



## Call for Papers

# Refugees and Employment: Challenging Barriers and Exploring Pathways

**LONDON  
6 JULY 2006**

Researchers from the Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University have just completed extensive longitudinal and comparative fieldwork with refugee and ethnic minority workers. The aim of the research project has been to compare in detail the labour market experiences of matched samples of refugees and ethnic minorities and to uncover the barriers and difficulties faced by these groups.

A day conference is being held in London on July 6 2006 to present the research findings and to showcase good practice and policy examples together with successful training and support initiatives, enabling the economic integration of BME and refugee communities. Roger McKenzie of the TUC will chair the conference and there will be keynote speeches from Patrick Wintour of the Employability Forum and Alice Bloch of City University.

There will be a number of thematic workshops at the conference, which will focus upon an open discussion of the research and policy issues. This will provide an opportunity for researchers, policymakers and representatives from the trade unions and voluntary/ community organisations to come together and share ideas on the overarching theme of refugees and employment.

The workshops will address all aspects of employment and will be organised around the central theme of challenging barriers to employment. Specifically, workshops will focus on:

- processes of exclusion and inclusion; causes of unemployment and underemployment
- training – access to vocational training/ academic education
- language and education
- the contribution of refugees – social and economic
- the impact of government policies on asylum seekers and refugees
- the well-being of refugees
- refugee women in the labour market

We welcome papers on a wide range of themes concerning the barriers refugees and ethnic minorities face in the labour market and ways of overcoming them. We encourage proposals for papers that take an interdisciplinary approach.



Paper abstracts should be approximately 500 words and should be submitted by May 19th 2006 to Jacqueline Applebee: [j.applebee@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:j.applebee@londonmet.ac.uk). Complete papers are due by June 29th 2006.

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For further information about the final conference, contact:

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