COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WITH REFUGEES: TOWARDS A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

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The UN has argued that international migration will become the major demographic issue of the 21st century. Within this growing population of migrants, there is a substantial number of refugees, displaced by war, violence or environmental disaster in their own countries and seeking asylum elsewhere, often on a permanent basis. How do these refugees - who now number about 30 million worldwide – cope with adjusting to conditions in their new countries and rebuild community networks of support? The role of community development can be critical in providing support through a number of means – helping with education and training, accessing services, building organisations, networking across countries, and ensuring that basic needs are met. This groundbreaking collection of longer articles and short case studies, drawing on experience from 13 countries, provides a truly international perspective on the meaning of community development with refugees. It offers both theoretical perspectives to inform action and action-oriented case studies to shape theory.

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