



Working Group on Integration 21-22 May Norway

Recommendations

- To promote longer term integration policy exchange within the ATCR process, explore the possibility to establish an **Integration Task Force** attached to ATCR. Different NGO's and states can participate in this Integration Task Force to share integration policies and good practices. The next chair or co-chair, or other relevant actors could play a role in setting up such an Integration Task Force.
- States should be encouraged to evaluate their national and local integration programs and the extent in which their special needs of resettled refugees are being addressed. Most programs are not evaluated or not evaluated in a systematic manner. There is a need to develop a general evaluation tool to ensure that national and local resettlement programs can be compared and lessons can be learnt.
- The term **integration needs a more clear definition**. Can integration be measured and when is it successful? Every government should define what is meant by integration, so partners and stakeholders can work within a framework set by that definition. Refugees themselves should be consulted in this process. Successful integration is too often linked exclusively to having a regular job. When looking at successful integration it is important to take into account of the situation in which someone arrived in the resettlement country as a starting point for defining which integration outputs can be achieved for the individual person and/or family.
- There is a need to **offer targeted integration activities** and/or programs for those who may not automatically **fit in the regular** mainstream integration programs. For illiterate women with small children, activities, like volunteering, can be a first phase to facilitate social inclusion, participation and independence. It is vital that everyone has the opportunity to participate in society according to their abilities and can form part of larger networks that promote contacts with local citizens.
- Particular attention should be paid to **integration for children** and youngsters, and the family dynamics of the integration process. Although younger children can enter the mainstream education system easily, this is more complicated for older children and youngsters. Integration for **unaccompanied minors** is a particular area of concern that could be further explored.
- More use should be made of (refugee) **volunteers in the integration process**. Volunteers can add to available service provision, open new networks and opportunities and provide opportunities to gain work experience.

- NGOs, universities, diaspora groups, churches offer great potential to increase the local capacity to receive resettled refugees and to add to national quotas, such as via **private sponsorship programs**.