Summer school "Family life and rights of migrant children in the European Union" Jean Monnet Module MARS

Impact of Covid-19 on migrant children's right

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The context since the beginning of pandemic

IOM STRATEGIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN | COVID-19 | 2021

One year into the pandemic, the mix of overlapping crises with a rise in extreme poverty, political instability, conflict, disasters and food insecurity have driven humanitarian needs to new levels and further intensified ongoing humanitarian crises that, if left unaddressed, will have long-term impacts on fragility, risks of displacement and human suffering. So far in 2021, an estimated 235 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection,¹ representing a staggering increase of 40 per cent compared to the 167.6 million people in need of life-saving assistance in early 2020. The over 80 million displaced – both internationally and internally – are among the worst-hit by the crisis and will remain so if immediate support is not provided. Limitations to international and national mobility and trade are deepening the socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic with

job loss at alarming rates and increasing levels of inequalities and poverty, especially among the displaced, migrants and affected communities. With many migrants working in the informal sectors in low- and middle-income-countries, they are the first to be left out. Reduced remittances negatively impact economies and livelihoods, affecting already vulnerable communities and exacerbating risks.² Hundreds of thousands of migrants remain stranded in transit Others were forced to return to their home countries, unable to access employment due to lockdowns and other restrictions and struggling to provide for themselves and their families. The dangers associated with irregular migratory journeys have increased. Some of the 281 million international migrants are also at higher risk of infection due to the conditions of their movements, depending on their socioeconomic situation and are also more vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse as well as discrimination and stigma.

Risks and needs

- COVID-19 has hindered essential health services in almost every country, with the greatest impact being felt in low- and middle-income countries and crisis affected locations.
- The COVID-19 pandemic, while primarily a health crisis, has also exacerbated existing vulnerabilities, caused widespread economic disruptions and generated multiple new humanitarian and protection needs.
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased protection concerns, especially in fragile contexts.
- Recovery strategies need to include migrants and displaced populations and enhance their capacities to support socioeconomic recovery and sustainable development. COVID-19 has further highlighted the vital role data plays in assisting governments, health actors and other stakeholders in curbing the spread of the disease.

Impact of Covid-19 on migrant children's right: the IOM comprehensive approach



Source: www.iom.int

The Social Determinants of Migrant Health as human being

- Separation from family
- Level of social exclusion
- Existence of xenophobia, discrimination, stigma in the host community
- Availability of migrantfriendly health services

Educational attainment

- Economic class ٠
- Legal status ٠
- Separation from cultural norms
- Potential cultural and ٠ linguistic barriers to information or care
- Possible substance ٠ abuse due to isolation

Migration cuts across the social determinants of health

Social and community influences

Individual lifestyle factor

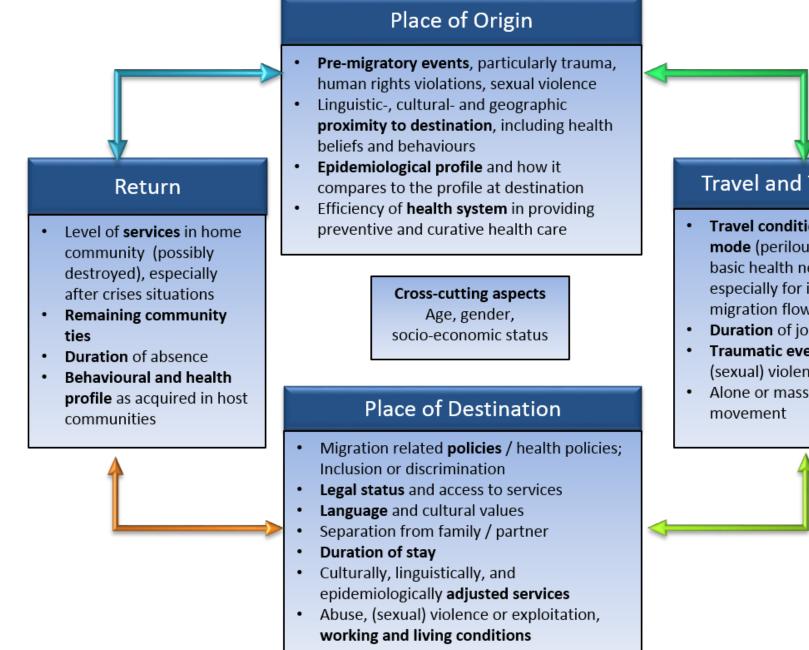
Age, sex &

hereditary factors

Limited/lack of access to clean water and sanitation

- Availability or lack of safe, clean housing
- Often poor working conditions and lack of occupational health schemes
- Ceneral Socioeconomic, cultural and environmental conditions conditions conditions conditions Access to/ existence of jobs that provide a living wage
 - (Lack of) legislation ensuring migrants' access to health regardless of their status
 - Existence and effective-ness of labour policies to protect workers' rights
 - Policies prohibiting discriminatory practices
 - Policies in other domains affecting the health of migrants

https://www.iom.int/social-determinants-migrant-health

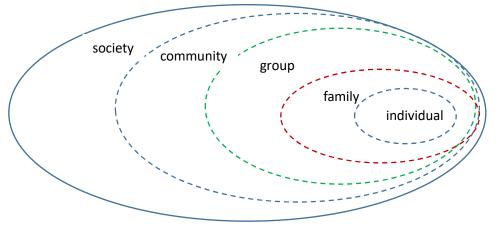


Travel and Transit

- Travel conditions and mode (perilous, lack of basic health necessities), especially for irregular migration flows
- Duration of journey
- Traumatic events, abuse, (sexual) violence
- Alone or mass

The socio-ecological perspective as analysis tool for responding to psychological trauma

The Social Identity Theory is a framework to understand divergent traumatic responses. It allows to integrate the group-based resources such as social capital, social bonds and community. It provides a platform for assessing resources such as social support and solidarity



Trauma and different trajectories Post-traumatic stress disorder: risk and resilience The social identification as group-based resources to respond to trauma

- The Social Identity Model of Identity Change (SIMIC; Haslam et al., 2008) to explore how changes in social identities as a result of adverse experiences can structure responses to trauma;
- The **Social Identity Gain Hypothesis** proposes that the development of positive and meaningful new social identities can be source of resilience in the face of trauma;
- The **Identity Revitalisation Hypothesis** extends the SIMIC model to propose that post-traumatic-growth in response to the stress arising from traumatic experiences is most likely to occur where existing identities are reinvigorated or new identities are formed.

Thanks!

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