Refugee Sponsorship in Canada What part is reserved for Francophone communities?

RCFPP Francophone Capacity Building for the Private Sponsorship of Refugees

Partenaires du projet







Financé par :

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Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

PROJECT CONTEXT

 Diversifying channels to promote Francophone immigration

In the spirit of "By and for Francophones"

PROJECT GOALS

- Make an inventory of existing resources, adapting them in French if necessary
- Organize events and raise awareness of private sponsorship in Francophone communities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

 100 clients made aware of the benefits of private sponsorship and the resources available

30 clients informed of the private sponsorship process for refugees

THE ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1. RSTP-RCFPP Collaboration Agreement
- 2. Awareness and Training
- 3. Results

RSTP-RCFPP COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

- Recruitment of potential sponsors (RCFPP)
- Inventory and thematic classification of existing resources to facilitate access (RCFPP)
- Creation of a site (https://rcfpp.ca/) for access to resources (RCFPP)
- Training in the various stages of sponsorship and personalized accompaniment (RSTP).

AWARENESS AND TRAINING

- An awareness campaign was run on May 12, 2022 (2 hours)
- Three 6-hour question and answer sessions with no limits
- Three group training workshops on the steps of the sponsorship process
- Personalized coaching on sponsorship eligibility assessment and sponsorship file preparation.

RESULTS

- 646 registrations for the session
- 478 people connected at the peak of the session
- 271 people stayed connected until the end
- 123 people participated in the question and answer sessions
- 53 clients participated in workshops on the sponsorship process
- 16 clients have started the sponsorship process

WHAT LESSONS WERE LEARNED FROM THIS PROJECT?

- The project has generated a lot of interest and has far exceeded its targets before the end of its mandate (March 31, 2023)
- Immigrant individuals and families are very willing to sponsor loved ones in refugee status.

WHAT LESSONS WERE LEARNED FROM THIS PROJECT?

- Very limited financial means to sponsor:
 - Income limited to salary, no savings
 - Most can sponsor an individual with an in-kind contribution (room, board, clothing) to reach \$16,500/year
 - Few are able to sponsor a family of 4 (\$28,700)
 - Some are faced with the difficulty of forming groups of 5.

AND THEN WHAT?

Francophone communities expect more than just awareness building!



A REMINDER

- In 2015–2016, Canada welcomed 29,125 Syrian refugees, out of the 25,000 announced:
 - 15,665 or 54% government-sponsored refugees (GPRs)
 - 11,055 or 38% privately sponsored refugees (PSRs)
 - 2,405 or 8% of refugees referred by a visa office (RRVO)

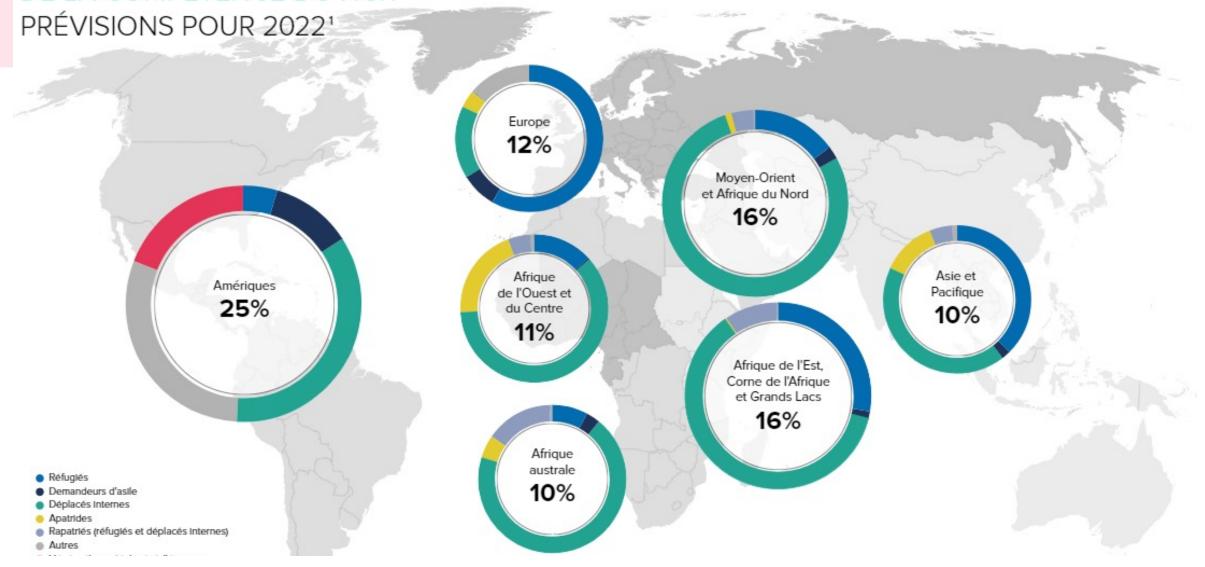
A REMINDER

- By August 2022, the country had already taken in 20,625 Afghan refugees, out of the 40,000 announced:
 - 14,450 or 70% government-sponsored refugees (GPRs)
 - 5,955 or 29% privately sponsored refugees (PSRs)
 - 220, or 1% of refugees referred by a visa office (RRVO).

Can we consider a quota for Francophone refugees in existing programs?

If not, what can be done to ensure that Francophones are not forgotten?

POPULATIONS RELEVANT DE LA COMPÉTENCE DU HCR



Profiles of French-speaking refugees

- Predominantly young families and mostly individuals (18– 35 years old).
- Professionals with high school, technical or university degrees who can easily and quickly integrate socially and professionally.
- Bilingual or already sufficiently exposed to English.

