

UDI

Return of irregular and vulnerable migrants

Exploring opportunities and challenges

EMN - 4 December 2015 Brussel

Talk about :

Irregular migrants not in contact with the authorities – reaching out with information on return; experiences and study findings from Norway – EMN study 2015

Information, return and reintegration for vulnerable migrants in Norway – few words

The Uni Rokkan study:

http://www.udi.no/globalassets/global/forskning-fou_i/retur/out-reach---informasjon-om-frivillig-retur-til-irregulare-migranter-utenfor-mottak.pdf

Why irregular migrants not in contact with the authorities:

Credibility of immigration policy, especially asylum policy (one of the main groups subject to return measures for 2015)

But also:

The migrant's perspective – vulnerable status as a consequence of irregularity. If particularly vulnerable from before – even more vulnerable in irregularity

Target group for the EMN study:

Former asylum seekers

Visa/ residence over-stayers

- Immigrants who have never been in contact with the authorities (illegal entry and stay; victims of trafficking)

Estimate by June 2015: 18 100 (to 56 000)

Legal framework and entities who provide information on return to the target group

Ministry of Justice and Public Security - responsibility for formulating and coordinating government's refugee and immigration policy

Government determines budget, UDI allocates funds to relevant organizations which set targets for outreach projects

How information on return is disseminated is regulated by soft law instruments

Entities that provide information about return to the target group

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) implements government's policy on (voluntary*) assisted return. (main actor)

Others that have a formal role in dissemination of information:
The Immigration Appeals Board
The Police

In addition: state based entities that play (not systematically) a role in the dissemination of information
Health and education authorities
Municipality based (Pro Center, Street patrol)
National Labour and Welfare Services

Entities....

IOM is the main partner in implementing the information program

UDIs assigned specially for the task caseworkers

Specially trained in communication about return reception workers

Interest organisations: numbers of project partners has increased since 2007 –

Legal aid organisations,

Immigrant organisations

Faith based organisations (Caritas, Salvation Army, imams
(on occasional bases)

Approaches, tools and methods in use:

Yearly campaigns; public spaces / transport (do campaigns work?)

Webpage(s)

Leaflets. Stories of return (IOM)

Drop in clinics, f2f consultations

Meetings in coffee shops

Radio, newsletters; media and its role

Festivals

Training of trainers sessions

Capacity building in the relevant network

Main challenges in reaching target group with information on return:

- Applicants have little interest in information about return
 - Establishing contact difficult
- Difficult to design information that reaches target group;
 - which channels work ? and which don't?
 - Gaining and keeping trust
 - Multitude of languages
- Some sub groups more difficult to reach than others

Main findings

Trust issues

Target group not interested

Little difference in knowledge and access to information

on AR between:

those irregular migrants who live in and
those who live outside reception centres.

Migrants' access to information can pose

challenges: Fragmented and ambiguous.

Complex process, variety of actors involved and that can

lead to differing answers.

Main findings

The information design is not always well-suited to the recipient:
Migrants' feel their situation is not taken seriously,
Migrants' view AVR program solely as a commodity with a money focus,
Information providers lack (updated) knowledge about country of return; this may contribute to inability to address these issues.

Main findings

The migrant (former asylum seeker) will be more motivated to discuss return options if:

- They understand the basis for the asylum rejection:
 - Why was an asylum application rejected?
- What are the realistic possibilities of a change in the government's decision

Main findings...

- * Unfortunate that message about forced returns often presented at the same time as information about AVR.

Potential risk that information on AVR is too strongly linked to forced return

Providing AR information very early in asylum process can cause concern about how their application is being treated. On the other hand providing it early is proven important.

What next:

Better coordination and information exchange between
information providers

Capacity building of staff who provide information and
among NGOs/ other entities

Web portal with updated and comprehensive information
on return (administrated by NGOs)

Update and improve website service and easier access to
return information on UDI website

Stress dissemination of accurate and updated information
on post return

Consider use of social media

Expand areas of information spread - libraries

Information, return and reintegration for vulnerable migrants

Target group:

UAMs, Aged-out minors, Victims of trafficking, Migrants with medical needs, Other vulnerable migrants ...

IOM in partnership with national immigration and health authorities, embassies, legal guardians, reception and care centers, shelters

Methods of information:

**The classics (brochure, webpage, F2F)
Skype as a tool in information sessions with VoT
Targeted information activity towards partner organisations
special poster**

VG - results

2012 (1.7.2012 - 31.12.2012):

Total : 14

CT: 7 (6 ROU, 1 NGA)

UAM: 3 (2 IRQ, 1 ALB)

OTHER: 4 (3 ALB, 1 CHL)

2013:

Total : 36

CT: 5 (3 ROU, 1 NGA, 1 NPL)

UAM: 12 (3 KGZ, 2 XXK, 2 UKR, 1 RUS, 1 ALB, 1 TUN, 1 KEN, 1 SRB)

AOM: 3 (1 XXK, 1 BiH, 1 PAK)

MED: 8 (1 NPL, 1 SRB, 1 BEN, 1 CHN, 1 BDI, 1 BGD, 1 TUR, 1 UZB)

OTHER: 8 (2 COL, 4 NGA, 1 GTM, 1 LKA)

2014:

Total: 41

CT: 15 (9 NGA, 2 ALB, 1 MNG, 1 LVA, 1 ETH, 1 PAK)

UAM: 6 (3 XXK, 2 ALB, 1 MNG)

AOM: 5 (1 UGA, 1 ALB, 1 IRN, 1 GMB, 1 RUS)

MED: 6 (1 UGA, 1 BiH, 1 CHN, 1 RUS, 1 PHL, 1 IRN)

OTHER: 9 (3 IND, 2 RUS, 2 PHL, 1 THA, 1 UGA)

2015 per november:

Total: 55

CT: 13 (8 ROU, 3 NGA, 2 MNG)

UAM: 11 (7 ALB, 1 ETH, 1 IND, 1 SLV, 1 BRA)

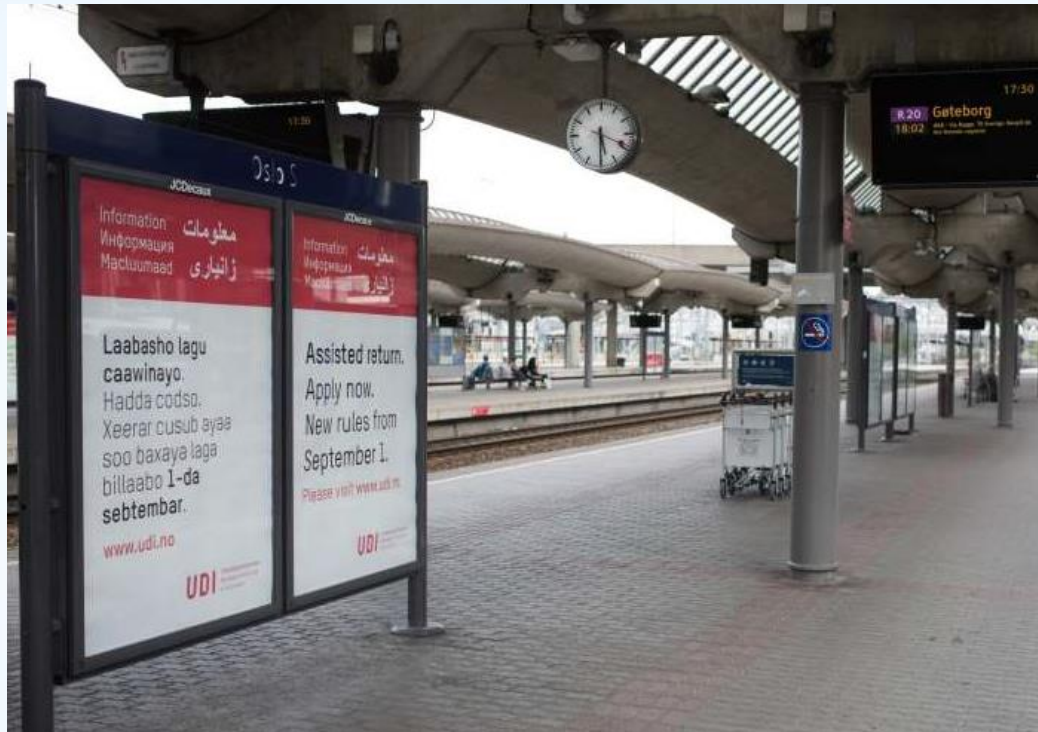
AOM: 8 (1 IRN, 1 GMB, 1 XXK, 1 MAR, 1 MNG, 1 ISR, 1 TUR, 1 ALB)

MED: 11: (3 RUS, 2 BGD, 1 DJI, 1 VNM, 1 IRN, 1 TUN, 1 NGA, 1 MKD)

OTHER: 12: (4 KEN, 3 NGA, 2 BRA, 1 SRB, 1 PHL, 1 RUS)



UDIs campaign summer 2015



Thank you for your attention!
Not enough?
Ask: ditj@udi.no