



**Understanding the migration-vocational education nexus.  
Constraints and potentials.  
The effect of return migration programmes.**

Bettina Fellmer, Skills for reintegration | Vienna 21.01.2020

## Overview

1. Foundations of GIZ work in the field of returnee reintegration
2. Sustainable Reintegration: Methodological approaches and practical examples from the programme “Sills for reintegration”
3. Evaluation and Monitoring: Challenges, lessons learned and recommendations

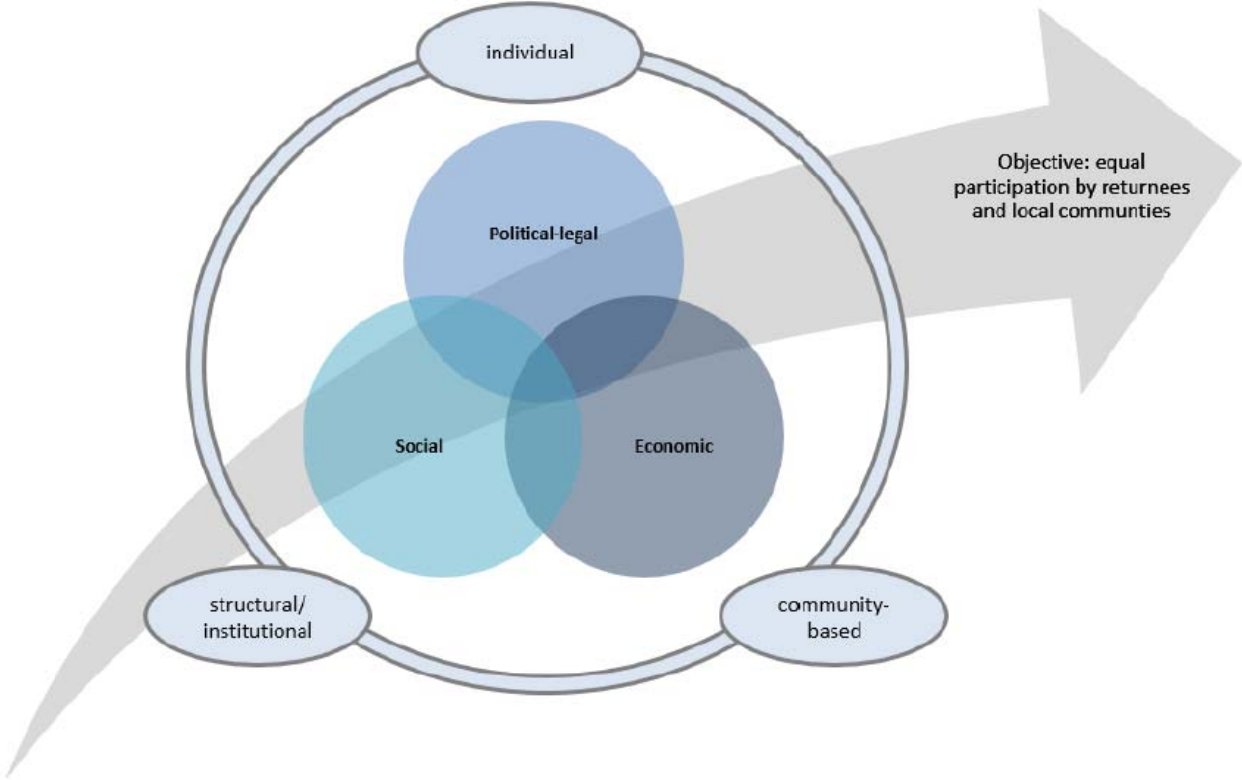


# Foundations of GIZ work in the field of returnee reintegration

## Foundations of GIZ work in the field of returnee reintegration

- **Human rights**, fundamental freedoms and the refugee rights
- **2030 Agenda**
  - Target 10.7: “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration”
- **Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and Global Compact on Refugees**
- **Country-specific, context-, conflict- and gender-sensitive approaches**
- **Integrative approach**
  - Avoid elite-capture by monitoring actual take-up of services
  - Needs and demand orientation
  - Ensure that services address needs of marginalized groups
- **'Do no harm'**
  - contribute to a balance of interests and mitigate conflicts of interests
- **Multi-Level Approach**
  - Target group level, capacity building of governmental and non-governmental actors
  - Build on existing structures

# Dimensions and levels of sustainable reintegration





# **Sustainable Reintegration**

Methodological approaches and experiences from the field

## Methodological Approaches to Return and Reintegration

**Four impact fields** that seek to interlink the three dimensions of sustainable reintegration



## Needs-Oriented Services for Various Returnee Groups and Host Communities

- **Diverse reasons to leave and stay in home, transit or host community**
  - Identify needs of various returnee groups and local communities at early stage
  - Adapt services to specific target groups and context

### Impact Hypothesis

An integrated advisory structure tailored to specific needs and strengths supports the development of new economic and social prospects in countries of origin.

## Interaction and Coexistence

- Reintegration is a process that involves all sections of society and in which returnees and host communities jointly negotiate different interests, priorities and expectations

### Impact Hypotheses

- 1) Equal opportunities initiatives improve coexistence
- 2) Active involvement strengthens the self-help capacities of returnees and local communities
- 3) The peaceful coexistence of returnees and local communities is improved through interaction

## Preparation for return and reintegration

- Ensure that vocational training in the host country is geared to labour market demands in the country of origin
- Offer returnees support in all phases of preparing for return

### Impact Hypotheses:

- 1) Improved access to labour market information for potential returnees makes a new start in the country of origin easier.
- 2) Transnational cooperation between host countries and countries of origin at governmental and non-governmental levels increases the relevance of preparatory reintegration measures (demand-oriented labour market information).

## Reintegration Governance

- Encompasses the institutional framework for sustainable reintegration and the structures and processes that help to shape it
- Holistic approach should address all phases of migration cycle
- Focus on ownership in countries of origin and on mainstreaming reintegration in national policies and strategies
- Capacity building of governmental and non-governmental actors
  - compensates for the weaknesses inherent in many reintegration programmes that focus solely on individuals

### Impact Hypothesis

Improved legal and institutional frameworks (e.g. supporting socio-economic framework conditions) enhance the potential of returnees

## Needs-Oriented Services in Practice: *Skills for Reintegration* in The Gambia



**Analysis of local labour market and needs-assessment of returnees and local population**



**Capacity-building of TVET institute**

- 22 teachers of partner institute have been trained



**Curricula development and implementation of vocational training courses**

- Two one-year state-accredited courses in “rural mechanics” and “solar technology” for 40 students

## Interaction and Coexistence in Practice: *Skills for Reintegration in The Gambia*

- All offers are made equally to returnees and to the population of the local community
- Needs-assessment of both returnees and the local community
- Development workers organize and implement recreational activities to boost cohesion of returnees and students from local communities
  - Sports activities (e.g. sports day, installation of a volleyball field on the campus)
  - Cultural activities (e.g. movie screening, reading circle)
  - Vegetable garden



# Preparation for return and reintegration in practice: *Skills for Reintegration in The Gambia*

## Approach

- Coordinated qualification opportunities along the entire return chain
- Activities in Germany can be continued with activities in The Gambia
  - Start in Germany with a three-months pre-course
  - Business-Classes with the *Sparkassen* Foundation
  - Continuation and graduation with state-accredited certificate in The Gambia

## Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Lack of access to target group in Germany:
  - No interest and no incentive to return voluntarily for Gambian migrants as economic situation in The Gambia has not significantly improved and deportation is suspended
    - Difficult to motivate potential returnees in Germany to participate in the program
  - Mutual understanding of counterparts in destination country and country of origin is essential



## Needs-Oriented Services in Practice: *Skills for Reintegration* in Niger



**Analysis of labour market in home and host region and needs-assessment of Malian refugees and host communities**



**Capacity-building of TVET institute**

- 20 teachers of partner institute have been trained



**Curricula development and implementation of short-term training courses**

- 7 state-accredited courses (3-6 months) for 100 students
- Business-classes and “StarterKits” after successful participation

## Needs-Oriented Services in Practice: *Skills for Reintegration* in Kyrgyzstan



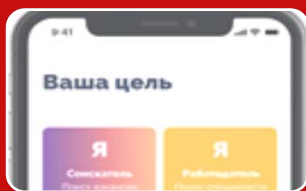
### Formal qualification and certification of returning labour migrants

- Test standards have been developed for stucco, plasterers, painters and chefs
- 27 returnees have received state-accredited certificates



### Support for start-ups

- 110 returnees have participated in business trainings, of whom 49 have already set up their own business



### Direct matching of private sector employees and returnees seeking employment

- Development of the app „Jumush“
- 44 companies and 700 returnees are using the app

## Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Important to strengthen **local ownership** of projects through involvement of local stakeholders in the entire process and in decision-making to ensure sustainability of measures
- Important to conduct **needs-assessment** of target group and **labour market analysis in both host and home regions**
- Discrepancy between political agenda of donor country and partner country/institute  
→ need to balance both interests and to ensure local ownership
- Important that TVET courses **focus on practical training** and are embedded in local labour market through e.g. field visits, internships and networking events to ensure that participants are able to find work or start their own business afterwards

## Reintegration Governance in Practice: Experiences from Mexico



### Strengthening networks and alliances

- Establishment of a NGO network for (Re-)Integration
- 23 NGOs are collaborating in the network on policy advocacy and holistic reintegration processes



### Promotion of the intra-Mexican dialogue between civil society, academia, private sector and government

- 4 exchange formats with 154 people from 80 institutions have taken place



### Promotion of the German-Mexican dialogue on (Re-)Integration

## Other exemplary GIZ Projects working with TVET & Migration

Project	Countries	Target Group	Approach	Results
<a href="#"><u>Vocational Training and Food Security for Refugees and Host Communities in Eastern Sudan</u></a>	Sudan	Refugees and host communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- short introductory vocational training courses</li> <li>- 1-year dual courses in 4 areas</li> <li>- Support local business to create training places and jobs through trainings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 500 people participated in the courses</li> <li>- 50 local small enterprises took part in business trainings</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Migration for Development programme</u></a>	Afghanistan, Albania, Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Iraq, Kosovo, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Serbia, Tunisia	Returnees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assistance in Germany for preparation for return and reintegration</li> <li>- Advice centers for jobs, migration and reintegration in countries of origin</li> <li>- Education and qualification measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 53,300 advisory sessions</li> <li>- 160,000 education and qualification measures have been implemented</li> <li>- 102,000 people have found work or received assistance in starting up their own businesses</li> </ul>

## Other exemplary GIZ Projects working with TVET & Migration

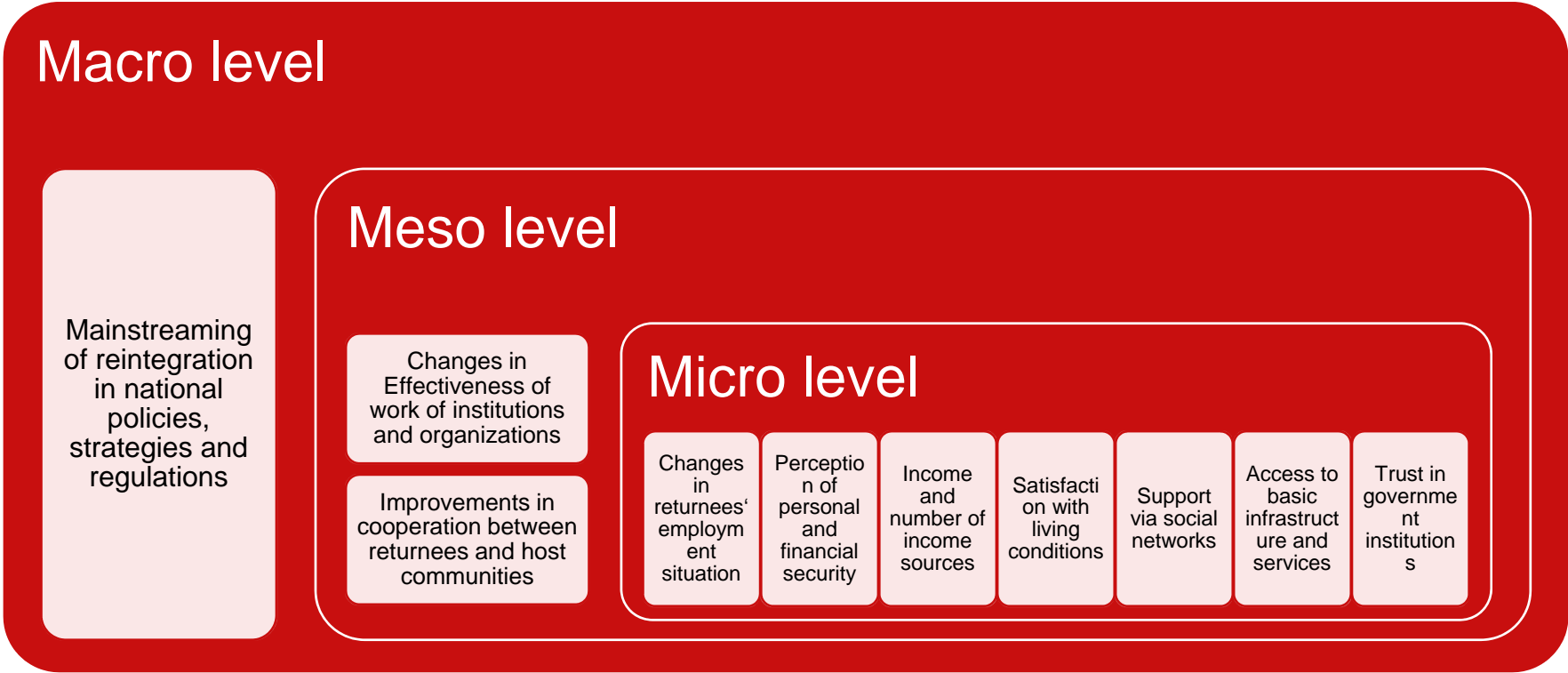
Project	Countries	Target Group	Approach	Results
<a href="#"><u>Cash for Work: Production and Commercialisation of Crafts and Handicraft</u></a>	Turkey	Syrian refugees and host communities in Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Basic skills training in the manual trades and service sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 17,200 people in 12 provinces have taken part in about 400 training courses</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Successful in Senegal</u></a>	Senegal	Young people and returnees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business training</li> <li>- Training and skills enhancement courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2,170 people attended business trainings</li> <li>- 2,099 people participated in various training and skills enhancement courses</li> </ul>



# Evaluation and Monitoring

Challenges, Lessons Learned and Recommendations

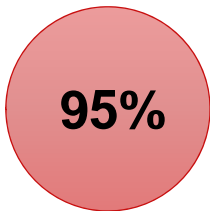
# Impact Assessment – Where to look at



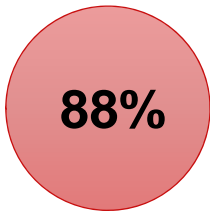
## Evaluation: *Skills for Reintegration in Niger* (Approach)

- Evaluation of the project conducted by external consultants in June 2019 approx 3 months after end of the training
  
- Evaluation included primary data (survey) and secondary data (e.g. project reports)
  
- Evaluation addressed relevance, efficiency, sustainability and practical recommendations for the implementation of such courses
  - Survey with 86 from 99 graduates after completion of the courses
  - Questions focused on quality of the courses and on the short-term impact of the course

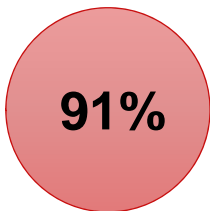
## Evaluation: *Skills for Reintegration* in Niger (Results)



**...were able to find a job in the field of the course, of whom 84% are “very satisfied” and 14% “satisfied” with their employment situation**



**...are now better able to meet their basic needs and those of their families, including the purchase of food, clothing, medicines, etc.**

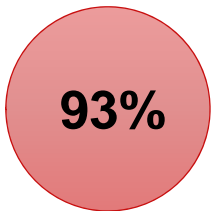


**...confirmed that their income has increased after the course**

## Evaluation: *Skills for Reintegration* in Kyrgystan (Approach)

- First survey was conducted in November 2019 (2-4 months after participants completed the activities)
- Survey included both quantitative and qualitative aspects and focused on:
  - quality of the course
  - if activities met the needs of the target group
  - impact on income and employment
  - perception of long-term perspectives
- A second evaluation is planned for **April** 2020 to measure the medium-term impact of the project measures

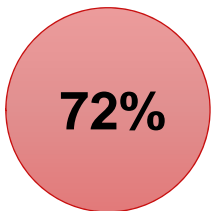
## Evaluation : *Skills for Reintegration* in Kyrgyzstan (Results)



**...are planning on staying in Kyrgyzstan long-term**



**...are now better able to meet their basic needs and those of their families, including the purchase of food, clothing, medicines, etc.**



**...confirmed that their income has increases after the course**

## Challenges and Limitations

### Lack of medium-term and long-term impact assessment

- Providers of support measures often lose contact with recipients after the end of the support phase
- Limited funding determined by political demand
- Short project cycles

### Lack of assessment of structural factors in the (re-)integration process

- Often focus on individual pathways

### Lack of data and access to returnee groups

- Data on returnee numbers and profiles is often inadequate and inaccessible → projects and policies are often based on estimates
- Returnee number can fluctuate considerably and rapidly
- Many returnees do not trust official structures and evade state registration (if this exists)
- Many returnees do not identify as such for fear of stigma

## Overview of Reintegration Monitoring and Evaluation by Country (Kuschminder, June 2019)

	BMZ (GIZ)	ERRIN RIAT	Austria (IOM)	Belgium (Caritas)	Norway (UDI)	Switzerland (SEM and IOM)
<b>Conducts Monitoring</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes, project based	yes
<b>Conducts long-term monitoring Post 12 months</b>	In some cases such as certain TVET programmes	possibly, depending on country	yes	yes	within evaluations below	6-9 months for quantitative, post 12 months for more qualitative
<b>Conducts External Evaluation</b>	Not to date	Not to date	Less frequently, at government request	At request of government	Frequently	Less frequently, at government request
<b>Uses a Reintegration Tool</b>	Not currently	Quantitative and qualitative, 3 moments in time	Quantitative and qualitative, 1 moment in time	Qualitative, on-going across time	IOM Norway does	Quantitative with some qualitative, 1 moment in time

## Recommendations

### Main findings: Lack of harmonization

- Monitoring is implemented in several different ways and with several different tools

### Recommendations:

- Review and synchronization of reintegration tools
- Agreement on a core set of reintegration indicators across actors and programmes
- Conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of reintegration methodologies
- Increase collaboration and communication between actors and programmes

## European Dialogue on Return and Reintegration I

### Success factors for improving evidence-based reintegration programmes:

1. Improvement of **availability and comparability of data** by sharing knowledge and data, maintaining and **developing comparable indicators** and agreeing on **benchmarks**
2. **Linkage of pre-departure and post return activities** and actors by creating a database on project beneficiaries and conducting longitudinal studies
3. Measuring of **short -, medium- and longterm** reintegration outcomes based on clearly defined time frame and objectives
4. Consideration of the **contexts of different locations** of return and adjustment of objectives and monitoring tools to the specific needs of receiving communities
5. Consideration of **ethical issues when collecting data** at the individual level especially on a marginalised population

## European Dialogue on Return and Reintegration II

**Success factors for promoting the economic dimension of sustainable reintegration:**

1. Support the countries of origin with institutional capacity building activities that incentivise these countries to take **ownership of reintegration**
2. Provision of returnees with **access to finance** e.g. in form of seed funding
3. Conduction of market analyses to enhance the **understanding of labour market needs** and absorption capacities as they relate to reintegration
4. **Cooperation with the private sector** to improve working opportunities through **tailored skills development** and structural interventions
5. Promotion of the portability of social benefits and **the recognition of skills and certificates** through bilateral agreements between countries of destination and origin.

## Further Information

- [Geförderte Rückkehr aus Deutschland: Motive und Reintegration \(BAMF & IOM, 2019\)](#)
- Kuschminder, K. (2019). Monitoring and Evaluation in Return and Reintegration. *Report for GIZ*. June 2019
- [European Dialogue on Return and Sustainable Reintegration of Migrants, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, 18.10.2019](#)
- On the project "[Skills for reintegration](#)"

## Contact



**Bettina Fellmer**

Project Leader, Bonn

[bettina.fellmer@giz.de](mailto:bettina.fellmer@giz.de)

T +49 (0) 228 4460-3447



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**Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Registered offices  
Bonn and Eschborn

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 36 + 40  
53113 Bonn, Germany  
T +49 228 44 60 - 0  
F +49 228 44 60 - 17 66

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 - 5  
65760 Eschborn, Germany  
T +49 61 96 79 - 0  
F +49 61 96 79 - 11 15

E [info@giz.de](mailto:info@giz.de)  
I [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)