


# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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# FOREWORD FROM CHAIRPERSON



On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present the Annual Audit Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2023. The Annual Audit Report provides NCP's financial statements, marking an operative and practical use of resources to deliver services and support migrants in Ireland. In 2023, we have achieved phenomenal service delivery results and will continue our work to support migrants who need our services.

I want to start by expressing my appreciation to our members, staff, and volunteers, who have worked determinedly to ensure our clients' needs were met. NCP has delivered a year of solid execution and outstanding performance while continuing to make strategic progress.

The demand for our services has increased enormously this year as more migrants face obstacles and barriers to accessing public services. Calls to our helpline and visits to our centres have also increased. NCP has adapted to this demand and remains resolute in our commitment to work collaboratively to improve education, employability, promote integration, tackle discrimination, and engage migrants with local authorities and other agencies.

In 2023, NCP team expanded our support services to help migrants access the labour market, providing information on child protection and safeguarding, training on migrant positive parenting, cultural support, social inclusion, youth capacity building, and citizenship and immigration information. We also supported stakeholders and partnering organisations at both local and national levels.

Our work complements that of government services and other NGOs. We recognise that enhancing the lives of people from diverse backgrounds requires diverse approaches. As an organisation whose workforce hails from Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America and whose member groups span 65 countries of origin, NCP is well-placed to understand and identify the best processes for enriching the lives of migrants in Ireland.

Our 2023 strategy exceeded expectations and demonstrated outstanding performance across all our programmes, with solid and effective service delivery, client satisfaction, and migrant engagement. Over the past year, we have decreased our financial deficit while continuing to support our clients. These achievements give us confidence in our ability to generate growth and added value moving forward.

Looking ahead, we will continue to provide the best support services in line with the increasing demand. We will ensure high-quality services using the organisation's scale and staff capabilities. Underpinning our purpose is a determination to operate the organisation in a way that is sensitive to the current and future needs of the migrant communities and clients we serve.

Thank you for your continued support,

Iker Erdocia  
Chairperson





**New Communities Partnership (NCP) is a national community development organisation dedicated to representing and empowering ethnic minority-led groups in Ireland. NCP aims to influence positive changes in policies impacting the lives of ethnic minorities. The organisation envisions an intercultural and inclusive Irish society where migrant groups achieve equality in economic, social, political, cultural, and educational aspects of life. Each member group within NCP brings unique backgrounds, experiences, and histories. However, they share a common thread: their status as migrant-led and migrant-focused organisations. This commitment to centering migrant voices distinguishes NCP and shapes its vision, identity, and focus.**



## **MISSION**

**We offer nationally a range of services and support to all migrants as individuals, families and groups in areas such as social inclusion, child protection, education, training, employment, cultural understanding, and citizenship.**

## **VISION**

**We strive to be an inclusive organisation, representing and empowering migrant communities in Ireland**



# STRATEGIC GOALS

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**Ensure the representation and participation of ethnic minorities at all levels in Irish society to influence positive change and inform policies that impact migrants' lives.**



**Deliver targeted training that enhances the delivery of better services to people from migrant communities in Ireland and promotes cultural understanding in Irish society.**



**Promote and sustain effective economic participation, integration, and social inclusion initiatives for migrant communities at local, regional, and national levels.**



**Promote awareness of, improve access to, and develop tailored services for migrants in the local community in Ireland.**



**Prevention and Early Intervention: raising awareness about child protection practices, positive parenting, and engagement in Ireland for asylum seekers, refugees, migrant parents, religious leaders, and ethnic minority groups.**





## TOGETHER WE GROW

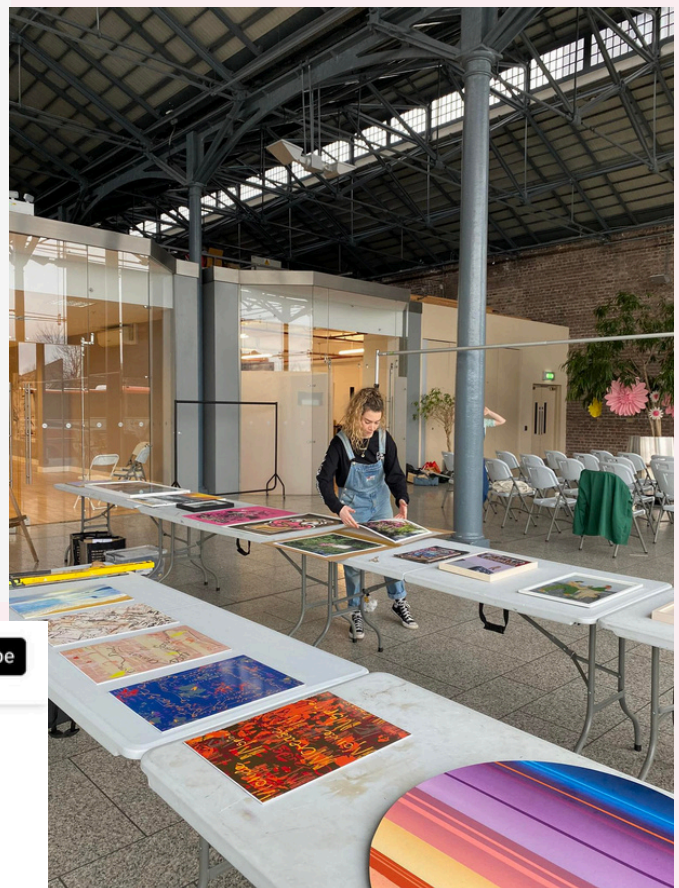
NCP in collaboration with EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum and The Green Roots Project organised an exhibition of visual art celebrating the continued growth of a diverse and multicultural Ireland. The event took place at St. Patrick's weekend in the CHQ building on the 18th and 19th of March from 12pm to 5pm.

The exhibition brought together 15 artists from diverse backgrounds who represented Ireland's vibrant multitude of cultures, promoting and representing inclusion in the Irish Art industry. The exciting line up of artists include painters, printmakers, street artists and glass-workers.

**Together We Grow**  
18 & 19 March 2023  
A group exhibition with

Abi Ighodaro  
Alex De Roek  
Exist 247  
Helen O'Sullivan  
Brianna Marshall Crowe  
Hollie Gilson  
Horhaydesign  
Kerry Ann Gorman  
K8olo  
Kate Power  
Kayde Middleton  
Lera Vitrazh  
Niall O'Lochlainn  
Shane Ha  
Yeewen Wong

CHQ building  
Custom House Quay  
Dublin 1



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### Exploration of EPIC proportions in Dublin

At Dublin's EPIC museum, which celebrates and educates on Ireland's heritage and history, dive deep into the growth of our country's diverse and vibrant culture. On March 18 and 19, between 12pm and 5pm, visitors can explore the special exhibition, created by 14 artists from diverse backgrounds, which shines a light on Ireland's rich cultural fabric.

The display is in collaboration with the New Communities Partnership (NCP) and The Green Roots Project and is free to view.

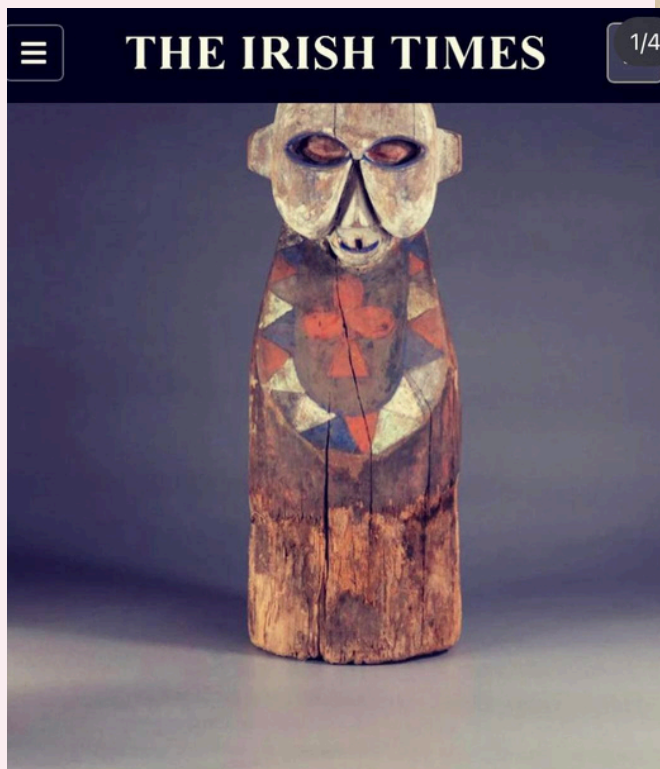
The event was considered one of the top attractions to visit that weekend in Dublin by Irish Independent.



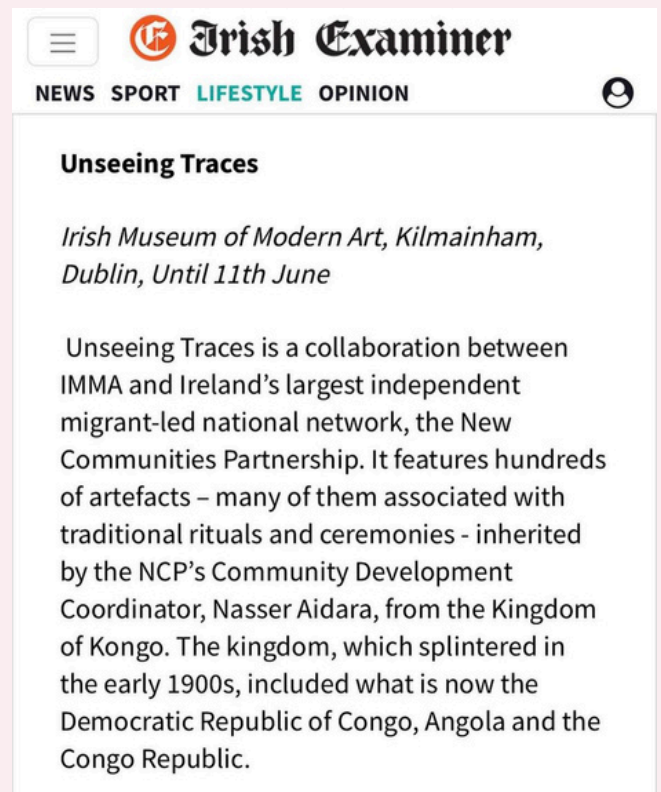


Developed by NCP in collaboration with IMMA, Unseeing Traces presented artefacts from the Kingdom of Kongo to explore displacement, colonialism, race, and representation. The exhibition was available to the public from April 15th – June 11th in the Project Space at IMMA.

The exhibition gained much mainstream publicity (see some of them below).



Unseeing Traces at IMMA is a community project developed by the gallery in collaboration with New Communities Partnership



# WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2023

NCP celebrated the first-ever Refugee Week in Ireland and World Refugee Day on the 20 June around the world by sharing stories of refugees on our social media channels and website. The online campaign aimed to pay homage to refugees' journeys and the vibrant diversity and positive difference they bring to Ireland.

FIRST EVER IRISH REFUGEE WEEK

# REFUGEE WEEK IRELAND

19-25 OF JUNE



IRELAND UNITES IN CELEBRATING WORLD REFUGEE WEEK, EMBRACING HOPE, DIVERSITY, AND RESILIENCE, AS WE FOSTER EMPATHY AND BUILD BRIDGES OF COMPASSION FOR A BRIGHTER, AND MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE.



**n**cp  
New Communities Partnership

## WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2023

### KIRILL KOLESNIKOV



From war-torn Ukraine to a boxing ring of hope, Kirill's journey embodies resilience and determination.

### MOHAMMAD AND ARSOULA



War couldn't dim their spirits. From Syria to Ireland, Mohammad Baghdadi and Arsoula Louis found solace, love, and new beginnings here in Ireland.

## WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2023

### AMANI



Inspiring Change Through Health and Empowerment. Hear about Amani, a Palestinian woman, and devoted mother, who came to Ireland to advocate for health, education, and community well-being.





## INTERCULTURAL FAMILY FESTIVAL

On July 8th, NCP held our first in-person Intercultural Family Festival since 2019. The festival welcomed more than 100 attendees to enjoy live music, cultural performances, food, and arts and crafts for children at St. Mary's Primary School.



## INTERCULTURAL FAMIL DAY

The annual end-of-year Intercultural Family Festival, which was held at the RIU Plaza Hotel on December 9th, kicked off with three speeches from Councilor Janet Horner, Garda Sudita Zalli, and NCP Board member Marguerite Bourke. We celebrated with food, festivities, art activities, Santa, and presents with over 100 migrant families.



# NETWORKING & DISSEMINATION

## NATIONAL & EU LEVEL



On the left our CEO Cherif Labreche at the 8th European Congress of Local Governments in Mikolajki, Poland. Among with other speakers the panel is discussing Local Government and National Minorities.

March 7th.

Below Sevak Khachatryan, NCP's Communications Officer, represented NCP at the European Migrant Network and ESRI conference on migrant integration in Ireland on March 30th . He was joined panel discussion together with Chief Executive of Community Foundation Ireland Denise Charlton, CEO of Immigrant Council of Ireland Brian Killoran & a representative of Ukrainian Action in Ireland.



On the right our CEO Cherif Labreche together with Dr. Roisin O'Shea & Joseph Ateb from IPMO & Mary Connors Aldridge, CEO of Minceiri Port Láirge, getting ready for a panel discussion on Integration at The Wheel Summit 2023 in Croke Park.



# NETWORKING & DISSEMINATION NATIONAL & EU LEVEL



We continue attending different online and in-person events and conferences at the National and EU levels, including as a keynote speaker, representing NCP and showcasing our work in Ireland and Europe.

On the left is the poster one of the two interviews our communication officer Sevak Khachatryan had with the Dublin City FM on the 8th of August.

## SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE

We continue to have a strong online presence promoting NCP's services and events. Through our online campaigns, we share the latest news, policies, and developments regarding migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in Ireland. We are active on Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube, and Eventbrite. We utilise Google Analytics and Meta Business Suite to track NCP's online engagement through detailed monthly reports. As of December 2023, NCP has grown to over **8,053 followers** across our social media profiles.





## MIGRANT FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE (MFSS)

Migrant Family Support Service (MFSS), established in January 2014 and supported by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, delivers culturally sensitive support and advocacy services to migrant families who are experiencing child protection interventions. The service offers practical advice and support to migrant families, foster families and social workers. The MFSS also works with existing child protection and family support services, to promote the common goal of positive outcomes for migrant families.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN 2023

### Operations:

**17,000** Helpline and Case Work activities

**803** Drop-in Clinics

**412** Outreach Activities

### Parents spoke

**35%** no English.

**41%** basic English language and literacy skills.

### Referrals

**100 new** referrals 56% of which were from TUSLA departments and social services, 44% were self-referrals, 86% were children identified as at risk, and 14% were families with children in care.

### Children First Training

**186** Parents at IPAS Centres, **70** individual sessions at MFSS drop-in clinics.

The infographic features a central illustration of a family (a man, a woman, and a child) sitting on a colorful, stylized landscape. The NCP logo is in the top left. The main title 'Migrant Family Support Service (MFSS)' is prominently displayed in the center, with the tagline 'Free and Confidential Support Service for Migrant Families' below it. A circular diagram titled 'WHAT WE OFFER' lists various services: Child Protection Training for migrant parents, Helpline and information sessions, Outreach, drop-in clinics and one to one support, Cultural Awareness Training for professionals, Information and advocacy for migrant families, Cultural support for front line professionals, and Referral to/from external services. The bottom section describes the New Communities Partnership (NCP) as an independent National Network of more than 150 immigrant-led groups comprising 45 nationalities, and notes that MFSS is funded by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency. Contact information for NCP and TUSLA logos are also included.

**Migrant Family Support Service (MFSS)**  
MFSS aims to support migrant families who experience child protection interventions.

**WHAT WE OFFER**

- Child Protection Training for migrant parents
- Helpline and information sessions
- Outreach, drop-in clinics and one to one support
- Cultural Awareness Training for professionals
- Information and advocacy for migrant families
- Cultural support for front line professionals
- Referral to/from external services

**New Communities Partnership (NCP)**  
NCP is an independent National Network of more than 150 immigrant-led groups comprising 45 nationalities. In addition to being the largest migrant led network in Ireland, NCP also offers a number of services that assist migrant individuals, families & groups with social inclusion, child protection, education, training, employment, cultural understanding & citizenship.

MFSS is funded by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency

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**TUSLA**  
An Chomhairle Náisiúnta  
Leasúcháin agus Tuisceána



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In 2023, the MFSS successfully processed up to **17,000** Family Support and Case Work activities. Our strategy focused on two fundamental elements: Prevention and Child Protection Proceedings by providing comprehensive and tailored support to migrant parents and actively engaging with families already involved with child protection social work teams, foster care social workers, GAL, and legal teams.

In 2023, we significantly provided comprehensive services through **803** Drop-In Clinics, a notable increase in demand for tailored parenting educational sessions. Over **70** referrals where parents were supported to understand and learn specific elements for positive parenting and addressing children's challenging behaviour.

The MFSS team conducted **412** outreach activities, including various essential services such as court visits and interagency meetings. We conducted a total of **17** home visits, specifically catering to clients who face mobility challenges or have special needs.

In 2023, we processed a total of **100** new referrals, continuing the growing demand for our support. The majority of our referrals, accounting for **86%**, were for children identified as at risk. This significant percentage reflects the critical need for interventions aimed at supporting parents to safeguard their children. Additionally, **14%** of our referrals involved families with children in care.

A notable **35%** of our referrals involve individuals who speak no English. This highlights a critical barrier to accessing services and integrating into the community. Basic Language and Literacy Skills: Furthermore, **41%** of our clients possess only basic English language and literacy skills.

Child protection awareness training is conducted on a monthly basis at IPAS centres total of **139** parents received training on the Guidelines of Children First Act, 2015. In addition, **70** parents received Children First Information at our drop-in clinics. Foster carers received tailored information sessions on Cultural Awareness for Foster carers. Additional Cultural awareness sessions were provided through our helplines to individual social workers and family support teams at the NGO'. Group training was provided at the Salvation Army for **12** Family Support workers.



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## **SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP)**

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) focuses on reducing poverty and promoting social inclusion and equality through local and regional engagement and collaboration. Its vision is to improve the life chances and opportunities of those who are marginalised in society, living in poverty or unemployment through community development approaches like the involvement of migrants at all levels in society. The service was established in April 2015 and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), and the European Social Fund (ESF) through POBAL.

### **Individual Intervention**

We have continued to utilise the traditional model of; E-mails, Phone calls and face-to-face meetings for our individual interventions. International Protection Claims, Asylum, Citizenship, and GNIB/IRP card renewal have constituted the main aspects of our interventions. 25 new individuals were registered in the first quarter of 2023.

- 8 Citizenship applications
- 6 Irish passport renewal
- 5 travel document applications
- 5 for IRP/GNIB renewal
- 20 individuals in English classes
- 51 were given support via helpline and drop-in clinics, including referrals from LDCs, Government Services, Statutory and non-statutory bodies

### **Group Engagement**

We are still working on methodologies and approaches that will empower migrant groups and communities, raise their collective voices on issues that affect them and ensure that all decision-makers at local and national levels are directly informed by first-hand experiences.

### **Networking**

We established, developed and strengthened working relationships with our partner organisations and public bodies such as Recruit Refugees, Safetynet, PPN, Crosscare, Intercultural Language Service, County Councils & Local Authorities nationwide, Intreo Offices, Homeless Units, DCC & Fingal Integration Offices, Community Action Network & City-Wide, TUS Back-To-Work Programme, UCD Research Institute, NEIC Community Art Project, and recently IMMA, and EPIC.



## UKRANIAN MOTHERS CLUB



The invasion of Ukraine sparked the biggest refugee crisis in Europe since WW 2, but also a wave of solidarity as thousands opened their homes to Ukrainians. The EU, which had never used the 2001 Temporary Protection Directive before, granted millions of Ukrainian refugees the temporary protection right for up to three years, giving them rights to work and access to education, healthcare, social welfare, and housing. The NCP Support Group for Ukrainian Mothers was created to improve the life quality of women who fled the Russian-Ukrainian war with their children.

### 2023 Activities

- Regular meetings in NCP's head office (26 adults and 12 children)
- Regular engagement and updates on WhatsApp Group include social welfare entitlements, child and adult education opportunities, healthcare, state housing programs, employment/vacancies requiring knowledge of the Ukrainian language, etc.
- An Online Meeting was organized on the Challenges of Ukrainian Families and Children living in different accommodation settings in Ireland.
- Active participation in the Intercultural Family Festival, The Ukrainian Children's and Adult Choirs, and engaging with the Ukraine Community Centre in Rathmines.
- Individual practical support to the group members with accessing continued education, college admissions, and professional skill building.
- Contacting organizations on behalf of the group: MyMind, Turn2Me, HEA, QQI, SUSI, Dublin City Council, Art Council, Gaiety School of Acting, Rathmines College, Irish Athletic Boxing Association, ETBI, CDETB, Local Enterprise Ireland, The Wheel, CORU, Irish Medical Council, Law Society of Ireland, and more.

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## **MIGRANT ENGAGEMENT (SNNO)**

NCP’s Migrant Engagement program is responsible for initiating, maintaining, and developing a sustainable working relationship with key groups and individuals engaged with NCP and actively promoting awareness of social inclusion, integration, and anti-poverty issues in the new communities.

In 2023, We continue providing the best support service in line with the increasing demand; using the organization’s scale and staff capabilities, we will ensure the provision of high-quality services.

The development of NCP’s 2023 – 2027 Strategic Plan was created in consideration of these inputs and feedback while recognizing the importance of flexibility and adaptability in response to unforeseen local or national changes. , the essence of the SSNO core funding is built upon the expectations of individuals of individuals, families, and members we serve, as well as the stakeholders, including funders and communities, who rely on us.

## **CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION SUPPORT SERVICE (CASS)**

CASS provides information and one-to-one advice services for individuals and families applying for Irish naturalization. Help is available in different languages. CASS assists with citizenship applications, passport applications, and general inquiries about eligibility, immigration, etc.

**Phone Calls: 2,850**

**Drop-ins: 511**

**Referrals: 254**

**Citizenship Applications 314**





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## Citizenship Application Support Service (CASS)

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## Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

### Support Group for Ukrainian Mothers

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Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



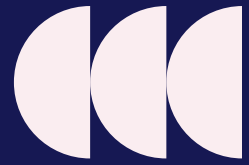
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# THANK YOU

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Scan the QR code for more information

