

A photograph of a woman with short dark hair, wearing a white patterned top, holding a young child with a colorful patterned top. They are positioned in front of a wooden wall with a chalkboard. The image is overlaid with a green geometric design.

MAPPING AND
SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILING
OF COMMUNITIES OF RETURN
IN NIGERIA

SYNTHESIS
REPORT

2018



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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

This executive summary was commissioned by the Regional Office for West and Central Africa of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with research conducted by Samuel Hall. As such, the opinions expressed may not reflect all of IOM's view points. Any error or gap will be the responsibility of Samuel Hall.

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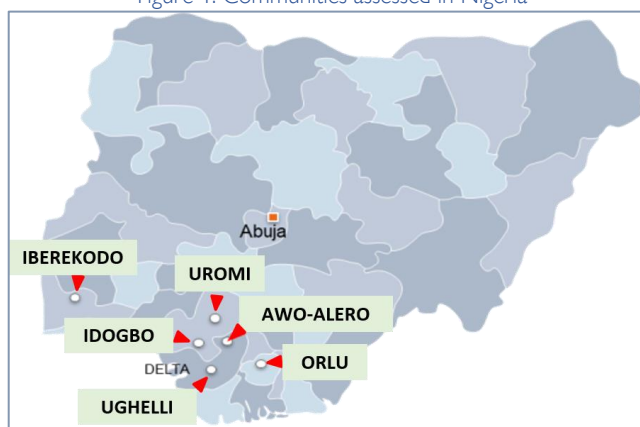
I. CONTEXT, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

Nigeria is a prominent country of origin for regional and international migration. The idea of migrating in search of “greener pastures” is rooted in Nigerian society and has shaped the nation-building process since independence in 1960. There is a widespread desire to migrate among Nigerians – a tendency confirmed by this study. Respondents overwhelmingly indicated their **desire to leave** their community (81%) for economic reasons and mostly to go to non-African countries (to Europe, in particular) or to urban settings within Nigeria. Between 1990 and 2013, the number of Nigerians living abroad more than doubled and passed the one million mark (IOM, 2014e).

Nigeria is also an important country of destination within West Africa, as well as a country of transit. Nigeria is known for high incidences of human trafficking and for the large number of irregular migrants reaching European shores via the Libya route. Additionally, Nigeria is affected by the internal displacement of millions due to the Boko Haram insurgency in the North.

To enable returning migrants to achieve sustainable reintegration, activities must include, in addition to economic projects, initiatives addressing the social and the psychosocial dimensions of sustainable reintegration. To this end, the analysis presented in this report provides an understanding of the communities in which returnees return to or arrive in, with operational recommendations to support them.

Figure 1: Communities assessed in Nigeria



The field research in **Nigeria** was carried out in February 2018. The tools used in the study included: 532 quantitative surveys with young people aged 15 to 34, 12 focus groups (2 per community), 6 community

observation sheets and 78 stakeholder interviews (at community and central level).

The six communities chosen by IOM can be divided into three types:

- Rural communities (Awo-Alero, Idogbo and Uromi: green pins in the figure above)
- Urban communities (Orlu and Ughelli: blue pins)
- Peri-urban communities (Iberekodo: red pin)

The methodology used for the community mapping can be applied in more communities in Nigeria - this "pilot" approach has made it possible to identify the best practices of development per community profile for amplification.

The Joint Initiative¹ is part of a change of approach to reintegration within IOM. In 2017, this organization developed a multidimensional and integrated definition of 'sustainable reintegration'²: "Reintegration can be considered sustainable when returnees have reached levels of economic self-sufficiency, social stability within their communities, and psychosocial well-being that allow them to cope with (re)migration drivers. Having achieved sustainable reintegration, returnees are able to make further migration decisions a matter of choice, rather than necessity."

The general **perception of returnees** varies significantly across the six communities profiled. In the two Delta state communities of **Awo-Alero** and **Ughelli** the perception of returnees is prevalently negative, whereas in **Idogbo** and **Uromi** the perception is prevalently positive. Despite these community-specific variations, two narratives of a 'successful' and 'unsuccessful' returnee have emerged within the communities surveyed. Successful migrants are generally expected to establish their own business, to invest in rent-generating projects (such as real estate) or to simply live off savings accrued abroad. Looking for a salaried employment is generally taken as an indication of an 'unsuccessful' migration experience, thus opening the way to stigmatisation. Some informants perceive migrants as individuals blinded by a need for self-fulfilment in the perspective of a negative competition between families and individuals.

¹ The 'Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in Africa' will be shortened to 'Joint Initiative' in this document.

² Samuel Hall / IOM (2017) Setting standards for an integrated approach to reintegration.

Providing opportunities for returnees and non-migrants to make individual choices and to be part of collective decision-making processes is a priority. Through socio-economic research and Communications for Development (C4D) approach, this research takes an area-based approach beyond individual returnees to understanding the needs and aspirations of communities. Both returnees and hosts are prioritized to support reintegration processes.

Socio-economic data gathered in the six Nigerian communities include dimensions such as debt and access to finance, migratory linkages and remittances, health, marital status and access to sufficient food, housing and documentation. The analysis of the indicators illustrates the marked diversity of the communities assessed and suggests the need for interventions that are tailored to their specific conditions.



Who are the return migrants interviewed during the study ?

In this research, all survey respondents who declared to have lived abroad for at least three months (for work, study, family, travel or other reasons) are classified as returnees. This is a rather inclusive definition that may not coincide with the ones used in the context of AVRR operations reporting. Of the 435 respondents, 95 were returnees, or 22 per cent of the total sample. In terms of gender, 13% of women and 28% of men were returnees. In terms of age, only around 5% of the 15-19 age group were returnees compared to 40% of the 30-34 age group.

Survey data comparisons between returnee and non-returnee respondents were included for illustrative purposes only and to inform (or rather 'inspire') future profiling exercises targeting returning migrants specifically. The main focus of the research remains the socio-economic profiling of communities.

II. BASIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOSOCIAL DATA IN 6 COMMUNITIES ASSESSED

This section provides an overview of the most relevant findings of this study in the analysis of economic, social and psychosocial data.

Economic Dimension

Returnees are more likely to be employed but also more susceptible to financial vulnerabilities.

- Note – In the sample, only 32 out of 532 respondents could be classified as a returnee. All returnee results should be interpreted with caution due to the small number.
- Returnees declare significantly more often than non-returnees to have a paid job or income-generating activity (63% vs. 48%). However, returnees are more often indebted at critical levels than non-returnees (44% vs. 28%), as migration projects are often financed by debt or by liquidation of assets. Returnees are also more likely to receive money from abroad.

Professional skills are gendered and employment opportunities are extremely polarised between different communities surveyed:

- The skills possessed and desired by respondents are often gender specific
- There is a lack of identifiable skillsets among respondents that are significantly salient in the labour market. Only five of the 40 competences included in the survey have been mentioned by at least 5 per cent of the respondents: Hair styling, Tailoring, Business, Beautician and Electric wiring. 21 per cent of the respondents declared not to have any particular skillset, with no significant gender-based differences.
- Communities are polarized in terms of inactivity ratios (those both unemployed and not seeking employment), with Idogbo, Uromi (Edo) and Orlu (Imo) all recording shares above 40 per cent while the rest were below 20

per cent. Employment ratios are significantly below average in the two Edo state communities of Idogbo and Uromi, where there is low economic activity beyond subsistence.

- In agriculture-dominant communities such as Awo Aleru, Idogbo and Uromi, opportunities in agriculture do not extend beyond subsistence. Only in Uromi was agriculture included in the top five employment sectors according to respondents who were employed, and even then at a low 4 per cent of employed respondents in Uromi.

The labor market is largely characterized by self-employment, especially among returnees:

- The majority of respondents who declared to have a job or income-generating activity are in fact self-employed. Highlighting the limited job opportunities, with no marked differences based on gender or migratory status, 79 per cent of respondents stated that they would be interested in starting their own business. The socio-economic vulnerability present in the studied communities is reflected in the large proportion of respondents (about one-third) who are neither employed nor actively seeking employment.
- There is a clear tendency for returnees to be more often self-employed (or a daily labourer) and less often a salaried worker in the private sector.
- In Edo state communities of Idogbo and Uromi, the relational channel for job recruitment was significantly less used than in other communities, even though the two communities had the highest ratios of unemployment. Edo state communities were in favour of public or private employment offices or educational institutions, and also had a stronger perception of importance of objective recruitment criteria, possibly due to the important role the public sector plays in absorbing part of the local workforce.

Economic actors in Nigeria:

- **Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity** devises the National Policy on Labour Migration and leads the *Working Group on Labour Migration*. The ministry is in charge of developing productive employment policies and programmes for employment generation. It also supports skills development by upgrading and providing certification and placement of artisans and tradesmen in various areas of national needs.
- **Women United for Economic Empowerment (WUEE)** is a NGO in Akwa Ibom state dedicated to empowering underprivileged women and children by providing them with tools and skills for economic stability, such as small business grants, vocational training and infrastructure and capacity building.

SOCIAL DIMENSION

Migration and employment: employer stigmatization for returnees

- Results suggest that the employment of returnees in a salaried position is challenging. Results mentioned above on the higher tendency of returnees to engage in self-employment occupations may take a more nuanced meaning that do not necessarily confirm the image of returnees as entrepreneurial individuals with improved abilities that develop successful business initiatives. Qualitative evidence gathered in this study suggests that stigmatisation and social expectations in general push returnees toward self-employment.
- Returnees may initially face some degree of stigmatisation, especially if the migration project was not 'successful'. Looking for a salaried employment is generally taken as a clear indication of an 'unsuccessful' migration experience. All employers interviewed perceived hiring an "unsuccessful migrant" as an act of generosity rather than a business-sensitive decision. Employers also perceived the aspiration to migrate in employees as an object of scrutiny or a negative trait.

Migration and Education : a complex relationship

- A set of regressions found that the desire to migrate is positively correlated with being from a rural setting, having attained high school or university-level education, having reduced access to sufficient food, and receiving remittances. However, non-returnees seemed to be on average more educated than returnees and returnees are found to be significantly more prone to be school dropouts. The qualitative data gathered during fieldwork does not provide elements to explain this imbalance.

Access to services generally differ based on geographic location, not migratory profile or gender

- There is no significant difference by migratory profile or gender for socio economic inclusion i.e. health, housing, access to food, papers, etc. However, vulnerability indicators disaggregated by community show significant diversity across locations, especially for illness and food, with Idogbo and Uromi communities being the most well off. Nonetheless, evidence suggests that all communities suffered from limited electricity, with significant negative impact on their economic activities.
- Returnees are markedly more often married than non-returnees and have greater access to identification documents. This may point at the common West African perception of migration as a rite of passage, either to adulthood or to a higher social status.

Social Actors in Nigeria:

- **Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)** is a NGO focused on strengthening the link between civil society and the legislature through advocacy and capacity building for CSOs and policy makers on legislative processes and governance issues.
- **National Commission for Refugees Migration and IDPs (NCFRMI)** coordinates the national action plan for protection and assistance to refugees, returnees, migrants and IDPs. NCFRMI is a humanitarian organization that integrates the best solutions for such populations through effective utilization of data, research and planning for return, resettlement and re-integration.

PSYCHOSOCIAL DIMENSION

The prevalence of regional migration: The majority of returnees surveyed in this study had migrated back from African countries; Most of the returnees had migrated to Libya (14 out of 32 returnees) or ECOWAS (11). Only three returnees had migrated to Europe.

Initial Aspirations: The overwhelming majority of respondents (81%) wished to leave their community, and 62 per cent expressed a desire to migrate abroad (among those who wished to leave, 44 % of respondents chose Europe as their preferred destination, 27 % chose an African country and 29 % other). There is no difference between returnees and non-returnees in this regard. In all cases, the main reason to leave is cited as the pursuit of employment opportunities, although this issue is markedly more pressing in the two non-rural communities of Iberokodo and Ughelli.

Participation in social activities: No migrant/diaspora associations could be found in the community assessed, despite the facts that these organizations are found in several West African countries. The diaspora plays a limited role in community development, with the benefits of migration being reserved within individual families, signalling a lack of trust among returnees. The current level of support to returnees is severely lacking, especially in providing economic empowerment and psychosocial support to returnees. The availability of socialization and participation opportunities changes markedly across communities with rural ones generally offering less. Religious organisations, cooperatives, and trade associations are the main vectors of social participation.

Optimism among the youth:

- At the individual level and again for youth aged 15 to 34, a sizeable share of respondents are affected by **negative emotions** on a daily basis. At least 30 per cent of the respondents declared to experience anger, stress or sadness daily. Returnees record a higher incidence of stress, sadness and difficulty concentrating, although these results should be taken with caution due to the small number of returnees in the sample.
- The outlook remains overwhelmingly positive with 92% of the respondents declaring that their situation will improve. Qualitative data show that this view rests on self-confidence in the individual capacity to succeed rather than on hopes that the local economic and society can be improved through collective action.
- The desire to migrate and the idea that migration is a 'game-changer' of one's or of a family's condition is the foundation of optimism.

Psychosocial actors in Nigeria:

- **Society for the Empowerment of Young Persons (SEYP)** is an NGO committed to programmes directed at women, youth and children. Their goals include availing youth with vocational training, providing shelter to rehabilitate and reintegrate, and providing youth with positive avenues for constructive engagement.
- **Nigerian Red Cross** provides psychosocial support to victims
- **Mandate Health Empowerment Initiative (MHEI)**

III. IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR A STRONGER REINTEGRATION PROCESS

To corroborate the data findings collected in the field and the indices developed in the regional report and MEASURE report³, Table 1 presents the dimensions of individual reintegration for the five communities assessed in Nigeria.

- The **economic dimension** relates to the presence of job offers or income-generating activities, perceptions of job satisfaction and access to food as determinants. The table shows a very clear gap between Iberekodo (0,78) and Orlu (0,18). Iberekodo is a market community on the outskirts of Abeokuta, the Ogun state capital. It is also a border community and a transit point for migrants. In this location, income and job satisfaction rated highest. However, the emergence of competing markets nearby are hurting agricultural production and overall food security. The result for Orlu is more surprising given that it is the second largest city of the Imo state, and is home to a number of factors and industrial clusters. However, their impact on local development has decreased over time, despite past opportunities and potential.
- The **social dimension** takes into account the overall level of satisfaction with basic services, the availability of electricity and water to fulfill the needs of the population. In this dimension, even among the high scores nuances are noted: while Idoḡbo's access to water is strong, access to healthcare is lacking almost entirely and access to electricity is largely insufficient for both businesses and households, and educational facilities are in an alarming state. Water is poorly rated in Uromi and Iberekodo. A key challenge facing Iberekodo is maintaining high levels of social cohesion, especially among young community members, while social and economic transformation is taking place. Across the board however Awo-Alero (0,25) and Ughelli (0,29) rate the lowest on this dimension. This is not surprising as Awo-Alero is a rural community with widespread poverty and a social context challenged by low levels of education and social cohesion. Irregular migration is endemic and returnees are a significant share of the local population. The assessment suggests that Awo-Alero is likely the most challenging community for sustainable reintegration among those profiled in Nigeria.
- The **psychosocial dimension** is covered by several indicators including the expressed need for psychosocial support, the presence of negative emotions, networks, discrimination, honesty, participation in social activities and overall sense of security and peacefulness in the community. The lack of participation in social activities, high levels of discrimination and low levels of perceived honesty results in the lowest score in Awo-Alero (0,21). Ughelli (0,30) has the second lowest score but for other indicators – the lack of networks, participation in social activities and the lack of a peaceful environment were reported by respondents. This is coherent with the context: Ughelli is an agrarian community moving towards a rapidly growing town facing industrial decline and insecurity. Industrialization and oil extraction have changed Ughelli deeply, with a rise in organized crime. The highest rating is in Uromi (0,85), a fertile area of Edo state where religion plays a significant role in every day life and source of support. Uromi is a peaceful area, has natural resources and a fertile soil, but mistrust of authorities is high in this community and could be a challenge to reintegration.

³ Samuel Hall/IOM 2017 *Setting Standards for the Operationalisation of IOM's Integrated Approach to Reintegration*.

Table 1 : Economic, social and psychosocial reintegration score for communities studied in Nigeria

	Pilier 1 Dimension économique		Pilier 2 Dimension sociale		Pilier 3 Dimension psychosociale		SCORE DE REINTEGRATION			
	Rang	Communauté	Score	Communauté	Score	Communauté	Score	Communauté	Score	
Nigeria	1	Iberekodo	0,78	Idogbo	0,89	Uromi	0,85	1	Uromi	0,66
	2	Uromi	0,52	Orlu	0,70	Idogbo	0,71	2	Idogbo	0,65
	3	Idogbo	0,34	Iberekodo	0,70	Orlu	0,52	3	Iberekodo	0,62
	4	Ughelli	0,23	Uromi	0,63	Iberekodo	0,38	4	Orlu	0,47
	5	Awo-Alero	0,22	Ughelli	0,29	Ughelli	0,30	5	Ughelli	0,28
	6	Orlu	0,18	Awo-Alero	0,25	Awo-Alero	0,21	6	Awo-Alero	0,23

The index is based on the initial analysis of IOM – MEASURE and the conceptual adjustments described in the Regional Report attached to this study.

Based on the above indices and complimented by qualitative interviews, we identify specific community needs in areas such as water, energy, environment, etc. as shown in the table below: in red, priority issues; in orange, important issues; in grey, issues for which IOM action can not provide a direct response at the community level.

Table 2 : Overview of Key Socio-Economic Challenges by Community

Assessed communities	Awo-Alero	Idogbo	Uromi	Ughelli	Orlu	Iberekodo
Water	Orange	Grey	Red	Grey	Red	Grey
Energy	Red	Grey	Grey	Red	Grey	Grey
Education	Orange	Red	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Environment	Grey	Grey	Orange	Red	Orange	Orange
Manufacture	Grey	Grey	Red	Orange	Orange	Red
Finance	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Orange
Social Activities	Red	Orange	Grey	Red	Grey	Grey
Housing	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Red
Health	Grey	Orange	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Psychosocial	Red	Orange	Grey	Red	Red	Red
Infrastructure	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Orange	Red
Papers	Opportunity for advocacy at the national level					Grey
Justice - Police	Opportunity for advocacy at the national level					Grey

IV. OVERVIEW OF REINTEGRATION ACTORS AND THEIR CAPACITIES IN NIGERIA

Though the migration management framework in Nigeria is vast and articulated, the current level of local-level support to returnees is far from achieving sustainable reintegration. A striking result of this study is that no migrant/diaspora associations could be found in the communities assessed, despite the fact that these organizations are found in several other West African countries.

The federal government, in collaboration with the ILO and the IOM, developed the National Labour Migration Policy (2014) and the National Policy on Migration (2015), constituting the key legal vehicles for migration-related activities in Nigeria. The IOM provides support to Nigeria's **Technical Working Group (TWG)** on Migration and Development which is made up of ministries, departments and agencies, non-state actors, social partners, academia and development partners working on issues related to migration, chaired by the **National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI)**. The main **stakeholders** that are directly/indirectly involved in the reintegration process are: the NCFRMI as the coordinating body for issues of migration, the **National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)**, **National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)**, **National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)**, and **National Immigration Service (NIS)**.

Increasing the involvement of state governments in the provision of reintegration support and coordination is generally seen as key to ensure effectiveness, improved coordination and greater involvement and monitoring of local-level reintegration actors. The Edo state government, with its initiatives, can be regarded as an advanced example in the context of Nigeria. For example, the **Edo State Task Force Against Human Trafficking (ESTFAHT)** was established by the Edo state government to address issue of irregular migration and human trafficking, which has become endemic in the state. That notwithstanding, the NCFRMI coordinates various **committees and working groups**:

- Standing Committee on Diaspora Matters (SCDM), which focuses to diaspora mobilization and led by the **Nigeria National Volunteer Services (NNVS)**;
- Working Group on Labour Migration led by the **Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity (FML&P)**;
- Working Group on Migration Data Management (WGMD), led by the **National Population Commission (NPopC)**;
- Working Group on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), led by NCFRMI itself; and
- Stakeholders Forum on Border Management, led by the **Nigeria Immigration Services** with the support of NAPTIP (issues that come to the forum include the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol, Border Security, Trafficking in persons, Migrant Smuggling and others).

IOM's role in the coordination of the stakeholders and in the management of migration in general is deemed as essential. However, some of the stakeholders consulted highlighted the need to put more emphasis on the strengthening of the capacity of Nigerian institutions and actors in view of improving ownership and reducing reliance on external support.

Civil society organisations are critical partners in combating issues of migration management in Nigeria. A key informant in Edo noted that NGOs working on migration have organized themselves under an **umbrella body** known as **Network of Civil society organizations against Child Trafficking, Child Abuse and Child Labour (NACTAL)**. Amongst others, the NGOs focus on issues such as Psycho-Social Support for Victims of Trafficking, Legal Support and Victims Counselling, Advocacy, Report of cases to the authorities, and Sensitisation. Several CSOs have worked in collaboration with the government agencies and the IOM on migration issues generally, trafficking of persons, as well as Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR). CSOs emphasize their local knowledge and access, which they believe should ensure they are more involved in the formulation of strategies and in the provision of reintegration support. CSOs have the potential to provide support to returnees in economic empowerment and psychosocial services, however they also need capacity building in all dimensions. The presence of a large network of research institutes in Nigeria can both serve to build capacity and bring innovations to support key value chains in all the areas surveyed as detailed in Table 3.

Synergies need to be created, mainstreaming reintegration into broader government action (i.e. infrastructure investment) and implement partnerships with the private sector in key areas, and partner with NGOs to fill gaps in reintegration assistance with clear mechanisms for capacity building and monitoring.

Figure 1 : Mapping stakeholders with identification of major structural weaknesses

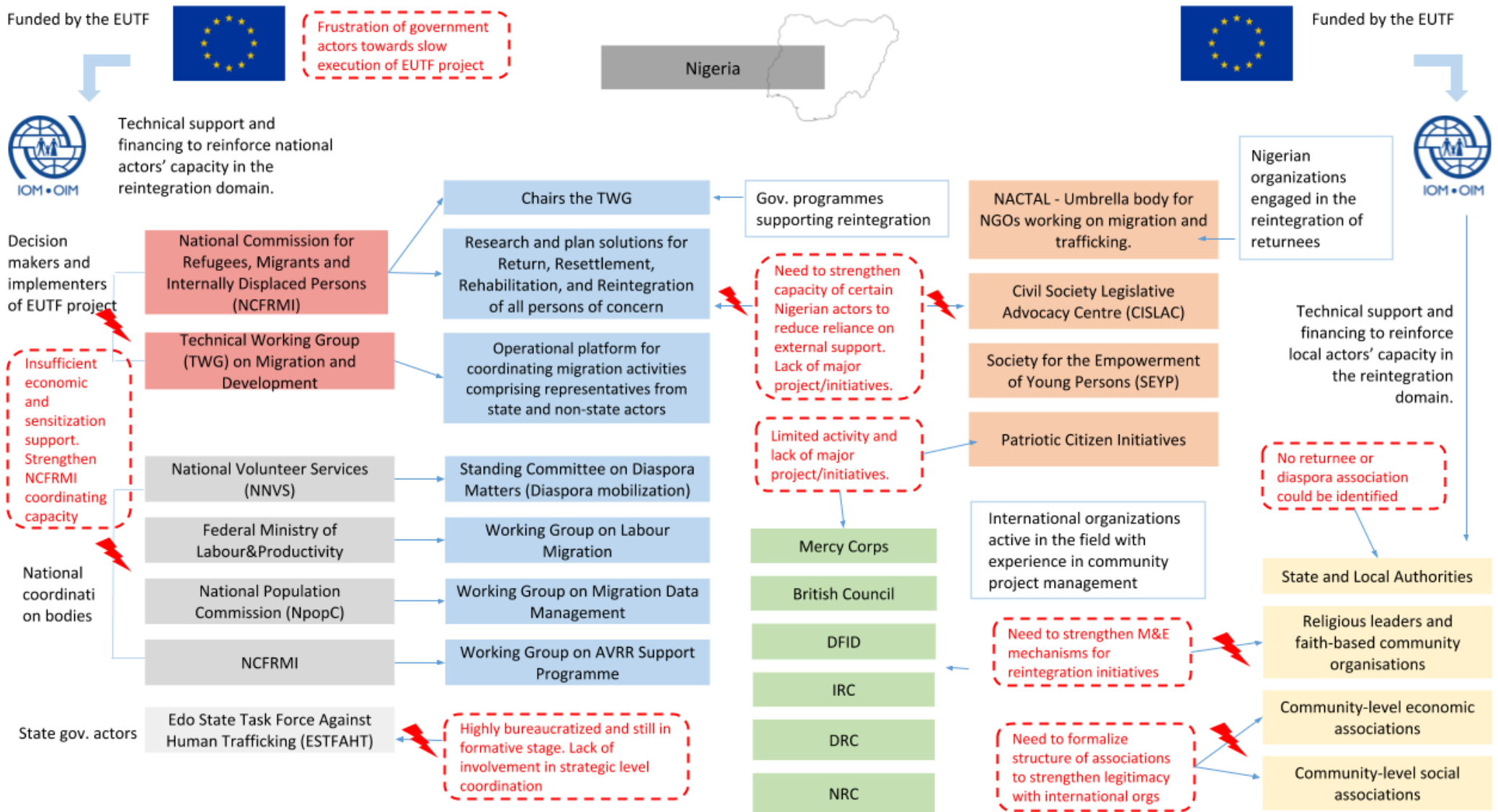


Table 3 : Structural and general partnerships (across value chains and sectors)

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">SOCIO-ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL INTEGRATION STRUCTURE</p>	<p>Institutional or Governmental Partners Central Bank of Nigeria Federal Institute for Industrial Research, Oshodi (FIRO) Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMA&RD) Federal Ministry of Finance Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity (FML&P) Ministry of Works and Housing National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) National Population Commission (NPopC); Nigeria Immigration Services (NIS) Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) Standing Committee on Diaspora Matters (SCDM)</p> <p>Housing, Land and Urban Development Partners Federal Housing Authority (FHA) Federal Ministry of Environment Housing and Urban Development (FMEHUD) Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMGN) Real Estate Developers Association of Nigeria (REDAN) State Housing Corporations</p>	<p>Social and Psychosocial Actors Mandate Health Empowerment Initiative (MHEI) Network of Civil society organizations against Child Trafficking, Child Abuse and Child Labour (NACTAL) Nigerian Red Cross Society for the Empowerment of Young Persons (SEYP) Anglican Church (Awo-Alero) Living Faith Church (Idogbo) Justice, Development and Peace Caritas Initiative (Idogbo & Uromi) Child Protection Network (Idogbo) Living Christ Gospel Ministry Health Centre (Idogbo) Bethesda (Idogbo) Roman Catholic Church (Orlu) National Orientation Agency (Ughelli) Urhobo Progressive Youth Association (Ughelli)</p> <p>Agriculture and Agrobusiness Sector African Resource Center for Supply Chain (ARC Nigeria) Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN) Farmers' Development Union (FADU) Institute for Agricultural Research & Training (IAR&T) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) National Agricultural Extension Research and Laison Services (NAERLS) Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG) PYXERA Global Nigeria</p>
	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">FUNDING & STANDARDS</p>	<p>Financial Partners and Social Investors Association of Non Bank Microfinance Institution of Nigeria (ANMFI) Bankers' Committee for financial institutions Bank of Agriculture (previously NACRBD) Co-Creation Hub Corporate Council on Africa – Nigerian Chapter Doreo Partners Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) Manufacturers' Association of Nigeria Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Corporation (NAIC)</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">RESEARCH & INNOVATION</p>	<p>Research Partners Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Bayero University, Department of Agriculture Economics Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) Covenant University Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN) Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR)</p>	<p>National Cereals Research Institute (NRCI) Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER) National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI) National Horticulture Research Institute (NIHORT) National Institute for Fresh Water Fisheries Research (NIFFR) National Veterinary Research Institute (NVRI) Rubber Research Institute of Nigeria (RRIN)</p>

Rubber	Cocoa	Mining	Fisheries	Forestry	Energy	Agribusiness	Cereals (Rice, Cassava)	Poultry & Egg
Edo Delta Ogun	Ogun Edo Delta	Edo Ogun	Ogun Edo	Edo Ogun	Imo	Edo Imo	Edo Ogun Imo	Ogun
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Research Centre Nigeria • Dunlop Rubber • International Study Group Rubber (IRSG) • National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services (NAERLS) • Raw Materials Research Development Council (RMD) • Rubber Research Institute of Nigeria (RRIN) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) • Cocoa Association of Nigeria (CAN) • Cocoa Processors Association of Nigeria (CPAN) • FTN Cocoa Processors PLC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raw Materials Research and Development Council • Ministry of Mines Development • Nigerian Geological Survey Agency (NGSA) • National Steel Research Materials Exploration Agency • Council of Mining Engineers and Geoscientists (COMEG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ogun Waterside Local Government Area (LGA) • Chi Farms • Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR) • Federal Department of Fisheries (FDF) • Lake Chad Research Institute • Kanji Lake Research Institute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN) • National Institute for Fresh-Water Fisheries Research (NIFFR) • Nigeria Forestry Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niger Delta Partnership Initiative Foundation (NDPI) • Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading PLC (NBET) • Chevron 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyxera Global Nigeria • Agrifood Youth Opportunity Lab in Nigeria • Quality Foods • The Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL) • Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI) • National Root Crops Research Institute Niji Foods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI) • National Veterinary Research Institute (NVRI) • Odeda Training Institute

Table 4 : Specific partnerships (by value chain or sector)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IOM - NIGERIA

In general, it is recommended that IOM - Nigeria adopt a systemic approach that aims to influence the structure of local communities. Reintegrating individuals is not just about providing short-term employment opportunities, but about better understanding the community to strengthen the structure of economic, social, societal and psychosocial integration. It is necessary for IOM to:

- i) Continue its role as key coordinators of national-level stakeholders and management of migration in general.
- ii) Explore new approaches, not only in terms of partnerships for instance with the private sector, but also leveraging existing capacities in the country such as think tanks, universities and NGOs

- iii) Place more emphasis on strengthening capacity of Nigerian institutions (such as NCFRMI) and actors by improving their ownership and reducing reliance on external support.

- iv) Strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for reintegration support initiatives.

- v) Support a platform for stronger

coordination between the migration policy and other structural interventions that shape push factors and sustainable reintegration conditions i.e. accelerated infrastructure development, apprenticeship systems in high incidence areas.

- vi) Recognise the capacities and resources available – Nigeria counts over 17 research institutes pushing technological innovations in a range of value chains, while also having over 800 microfinance banks. With the establishment of the Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Corporation (NAIC), banks are now also lending to farmers. The strength of these actors and networks can be tapped into to think more broadly about supporting economic systems.

Maximizing impact through partnerships: IOM's multi-role approach should be coordinated with other key actors, such as government counterparts (NCFRMI, NEMA, NAPTIP), relevant international agencies (Intra-ACP Migration Facility, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNFPA, and ECOWAS), local and national private sector, local smallholders, research partners (Forestry Institute of Nigeria, Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, Nigerian Academy of Science) quality labels (Ethiquable, Max Havelaar, etc.) and other relevant actors.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IOM – NIGERIA

1. **Promote the development of the agricultural industry by supporting value chains and linkages with supporting finance mechanisms:** Developing local value chains are a key step to improving the reintegration environment at a community-level. Alemu (2015) suggests that trade and agriculture in the Nigerian economy have the highest absorption capacity in terms of employment. Based on general and local-level analysis, our recommendations emphasize the potential of agriculture/agribusiness and manufacturing (light industry in particular) in the six communities assessed, which are all located in rural or peri-urban settings. As evidenced in our analysis, traditional agriculture activities are not appealing to younger generations. However, focusing on agribusiness activities with varying levels of industrial content (according to varying sustainable content in the local context), can respond to the expectations of younger generations of jobs that offer better remuneration and career prospectives than traditional small-scale agriculture. Furthermore, the presence of strong supporting functions to support value chains – whether research institutes or MFBs – ensures that there are resources for the integration of returnees.

IOM can address a key challenge in value chain development interventions by facilitating the networking of all actors involved (researchers, producers, processors, product distributors, service providers) and coordinating them to reach a common goal. IOM could also consider including technical support, financing, and long-term monitoring and learning to interventions devised. Finally, IOM could consider the direct

implementation of value creation activities in a target community. Of course, this option would require a careful assessment, considering the expertise and the amount of resources that would need to be mobilized.

- **IOM can identify, map and promote synergies and mainstreaming of the MFBs** to provide three types of support: first, support individual returnee entrepreneurs; second, to support cooperatives for instance of farmers; third, to support the transformation noted in the community profiles whether in peri-urban or rural areas. Since the Microfinance Policy, Regulatory and Supervisory Framework was launched in 2015, the number of Microfinance Banks (MFBs) has continued to sore with the objective of bringing financial services to the benefit of a larger segment of the Nigerian population. The link with return migration can be strengthened.
 - **Support agribusiness development:** Possible priority interventions identified in the community profiles include the need to go beyond self-sufficiency to supporting a potential for agribusiness activities. In some areas, like Uromi, this will require to assess the local primary sector, identify promising agribusiness activities, support their productivity and modern value added techniques. In other communities, such as Iberekodo, the risk of a decline of the sector was raised by respondents, calling for an assessment of bottlenecks and agricultural production potentials. At Addressing these through the injection of loans and grant schemes but also by supporting young farmers specifically, through cooperatives, could help regenerate the marketplaces. Bringing attention to these markets in return areas can be a bridge between individual returnees and communities. Communities like Iberekodo record the highest percentage of youths interested in acquiring agriculture-related skills, in particular, fish farming and livestock.
 - **The expressed need for the creation of or support to a range of centers is an opportunity for IOM to actively link components of the reintegration process.** Whether through professional orientation centres (in Idogbo), building the capacity of vocational centers (Awo-Alero), or establishing community social centers (in Iberekodo).
1. **Generate a strategy for entrepreneurial initiatives with social, economic, societal and environmental dividends:** Capacity building and/or strengthening of institutions and individuals at both national and/or community level were identified as a key requirement in most surveyed areas. Capacity development interventions should cover institutional (technical mentoring and training of organizations), professional (vocational training and on-the-job mentoring), and psychosocial (partnering with organizations specializing in mental health) areas. Assessing the impact and not only the outputs of the training programmes are absolute requirements.
 2. **Support development of diaspora/returnee associations and engagement in community development.** In none of the six communities profiled could a returnee or diaspora association be found, nor were there evident signs of diaspora engagement in community development initiatives. IOM should further investigate this phenomenon, as the cause may differ across communities. IOM is also encouraged to consider the establishment of returnee/diaspora communities in target-communities or even at a state- and a national- level. Even if these initiatives are not successful, their establishment would aid the identification of the underlying causes of the absence of such organisations in Nigeria. IOM should also promote involvement of diaspora members in community-level interventions (i.e. value chain development, entrepreneurship schemes) to create mechanisms for diaspora engagement in community development.
 3. **Reinforce social and psychosocial reintegration capacities through support to families and centers:** IOM could collaborate with local associations to ensure follow-up after the return of beneficiaries to their region of origin as in some of the areas surveyed, the links with families were weak. This was the case in Idogbo where reintegration depends critically on the family of origin's acceptance and capacity, while at the same time families being currently one of the top three reasons for

respondents wanting to leave the community. This shows a prevalence of social and psychosocial bottleneck, closely paired with an opportunity to explore through programming. In other communities, such as Iberekodo, the community realizes the need for a community social center to “enlighten” the youth, strengthen local associations and incubators, and bring them to meet together and include them in ongoing initiatives. At the moment, youth report not feeling involved enough in community decision-making and the overall feeling, as a result, that estrangement is growing.

4. **Update stakeholder mappings and focus on stakeholder development priorities:** In communities surveyed in Nigeria, the role of religious youth associations (both Christian and Muslim) was highlighted as providing a platform for sensitization, information sharing and awareness raising. They are especially relevant for continued livelihood and / or social and psychosocial support, during and after IOM/government support expires. While in some locations NGOs do not operate within communities, community-based organisations like religious organisations have a role to play. Others include farming associations for their potential involvement in economic integration. A two-pronged strategy can then consist of linking these with the psychosocial support capacity of religious organisations and the economic support capacity of farming associations.
5. **Strengthen entrepreneurship, cooperatives, value chains and possible industrialization, through financing and capacity building:** These efforts should not be reduced to migrants or returnees. For instance, in Orlu, local-level entrepreneurs and employers shared struggles to grow their enterprise; improve their access to finances, plan investments and manage human resources. In other locations such as Ughelli, the business environment is a priority for improvement – addressing issues of security, electricity and corruption will be key to a strengthened economic system.
6. **Involve and build sense of ownership and integration in community decision-making among youth.** IOM should recognize youth as a vulnerable group disproportionately affected by the employment crisis and need to strengthen integration of younger generations within communities at all levels. Youth generally feel overly excluded from community-level decision-making processes, and observations suggest a marked socio-economic and psychosocial distance between younger and older generations. Beyond the economic dimension, significant attention should be dedicated to social and cultural activities that favour self-expression and elaboration of complex feelings/perceptions.
7. **Focus migration programmes specifically on youth.** There is mounting individualism among youth, whose optimism is largely based on their individual capabilities rather than on collective action for improvement of general conditions. In this perspective, migration is perceived a game-changer of one’s condition. Thus, IOM should promote and inform on legal migration opportunities rather than emphasizing the risks of irregular migration alone. Such interventions could include the creation or support of community groups, out-of-season cash-for-work projects, small loans and business grants (if youth are deemed too inexperienced to successfully implement business plans they could be ‘paired’ with older beneficiaries).
8. **Support safe spaces and spaces for youth:** Overall certain communities are worried about their lack of capacity to support you, ‘enlighten’ them or work with them. In communities surveyed,

“The youth are the major problem of this community. Actually, it is the way their parents bring them up. They like things to be done sharp, sharp, sharp, sharp. That is why our school up till now did not have good students: most of them, all their mind is about travelling, travelling.”
KII with school director

there is often no common youth centre or space that can serve as a platform for the strengthening of local associations or as an incubator of CSOs and youth-focused initiatives. In other communities (e.g. Ido-obo) professional and migration orientation centres can fulfill the multi-dimensional needs of youth – through a focus on economic empowerment, social and business entrepreneurship, regular migration opportunities, and promoting cultural and social events.

9. **Develop capacity for monitoring and evaluation among central-level actors as well as community-based monitoring capacity:**

National and state government actors are often in early stages of reintegration initiatives, thus not familiar with M&E techniques, especially in coordination with all partners. IOM should substantially increase M&E activities of central-level actors with local stakeholders and address the capacity gaps in this area. Since many of the recommendations center around the links between programming for youth, nurturing a sense of cohesion and collective action, a longitudinal approach will be needed. These could be complemented by community-based monitoring (CBM) mechanisms whereby CBOs can also support the monitoring efforts.

Returnee economic empowerment

“Awo-Alero is predominantly a farming community but the youth, due to ‘civilization,’ are no longer interested in this profession, rather they venture into vocational jobs like electrical wiring etc. because they feel it’s more rewarding financially. When, eventually, they discover that the infrastructural support needed to excel is absent, they get restless and migrating becomes the order of the day.”

FGD with returnees

C4D STRATEGY FOR IOM-NIGERIA

The core of a C4D strategy in Nigeria should reflect the social foundation of migration in the country and rest on a clear vision on promoting a much-needed paradigm shift. A recurring theme in the literature (and supported by our data) on the origin and diffusion of migration is the mounting individualism of youth. Our survey respondents were overwhelmingly optimistic about the future and generally believe that they will enjoy better living conditions than their parents. However, qualitative evidence suggests that the positive view on the future rests largely on a feeling of confidence on one’s own individual capabilities rather than on hopes that the local economy and society can be improved through collective action. From this perspective, the foundation of optimism is the belief that migration can drastically change one’s condition.

Careful assessments are required to understand the extent to which **religious leaders** actively participate in C4D activities. At times, religious leaders are seen as “*preachers of prosperity*” who contribute to the reproduction of a culture of success, endangering forms of migration and returnee stigmatisation in several Nigeria contexts. Informants also reported cases of religious figures actively involved in human trafficking. In other cases, religious leaders demonstrate a high level of awareness on the risks of irregular migration and on the challenges of reintegration. There is also evidence of promising local religious organizations with potential to be partners in reintegration activities. The role(s) played by religious leaders are diverse and **generalisation on this issue should be avoided.**

Promoting safe migration is part of IOM’s C4D’s objectives, but the audience’s knowledge about the dangers and alternatives to illegal migration should not be understated. As discussed in the migration literature, and confirmed by the qualitative data, migrants seem aware of the risks associated with illegal migration, and do not make their choices based on a rational calculation between risks and benefits of illegal migration. This last point is crucial to evaluate the relevance of awareness campaigns. The analyzes below confirm the limited weight of information and communication in aspirations or decision.

The influence of the family and the social environment in the decision-making process is largely documented in the literature. Indeed, the data shows (see table below) that **family members** are by far the actors that the widest share of respondents declared to listen to when taking a decision (84% on average), followed by religious leaders (69%). The central role and influence of the family in orientating individual decision-making is a recurrent finding in the 11 West African countries included in this study. However, the high percentages recorded by **religious leaders** are a specificity of Nigerian communities. In relation to migration decisions, qualitative evidence clearly indicates that migration aspirations, opportunities and concerns were all themes frequently touched upon by religious leaders in their discourse.

A second group of influential figures include employers, friends and community leaders, all actors with which a personal relationship and frequent interactions can easily be created. At the end of the spectrum, consistent with data on perceived honesty, are the more impersonal and distant entities such as government authorities, community-based organisations and UN agencies and NGOs. The influence of social and political actors does not vary considerably among the five communities, except in Ughelli where there is exceptionally high influence of public officers/government (53% vs 35% average) and community-based organisations (46% vs 29% average).

Table 6 : Actors listened to in decision-making (by community)

When I take a decision, I listen to what they have to say:	Awo-Alero	Iberekodo	Idogbo	Orlu	Ughelli	Uromi	Sample average
Family	86%	73%	83%	86%	87%	85%	84%
Religious leader	68%	66%	71%	68%	72%	69%	69%
Employer	50%	31%	54%	39%	51%	36%	44%
Friends	53%	41%	31%	41%	51%	42%	43%
Community leader	39%	45%	46%	40%	44%	43%	43%
Public officer / Government	38%	38%	28%	29%	53%	23%	35%
Community-based organization	26%	25%	22%	25%	46%	30%	29%
Neighbours	35%	36%	11%	22%	35%	24%	27%
UN agency	31%	16%	26%	15%	41%	31%	26%
NGO	25%	11%	33%	11%	34%	36%	25%
Civil society organization	22%	23%	27%	15%	37%	27%	24%
No one	5%	4%	7%	6%	11%	4%	6%
Frequency	107	80	90	102	79	74	532

Colour-code: red = less than 20% positive opinion; pink = between 20% and 39%; yellow = between 40% and 59%; light green = between 60% and 79%; dark green = more than 80%.

How respondents perceived certain actors/figures as 'trusted' sources of information differ from whom they perceive as influential. At a general level, consistently with the results of the analysis of actors that are listened to when taking a decision, **respondents clearly indicated the importance of family as a trusted source of information (73%)**. Religious leaders, despite the fact that 69 per cent of respondents declared to listen to them when taking a decision, were reputed as trusted sources of information only by 19 per cent of respondents. Media was seen as a trusted source of information only by 37 per cent of the respondents, and friends only by 30 per cent. These results indicate that respondents are more open to receive inputs when taking a decision, but the perception of trust decreases significantly when considering the pieces of information upon which decision-making is based.

A possible operational implication of this result could be that awareness-raising initiatives should be designed having families in mind, rather than individuals. The penetration of messages based on factual information may also be greatly enhanced when they come from other family members.

The most popular source of information on the situation abroad is Facebook (46%), followed by traditional media (TV 42% and radio 32%) and family or relatives (29%) and friends or colleagues (19%). The young people surveyed do not generally use newspapers, Instagram or Twitter. These findings suggest that with the exception of Facebook,

traditional media (radio, TV) and traditional networks (family, friends) constitute the preferred sources of information.

The core contents of a C4D strategy for Nigeria should be based on a clear vision on how to promote a needed paradigm shift in the social foundation of migration in the country. A recurring theme in the discourse on the origin and diffusion of migration (and particularly on its more endangering forms) is the mounting **individualism** of youth. From this perspective, it is important to focus C4D on collaboration, development, and abilities to choose, rather than on behavioral change based on fear, deterrence, prohibition or negative representations. Punctual C4D campaigns do not insure a sustainable and effective impact. Especially in the case of migration, decision-making is an evolving process that concerns a variety of stakeholders who can only be sensitized through adapted and regular campaigns. Specific suggestions are included in the community recommendations section.

Community days (e.g. the Carnival in Iberekodo or Christmas festivities in Ughelli) are important for the reproduction (and evolution) of the identity of the community. Launching specific **C4D activities** during these events (which could also be attached supporting cultural and artistic events to enrich them) has the advantage of reaching a large number of community members at once, while also leveraging on the psychosocial processes that take place on these occasions.

A key theme in this dialogue is the **absence of migrant associations and the overall lack of diaspora engagement in development initiatives** for the origin communities, which are simultaneously among the causes and the effects of the strong individualistic connotation of migration in Nigeria. Moreover, C4D activities should go beyond migration-specific messages to also address fundamental integration issues concerning younger generations. In particular, these activities should seek to promote dialogue between younger and older generations, especially in addressing the perceived exclusion of younger community members from decisional processes.

Tools of C4D such as **field visits or public debates** allow partners to build trust and listen to the voices, needs, concerns, and experiences of returnees, communities, and other stakeholders. They are useful tools to understand the specific trends of each community, like the state of mind of youth for example.

Workshops and seminars at the national and community level can help elaborate appropriate and diverse messages, and go beyond the security approach by involving multiple stakeholders such as NGOs, private actors and different ministries. Each will come with a new approach: insisting on the challenges and advantages of employing youth or returnees, the obstacles for women returnees, or the expectations of the youth in terms of employment.

Given that 84% of the respondents listen to members of their family for decision-making and 69% to religious leaders partnering with **local associations and religious organisations**, can be an effective way to insure the message is understood and conveyed through influential and legitimate stakeholders.

Good practice example: The role of local religious organisations in return communities

In Uromi, a local religious organisations Justice, Development and Peace Caritas Initiative (JDPCI) is already active in providing psychosocial support to returnees and would benefit from capacity strengthening to scale up initiatives. Other religious leaders in Uromi are actively promoting migration and should be sensitized to the risks of irregular migration. Creating a community-based dialogue between these actors could ensure cohesion and coherence, with linkages, at all levels.

IDENTIFICATION OF MAIN VALUE CHAINS FOR THE ASSESSED COMMUNITIES

Based on the collected qualitative data, stakeholder interviews, and literature review, three value chains appear to offer superior value-added guarantees, environmental impact, and social equity in the five communities: ----. Table X presents the variables selected, the rating system used and the privileged communities based on an analysis grid developed by the ILO and the UNHCR.⁴

Table X : Preselected value chains for assessed communities (variables, weights, measures)

Preselected value chains	Cashews		Premium Rice		Small Ruminants		Fish Farming		Textiles		Mango	
	Note	Final	Note	Final	Note	Final	Note	Final	Note	Final	Note	Final
Potential (5)												
Existing demand for the product (1.5)												
Intensity of job creation(1)												
Employment for women and youth (1)												
Innovation, quality, long-term (1.5)												
Pertinence (for migrants and non-migrants) (3)												
Number of individuals in the activity (1,5)												
Required and diversified qualifications (1.5)												
Feasibility (8)												
Factors of production (land, water) (2)												
Realistic short-term schedule (1)												
Partnerships (technical and research) (1)												
Available financing (1.5)												
Added value (1)												
Social and environmental impact (1.5)												
Results (16)												
Priority community												

Source : This grid is based on the *Guide to market-based livelihood interventions for refugees* / International Labour Office (BIT - Bureau International du Travail) ; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). - Geneva: ILO, 2017. Each rating is between 1 (lowest) and 10 (highest). The four complimentary dimensions ‘Potential (innovation and long-term)’, ‘Funding’, ‘Added-value’, and ‘Environmental Impact’ have been added because of their importance for reintegration of returnees. Some weights were adjusted according to context.

⁴ *Guide to market-based livelihood interventions for refugees* / International Labour Office (BIT - Bureau International du Travail) ; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). - Geneva: ILO, 2017.

AWO-ALERO – specific recommendations

Awo-Alero is a rural community with widespread poverty and a challenging social context marked by low levels of education and cohesion. The highest share of respondents who declared not to participate in any social opportunities was recorded in Awo-Alero. Irregular migration is endemic and returnees are a significant share of the local population and perception of returnees is prevalently negative. Returnee investment in community development is limited, and some Libya returnees stated that people from Awo-Alero area were among their captors. Our assessment suggests that Awo-Alero is possibly the most challenging reintegration environment among the six communities.

« The youths are the major problem of this community. Actually, it is the way their parents bring them up. They like things to be done sharp, sharp, sharp, sharp. That is why this our school up till now do not have students well : most of them, all their mind is about travelling, travelling»

KII with school director

« Poverty is very high, terribly high. People are in peace but the level of understanding pertaining to their children is very low.»

KII with religious leader

Table 7 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Awo-Alero (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

AWO-ALERO	Challenges	Possible Priority Interventions
Economic Dimension	Local economy underdeveloped with widespread poverty	<p>Long-term support programme for younger generations. The severe economic condition of Awo-Alero requires a long-term approach for community support. The target audience should be younger generations broadly – including children in school and families (not just community members currently classified as « youth »). Areas of intervention could be –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on agriculture productivity and agribusiness in the short/medium term for employment creation. Long-term possibility is renewable energy. • Promote and support youth entrepreneurship (business-related and social). Youth entrepreneurs can be mentored on the creation of social or business activity and receive training and financial support for its implementation. • Local cooperatives (mutual credit, okada riders) may be involved in economic reintegration activities, especially ‘soft landing.’ • A few vocational centres are present in the community and could become resources for reintegration if infrastructure and capacity are significantly improved <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority, electricity; 2) medium priority, cultural activity.</p>

AWO-ALERO	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Possible Priority Interventions</i>
Social Dimension	Endemic irregular migration, Stigmatisation of 'unsuccessful' returnees, Negative perceptions of returnees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen educational supply in the community, particularly in capacity building and sensitization of teaching staff • Improve socialization and promote positive values among teenagers and young members with a structured and steady supply of cultural activities and events (linked to C4D activities). • Create forums for dialogue through youth and religious associations to ease tensions and strengthen social cohesion between generations • Assess capacity of local vocational centres and sensitise on returnee reintegration challenges
Psychosocial Dimension	Lack of actors providing specialized psychosocial support to returnees	<p>Build psychosocial support capacity of active religious associations (local Anglican Church) who already support returnees in vocational training, to raise awareness among families. Youth organizations can create support groups and community dialogue.</p> <p>Long-term support for younger generations (education, socialization, empowerment, support to better parenting, etc.)</p>
Communication for Development	Youth reluctant to work in agriculture, generational gap on shared values and migration; stigma against returnees to be addressed	<p>Theatre-based methods i.e. Theater of the Oppressed, or other participatory artistic activities could be used to let returnees and younger members elaborate with guidance on the community's challenging social environment</p> <p>Dialogues within communities between</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local religious organisations that at time provide contradictory messages to youth. Their support is essential to ensuring that youth understand the value in investing in their own growth. Some organisations – such as the local Anglican church – provide support but other churches are significantly less active. - Local cooperatives to ensure a 'soft landing' programme and acces to loans. One of the organisations – the local Okada cooperative counts several returnee members and is a common first job after returneing. The Onyemeyenibe Cooperative Trusted Partners Society provides support to returnees in the form of 'soft landing' and loans, although precedence is given to returnees with connections or with better chances to repay. These practices can be scaled and replicated. <p>An awareness raising campaign is necessary among actors of the community (social and economic actors) as there is still a strong stigma against returnees. The campaign should focus on capacities of youth to contribute and gaps in the communities that youth can fill for a mutually beneficial relationship.</p>

IDOGBO – specific recommandations

Idogbo is a rural community whose economy is based on agriculture and the public sector. The local economy offers limited professional and social opportunities – only 31% of community members have income-generating activity. However, Idogbo is located in a fertile area with good access to food, with respondents showing relatively more positive average psychosocial conditions. Along with the other Edo state community Uromi, Idogbo job market appears to be most influenced by subjective personal relationships for hiring. Idogbo has the second highest percentage of returnees at 8% of the community and the perception of returnees is prevalently positive. Idogbo respondents recorded the highest prevalence of receiving money from relatives or friends abroad (14%), however there is no evidence of diaspora involvement in broader community development.

Idogbo suffers from key missing enablers for growth. The basic infrastructure in Idogbo is lacking almost completely. Access to electricity is also largely insufficient for both businesses and households. Education facilities are in an alarming state. There is also no evidence of diaspora involvement in community development. Improving living conditions and creating opportunities are key to achieving sustainable reintegration in a community where irregular migration is endemic and mainly driven by desperation. Economic growth in Idogbo cannot cope with the increase in population. Poverty and food insecurity are on the rise as the main sectors of the local economy fail to take off. Moreover, land for agriculture has become insufficient due to increase in population.

« When we make up our mind to go, we go take the risk alone because when you tell parents, they will be scared and want to discourage us»

Male FGD participant, Idogbo

“Even though they are often ashamed of coming back to their homes, every family in here has at least one returnee. Migration is beyond mentality here, it is embedded in this community.”

KII with local religious leader, Idogbo

Table 8 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Idogbo (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

<i>IDOGBO</i>	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Possible Priority Interventions</i>
Economic Dimension	Severe scarcity of employment/livelihood opportunities, Significant gaps in healthcare, electricity and education	<p>Assessment of local agricultural potential and bottlenecks. Focus on agriculture productivity and agribusiness in the short/medium term for employment creation. Long-term possibility is renewable energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed analysis of potential for job creation in local primary sector • Explore value addition for agricultural produce • Assess capacity of trade associations (farmers, water packaging factories, transporters, private school owners) for potential involvement in economic reintegration <p>Establish centre for economic empowerment, providing vocational training, self-employment skills like business development, marketing, accounting, etc. Those with professional skills often struggle to find sufficient patronage for their activity. Thus, professional development initiatives must link to broader interventions that improve overall economic outlook of the community.</p>

IDOGBO	Challenges	Possible Priority Interventions
		<p>Develop partnerships with local King, who is respected and influential, and often employs vulnerable community members (including returnees) in his plantation.</p> <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority, electricity; 2) medium priority, cultural activity and infrastructure</p>
Social Dimension	<p>Endemic irregular migration general encouraged, Familistic culture – reintegration depends on family acceptance, Lack of structured socialization opportunities for youth and returnees</p>	<p>Establish migration orientation centre, potentially with local religious organisations/NGOs, private sector employers (some of whom are returnees). Such a centre should provide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of information on regular migration opportunities • Promotion of cultural and social events for youth and returnees <p>Prioritize infrastructure development and basic service provision in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity for personal use and for businesses • Healthcare: facility exists, but services not provided • Education: facilities in alarming state and provision should be improved • Transportation: urgent maintenance of the Benin-Abraka Road to avoid floods during the rainy season
Psychosocial Dimension	<p>Lack of actors providing specialized psychosocial support to returnees.</p>	<p>Collaborate with active religious associations, such as the Justice Development Peace and Caritas Initiative, Child Protection Network; The Living Christ Goaspel Ministry Health Centre; and Bethesda) to raise awareness among families, especially on the expectations and disappointment within families that constitute an additional stressor for returnees. Youth organisations can create support groups and community dialogue.</p>
Communication for development (C4D)	<p>Migration is embedded in the local culture, but only irregular migration opportunities are accessible</p>	<p>Run a campaign informing youth of services available and those lacking – informing them also of steps being taken to address gap to provide them with a forward looking perspective on their community. Invite them to contribute to the betterment of their community through a participation in these campaigns and in infrastructure-based public works.</p> <p>Build on the positive perceptions of returnees and familial relationships to create opportunities for socialization – different neighbourhood activities, plays, shows, recreational events, or get togethers could enhance the sense of social cohesion and community interactions (beyond the family) currently lacking.</p> <p>Engage in a dialogue with employers to organise a system of on-the-job traineeships for returnees and other youth in the community. Although there is a lack of economic opportunities, employers have a positive image of returnees. Returnees can support employers to plan ahead – with the support of IOM. For this, community-based dialogues between employers and youth should be held.</p>

UROMI – specific recommendations

Uromi is a rural community made of a collection of villages. Located in a fertile area, the Uromi community has good access to food and relatively positive average psychosocial condition. However, the local economy provides little beyond subsistency. Employment ratios are significantly below average and hiring on the job market is perceived to be particularly subjective, based on recommendations and personal relationships. Migration from Uromi is endemic and irregular. Migration is mainly driven by the severe scarcity of opportunities within the area and the perception of returnees is prevalently positive. The community is prevalently Roman Catholic and religion plays a significant role in everyday life.

« When we talk about returnees, there are two categories – those who have made it – they come back and show their cars and wealth around, I don't know where and how they made it. The second category is those who do not make it. Those who come back with nothing need acceptance, the parents have to accept them.»

Kil with local religious leader. Uromi

Table 9 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Uromi (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

UROMI	Challenges	Possible Priority Interventions
Economic Dimension	Local economy provides little beyond subsistence,	<p>Link economic empowerment with systemic interventions on the local economy (i.e. Agribusiness). Agriculture and agribusiness development programme and specialized initiative for returnee/migrant association. Long-term possibility is renewable energy. Such a programme should include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of local primary sector and identification of agribusiness activities with high potential for the area. Focus on job creation. • Support agriculture productivity, while maining high access to land and cheap local food products • Support farmers in modern value-added agriculture to reduce loss of raw materials through training in packaging, processing, cooling, drying and juice extraction activites <p>Improve access to a stable supply of electricity, which is crucial for the success of any industrialisation initiative</p> <p>Improve returnee economic empowerment through :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing capacity of local employers and trade associations (i.e. farmers' association) for potential involvement in economic reintegration through trainings in entrepreneurship and craftsmanship skills • Increasing opportunities for returnees to acquire professional skills or vocational training. "Quick money' vocational training have limited effectiveness in sustainable reintegration of returnees <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority electricity and water; 2) medium priority, cultural activity</p>

UROMI	Challenges	Possible Priority Interventions
Social Dimension	<p>Local authorities highly corrupt and lack capacity, Widespread irregular migration with significant challenges to economic reintegration. Migration is generally encouraged</p>	<p>Investing in institution building and transparency in the community is a requirement to building trust and social cohesion. Practices should be put in place learning from the work of organisations such as Nigeria Transparency Watch.</p> <p>Create local opportunities and socialization for returnees, particularly with religious NGOs that are well rooted in the community. The cost of irregular migration from Uromi is low, yet only the better off can afford to migrate, sometimes by selling family assets. There is a growing number of “unsuccessful” returnees who faced unfavourable conditions abroad and a severe lack of opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness with religious organizations such as Catholic CHES Project and Justice Development Peace Caritas Initiatives • Initiate returnee/migrant association that may address local institutional failures and promote development of the community. A top-down approach may be justified to overcome social and individual obstacles that make such initiatives so rare in Nigeria.
Psychosocial Dimension	<p>Lack of actors providing specialized psychosocial support to returnees, Stigmatisation of ‘unsuccessful returnees’ on the rise</p>	<p>Build psychosocial and C4D capacities of religious organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local religious NGO, JDPCI, is already active in providing psychosocial support to returnees and would benefit greatly from capacity strengthening in order to scale up initiatives. • Sensitize and train other religious leaders on the risks of irregular migration. Some are actively promoting migration
Communication for Development (C4D)	<p>Irregular migration is common</p>	<p>Strong sensitization efforts targeting families and young members of the community on the risks of irregular migration and returnee reintegration.</p> <p>Limited capacity of local population to initiate collective actions aimed at improving the local political and administrative framework</p> <p>As corruption and lack of trust in leadership structures is highlighted in Uromi, new partners such as Nigeria Transparency Watch can lead campaigns and consultations locally to engage in community-based monitoring practices. This will serve the dual purpose of teaching skills on monitoring practices, but also ensuring that community members have a voice.</p>

UGHELLI – specific recommendations

Ughelli suffers from deterioration of local economy due to electricity costs, crime and halted oil extraction. Despite the overall reduction criminal activity, organized crime groups are still present in the community and benefit from the challenging socio-economic conditions of the youths. The psychosocial condition of youth is particularly challenging. Perception of returnees is prevalently negative, and may be driving by community-specific factors such as the boasting behaviour of young returnees. The perception of migration is geared towards the acquisition of wealth and social status; although a push to migrate due to poverty and lack of opportunities is increasing. Ughelli also receives a significant amount of internal migrants from surrounding rural areas. Ughelli's key challenge is to find innovative and sustainable solutions to its economic decline and to eradicate organised crime

« The community here is not united as people are interested in seeing their neighbors fail in their endeavors.»

Civil society actor KII, Ughelli

« In Delta state, you are either a politician, a civil servant, a teacher, or a revenue collector. Industries ahve all collapsed. »

FGD with young community members, Ughelli

Table 10 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Ughelli (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

UGHELLI	Challenges	Possible Priority Interventions
Economic Dimension	Deterioration of local economy due to electricity costs, crime and halted oil extraction.	<p>Focus on agribusiness, fisheries, and light industry in the short/medium term for employment creation. Long-term possibilities are ICT and renewable energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorient youth on opportunities in IT beyond scams. IT is a growing field although this is partly due to illegal activities (i.e. internet scams) <p>Support the relaunch of industrialisation in Ughelli by :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing security issues (i.e. kidnappings of business owners or of their family members; extortion) Improve provision of electricity to business and community at large Reduce corruption <p>Promote and support youth entrepreneurship (both business related and social). Young members of the community can be mentored on creating social or business activities, and receive financial support and training for its implementation.</p> <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority electricity; 2) medium priority, cultural activity</p>
Social Dimension	Security issues due to organized crime populated by	Long-term programmes for youth on education, socialization. Key stakeholders have had limited exposure to reintegration issues and so capacity training of reintegration expertise is needed at all levels.

UGHELLI	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Possible Priority Interventions</i>
	unemployed youth, Strong tradition of emigration to Ghana, Negative perception and stigmatization of returnees	<p>Work with existing organizations, such as Urhobo Progressive Youth Association or National Orientation Agency, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve socialization and promote positive values among teenagers and youth with a structured and steady supply of cultural activities (to be linked to C4D activities) • Reintegrate youths previously engaged in criminal activities
Psychosocial Dimension	Lack of actors providing psychosocial support to returnees at the district level	Further assessments are needed to identify possible sources of psychosocial support locally. Both the survey and the qualitative assessment show an overall gap in psychosocial service provision. To begin with, a psychosocial mobile clinic should be organized with a one week presence every quarter in this community. Similar to mobile health clinic practices, this one would focus on psychosocial support. It would be advertised within the community.
Communication for Development (C4D)	Participation of youth in criminal activities	<p>Consider conducting C4D activities during the Christmas Period. Youths perceive this period as the only time of the year when the community is not socially dull. This is also the time when migrants come back to their community of origin to spend the festivities with their families, thus making it a key moment for the perception of migrants (and of migrations in general) in the community.</p> <p>Cultural activities and events should be based on community consultations to ensure that the target groups (young members of the community) are reached to improve socialization and promote positive values.</p> <p>A specific campaign will be needed to change the perception of youth previously engaged in criminal activities, to inform community members of practices around reintegration of ex-criminals within the local society. This could be paired with elements of community works and volunteering services by the youth to invest them in changing their own image.</p> <p>Ex-criminal youth can also participate in campaigns to prevent further participation of youth in criminal activities.</p>

ORLU – specific recommendations

Orlu is the second-largest city in the Imo state and has experienced a decline in economic and administrative importance with significant consequences for younger generations. There is limited capacity to define a development strategy for the community and local powers are living in a continued institutional impasse. Ughelli has experienced sustained population growth mostly due to internal rural to urban migration, but unpaired with sufficient economic growth. The city is an important centre for the trade of irregular migration opportunities and migration is perceived as only way to social mobility.

« It is a good thing for the youth to travel abroad. They will be bringing things for their parents and younger ones. When travel abroad is bad, they will not bring anything and their parents will be unhappy.»
KII wit female market leader, Orlu

Table 11 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Orlu (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

ORLU	Challenges	Possible priority interventions
Economic Dimension	Decline of economic prominence; Disruptive road infrastructure development, Lack of development strategy	<p>Prioritize creating long-term career perspectives for youth. Our rapid assessment of Orlu's labour market suggests that local SMEs would benefit greatly from a generational change in the apical positions and from the influx of young workforce. Improve job market integration by including the following in programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance to employers in scaling up their enterprise, improving access to finance, planning investments and managing human resources • Link active microfinance institutions to provide support for career development and business plans too • Improve youth (and returnee) access to stable job opportunities and career development through apprenticeship programmes covering different career profiles and giving the possibility to switch paths or undertake self-employment after formation is complete • Focus on agribusiness and light industry in the short/medium term for employment creation. Long-term possibilities are ICT, renewable energy, and industrialisation relaunch programme. Other growing sectors are mechanical services, furniture and metal fabrication. <p>Improve access to steady supply of electricity for employers and community at large</p> <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following: 1) in high priority, none ; 2) medium priority, electricity and cultural activity</p>

<i>ORLU</i>	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Possible priority interventions</i>
Social Dimension	Rise of crime and violence; Social pressure to achieve success through migration	<p>Establish platform to support vulnerable youths and younger generations, who are feeling increased marginalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a platform linking youth with community decision-making • Create a youth-led organization advocating for younger generations and providing support to youth most in need
Psychosocial Dimension	Lack of actors providing specialized psychosocial support to returnees	<p>Train religious actors in awareness raising. More than 90% of the local population is Roman Catholic and the local diocese supports IDPs from the Boko Haram insurgency in the North of the country</p> <p>Extend counseling support to families and friends of the returnees so that they can become themselves stronger support systems upon return.</p>
Communication for Development (C4D)	Pessimism and apathy among youth, Sense of powerlessness	<p>Given the transition that Orlu is going through, there is a lack of common vision for the community. A series of community consultations are needed to identify priority investment areas for all and for youth specifically.</p> <p>Crime and prostitution were mentioned by youth as practices that bother them but that happen in their community. Engaging youth to speak against such practices will require that their capacity is built and that they are engaged in the development of a campaign. Several layers of support will be needed from protection training, design of a campaign and roll out of the campaign.</p>

IBEREKODO – specific recommendations

Iberekodo is an ethnically-diverse community on the outskirts of Abeokuta (Ogun state capital). It is undergoing radical socio-economic transformation, such as a decline of local markets and struggles to maintain high levels of social cohesion, especially between generations. There are also tensions linked to religion and the arrival of newcomers due to inbound migration. At the same time, the seasonal migratory influxes contribute to Iberekodo's open market community. Migration is generally desired but not common. Iberekodo is a 'border' community and a transit point for migrants, though the impact of migration is limited.

« I see it [migration] as people seeking greener pasture. To be realistic, the country is not comfortable. Even if I have the opportunity myself, I will go abroad»
KII with local actor, Iberekodo

Large road infrastructure development is negatively affecting Iberekodo. A large number of houses have been demolished, in some cases with no compensation, due to lack of legal certification of building. However, community members are generally optimistic on the opportunities that the new infrastructure will bring. The key challenge facing Iberekodo is **maintaining high levels of social cohesion**, especially among young community members, while deep social and economic transformation is taking place.

Table 11 : Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Iberekodo (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

IBEREKODO	Challenges	Possible priority interventions
Economic Dimension	<p>Decline of the market, Road infrastructure development led to housing demolitions and cut access to water in certain areas, Limited opportunities beyond “quick money” jobs, especially for educated youth</p>	<p>Strategic reorientation of the local market and assessment of local agricultural potential and bottlenecks, with possible focus on fisheries value chain thanks to the Ogun river. Future long-term focus could be on ICT and renewable energy industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the specific causes of decline of the Iberekodo market and define a strategy with a participatory approach for its relaunch • Consider improving market infrastructure and capacity building for market planning and management • Assess local agriculture production potential and bottlenecks. Interventions can include loan/grants schemes for young farmers and creation/strengthening of farmers cooperatives to allow local product to reach more dynamic marketplaces • Harness the active entrepreneurial scene by offering business skills training such as self-management, marketing and accounting (instead of vocational training) <p>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following: 1) in high priority, none ; 2) medium priority, infrastructure, electricity and cultural activity</p>

IBEREKODO	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Possible priority interventions</i>
Social Dimension	Lack of structured socialization opportunities for young community members and returnees, Limited awareness on irregular migration and human trafficking issues	<p>Establish social centre for youth 'enlightenment', inter-generation dialogue platform, and awareness raising on migration. Potential to work iwht Abeokuta North local government. This space should also serve as platform to strengthen local associations or as an incubator of local civil society initiatives and organisations.</p> <p>Address the gaps in services through compensation mechanisms for those who may have lost their homes.</p>
Psychosocial Dimension	Lack of actors providing specialized psychosocial support to returnees	<p>Train local traditional leaders and religious youth associations (Christian and Muslim) in awareness-raising. They are relvant platforms for sensitization activities and for reintegration, especially for continued livelihood and/or social and psychosocial support after IOM/government support expires.</p> <p>Train and support members of the community to act as mentors to returnees, and help increase interactions.</p>
Communication for Development (C4D)	Young community members do not feel involved in decision-making, the feeling of estrangement is growing	<p>Consider launching specific C4D activities during Carnival festivities (rebranded as 'Iberekodo day') which attracts visitors from across Ogun state and beyond. Successful C4D operations during Carnival could have significant psychosocial impact.</p> <p>Organise public works activities to be jointly financed by the government and donors to address the harms caused by infrastructure development, notably on the lack of housing.</p> <p>Create dialogue opportunities to help the community and its youth transition through the strong economic and social transformations happening in the community. Engage in a dialogue on where they would like their community to be and the steps / roles that they are ready to take and play towards this vision.</p> <p>Given the existing social cohesion, build on community social and cultural events, radio programmes and other means of local communication to engage in sports, civic debates around the identity and future of the community, around youth and migration, tradition and modernity etc. This could lead to entrepreneurial activities to continue these activities more long-term.</p>

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