

WISE: The event will start soon....

- Please keep your microphone muted when joining.
- Rename yourself as “Name Surname - Organisation/Region”
- You may keep your camera on. Please note that photos may be taken during the session and shared on social media channels
- The session will be recorded
- The recording and presentation will be sent to all registered participants
 - If you haven't registered yet, drop your name and email in the chat
- We will collect questions in the chat and address them during the Q&A slots
 - During the Q&A, you can also raise your hand to ask questions live.

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

4 Online Webinar

22 June 2026

Supported by EARLALL Academy



Agenda

- ▶ Introduction to WISE and the Holistic Support Centre (HSC) model
- ▶ Policy perspective from Directorate for Vocational Training and Employment, Centre Val De Loire Region (France)
- ▶ Good practice from CIDFF (Center for information of women's and families' rights) identified through the SALAM Interreg Europe project
- ▶ *Interview with the CIDFF and WISE representatives*
- ▶ Q&A session
- ▶ Replication interest survey: assessing readiness and interest in adopting the model



SPEAKERS

**Elisabetta
Bianchin**

Programme Manager (Economic Wellbeing), International Rescue Committee (IRC)

**Federica
Rizzi**

Integration Counsellor from Milan, International Rescue Committee (IRC)

**Elena
Lanteri**

Integration Counsellor from Rome, International Rescue Committee (IRC)

**Gerard
Mclaughlan,
Eva Pericat**

Directorate for Vocational Training and Employment,
Centre Val de Loire Region

**Gaëlle
Thévenin**

CIDFF (Women's and Family Rights Information Centres)

Introduction to WISE project and Holistic Support Center

Elisabetta Bianchin, International Rescue Committee Italy

About the WISE Project

Donor: European Social Fund Agency (ESF-A). Social Innovation Initiative



10 April 2025 - 10 October 2026 (18 months)



Sofia (Bulgaria), Milan, Rome, Turin (Italy),
Dissemination in Europe.



Goal: Improve the socio-economic inclusion of employable refugee women from Ukraine, in Italy and Bulgaria

- Navigate the labor market (dual dilemma)
- Access to social and public services
- Mental health, psychosocial well-being, empowerment
- Stakeholders awareness at EU level



Project Consortium



Fondazione
International
Rescue
Committee
Italia (IRC)



Animus
Association
Foundation
(AAF)



Centro PENC
antropologia e
psicologia
geoclinica



Laboratorio di
Gruppoanalisi
(LdG)



SkillLab
B.V.



EARLALL



Coordination and
implementation in
Italy



ANIMUS
ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION

Implementation in
Sofia
Mental Health
support and clinical
supervision



Mental Health
support, clinical
supervision



Mental Health
and
Group PSS
activities



AI-powered
skills
assessment
tool



25 YEARS OF LIFELONG LEARNING TOGETHER



Dissemination,
Communication and
scale-up

Holistic Support Centers

WGSS methodology: safe and supportive environments for women that foster peer support and social connections; gender lens and trauma-informed approach

One-Stop-Shop model: comprehensive service delivery providing access, information and referrals for various services



Holistic Approach
Mental Health and Psycho-social support +
Employment Support -
enabled by AI-powered
digital tool

Comprehensive
Integration Plan: 1:1
case-management
and employment
support

Structured/semi-
structured/
unstructured group
activities for skills
development and
empowerment

WISE Project: Elements for replicability and scale-up

Human Resources

- ▶ Cultural and linguistic mediation (in multiple languages)
- ▶ Trauma-informed, strength-based and person-centered (user-led) approaches
- ▶ Safeguarding and gender perspective
- ▶ Ethnopsychotherapy - trauma-informed approach
- ▶ Staff mostly women

Context and other resources

- ▶ Dedicated spaces for women-only activities and for child spaces
- ▶ SKILLLAB AI Tool (to be adapted or translated)
- ▶ One-stop-shop approach: Continuous mapping and integrating with local services, particularly public ones, for referrals and collaboration
- ▶ Interdisciplinary team meetings (e.g. mental health + psychosocial support + employment)

Policy perspective

Gerard Mclaughlan and Eva Pericat,
*Directorate for Vocational Training and Employment,
Centre Val de Loire region*

Good practice from SALAM Interreg Europe Programme

Contrat Territorial d'Accueil et d'Intégration (CTAI)

(Territorial reception and integration contract)

Who takes part in the contract ?

This two-year contract is established between the Region Centre-Val de Loire and the State.

Who does it apply to ?

Newly arrived (less than 5 years), non-EU migrants intending to settle permanently.

What does it do ?

The CTAI supports the integration of newly arrived foreign nationals by improving their language skills, access to qualifications, and pathways into employment. It works to remove barriers, coordinate stakeholders, and strengthen a structured ecosystem for training and professional inclusion. It also promotes integration policies while continuously expanding its scope of action.

Professionalisation day for volunteers and social workers assisting newly arrived migrant women

Gaëlle Thévenin,
CIDFF (Women's and Family Rights Information Centres),
Centre Val de Loire region

Good practice from SALAM Interreg Europe Programme

CTAI / FR CIDFF a proposition about first-comers integration

Founded in **1972**, the CIF (Center for Information about Women), now **CIDFF** (center for information of women's and families' rights) carry out a general interest mission and execute a public service delegation contract.

National Mission Increase access to rights and socioeconomic integration

1. Empowering women to become agents of their own autonomy
2. Promoting gender equality
3. Combating gender-based and sexual violence
4. Welcoming each and every woman and offer free, comprehensive and confidential support.

Program of a CTAI formation with FR CIDFF

Morning:

➤ Concepts, facts and thoughts about female newcomers in France

General acceptance for « newcomers » concept and stereotypes
Reality by numbers about newcomers in France
Rights and laws about foreigners

Afternoon:

➤ Collective solutions

Specific problems for newcomers, especially women
Brainstorming about local network solutions
Collective perspectives and contacts
Territorial structures and network
=>Map of stakeholders



Good practice in Focus

Interview and discussion

Moderator

Elisabetta Bianchin, *Programme Manager, IRC, WISE Project*

Speakers

Gaëlle Thévenin, *CIDFF (Women's and Family Rights Information Centres),
SALAM Interreg Europe good practice*

Federica Rizzi and Elena Lanteri, *IRC, WISE Project*

What elements do you see in WISE that are shared in the Women's and Family Rights Information Centres and in the Contrat Territorial d'Accueil et d'Intégration?

How important is the relationship with stakeholders and local ecosystem of services (public, private and CSOs) in your context (France, Italy, Bulgaria), for implementing a one-stop-shop approach?

What is the role of policy-makers (and particularly regional authorities) in implementing, scaling-up or replicating this kind of initiatives?

What is important to them, to be able to implement activities?

Discussion / Q&A

Replication Interest Survey

Tell us about your organisation's interest and readiness to replicate the model.

Thank you!



Share your feedback



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SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ WISE Final Conference: 16 September 2026, Brussels