**‘A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A REFUGEE’**

**at the WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, DAVOS, January 2017**

Crossroads Foundation is again bringing a simulation to Davos this year: ‘A day in the life of a refugee’.

This is a powerful experiential programme in which participants encounter, first hand, some of the issues faced by refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Our refugee colleagues often quote the old proverb: “You cannot understand a man until you have walked a mile in his shoes”. While we cannot re-create anything like a ‘mile’, this simulation does offer a few steps in the shoes of those displaced. They, along with other aid workers, helped design the narrative for this simulation. They advised us to focus on ethnic conflict, military arrogance, opportunistic corruption, disempowerment, frustration and other issues typically faced, offering participants a brief encounter with some of the struggles and choices they live with daily.

After the simulation, refugees, field workers and others discuss with participants how they can give strategic help to the increasing number of those facing this tragic challenge.

*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 17 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:00

Wed 18 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:30

Thurs 19 Jan: 09:00, 12:30, 16:00

Fri 20 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**

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**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.