as “door openers” for RRs to enter existing entrepreneurial infrastructure. The project avoids parallel structures, but introduces recognised refugees to how, by whom and where to get the tools they need to re-start.

Approach in ENTER to TRANSFORM

The RR re-starters in NWE will be supported along the business phases stand-up, start-up and scaling; with a focus on 4 sectors: health, crafts & design, services and trade; these sectors have reported recruitment bottlenecks (Cedefop, 2018). Different to other approaches, the project supports the RR re-starters co-creatively, including a two-way integration path, and an opportunity-driven focus on entrepreneurship rather than necessity-based start-ups. Using a transnational framework, each partner region will foster social innovation by a hub roll-out based on a transnational designed pilot hub.

Outputs in ENTER to TRANSFORM

- 400 RR mentored
- 250 RR restarters with a business plan
- 150 actually started (registered as business) of which 25 created self-employment
- 4 new hubs in NWE
- an inclusive, lasting entrepreneurship network

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

- Carlow Institute of Technology
- Forschungsinstitut für innovative Arbeitsgestaltung und Prävention (FIAP e.V.)
- GROUPE SOS Pulse
- Institut für Kirche und Gesellschaft der Evangelischen Kirche von Westfalen
- Institute for Work and Technology, Westphalian University Gelsenkirchen
- La Ruche Developpement
- Letterkenny Institute of Technology
- Machbarschaft Borsig11 e.V.
- Newest Art Organization
- The World Makers Foundation
- Train of Hope Dortmund e.V.
- University of Twente

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