Center for Mediterranean Integration
Workshop on
Social Cohesion for Host Municipalities

November, 10-12th, 2016
The CMI: A Multi-partner Platform Focusing on Regional Public Goods

The **Center for Mediterranean Integration**: a multi-partner platform and a WB Satellite Office of the MENA region. **Who?** development agencies, governments, local authorities and civil society from around the Mediterranean. **How?**: exchange knowledge, discuss public policies, and identify the solutions needed to address key challenges facing the Mediterranean.

**5 Themes with an overarching thematic focus:**
- **Youth**
- **Education, Innovation, Employability**
- **Refugees and Mobility**
- **Violent Extremism**
- **Climate Change (Water & Energy)**
- **Territorial Cohesion and Urban Development**
CMI Refugees and Mobility Program

Objective: to disseminate existing knowledge and evidence on development solutions to forced displacement by convening its networks and partners, develop consensus around policy adjustments with regard to both host communities and refugees, and advocate for the need to rally the MENA diaspora more proactively.

Pillar 1: Addressing the Welfare of Host and Refugees Communities: Supporting local authorities with evidence-based knowledge and peer-learning to improve their capacity in priority public service delivery to their populations and the most vulnerable, including refugees.

Pillar 2: Supporting refugee inclusion for common welfare in host countries

Pillar 3: Supporting diaspora mobilization

Pillar 1 Activities:
Peer-to-Peer Learning Workshop for Communities Hosting Refugees (Amman, May/June 2016)

Host Municipalities Network

- Targeted Peer-to-Peer Workshops on priority sectors (Solid Waste Management, Social Cohesion, Health…)
- Good Practice Compendium for knowledge sharing
- Annual Peer-to-Peer Learning Workshop for Host Municipalities (Spring 2017)
Survey Findings of the Amman event: Priority Sectors Identified by Host Municipalities

During the CMI Survey, 86% of municipalities reported an increase in social tensions as a result of refugee influx.

Factors that increase social tensions within municipalities:
- competition for jobs and housing,
- additional pressure on public services,
- increase in prices,
- the arrival of different customs and traditions.

To what extent do you believe that the refugee crisis has increased social tensions in your town?
Action for Social Cohesion in Host Communities

At the onset of a forced displacement crisis, social cohesion should be included in crisis programming, with increased coordination between the local, national and international levels.

Innovative solutions for social cohesion should target language courses, primary health services, psychosocial support, and awareness raising between local and refugee populations.

Local governments contribute to the development of local approaches and solutions to mitigate risks of insecurity and violence, to resolve conflict, and to build social cohesion.

Municipalities need to better communicate and coordinate with NGOs on their mandate and how coordination for social cohesion could be improved.
If you want to join please contact us at: refugees@cmimarseille.org
Thank you and enjoy Your Workshop!