**‘A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A REFUGEE’**

**at the WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, DAVOS, January 2018**

Crossroads Foundation is again bringing a simulation to Davos this year: ‘A Day in the Life of a Refugee’.

This event is not a presentation watched by an audience. It is experiential. Participants take a few steps ‘in the shoes’ of people who have been forced from home by war. There can, of course, be no one narrative for refugees as each person’s story is different. There are, however, elements of their experience which are true for many. Our storyline, developed by refugees, IDPs and aid workers, seeks to capture those issues they consider most crucial:

* Forced displacement when home is no longer safe.
* Disempowerment when one’s future is in others’ hands.
* Inability to connect with loved ones when communication is severed.
* Insufficient resource to provide proper health care, education, food, shelter, infrastructure.
* Deepened suffering when human rights are not protected.
* Vulnerability to corruption, abuse and trafficking.
* Mental agony living with past horrors: depression, trauma, PTSD.
* Depth of longing for asylum status, right of abode and right to work.

This 75-minute simulation compresses time. The ‘journey’ taken during it may, in reality, be weeks, months or much more.

All cast and crew are volunteers and themselves refugees, IDPs or people working in the humanitarian space. All participate because they long to see deepened empathy for refugees and, with that, strategic solutions found for today’s displacement challenge: one unprecedented in scale.

*Notes for press:*

* *Participation requested. Simulation activity is a lesser known form of advocacy and it is possible to misrepresent the event and its intent. We welcome press but ask, please, that you participate before reporting on it to ensure accurate understanding. If our schedule does not fit yours, we will seek to accommodate you another way.*
* *Frequently Asked Questions. We have also prepared some* [*FAQs*](http://refugee-run.org/frequently-asked-questions/) *which we ask press to read before reporting.*
* *Badges/passes. As the simulation will be held in the secure zone, press will need badges for access.*
* *Booking. We do ask members of the press, please, to let us know if you plan to attend or if you would like to use the time between regular sessions for video/photos/interviews.*

**SESSIONS**

Tues 23 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:00

Wed 24 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:30

Thurs 25 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:00

Fri 26 Jan: 09:00, 12:30

Each session starts promptly and lasts for 75 minutes.

**LOCATION**

Basement of the Hilton Garden Inn, at -1 floor. Access through hotel entrance on the Promenade, opposite Congress Centre. This is within the World Economic Forum secure zone.

**QUOTES**

**Refugees:**
“We want to bring a message to Davos so people will know more of the reality of life for refugees and IDPs, and help find solutions.” Raphael Mwandu, refugee, DR Congo
“After watching TV, people may forget what they have seen. After doing this simulation, they will remember us.” Emmanuel, refugee, Ghana

“I never thought I could talk to others about the suffering I experienced as a refugee. After people do this experience, though, I can have that conversation.” Paul, Zimbabwe

**Past participants:**
“A profound experience that reminds us of the plight of millions of forcibly displaced people.” Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General
“Beautifully done.” Sir Richard Branson, Virgin Management Ltd.
"Everyone should do this" Jimmy Wales, Founder of Wikipedia

"A remarkable experience.” Jeffrey Sachs, Director, Earth Institute, Colombia University

“Humbling, inspiring, thought-provoking and motivating. Thank you!” Jane Nelson, Harvard
"The simulation was as close to real as I could imagine.” Dan Brutto, President, UPS International

**PRESS CONTACT**

Sally Begbie

Tel: +852 9180 9260

Email: sallybegbie@crossroads.org.hk

**CROSSROADS FOUNDATION**

[Crossroads Foundation](http://www.crossroads.org.hk) is a Hong Kong based NGO which links corporations and NGOs/IGOs in order to address global challenges. It offers four global ‘crossroads’:

* Global Distribution distributes humanitarian aid locally and internationally: a *crossroads* between need and material supply.
* Global X-perience offers x-periences of global need: a crossroads between the lifestyles of the rich and poor.
* Global Handicrafts sells fair trade goods to empower the poor: a crossroads between those needing a fair income and those with buying power.
* Global Hand provides a 'matching' website for public- private partnerships: a crossroads between for-profit and non-profit organisations who wish to address global need.