
ARCI Project evaluation report online validation workshop

4 May 2020



AGENDA

- Introductions (5 minutes)
- Gerts presentation on the final evaluation report and the previous comments (15-20 minutes)
- Discussions: final Q&A on the report or comments (25 minutes)
- Action points identified from the discussion (if any) towards finalizing the report (5 minutes)
- Wrap up (5 minutes)

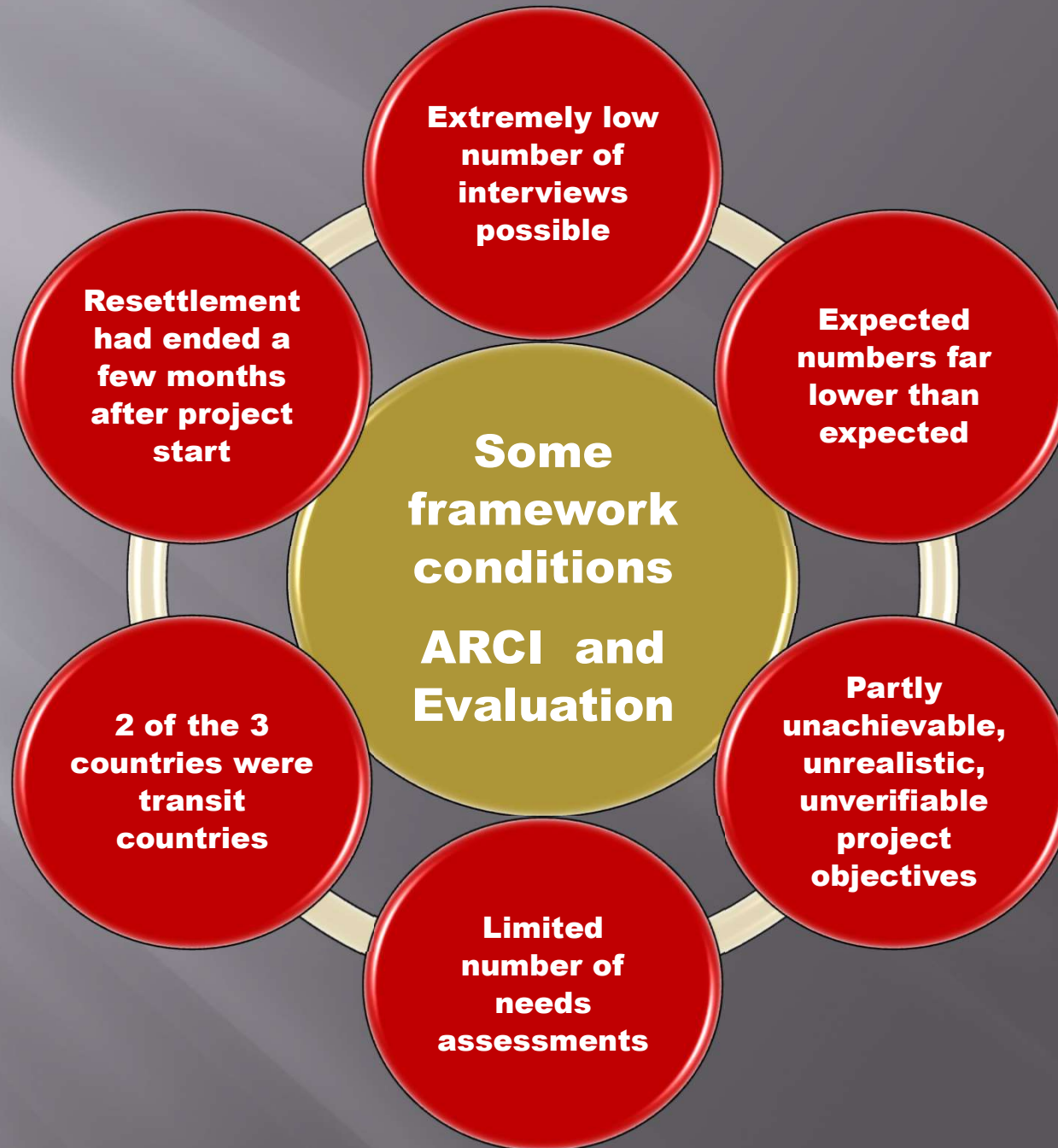


**Presentation of
the evaluation
report**



Evaluation of 'Action of Red Cross on Integration of Relocation and Resettled People (ARCI) Project'





Relevance / Appropriateness

- **ARCI activities were highly relevant and appropriate, but given the scale of the migration crisis, by no means “sufficient”.**
 - **Although project results were very positive, the project itself was ill-timed and the intervention was too short-term.**
- **All implementing partners identified appropriate and most suitable means of dissemination of information (printed, electronic)**
 - **In Bulgaria and Croatia, ARCI significantly contributed to a strong positioning of the NS vis-à-vis government., fostering good relationships and identifying a highly relevant and useful supplementary role to existing government support.**

Relevance / Appropriateness (cont'd)

- **The evaluation found that the most relevant ARCI activities were:**
 - Needs assessments** [though of variable quality and, by circumstance, extremely low quantity]
 - Dissemination of information** [with excellent printed and electronic examples in all three implementing counties]
 - Translation services**
 - Cultural mediation / socio-cultural activities** [with amazingly ingenious activities and inclusiveness]



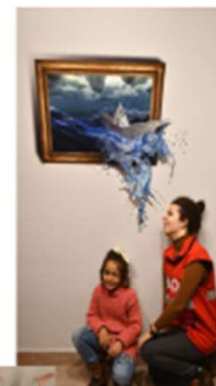
Orientation tour



Cross-cultural soccer matches



Cross-cultural children's activities



What we left behind?
Refugee stories.
Što smo ostavili iza nas?
Priče izbeglica.



Relevance / Appropriateness (cont'd)

- Language courses** [with some interesting audio-visual productions]



- Personalised / customised services** [e.g. job fairs, job searches, schooling for children]

Effectiveness

- **At the time of the evaluation virtually all deliverables had been supplied.**
- **With the exception of employment-related successes (30 – 85%), all other indicators of objectives 1-4 were either fully achieved (100%) or vastly exceeded initial expectations (300 – 1,000%)** [For details, please, refer to pages 35-36 of the report.]
- **Some existing myths could not be dispelled. This would require much more in-depth cultural work, starting already in the home countries of refugees, and a longer term project. No “quick-fix” solutions.**

Effectiveness (cont'd)

- **Significant achievements in terms of preparing host countries, front-line service providers, and local authorities, particularly in Bulgaria and Croatia.**
- **Although Red Cross NS have a long-standing experience of catering for refugees, the ARCI-Project has successfully contributed to a significant increase in organisational and operational preparedness and capacity building.**

Efficiency

- **Personnel changes half-way through the project created some adverse affects and time delays, requiring several adjustments of the project.**
- **Different organisational set-up in one NS made it difficult to verify the definite positive affects at local level.**
- **All three NS established in the shortest of time efficient internal administrative set-up and established National Advisory Committees.**
- **These NACs comprised of NS reps, reps of relevant civil society organisations, independent advisors, other organisations supporting migrants, and academia members.**
- **A detailed financial audit was not within the scope of this evaluation. Final financial information was not yet available at the time of the evaluation.**

Movement Coordination

- **IFRC ensured the link between ARCI and AVAIL projects.**
- **IFRC coordinated the exchange projects. While generally a useful way of learning, the usefulness of these exchange visits was generally regarded as limited. Visits could have been better organised, with clearer objectives.** [In the “Recommendations” section, the evaluator suggests also real practical “hands-on” exchanges rather than “visits”.]
- **IFRC ensured and coordinated regular face-to-face meetings, monthly telephone conferences, the final ARCI/AVAIL conference, and other related communications, all of which were viewed very positively by project partners.**
- **The role and efforts of the Project Coordinator(s) was commended, while there could have been possibly some more general interaction between NSs and the IFRC RoE.**

Goals and objectives - eradicate myths and strengthen solidarity across the EU



Goals and objectives must be realistic and attainable.

Funding mechanisms – funded untimely and without needed flexibility



Funding mechanisms need to respond with speed and flexibility to a rapidly changing migration environment.

Opportunities for operational capacity building good but not utilised by all.

3

Opportunities for operational capacity building and sustainability need to be maximised.

Community Engagement and Accountability proved to be the right way.

4

CEA should be further maximised involving existing and traditional structures among migrants if possible.

CEA needs to be balanced.

5

For integration to work, CEA must include host communities.

Exchange visits, though theoretically helpful and useful, were of limited use only.

6

Exchange visits require more focused objectives, thought, planning and hands-on experience.

**Excellent ideas
were developed but
often in isolation.**



**Sharing products
and ideas can
prevent the “re-
inventing of the
wheel”**

**Quality and extent
of assessments
varied and posed a
challenge.**



**Quality and extent
of assessments
should adhere to
well-tested
standards.**

Information given to migrants was vital, well designed and well disseminated.

9

Information to migrants needs to be provided in a timely manner with appropriate and flexible access. ARCI outcomes important for future crises.

Long-term strategies to interact with and involve government authorities have paid off.

10

Strong, active and regular engagement with authorities proves the right way forward and should be strengthened.

Q & A

FINAL REMARKS/ACTION POINTS

- ❖ Actions towards finalising the project
- ❖ EC factsheet
- ❖ Amended project agreements
- ❖ Final reporting



THANK YOU!!