

How to use the Integration Star™ with the Home Office Indicators of Integration framework

Background

The Indicators of Integration framework was developed in collaboration with academics, migrant organisations, the voluntary sector, local and national governments and migrants themselves in order to provide a common language for ‘understanding, planning, monitoring and measuring integration’.

The latest version published in 2019, identifies 14 domains of integration with which to design, implement and measure the success of interventions. The framework suggests outcome indicators for each domain, for example the percentage of people in paid work and other ‘hard outcomes’ measures. These measures are valuable but do not assess distance travelled towards the outcomes at an individual or cohort level. In addition, measuring these outcomes does not directly support the one-to-one support provided.

The Refugee Council recognised the need for a version of the Outcomes Star, a keywork and outcomes measurement tool, that was aligned with the Home Office’s Indicators of Integration framework. In 2019, they approached Triangle about this new version of the Star, which led to the co-creation of the Integration Star for use with refugees needing support to integrate into and build a life in their new country.

The domains identified in the Indicators of Integration framework were used as a basis for a literature review informing the first workshop in the development of the Integration Star. Later in the development process, the domains were mapped against the Integration Star outcome areas to ensure a good fit. This mapping is shown in the table below:

Indicators of Integration domains	Integration Star outcome areas
Work (including unpaid work and awareness of pathways to participation)	Education and work: work, training, education and volunteering, work skills, qualifications and ambitions
Housing (including suitability and stability of housing)	Where you live: safe and adequate housing, housing options, understanding your tenancy
Education (including training)	Education and work: work, training, education and volunteering, work skills, qualifications and ambitions.
Health & social care (including emotional well-being and accessing health services)	Health and well-being: physical, mental and emotional health, doctors and treatment, drugs and alcohol
Leisure (including participation in social and leisure activities and accessing community services)	Community and connections: friends, family, connections with your culture, wider community and social activities
Bonds, bridges and links (social connections with friends, family, people with the same backgrounds and the wider community and awareness of, or engagement with institutions that can facilitate links with the community)	<p>Community and connections: friends, family, connections with your culture, wider community and social activities</p> <p>Family and children: Family, partners, tracing missing family, family reunion and being a parent</p> <p>Laws, systems and services: Laws, social services, the school and police service and the immigration system</p>

Indicators of Integration domains (facilitators)	Integration Star outcome areas
Language & communication (focused on English language learning)	Practical English: understanding, speaking and writing English, communicating and using interpreters
Culture (including engaging with UK cultural institutions and events and understanding of UK institutional cultures such as laws)	<p>Community and connections: friends, family, connections with your culture, wider community and social activities</p> <p>Laws, systems and services: Laws, social services, the school and police service and the immigration system</p>
Digital skills (Familiarity and confidence in using information communication technology to facilitate social connections and access rights and services)	This is incorporated into all relevant outcome areas
Safety (including domestic violence, feeling safe in the community, interactions with the police)	<p>Community and connections: friends, family, connections with your culture, wider community, and social activities (also includes harassment and feeling safe)</p> <p>Laws, systems and services: Laws, social services, the school and police service and the immigration system</p> <p>Family and children: Family, partners, tracing missing family, family reunion and being a parent (specifically covers domestic violence)</p>
Stability (includes having a stable routine in work, education, living circumstances, finances and feeling comfortable in the community)	This is incorporated into all relevant outcome areas (e.g. Housing, Money, Community and Connections, Education and work)
Rights and responsibilities (foundation domain): the basis upon which mutual expectations and obligations which support the process of integration are established.	The Outcomes Star approach involves the service user and practitioner collaborating to develop mutual expectations and obligations that support the process of integration. Through discussing strengths and needs together using the detailed scale descriptors and Journey of Change, a joint understanding is developed, and action plans are created.

To find out more please see our website or <https://www.outcomesstar.org.uk/using-the-star/see-the-stars/integration-star/> or get in touch on info@triangleconsulting.co.uk or +44(0) 207 272 8765.