



Faire – investing in refugee entrepreneurs through a philanthropic structure

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Faire is a private endowment fund with a philanthropic structure funded in 2018 by Nick Nopporn Suppipat, a political refugee from Thailand and former business owner of the first windmill renewable energy company in South-East Asia.

FAIRE supports entrepreneurs from a forced migration background who came to France because of conflict, economic or political reasons. Unlike other organizations offering language training and support for migrants to become entrepreneurs, FAIRE focuses on early-stage support in the life cycle and the value chain of refugee-owned businesses, from ideation to hard launch. FAIRE operates three programs:

1. *Incubation program.* This is the largest of FAIRE's programs at the core of FAIRE's mission. It consists in supporting those who already have developed their entrepreneurial idea and need financial and technical support to implement it. FAIRE helps entrepreneurs refine their business plan, marketing/commercial/development strategy, or legal structure (as needed), and provides interest-free loans to help them start a business that has opportunity to scale. In this sense, the loans represent the initial capital of the start-up businesses, or "love money". The program accepts entrepreneurs with ideas from any business sector but requires that the business be based in France and have a goal to become at minimum a SME. It connects refugee entrepreneurs with sector-specific mentors and experts. To participate, refugees need to have an initial stability, such as housing and finalized legal status (whether as a refugee, migrant, or other), and either proof of concept or proof of market (the fund will finance prototype-building for example). Hence, the program is the next step after programs targeting newly arrived refugees or migrants who are not sure about their potential entrepreneurial path.
2. *Donation program.* FAIRE also funds existing incubator programs, that provide basic business training and accompaniment from ideation to soft launch, and that support a variety of refugee and migrant-owned businesses, such as

PS4R Charter Alignment

This case corresponds to the 'investment' theme of the PS4R Charter of Good Practice, reflecting in particular on principle 7 on **resilience**, 8 on **inclusion** and 9 on **instruments**. It also corresponds to the 'entrepreneurship' theme, reflecting principle 3 on **capacity building** and 4 on **financing**.

Global partners:



microenterprises, start-ups.

3. *Advocacy program*: FAIRE also funds research and communication campaigns to change the narrative around refugee entrepreneurs.

Know more: <https://www.faire.eu/>

Global partners:

