Migrant Resource Centres (MRC)

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Introduction

1. Defining Migrant Resource Centres
2. MRC: Serving Key Policy objectives
3. Good Practice: Services Empowering Migrants for Development
4. Good Practice: Services Empowering Migrants for Protection
5. Good Practices in Set-Up
1. Defining Migrant Resource Centres

“physical structures which provide services directly to migrants to facilitate and promote their recourse to legal, voluntary, orderly and protected migration”

IOM (f2009) *Migrant Resource Centres: An Initial Assessment* (also presented at the Athens GFMD, 2009)
1. Defining Migrant Resource Centres

- Little research into the functioning of MRCs or evaluation of their performance,
- No commonly-agreed definition of a Migrant Resource Centre/ Migrant Service Centre.
- MRC **physical structures** which provide independent and impartial services to male and female migrants, on legal migration procedures, rights and responsibilities, information on protection.
- Include web- or telephone-based services;
2. MRC: Serving Key Policy objectives

- Prevention of irregular migration;
- Facilitation of legal migration;
- Protection of regular and irregular migrants;
- Promotion of sustainable, voluntary return;
- Integration of migrants into the destination country;
- Promoting links between migration and development.
3. Good Practice: Services *Empowering* Migrants for Development

- Remittances and investment
- Employment related Assistance
- Building Diaspora Capacities and Creating Links
3. Services Empowering Migrants for Development

a) Remittances and investment

i) Information gathering, provision and dissemination on Transfer costs

ii) Partnerships for remittance facilitation

iii) Information on investment opportunities
3. Services Empowering Migrants for Development

B Employment related assistance

i) Job Matching
ii) Training
iii) Recognition of qualifications
3. Services Empowering Migrants for Development

C Building Diaspora Capacities and Creating Links

i) Promoting Involvement in Migration for Development Projects

ii) Indirectly Building Diaspora Capacities
4. Good Practice: Services Empowering Migrants for Protection

a. Information-gathering on migration issues

b. Outreach and information dissemination

c. Provision of individualized counselling and support services
4. Services Empowering Migrants for Protection

A. Information-gathering on migration issues

B) Outreach and information dissemination

i) Use of media
ii) Physical outreach and local contact
iii) Location
iv) Service accessibility through telephone hotlines, websites and extended working hours
4. Services Empowering Migrants for Protection

c. Provision of individualized counselling and support services

   i) Individualized counseling
   ii) Direct provision of relevant services
Thank you!

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