

Focus group discussion with stakeholders who work with young migrants

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Organizational issues

- Focus group was conducted on 24 April, 2014
- 8 experts took part
 - Ombudsman
 - Ministry of Health
 - State Boarder Guard
 - Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
 - NGO working with the target group
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Asylum seekers reception centre
- 2 additional interviews were conducted
 - International Migration Organization (Riga office)
 - Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs
- Everyone received a gift card from a bookshop (EUR 25)



Reflections about the focus group guide & group composition

- It is difficult to speak about statistical data during the focus group discussion
- It is almost impossible to find 10 experts who would be able to attend the focus group discussion at particular time/ date
 - The solution might be to use in-depth interviews or combine both techniques but then more time should be given for transcription and translation
 - 10 persons per group is too much
- Usually only one or two persons are experts in a specific field
 - It is a challenge to find free time for interviews/ discussion
 - If somebody is missing, it is difficult to get the “whole picture”

Results

- Some services are available
 - Latvian language courses
 - Educational and informative activities
 - Return funds for voluntary and coercive returning to homeland
 - Asylum seekers reception centre: residence, consultations, school, healthcare
 - Emergency health services, treatment for infectious diseases
 - For asylum seekers & illegal immigrants: healthcare services and medicines are available only within some projects
 - For refugees: health care services are the same as for general public
- Majority of available services are funded by different projects

Results

- There are lack of treatment options for migrants (many have mental problems and drug addiction)
- There are no compulsory testing on HIV, hepatitis B & C, Tb (only those who receive residence permit should submit Tb scan results)
- There are no prevention services for employees working with imigrants (vaccination, education, health insurance)
- Service provision is irregular
- It would be good to have some health care provider for illegal imigrants & asylum seekers



Development of HIV & AI prevention programs

- According to the experts HIV & AI prevention (except acute Tb) is not a major concern
- It is necessary to develop a system or an approach which allows immigrants to receive health care services



Thank you for attention!

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