

MIGRATION SUMMIT 2023

Call for Submissions

About the Summit

The **Migration Summit 2023**, organized by the **MIT Refugee Action Hub (ReACT)**, **Na'amal**, and **Karam Foundation**, is a month-long global convening designed to **build bridges between diverse communities** of displaced learners, universities, companies, nonprofits and NGOs, social enterprises, foundations, philanthropists, researchers, policymakers, and employers around the key challenges and opportunities for refugee and migrant communities.

The **2023 edition** of the Summit will take place during the whole month of **April** and will explore the theme, **Co-Creating Pathways to Learning, Livelihood, and Dignity** through **virtual and in-person events** hosted by participating individuals and partners around the world.

The goal of the Summit is to create **new spaces of collaboration and risk-taking** and share best practices and deeper cross-institutional connections to address these critical gaps and challenges in education and livelihood for displaced communities. The Summit's purpose is to **bridge the gaps** that perpetuate across ordinarily siloed sectors of public and private, research and practice, individual and institutional.

Leveraging the convening power of the organizing team and the contributions of global partners, the goal is to create a space for the voices of refugee, displaced, and migrant learners' and educators' solution-making. We invite participants from diverse contexts and backgrounds, individuals, groups and organizations, to work with us in designing new education systems and **solutions that promote opportunities for learning, livelihood, and dignity for displaced and migrant communities**.

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Summit Outcomes

In this Summit, we seek to:

- Activate **diverse, supportive, and energizing communities** of refugees, migrants, and displaced people and those working with them.
- Establish communities of practice to come together to **build more inclusive and equitable education and workforce systems** where refugees and displaced persons can advocate for their needs and thrive.
- Explore new ways of sharing experiences and validating indigenous knowledge that creates more **inclusive, generative, and sustainable** spaces for **systemic collaboration**.
- Establish shared forums and safe spaces for experimentation and honest discussion to **create connections and activate change**.
- Center the perspectives and experiences of **refugees and displaced** persons as we work together.
- Create **prototypes, proposals, working groups, and recommendations** that will continue post-Summit to advance education and workforce development for displaced communities.

Call for Submissions:

The Summit will be organized around sub-themes related to its theme **“Co-Creating Pathways to Learning, Livelihood, and Dignity”**, with sessions that are **part storytelling, part informative, and part design workshop**. In these interactive sessions, participants will work together to question, challenge, and improve upon existing work, generate new collaborative projects, and identify key unexplored and/or challenging areas to inform further research and investigation. Participants will be guided by session hosts and panelists through a learning journey of exploration of each others’ work, inquiry into the systemic challenges in the field, and discovery of new insights, processes, and paths forward together. **Call for submissions will be open until January 16.**



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Summit Subthemes:

Learning

Storytelling - Voices of Lived Experiences: How can we encourage the listener's imagination by presenting the challenges and opportunities that refugee and displaced communities face, through stories and narratives that evoke emotions and insights of life-lessons and lived experiences?

Opening pathways to prosperity for refugees and those displaced: How can education opportunities (pre-K to tertiary to workforce) be increased for lifelong learning in local and global contexts? What are the existing programs, challenges, impact, and student lived experiences?

Meeting the Global Compact on Refugees: How can we prepare impactful pledges while engaging local, regional and national organizations to identify opportunities and coordinated action for the inclusion of refugees in the local education systems while strengthening the capacity of these systems for all learners?

Livelihood

Employment and Entrepreneurship: How can we promote self-sufficiency, professional integration and stable livelihoods to increase economic prosperity and decent work? What are remote job opportunities to support refugee livelihood and how can those opportunities be cultivated and publicized to those who are displaced, as well as to those who can provide the opportunity? How can refugees and displaced people increase the capacity of youth in the local market by identifying opportunities in local growth sectors, establish a market niche, and anticipate and respond to demand for skills and knowledge? What are the legal challenges to employment including government policies and local customs and how can they be/have they been overcome?

Dignity

Refugee Leaders and Changemakers: How can we build effective equitable relationships, create opportunities, and manage change to create an



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organizational culture where all can excel at serving others? What conditions need to be in place for refugee leaders to thrive? How can the conversation be centered and led by refugee voices?

Building Networks and Community: How can we commit to cohesive action, build communities, connect complementary assets and strengths to increase capacity to manage relationships in a complex environment?

These questions are meant to inspire. Submissions can respond to and expand upon these themes and questions.

Session Formats:

Key information:

- Summit sessions can be **either virtual, in person** (wherever in the world) **or hybrid** (combination of physical and virtual event).
- Sessions can be either **open to the public or limited to registered Summit participants**.
- **For in-person event** submissions, we ask you to consider ways of **capturing and sharing the event outcomes with the virtual community**.
- **The Organizing Committee will work with session organizers** on refining submissions to best fit the Summit's inclusive and interactive goals.

Session types:

- Storytelling from the perspective of refugees and displaced learners and communities (written, oral, visual, digital, artistic)
- Participatory hackathons or design workshops to address key challenges and opportunities around the event subthemes
- Capacity building trainings and workshops



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- **Panel discussions** with a group of individuals gathered to discuss a topic around the event subthemes
- **Exhibit** (for example poster session or video presentation)
- **Lecture** (research-based, personal experience)

Submissions can be, but are not limited to, the formats described above. We invite you to think of other creative expressions that broker new action-oriented collaborations and lend greater insight into the realm of refugee and displaced learner education and training.

Submit your Proposal
before January 16, 2023

Questions?

Email us! migrationsummit@mit.edu.

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