



CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON



Gathering Evidence Effectively

Julie Gibbs and Gabriela Quevedo
ICAR Team

ICAR Seminar 8th December 2009

Welcome



- Introductions
- Structure
- Handouts
- Feedback please!

ICAR



Aims to encourage understanding, public debate and policy making about Asylum and Refugees in the UK, grounded in accurate and academically sourced information.

Finding evidence



- The world WIDE web
- Information, blogs, newsfeeds, mailing lists, wikis.....
- Focussed on the UK but there are many international sites with information
- Evaluating the quality of information is key
 - Who manages the site
 - When was it last updated
 - How is it presented?

Gathering evidence...



- **Government and Statutory sector**
- **Academia**
- Legal Bodies
- **Voluntary sector**
- **Media**
- Think Tanks
- Professional Bodies
- Private Research Companies
- **Portals and hubs**
- Archives of data
- List servs

Government and Statutory Sector 1



- Provide statistics, policy information, legislation, regional information and research
- Statistics:
 - Home Office RDS
 - [ICAR break down](#)
 - Asylum Immigration Tribunal
 - [Office for National Statistics](#)
 - Getting the data (UK Data Archive)

Government and Statutory Sector 2



Local Authorities and Strategic Partnerships

- Regional Strategic Migration Partnerships
 - Yorkshire and Humber:
<http://www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/>
 - Local authority web sites often have local statistics
- Worth looking at the local NHS Primary Care Trust for health information
- Local Education Authorities

Government and Statutory Sector 3



- **Research, policy information and news**
 - UK Borders Agency
 - Home Office – [Immigration Research and Statistics](#)
 - Greater London Authority
 - Department of Communities and Local Government
 - UK Parliament

Academia



- Databases for identification of materials in books and journals
- Centres;
 - Centre for Migration, Policy and Society [COMPAS], University of Oxford
 - [Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees](#)
 - [Researching Asylum in London \(RAL\)](#)
 - Centre for Migration Policy Research, Swansea University
 - Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford
 - Refugee Council Archives, UEL

Voluntary Sector



- **Finding organisations:**
 - REAP database in London
 - Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Partnership
 - Health for asylum seekers and refugee portal (Harpweb)
 - [Mapping the UK \(ICAR\)](#)

Voluntary Sector



- **Major centres:**
 - **Refugee Council**
 - Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
 - Bail for Immigration Detainees
 - Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
 - **ECRE**
 - **Asylum Aid**
 - **Immigration Advisory Service**
 - Refugee Action
 - Praxis

Media



- BBC Online: Destination UK
- The Guardian: Immigration and Asylum
- The Observer – Asylum: Myths and Realities
- Institute of Race Relations
- Refugees, Asylum Seekers and the Media (RAM) project
- Hatnews

Portals and Hubs



- **Electronic Immigration Network**
- Forced Migration Online
- Harpweb
- ICAR
- **Moving here**

Gathering it all together.....

- Help! I am overwhelmed!
 - Look at the research proposal or funding guidelines and stay specific
 - Do not be tempted to print everything!
 - Organise your evidence by category e.g. statistics, research, news articles and so on....
 - Make folders for evidence on your key areas and save as you see – this saves time later
 - Google and other general searches.....

Exercise



- 15 minutes in groups of 4
- You are working on a funding proposal for a project which aims to find out about RAS experiences with integration into dispersal area communities in England.
 - What types of evidence would you look for?
 - Where would you look?