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2nd General Conference of the ECCAR,
18-20 September 2008, Bologna, Italy

Working Group 4: Implementation of the Ten-
Point Plan of Action – Analysing the Local
Situation, Developing Strategies and
Evaluating their Impact

Past and Recent Work on Indicators within the ECCAR

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Framework

- commitment 2 of the ECCAR Action Plan:
 - To initiate or develop further the collection of data on racism and discrimination
 - Establish achievable objectives and set common indicators in order to assess the impact of municipal anti-discrimination and diversity policies
- Article 93 Durban Declaration:
 - invites States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and the private sector **to improve concepts and methods of data collection and analysis**; to promote research, exchange experiences and successful practices and develop promotional activities in this area; and **to develop indicators of progress and participation of individuals and groups of individuals in society subject to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.**



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Why do we need indicators?

- They help to:
 - compare a given situation over time
 - offer a diagnostic (e.g. which groups are most disadvantaged, which discriminatory practices exist)
 - they provide the basis to adopt evidence-based policies
 - Evaluate if policies, strategies, projects have met their objectives (e.g. number of minority groups in employment or specific positions) or need to be readjusted



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Why do we need indicators?

- In order to know whether progress is made and if policies, strategies and, mechanisms have proven successful (e.g. increase in the income level of discriminated groups, improvement of their educational level, etc.) = result/impact indicators
- Help to compare results in different contexts
- but: careful use of these data since the results depend on the political, cultural, historical, social, etc. circumstances of each context



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Why do we need indicators?

Further arguments:

- States have obligations to comply with international and regional human rights legislation such as:
 - International Convention for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)
 - EU Racial Equality and Employment Framework Directives)
- Local governments can contribute to the effective implementation of this legislation



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What do we want to measure ?

- Racism and discrimination
- Equality
- Integration
- Community interactions
- The progress of policies by formulating objectives
- The impact of policies on the situation of discriminated groups



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What has been done?

- Preliminary study carried out by CRIEC (Centre de Recherche sur l'immigration, l'éthnicité et la citoyenneté, Canada) in order to examine feasibility to develop harmonized indicators for the ECCAR
- Examines anti-discrimination policies of cities in the USA, Canada, Europe (Montréal, Toronto, Saskatoon, Vancouver, Boston, Stockholm) and indicators these cities are using to assess their policies



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What has been done?

- Recommends:
 - Quantitative data should be crossed with qualitative data (thematic content analysis, interviews, etc.) in order to set facts and perceptions within the overall social and economic context
 - Use sets of indicators rather than individual indicators
- Proposes final model to guide cities



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Current work within ECCAR

- Questionnaire developed and tested by ETC Graz to analyse the views on indicators by cities
- Seminar « Which indicators for Measuring Racism and Discrimination in European Cities » organized by ECCAR in cooperation with University and City of Liège
→ identify practical model for ECCAR
- Seminar presented
 - data collection methods to analyse racism and discrimination at the local level (statistical surveys, opinion surveys, behavioural testings, etc.)
 - Reliability and Validity of data and limits of indicators
 - Municipal anti-discrimination strategies (Rotterdam, Botkyrka, Madrid, Bologna)



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Current work within ECCAR

Outputs

- Cities use different indicators to measure different things (racism and discrimination, interactions between citizens, progress of policies, etc.)
- No common understanding of what ECCAR indicators should measure
- Common framework accepted: article 1 of ICERD
« the term 'racial discrimination' shall mean **any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference** based on race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose of **nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise**, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the **political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.** »



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Current work within ECCAR

Main arguments:

- What should be measured?
 - Distinction, restriction, exclusion
- Why should it be done?
 - Because distinction, restriction, exclusion may nullify or impair equal opportunities
- In what areas?
 - political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life
- Similar to the ECCAR Action Plan, ICERD article 1 provides a concrete definition of what should be measured, in what areas but leaves space for individual action and defined goals in different contexts → comparable and meaningful indicators can be developed
- Legally binding at UN level and applicable to all ECCAR member cities



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Current work within ECCAR

Proposals for moving forward:

- Diversity of approaches and available data allows for **development of flexible, common framework for data collection and analysis** to comparatively assess the local situations
- Operationable objectives and qualitative and quantitative performance indicators with regard to specific commitments of the Action Plan as a means to evaluate local policies could be formulated

Challenges

- Need for political support of the project
- Clarify concerns of sensitive or ethnic data collection
- Reflect on protection mechanism on abuse of data
- Limitations of indicators