

Giving children on the move prospects for the future

**DESTINATION
UNKNOWN
CAMPAIGN**

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Missing Children Europe,
Lost in migration
Malta, 27th January 2017

by Olivier Geissler ISS Switzerland for the “Durable Solutions ad hoc working group”

rationale

Why talking about DS ?

→ To go beyond protection

Durable solutions are mentioned in numerous policies, guidelines, standards ...

BUT there are

implementation gaps: in practice, national protection systems primarily focus on immediate emergency relief for children on the move, too few concerns are brought to the minors' mid and long-term prospects

→ challenge for many countries : social integration

→ no responsibilities once the child has left the territory

Durable solution : definition

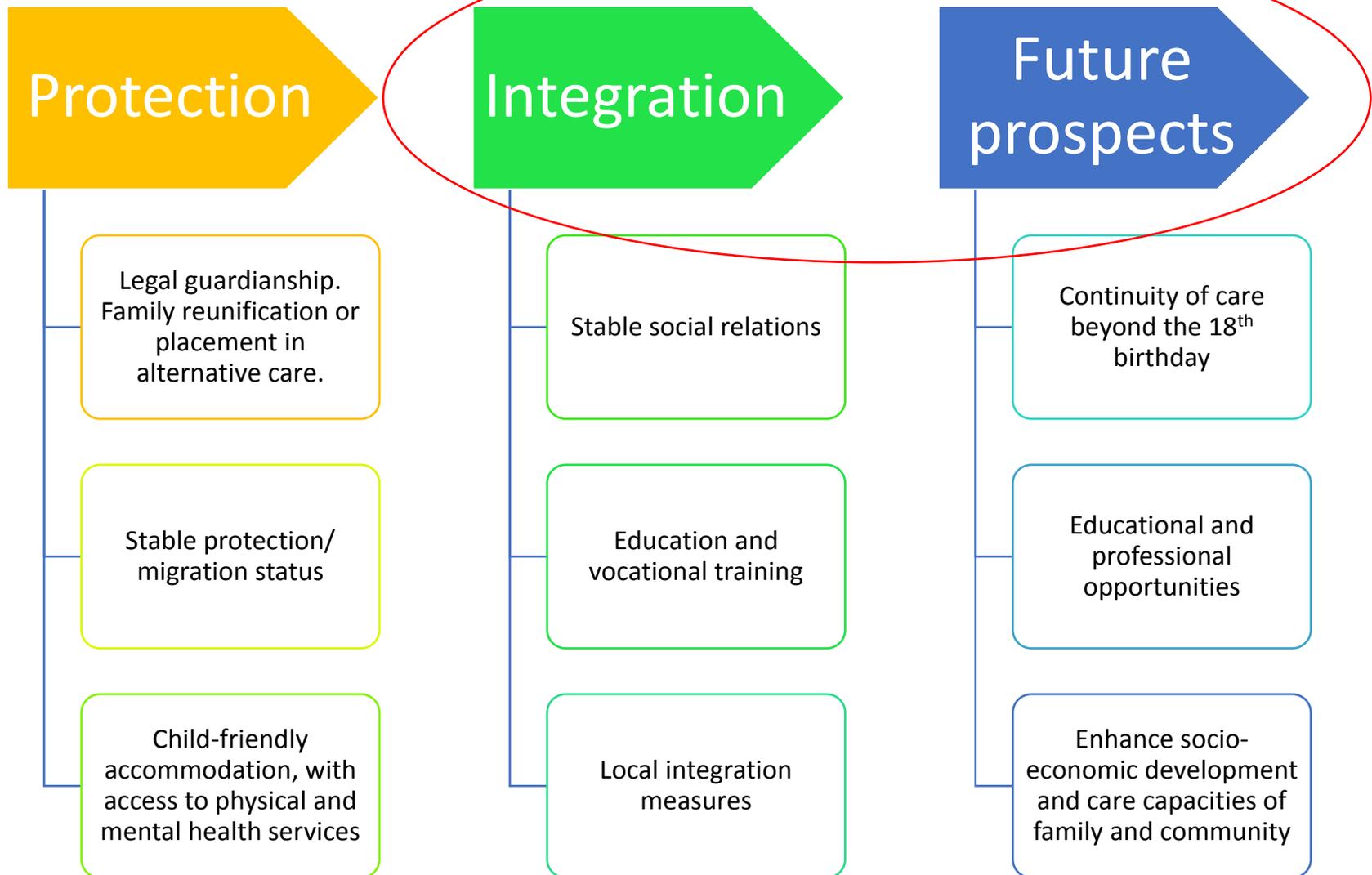
UNHCR & UNICEF (2014) Safe and Sound:

“ a durable solution ensures that any child on the move is able to develop into adulthood, in a safe and secure environment which will meet his or her needs and assert his or her rights as defined by the CRC and will not put the child at risk of persecution or serious harm. Because the durable solution will have fundamental long-term consequences for children on the move, it must consider the child’s views and wishes and any decisions must be in their best interests. (...)”

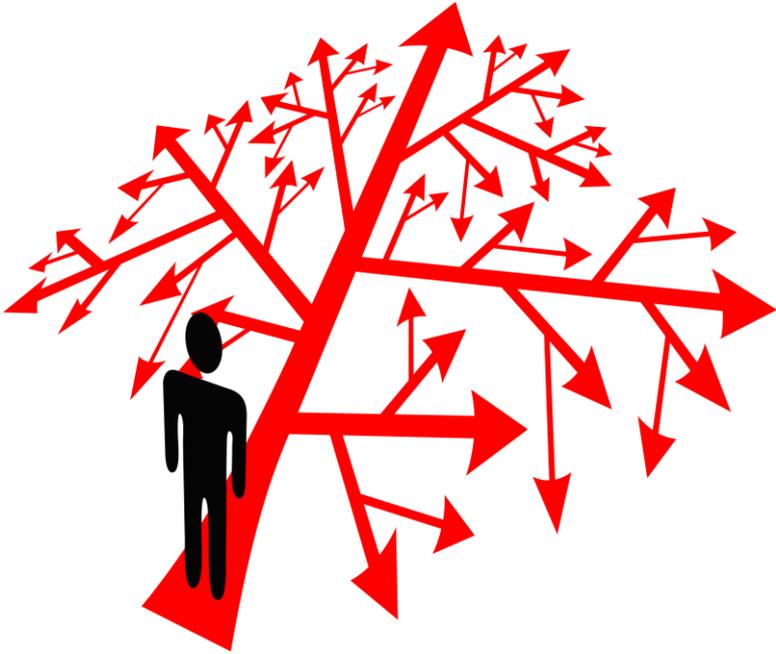
Working group definition:

A durable solution aims to establish a continuity of care in a safe and nurturing environment as well as the development of stable social relationships that allow the child to develop prospects for the future.

Durable solution: building blocks



Determining & implementing a durable solution for a child is a complex – and often long - process implying :



- The best interest assessment with the child → resources oriented
- Social assessment in the country of origin, including an evaluation of the situation of the family or potential care givers → who does it
- A multi-disciplinary panel determines an individual solution with and for the child → BID

Geographically, a durable solution process results generally either in

a) local integration in the host country,

b) voluntary resettlement in a third country or

c) re-integration in the country of origin



As the DS process often involves more than one country it requires transnational collaboration of relevant actors

-> challenges

- connecting the actors at case management level
 - * *Who has the mandate ?*
 - * *Dublin ? IOM ? UNHCR ? INGOs ?*
 - * *Lack of incentives*
- co-responsability of States
- harmonization of standards

Proposed harmonized procedure for identifying and implementing durable solutions for children on the move

Steps

- 1) Arrival and identification
- 2) Immediate support and care
- 3) Assessment of the child's individual situation
- 4) Arrangements for temporary integration and quality care in the host country

- 5) In-depth evaluation in the country of origin
- 6) Identification of a durable solution in the best interest of the child
- 7) Implementation of the durable solution
- 8) Monitoring of the durable solution

Recommendations for implementing durable solutions for children on the move

...

8. Develop a joint methodology for transnational case management

In West Africa 15 countries harmonized the transnational care of young migrants



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