



Making Integration Work: Refugees and others in need of protection

This booklet takes stock of the experiences of OECD countries in the integration of refugees and other beneficiaries of protection, also referred to as humanitarian migrants. It draws on key lessons from the OECD's work on integration policies, particularly the Jobs for Immigrants country reviews series. The objective is to summarise in a non-technical way the main challenges and good policy practices to support the lasting integration of humanitarian migrants and their children.

The integration of humanitarian migrants is a highly topical issue. Many OECD countries are experiencing humanitarian migration on an unprecedented scale. Based on past experience and taking into account the grim conditions in the main countries of origin it appears reasonable to expect that many will settle. This poses considerable challenges to integration systems and host communities over and above the provision of adequate housing. Countries have to help refugees and their children find their place in the labour market, education system and society at large, though not at the expense of support for other disadvantaged groups, who include resident migrants and their children. Achieving that balancing act requires scaling up the provision of services such as accommodation, psychological support, language training and skills assessment, as well as access to education and healthcare. At the same time, trade-offs may have to be made between what is desirable and what is feasible. This booklet presents ten lessons and examples of good practice from OECD countries, complemented by comparisons of the policy frameworks for the integration of humanitarian migrants in OECD countries.



Contact: Thomas.LIEBIG@oecd.org
Short URL: oe.cd/miw-jan-2016



Scan with your
smartphone

10 LESSONS

1. **Provide activation and integration services as soon as possible for humanitarian migrants and asylum seekers with high prospects of being allowed to stay.**
2. **Facilitate labour market access for asylum seekers with high prospects of being allowed to stay.**
3. **Factor employment prospects into dispersal policies.**
4. **Record and assess humanitarian migrants' foreign qualifications, work experience and skills.**
5. **Take into account the growing diversity of humanitarian migrants and develop tailor-made approaches.**
6. **Identify mental and physical health issues early and provide adequate support.**
7. **Develop support programmes specific to unaccompanied minors who arrive past the age of compulsory schooling.**
8. **Build on civil society to integrate humanitarian migrants.**
9. **Promote equal access to integration services to humanitarian migrants across the country.**
10. **Acknowledge that the integration of very poorly educated humanitarian migrants requires long-term training and support.**