

Following a major conference on Education and Migration organised in November 2018 by RECI and NORRAG, a working group was created with representatives from RECI, NORRAG, Swiss NGOs, a teacher training institution and representatives from two cantonal departments of education to carry on the discussions initiated during the conference around the question: “how far can good practice examples from Switzerland and on the international level promote mutual learning and inspiration for the work with migrants, refugee children and youth?”

A report will be presented in January 2020 at the Graduate Institute, Geneva. The report presents six case studies on “good practice” and recommendations to improve access to quality education for refugee, migrant children and youth. The case studies also present strategies to mitigate exclusion of these children and youth from the host countries’ education system and to ensure that children and youth on the move can continue education and benefit from quality and adapted education programmes.

The recommendations are addressed to both practitioners and policy-makers.

About the report



Case studies

Children of Refugees in Education (CORE)



CORE is a project led by the University of Teacher Education in Zurich which aims to teach life skills through a learning app to young refugees (13-18 years old) on the move. The app guides through exercises on psychosocial skills or professional orientation.

Essence of Learning (EoL)



EoL is an emergency pedagogical methodology by Caritas Schweiz which allows refugee and migrant children to continue their ‘learning path’ and to ‘awaken’ their learning potential, disregarding their age, through psychosocial activities and learning tasks.

Quality in Multicultural Schools (QUIMS)



QUIMS is a programme of the Department of Education of the Canton of Zurich. It targets schools with a percentage of 40 or higher of pupils from immigrant background with activities that foster language, social integration and equal opportunities.

Child Friendly Spaces (CFS)



Save the Children

CFS is a project of Save the Children Schweiz, based on a concept tested internationally in crisis settings, to develop child- and youth-friendly spaces in refugee centres located in Switzerland.

Protecting Displaced Youth through Sustainable Secondary Education



This project developed by RET International for Sudanese refugees in Chad aimed to provide quality secondary education using the Chadian curriculum with the final aim to transfer the refugee schools to the Chadian MoE.

Service de l'Accueil de l'enseignement secondaire II (ACCES II)



This service by the Geneva Department of Education offers welcome and integration classes for non-francophone migrant children and youth so that they eventually may join the regular education system.

Recommendations

General level

- Foster flexibility in education programs on different levels such as pedagogy, curricula, timetables and learning subjects
- Offer learning opportunities in the local and native language
- Ensure that psychosocial dimensions are integrated in education programs

Decision makers in the education sector

- Ensure that teachers possess a specific set of competencies
- Enable cooperation between parents and educational actors
- Institutionalize the exchange between different actors
- Promote exchange between domestic and international actors

International cooperation, NGOs and training institutions

- Build programs in cooperation with private and public actors
- Embed programs in the local context
- Integrate psychosocial dimensions into learning programs