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*During the workshop I will tell what we do as a Foundation.*

The Ocalenie Foundation has been operating since 2000. In three cities in Poland: Warsaw, Łódź, Łomża we run Help Centres for Foreigners, within which we providing support in contacts with offices, schools, and health service, providing legal assistance, offering psychological support for children and adults, providing career counselling support, offering free of charge Polish language courses, providing material aid, responding to humanitarian crises.

*How we support people with refugee and migration experience in the labor market*

In career counseling we conduct individual consultations, workshops, meetings with representatives of companies for migrants and refugees. In 2023 there were people from 35 countries. We focus primarily on the fact that people who are looking for support, during meetings with us, gain knowledge, learn about themselves, look for opportunities for development in the labor market that is new to them. We support people at various stages of their stay in Poland, regardless of what stage of the residence procedure they are at. When it's the initial stage, the person, even though he or she doesn't yet have access to the labor market, needs to know as much as possible, to understand how things work, to feel safe. This is when learning Polish most often begins. People who have been in Poland for several years, who are getting better at speaking Polish, feel they need a change. They consider returning to a profession that they did in their country of origin, while the language barrier was an obstacle to doing this profession in Poland. Or they consider to gain a new profession. When it is necessary to confirm competence, we direct individuals to professional courses. We support in the process of diploma notification as well.

*We will talk about cross-sector cooperation, what is worth improving and what good is already coming out of this cooperation:*

It is very important that the various forms of support that people can find in NGOs, business or public institutions become systemic support. The more there is cooperation between the three parties, the more those who need this support will benefit.

*I will present some good practices of our cooperation with business in 2023:*

- 24 people raised their professional competence in cosmetology, floristry, tailoring, computer graphics, accounting, specialized authorizations (forklifts, welding),
- the first French-language forklift course in Poland was created, allowing people to gain a profession and the authorization to practice it before their knowledge of Polish would allow them to do so.
- 20 people took part in digital competence courses.
- in 2022-2023, in cooperation with IKEA, we conducted 2 editions of internships for people with refugee experience as part of the global Skills for Employment project. The pilot in 2022 was attended by 10 people in Warsaw, in the second edition of 2023 the project expanded to 4 cities (Warsaw, Krakow, Lodz, Gdansk), it was attended by 56 people.

*I'd like to encourage you to work together:*

We will look at success stories of people from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Cameroon and Congo. Together we will reflect on the support algorithm in each case, and then we will learn the true finale of each story.