

# WISE Webinars - Session Details

The webinars will present the [WISE \(Supporting Ukrainian Refugee Women's Socio-Economic Integration and Wellbeing\) ESF+ project project](#) **Holistic Support Centre (HSC) model**, share experiences from implementation in Italy and Bulgaria, and explore how this approach can be replicated in different contexts.

## ◆ Webinar sessions:

**1. Implementing Holistic Support Center and ethnopsychology approach in integrating refugee women: from concept to practice.**

📅 12 May 2026 | 🕒 13:00-14:00 CET

The first session will introduce the WISE project and the Holistic Support Centre (HSC) model, presenting how integrated, multi-dimensional services can support refugee women's integration. Participants will gain practical insights into how to establish an HSC, including key steps, roles of professionals, and approaches to creating safe and inclusive environments. The session will also explore culturally sensitive mental health support, with a focus on ethnopsychological practices.

### Speakers:

- **Sara Bonfanti** - Head of Programmes, International Rescue Committee (IRC) Italy
- **Gineva Musella** - Psychologist and Psychotherapist, specialised in individual and group psychoanalytic therapy, Centro PENC - Anthropology and Geoclinical Psychology (Milan)
- **Daria Rostirolla** - Psychotherapist and Medical Anthropologist, Centro Clinico Etnopsicologico (Laboratorio di Gruppoanalisi - LDG, Rome); collaborator with Centre Françoise Minkowska
- **Maria Tchomarova** - Mental Health Expert and Senior Psychologist and Psychoanalyst, specialised in mental health, GBV and trauma-informed care, Animus Association (Bulgaria)

**2. Supporting employment pathways: skill-based guidance with the SkillLab AI Tool**

📅 26 May 2026 | 🕒 12:30-13:30 CET

The second session will explore how skills-based approaches and AI tools can support job readiness and labour market integration for refugee women. Participants will be introduced to the concept of skills profiling and the SkillLab AI-based tool for identifying competencies and guiding career pathways. The session will also present practical insights from the field, drawing on case studies from project partners, and will conclude with a brief outlook on relevant European policy developments.

### Speakers:

- **Sylvana Hiltrop** - Senior Project Manager, SkillLab (Amsterdam), specialising in AI-based skills profiling and career guidance across the EU
- **Elisabetta Bianchin** - Programme Manager (Economic Wellbeing), International Rescue Committee (IRC), with extensive experience supporting refugees, youth and women through employment pathways and AI-based skills assessment
- **Alyona Tabunshchyk** - Project Coordinator, Animus Association Foundation (Sofia), with lived experience of displacement and a background in supporting Ukrainian refugee women through case management and integration services.
- **Olga Chizhevskaya** - Project and Partnership Officer, European Association of Regional & Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning (EARLALL)

### 3. Voices from the field: case studies, and learnings from Sofia, Turin, Milan and Rome

📅 8 June 2026 | 🕒 12:30-13:30 CET

The third session will present practical experiences from the implementation of the WISE Holistic Support Centre (HSC) model across different local contexts. Participants will gain insights into how the model is adapted on the ground, including group activities, psychosocial support (PSS), cultural orientation, and community-based initiatives such as *Women Rise*. The session will also feature case studies from beneficiaries, highlighting what worked, what challenges emerged, and key lessons learned. It will conclude with a brief overview of how outcomes are monitored and evaluated within the project.

#### **Speakers:**

- **Federica Rizzi** - Integration Counsellor, International Rescue Committee (IRC), specialising in migrant integration, youth support and digital skills development
- **Yuliia Lebed** - Integration Counsellor and Cultural Mediator, International Rescue Committee (IRC), with expertise in psychosocial support, language training and employment pathways
- **Alice Lavagno** - Integration Case Worker, International Rescue Committee (IRC), experienced in case management, social inclusion and labour market integration
- **Elena Lanteri** - Integration Counsellor, International Rescue Committee (IRC), with a background in cultural anthropology and psychosocial and employment support
- **Mila Siskovic** - MEAL & Protection Monitoring Manager, International Rescue Committee (IRC), specialising in monitoring, evaluation and protection systems
- **Elisabetta Bianchin** - Programme Manager (Economic Wellbeing), International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- **Alyona Tabunshchyk** - Project Coordinator, Animus Association Foundation (Sofia), with lived experience of displacement and a background in supporting Ukrainian refugee women through case management and integration services.

#### 4. Replicability of a gender-sensitive and holistic approach for refugee women integration.

 22 June 2026 |  12:30-13:30 CET

This session will explore how gender-sensitive and holistic approaches to refugee women's integration can be replicated across different organisational contexts, including NGOs, municipalities, social enterprises, and employment and integration services. It will feature a good practice from the Centre-Val de Loire Region (France), focusing on the professionalisation of volunteers and social workers supporting migrant women facing multiple barriers to labour market access and increased risks of gender-based violence. Participants will also reflect on challenges, success factors, and the transferability of this model to other regions.

#### **Speakers:**

- **Elisabetta Bianchin** - Programme Manager (Economic Wellbeing), International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- **Federica Rizzi** - Integration Counsellor, International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- **Elena Lanteri** - Integration Counsellor, International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Representatives of the **Centre-Val de Loire Region** (France) and **CIDFF** (Women's and Family Rights Information Centres)

Please register for the session(s) you wish to attend [here](#).