



STAKEHOLDER MAPPING OF TECHNICAL AGENCIES AND ORGANISATIONS FOR ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION OF RETURNED MIGRANTS IN NIGERIA

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Research: Innovation: Impact

Executive Summary



JUNE 2021

CLIENT: UN-IOM

CONTEXT

In recent years, there has been an increase in the population of irregular immigrants with Nigerian citizenship. This increase can be attributed to the state of insecurity within the country as well as the socio-economic and political atmosphere. Irregular immigrants seek a higher standard of living and better living conditions in recipient countries. These irregular immigrants, in certain situations, return to Nigeria and need to be reintegrated into the society. The United Nations (UNHCR) reports there are 3.7 million vulnerable people at risk in Nigeria as of 2017; 36% (1.5 Million) of which were returnees.

The socio-economic challenges, such as high unemployment rates within Nigeria, which trigger irregular immigration, equally often serve as one of the biggest barriers to the sustainable return of irregular immigrants. Many returnees, struggle with finding jobs, housing and often lack a strong social support system. Giving the large number of vulnerable individuals, their low level of skills, education, employability, and the trauma that might be associated with their return circumstance, there is therefore a need for socio-economic reintegration services for returnees, victims of trafficking and other vulnerable populations.

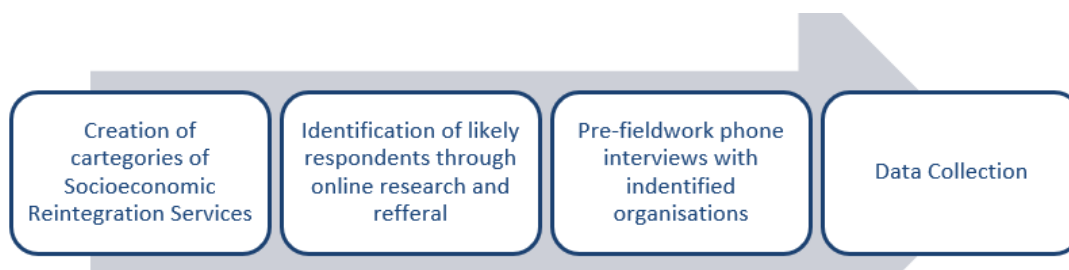
Existing responses to these socio-economic challenges have been limited, given the size of the at-risk population. However, considerable progress has been made in establishing a governance framework for the reintegration of returned migrants and other vulnerable groups in Nigeria. Despite the progress in the governance framework for reintegration in Nigeria, returned migrants and socio-economic reintegration service providers are confronted with macro-level factors. To support the work by the EUTF-IOM initiative as well as the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration project in the states of operation, this report details findings of the mapping of technical agencies and organizations which provide socio-economic reintegration services to non-vulnerable migrants, returnees, local communities and vulnerable groups in Edo, Delta, Lagos States and the Nigerian Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

This mapping exercise sought to ascertain the capacity and effectiveness of these institutions to provide services that support income generating activities for returned migrants and other vulnerable populations. The goal of the stakeholder mapping was to ascertain the capacity and effectiveness of socio-economic reintegration service providers as well as to identify capacity needs and opportunities for further coordination among different groups of service provider.

METHOD

The Enyenaweh team conducted a stakeholder mapping exercise in Edo, Delta and Lagos states to obtain data surrounding reintegration service providers. The research team also interviewed stakeholders with their national offices in the Nigerian Federal Capital City- Abuja. The mapping of available socioeconomic reintegration services for vulnerable and non-vulnerable populations in Nigeria, to determine their availability and access to their services is the focus of this study.

Fieldwork for this exercise was conducted in five (5) local government areas in Edo State, four (4) local government areas in Delta State (both states are in the South-South region of Nigeria) and four (4) local government areas in Lagos State (South West) and the Nigerian Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. These three states (Edo, Delta, and Lagos States) are often targeted locales of residences for returned migrants in Nigeria. The key objectives of the mapping exercise include the identification of agencies involved in the delivery of vocational and technical interventions, the identification and assessing of the potential of coordination mechanisms and networks which are active in main areas of return to facilitate the reintegration process, geographical mapping that will include the information about organizations, the services they provide, and the cost involved.



A cluster research design was adopted as the mode of data collection for this study. Two clusters of stakeholders were identified. The first is the National and State Technical Agencies, and the second cluster includes: Civil Society Organizations (CSO), Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), and private organizations. Stakeholders were identified through a purposive sampling process using the snowball technique. The process involved the creation of categories of socio-economic reintegration services, identification of likely respondents through online research and referral, pre-field work interviews with identified organizations, and then data collection. The data collection process was based on two cluster samples, which included three groupings of service providers per location of study. The three grouping within which the stakeholder mapping was analyzed were: Government Agencies, CSOs/NGOs, and Private Organizations (also referred to as social enterprises).

KEY FINDINGS

The major findings of this study, based on the data collated across the 4 study locations, provide insight on four major areas. They include: the types of organizations providing socioeconomic reintegration services, the network and engagement between identified service providers, the access that returnees and vulnerable groups have to these providers, and the monitoring and evaluation capacity of the mapped service providers.

Types of Technical Agencies and Organizations Providing Socio-economic Reintegration services within the States.

In Edo State, seventeen (17) social enterprises/NGOs were mapped. Seventy-two percent (72%) of these organizations provide general socio-economic reintegration support, while the remaining 28% provide vocational and psychological services. Most of these organizations were in Benin-Edo State. Eleven of the mapped organizations, have over 5 years' experience in delivering socio-economic reintegration services to returnees and victims of trafficking. Additionally, three government agencies having over 10 years work experience in socio-economic reintegration service provision were mapped: Ministry of Agriculture, Network of Civil Society Organization of Nigeria (NOCON) and the Edo State Task Force Against Human Trafficking.

In Lagos state, all identified organizations provide socio-economic support services to vulnerable populations. However only six of the mapped organizations reported having experience delivering these services to returnees or victims of trafficking. All the organizations with experience in socio-economic reintegration services delivery, have an average length of 10 years in operation. It is however noteworthy, that none of the mapped health care, finance or educational institutions have any experience delivering services to returnees or victims of trafficking. Their services were not specifically targeted at this specific vulnerable group. The primary focus of socio-economic reintegration services in Lagos, is the supporting of income generating activities of returnees and victims of trafficking. Housing and employment services are however not readily available.

In the Federal Capital Territory, at the national level, four non-profit socioeconomic reintegration services were mapped in this study. Except the Centre for the Rights to Health with a focus on psychosocial support, all the organizations focus on providing technical and vocational education training for vulnerable groups. These socio-economic reintegration service providers at the national level, recommended additional organizations. Given the high rate of unemployment within the country, it is of no surprise that most national level organizations are focused on employability skills.

Lastly, in Delta State, twenty (20) socioeconomic reintegration service providers were mapped. They include: one government agency, four Non-Governmental Agency/Social Enterprises and Health organizations respectively, One Employment and Entrepreneurship Service provider and ten organizations

KEY FINDINGS

focused on housing. All mapped organizations within the state provide a combination of socio-economic integration services, however, none of the mapped organization is solely focused on returnees. Only 20 percent (4) have any experience providing socio-economic reintegration service to returnees. About 51% of surveyed service providers reported having no experience working with returned migrants, almost all these organizations indicated a willingness to provide socio-economic reintegration services. Although 39% of surveyed organizations reported having no knowledge of organizations providing socio-economic reintegration assistance to refer returnees, some of the most referenced agencies/organizations were NAPTIP and the Ministry of Women Affairs in each state. In Lagos, the most referenced government agency is the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund. For Edo State, Edo State Agency for the Control of AIDS (Edo-SACA) and Edo State Skills Acquisition Center - Evbomodu, Benin City, and the EU - Niger Delta Support Programme (NDSP4) in Delta state.

Network and Engagement between Socioeconomic Reintegration Service Providers

The Network of Civil Society Organization of Nigeria (NOCON) operates as a membership organization for NGOS within Edo State. Members of NOCON specialize in several areas of socio-economic reintegration service delivery. There appears to be no significant difference in the degree of engagement of service providers in the private sector, and donor funding agencies. For public agencies, Primary Health Care Centers and the Federal/State Ministry of Women Affairs have the highest level of engagement and collaboration on programs implementation and service provision with socioeconomic reintegration service providers. Findings indicate that health care is perhaps the highest case of socio-economic reintegration need in Edo State or Primary Health Care Centers are quite supportive of socioeconomic reintegration service providers.

As opposed to Edo State, findings show no interactions in the types of partner organizations engaged by socio-economic reintegration services in Lagos State. There is no central organization for interaction or engagement by socioeconomic reintegration service providers. However, some partner/funding organizations were reported by mapped organizations. The case in Delta State is like Lagos, however service providers partnered with diverse types of organizations with resources to support their operations. There was no mention on the network of socio-economic service providers at the national level.

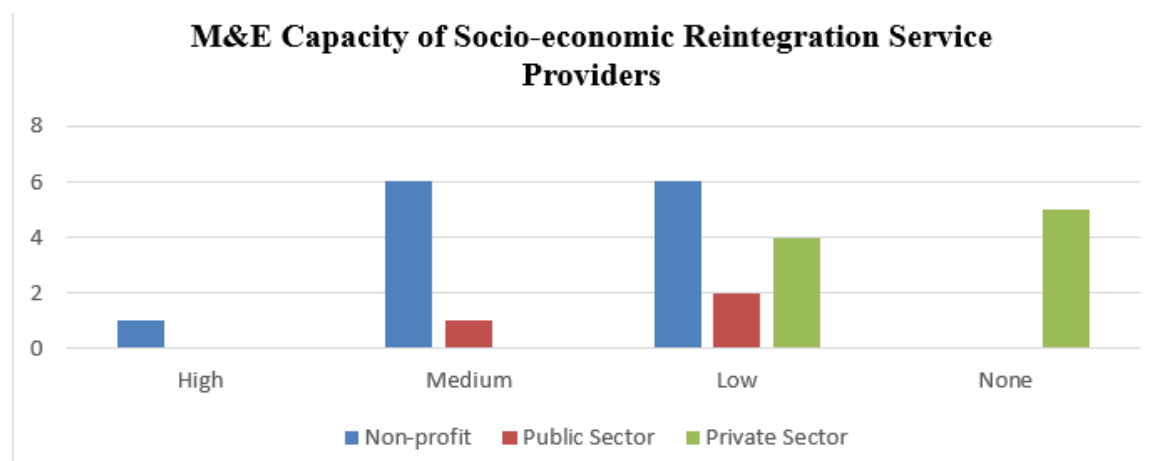
Several free socio-economic reintegration services exist in Edo State. These services are funded by private sector organizations and International development government organizations. Also, all socio-economic reintegration services provided by public sector agencies and educational institutions are provided at no cost. Lagos State differs largely in this regard, as although subsidized, socioeconomic reintegration services in Lagos are largely fee-based. Lagos State has the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) has several programs available to support socio-economic reintegration service providers in Lagos. The program includes loan facility for small and medium scale enterprise owners. Returnees can access these loan facilities; however, they will likely face immense challenges obtaining the LASRRA Identification Card and Tax Identification Numbers (TIN).

KEY FINDINGS

For national level service providers, the findings show a gap in the facilitation of access for socio-economic reintegration services for national level service providers with headquarters in Abuja. Mapped organization however reported no shortage in interested beneficiaries. From the cost-of-service list from government agencies and private organizations within the study, the cheapest form of service is agricultural support service and healthcare is the most expensive. All these services, except for agriculture cost above the minimum wage, with some costs up to a year's salary for a minimum wage earner. Therefore, even if returnees live in locations where these services are available, their accessibility will be limited due to cost-of-service provision.

Monitoring Capacity of Mapped Socioeconomic Reintegration Services

Edo State outcomes show Non-profit organizations as having the highest self-reported Monitoring and Evaluation capacity. Many of the organizations rated their capacity to collect and use program monitoring and outcome data as 'Medium', while stakeholders in the public and private sector rated their M&E capacity as mostly 'low'. In Lagos State the M&E capacity of socioeconomic integration is generally high, however organizations reported challenges in data analysis of available data. This therefore affects their ability to draw insight for existing or new programs. The situation in Delta State differs, as mapped organizations did not report any significant knowledge or capacity for Monitoring and evaluation of projects and programs. Many of the mapped organizations had no M&E staff, or specific metrics for measuring project outcome.



This will therefore hamper the improving of existing programs and designing new ones, as there is no metric of data collection and assuring outcomes. Finally, at the national level, all mapped organizations reported having a monitoring process for socio-economic reintegration services. Except DICE, all organizations reported having dedicated staff for monitoring the delivery of socio-economic reintegration services. For all the organizations, collected monitoring data is used to improve existing programs or to design new ones. The most referenced form of support required by mapped organizations was access to finance/funding and capacity-building on M&E for staff.



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