Processus de Rabat
Senior Official Meeting (SOM)
Accra – 25/10/2017

Working Group 5: Return, Readmission and Reintegration

How to facilitate a sustainable return? BELGIUM 's perspective

Experience by FEDASIL
Jo Matyn

Met de steun van het Fonds voor asiel, migratie en integratie

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HOW TO FACILITATE SUSTAINABLE RETURN?

RETURN – LEGAL OR INDIVIDUAL APPROACH?

SUSTAINABILITY – INTEGRATION

INTEGRATION MODEL

WAYS FORWARD

RETURN

LEGAL APPROACH

➢ Obligation to leave the country
➢ Sustainable return is a structural solution - a necessary part of the migratory cycle, as it allows the migrant to return definitively to his country of origin

INDIVIDUAL APPROACH

➢ Focused on the candidate
➢ Enables migrant to consolidate his / her resources (social network, motivation for return) to prepare his / her reinsertion back into the country of origin

SUSTAINABILITY/ INTEGRATION

SUSTAINABILITY

Narrow definition: no new migration

Wider definition: includes human factors, focus on the individual and contextual factors (political, socio-economic)
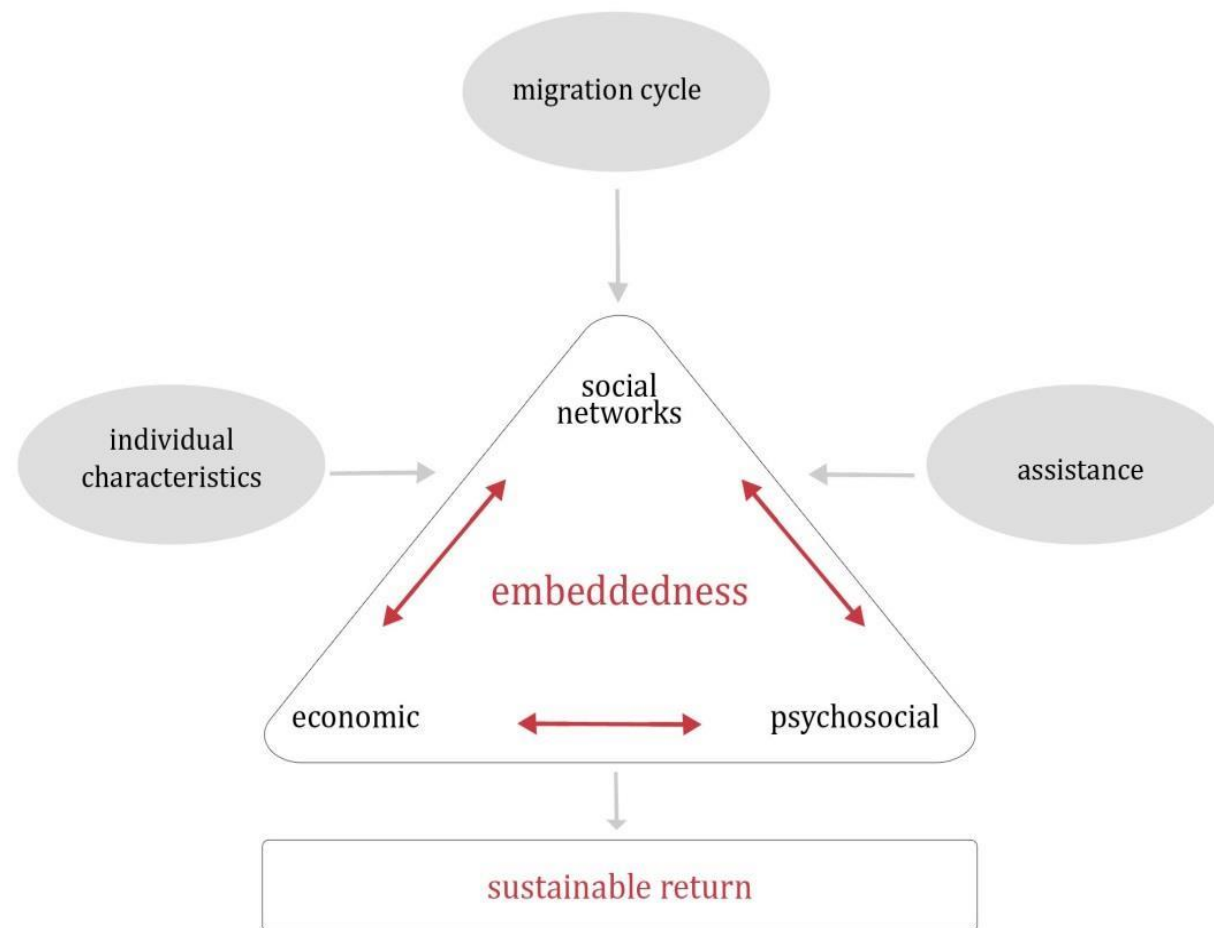
INTEGRATION

Process by which the migrant acquires the ability to integrate back into his /her home country.

Takes into account psychosocial concerns, security etc.

Includes material, social and psychosocial integration

INTEGRATION MODEL

Source: Van Houte and De Koning 2008

INTEGRATION MODEL

Psychosocial factors :

- Mental fragility as a result of trauma or precarious conditions

- Notion of "home" may be confused if been away from home country for a no. of years

- Mistrust in authorities as a result of having been rejected in the country of asylum, and having stayed irregularly

Social network

- Community to which the migrant returns

- Contacts which have been maintained

Economic factors:

- Initial capital

- Debts

Context

Conditions in the country of origin;

Conditions country of aslyum;

Individual situation (was it the migrant's wish or not, was it that of the family?)
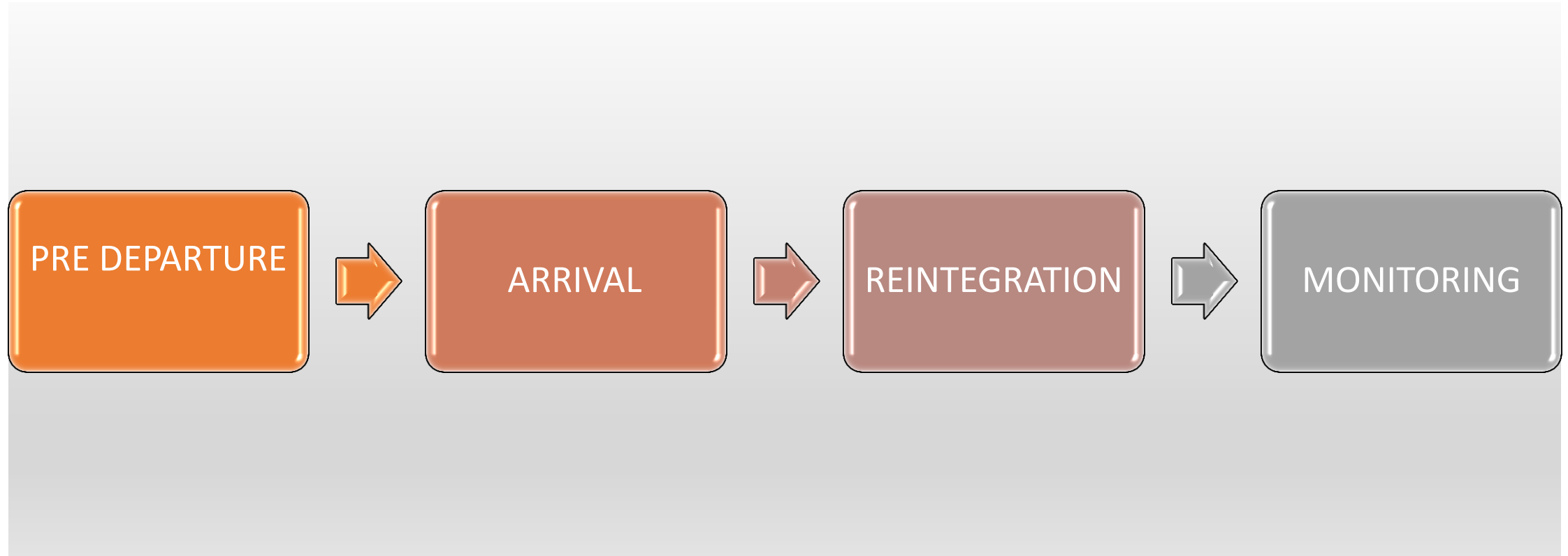
Support for reintegration and follow up upon return

Missing aspects:

For example: security considerations

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WAYS FORWARD

PRE DEPARTURE → ARRIVAL → REINTEGRATION → MONITORING

WAYS FORWARD

PRE-DEPARTURE

Preparation / skype sessions

In the country of origin: mediation with the family, making them aware of the return procedure

Specific case of unaccompanied foreign minors

Particular medical needs

ARRIVAL

Support at the airport : medical needs

Customs: issuing of *laisser-passer (*travel documents*)*

If returnee has no family: reception and transit back to the village where the migrant originally came from

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Reintegration

-Definition of needs

- Social support, medical and psychological assistance? Example of Morocco "Rema Project"

- Helping people to get back on civil registry / recognition of their rights

- Certain countries have put in place orientation / guidance offices for returnees (e.g. Caucasia)

- Skills assessments to identify new skills learnt => make their migration into a positive experience

+ access to jobs (new language, additional training e.g. in Iraq)

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Reintegration

- Putting an end to stigmatisation

- Correct the idea that the returnee = rich

- awareness and information activities for the community

-Protection of vulnerable migrants

  - Single women (temporary housing if no families – e.g. in Cameroon)
  - Unaccompanied foreign minors / children: identifying their level of schooling – additional school support – help to build upon what they have learnt (e.g. new languages)

-Access to trainings

-Guidance towards income generating activities

- How can the returnee reinforce the community ?

- Cooperatives => ex Guinée

- Development Cooperation => ex Guinée

- Access to multidisciplinary support (project Tunisia)

Plan of Action / Zero DRAFT

Domain 5: Return, readmission and reintegration

The Rabat Process partners reiterate their ongoing adherence to obligations under international law in the area of return, readmission and recall the importance of sustainable reintegration. They reiterate their support for the principle of non-refoulement and agree to give preference to voluntary return. They recall that policies in the area of return and readmission are the shared responsibility of States, and that they should be efficient, transparent, and ensure the full respect for the human rights and dignity of migrants.

The partners of the Rabat Process acknowledge the joint progress achieved through the political dialogues which have been initiated in this domain. It is important that these efforts continue and that the dialogue is translated into action, leading to improved cooperation and more efficient return and readmission.

Domain 5: Return, readmission and reintegration

Objective 9: Strengthen the capacities of the competent authorities in order to improve the identification processes and the issuance of travel documents.

Action 20: Exchange best practices related to return, readmission and reintegration at national, regional and cross-border level (in particular through regional consultations);

Action 21: Promote the use of innovative identification techniques (for example, the use of videoconferencing for identification or pre-identification, more systematic use of fingerprints, or recourse to joint actions for complex cases). Depending on the needs, provide support (technical assistance, peer support or training) to a specific group of countries to help put into place these techniques.

Objective 10: Encourage programmes that ensure the safe return and sustainable reintegration of migrants, in full respect of their fundamental rights and dignity

Action 22: Organise peer-to-peer meetings between African and European city authorities to enable mutual learning in migration management, including sustainable return; building on existing networks (such as the City-to-City initiative) and capitalising upon their achievements.

Action 23: Strengthen assisted return programmes and promote actions aimed at accompanying integration returnees into development policies and programmes at local level.