

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration

Annual Report of Activities 2010



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List of Acronyms

AVRR	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
AVR	Assisted Voluntary Return
CAP	Community Assistance Project
EAS	Employment Assistance Services
EC	European Commission
EMN	European Migration Network
EU	European Union
FYROM	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRRiCO	Enhanced and Integrated Approach regarding Information on Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin
LiMo	Regional Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme for Stranded Migrants in Libya and Morocco
MAM	Movement and Assisted Migration Unit
MRF	Mission with Regional Function
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
RAS	Return Assistance from Switzerland
REAB	Return and Emigration of Asylum Seekers Ex-Belgium
REAG	Reintegration and Emigration Project for Asylum-Seekers in Germany
UAM	Unaccompanied Minors
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
VARRP	Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme
VoT	Victim of Trafficking
WMR	World Migration Report

Foreword

It is with great pleasure that we present the AVRR Annual Report on activities implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 2010 in the areas of assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) and post-arrival and reintegration assistance implemented in countries of origin to assist both migrants returning voluntarily with the help of IOM and migrants returned by governments.

Since the implementation of the first AVRR projects in Europe 32 years ago, the provision of AVRR options for international migrants has been an integral part of the migration management systems of many IOM Member States. AVRR can be considered the most challenging part of migration management as it requires the cooperation and consent of a broad range of actors: the migrants themselves, the countries of transit and origin, and civil society, which often plays a decisive role during the pre-departure phase in the host country and the reintegration phase in the country of origin. Through this complex area of work, IOM has assisted approximately 330,000 migrants in the last 10 years alone, or 25,000–30,000 migrants a year, on average.

In the last 30 years, IOM, in collaboration with its Member States, has made great strides in the field of AVRR. Over time, AVRR projects have been characterized by an expansion of reintegration assistance and its integration into national development efforts in countries of origin; more assistance to vulnerable groups such as migrants with specific medical needs; increased exchange of practices and consultations at regional and national forums; and joint efforts with governmental and non-governmental parties for more individualized projects for sustainable returns.

The ongoing further development of the AVRR concept cannot be disconnected from a continuously evolving and growing network of partners comprised of international organizations as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and their governmental counterparts worldwide. These partnerships have allowed IOM to provide Member States with an up-to-date and comprehensive level of services, while at the same time guaranteeing a relevant pool of global expertise in promoting AVRR policies at the national, regional and global levels.

Irena Vojackova-Sollorano

Director Department for Migration Management

2010:AVRR at a glance

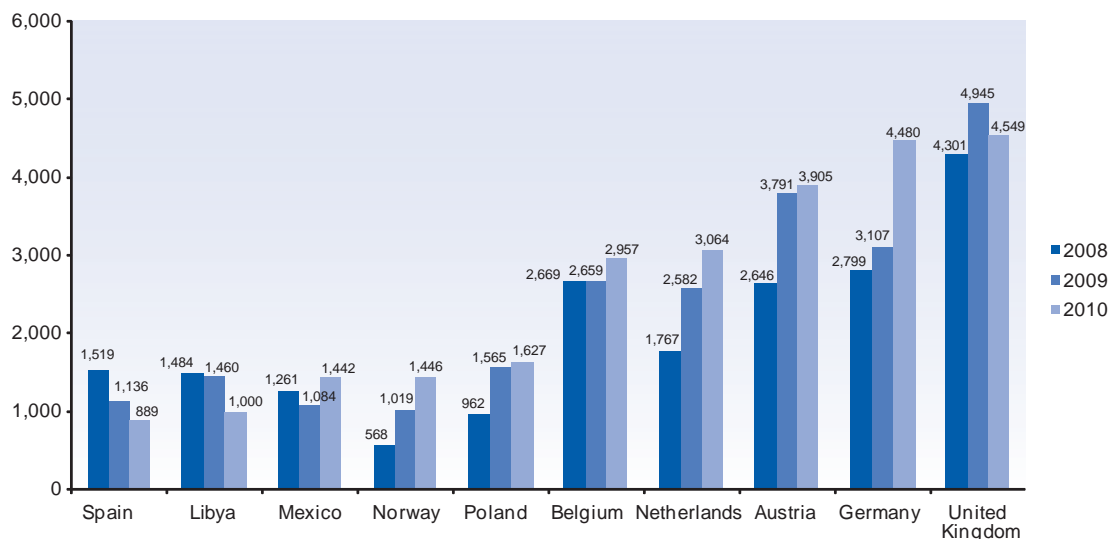
Through its 400 offices worldwide, IOM in 2010 assisted over 34,000 migrants in returning home in a dignified and human manner, in many cases implementing reintegration assistance in migrants' respective countries of origin.

Whether a migrant's reasons for returning voluntarily with IOM's assistance are considered by others as "genuine voluntary return" or a "consented return", the fact is that the decision to return home can be a complex and difficult one, very often more difficult than the decision to migrate in the first place.

Though IOM has implemented AVRR for over 32 years, this report will only focus on the year 2010. That being said, several statistical tables throughout this report will look at some trends prior to 2010.

AVRR is implemented by IOM globally, with over 100 projects worldwide. However, a number of programmes, based on their duration as well as the potential migrant caseload, have featured more prominently. Figure 1 shows the top 10 countries with the largest number of migrants returning under AVRR programmes in the last three years. The United Kingdom had the highest number of AVRR returns, followed by Germany and Austria. A complete list of returns over the last 10 years can be found in Annex I.

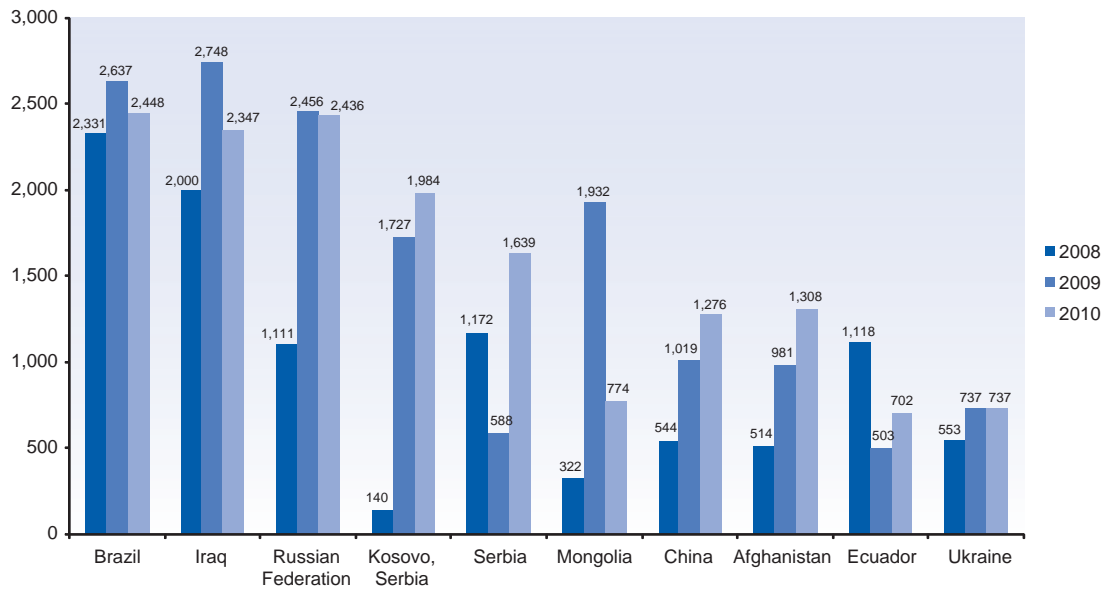
Figure 1: AVRR returns from top 10 host countries, 2008–2010



A glimpse into the global spectrum of IOM projects in 2010 that provide assistance to returning flows of migrants clearly indicates three relevant facts: 1) there is more reintegration assistance than before, but more inequalities exist in the levels of assistance offered by host countries for returnees to the same countries of origin; 2) there is more country of origin information at pre-return stages, but there are not enough opportunities back in the countries of origin to be presented during return counselling; and 3) there has been more monitoring by IOM and its partners of the delivery of reintegration, although there has not been enough evaluation.

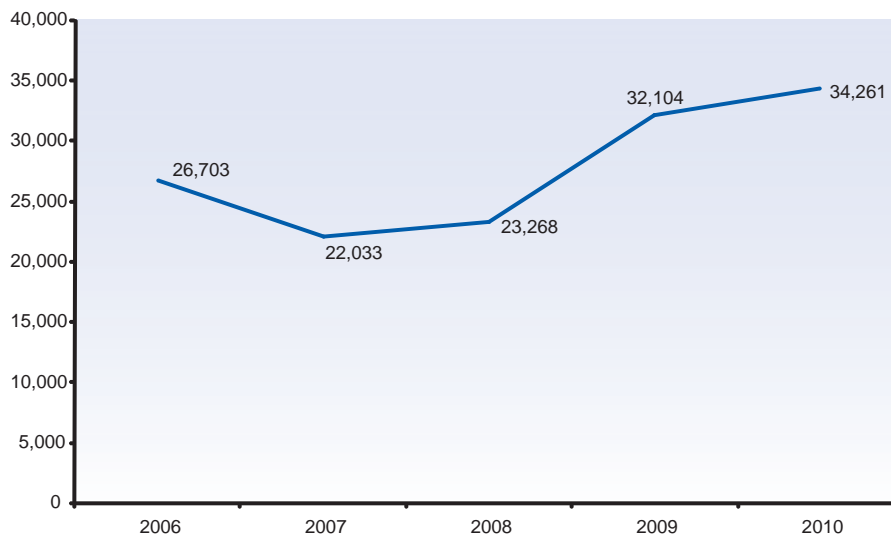
Figure 2 highlights the top 10 receiving countries. Brazil features prominently, followed by Iraq and the Russian Federation.

Figure 2: Top 10 countries of origin of AVRR beneficiaries, 2008–2010



Having had a look at the top 10 sending countries (Figure 1) as well as the top receiving countries (Figure 2), a global perspective represented by Figure 3 depicts how AVRR numbers have increased over the last five years. The fluctuation in AVRR numbers can often be associated with a number of factors, such as changes in national legislation and changing social/economic conditions in the country of origin. The various chapters throughout this report will aim to shed some light on the numbers presented in Figure 3, especially where these numbers are more predominant geographically.

Figure 3: Total global AVRR returns, 2005–2010



The general category of migrants who availed themselves of AVRR in 2010 includes those who applied for asylum as a means to live legally in the host country but have seen their asylum claims rejected. Other categories of migrants assisted under IOM’s programmes include undocumented migrants or migrants with no legal means to stay in the host country, as well as persons who, despite having acquired the right to stay in their host country, still wish to return to their country of origin.

Beneficiaries of IOM assisted voluntary return (AVR) assistance are those who decide to return home voluntarily with IOM’s assistance, due to personal and/or socio-economic circumstances or because there are no other available options other than deportation or forced removal. In addition to this main group of beneficiaries who return under the scope of IOM’s AVRR assistance, IOM continues to assist

a considerably smaller proportion of migrants exclusively after their arrival in their country of origin.¹ Usually, migrants returned by State authorities can go through a difficult and stressful process of return. The last two years have seen an increase in these mixed return flows of migrants (i.e. those who returned with IOM's AVRR assistance from host countries and those who are returned administratively by States). The latter group of individuals has received IOM's assistance in countries where State authorities in countries of origin, with the support of IOM and other international stakeholders, assist their returning nationals to reintegrate in a sustainable manner. Examples of such countries include Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Guatemala and Colombia.

The needs and expectations of returning migrants are diverse and IOM projects are tailored to individual circumstances to the maximum extent and when funding allows. There is a relatively smaller but steadily increasing number of migrants with additional needs who require special assistance, such as returnees with health concerns, unaccompanied minors (UAMs), elderly persons, single parents with dependent children, and victims of trafficking, exploitation, abuse or violence. For these groups, IOM offices around the world follow specific procedures tailored to each individual's needs.

More reintegration assistance, but more inequalities of assistance as well

Both host countries and countries of origin tend to implement more comprehensive approaches to AVRR while tailoring assistance to the needs and profiles of the beneficiaries.

In 2010, projects benefiting migrants returning from countries such as Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK represent good examples of delivering comprehensive reintegration assistance to returnees. Many of these projects not only include in-kind assistance for business set-up, but also business training courses in order to ensure the greater sustainability of reintegration projects. IOM interventions are focusing more and more on raising the self-esteem of the beneficiaries by strengthening their skills and talents before and after their return.



The energy and entrepreneurship of the young generation of returning migrants have proven to be the most crucial element for achieving effective results on reintegration and sustainable returns. Moreover, comprehensive programmes allow IOM staff and partners to design and develop new approaches to return counselling and reintegration in many countries (e.g. Belgium, the

An Iraqi returnee who used his reintegration support to start working as a car mechanic © IOM Iraq

Netherlands, Switzerland, UK, Iraq and Sri Lanka). This ensures a stronger linkage between the pre-departure and the post-arrival phases of the AVRR projects and thus better prepare returnees for their reintegration in countries of origin through, for example, outreach projects to increase access

¹ IOM is forbidden by its Constitution to assist any process of removal or deportation. However, assistance can be provided if migrants and authorities in countries of origin need IOM's support to provide post-arrival and reintegration assistance. Assistance is provided only after individuals pass immigration borders in countries of origin.

to country-of-origin information, video conferences connecting returnees with diasporas, NGOs and other stakeholders in host countries, and DVDs and Web-based information on real stories of return.

The increase of reintegration assistance and different modalities of interventions is hampered by the fact that neither the levels of financial assistance provided nor the methods used (cash assistance versus in-kind assistance) are consistent across projects and countries of origin. This can be seen in Iraq, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, where returnees coming back from different host countries receive different levels of financial assistance, with some returnees receiving none. These discrepancies highlight the need for more synergy and coordination among regions and countries (host and origin countries), and within different projects.

More country-of-origin information at pre-return, but not enough capacity-building in countries of origin

The nature of reintegration components has increasingly become an issue for discussion, as it embarks on two different interests: a factual departure from the host country (cash assistance) versus a development interest with perspective for the returnee (accompanied and monitored in-kind assistance).

In 2010, there were higher levels of provision of pre-return information, with more focus on access to services available in countries of origin. The important role of diplomatic representations of countries of origin in host countries and respective governmental parties and their effective cooperation with IOM missions has been a prerequisite for the smooth and timely implementation of return and reintegration processes. However, increased capacity-building is needed in these countries of origin to open up more options and opportunities for migrants returning home, while benefiting the community of return at the same time.

The implementation of AVRR in pre-return planning stages and its scope within the framework of migration management in host countries are two crucial factors to consider in assessing the effectiveness of AVRR. “Reintegration” is a complex notion to the individual who is considering returning; usually, caseworkers find that, before returning, migrants have difficulty in deciding and determining how they want to use the reintegration assistance offered to them. Very often their self-esteem is low after a long period of unemployment, being undocumented or living irregularly in the host country, with limited or no access to services. Therefore, the increased provision in 2010 of updated and accurate information on countries of origin, communities of return and the services available in situ were positive inputs by AVRR projects in effectively preparing returnees for the challenges of reintegration in countries of origin. Needless to say, the development situation in countries of origin, including the structural capacity to allow for local income-generating activities or employment, is a crucial factor both at the pre-return and reintegration stages.

In order to adequately address the root causes of migration, it is necessary to go beyond reintegration assistance for the returning individual and equally address the needs of the receiving community. This has taken place in several receiving countries, either by making reintegration assistance and services available to the local population (e.g. El Salvador and Afghanistan), fostering the creation of jobs for the local community through successfully established business projects (Sri Lanka), or implementing community assistance projects (CAPs) in communities of return (Iraq). Without prejudice to these good practices, more needs to be done in terms of capacity-building in countries of origin.

More monitoring, but not enough evaluation

Over the course of 2010, IOM was asked by several donors for evidence of the cost-effectiveness of AVRR projects. In the last 10 years, several exercises have been conducted by donors, academics, international stakeholders and IOM missions to evaluate delivery and assess cost-effectiveness (a list of internal and external evaluation exercises is included in this report). As highlighted in this study, IOM, academics, practitioners and governments all acknowledge that there is a need for more medium- to long-term evaluation to assess the relevance, impact and cost-effectiveness of AVRR approaches.

Monitoring and follow-up contact with returnees is now an integral part of almost every IOM project that provides reintegration in kind – that is, assistance that is not solely about providing the individual with cash, but also identifying the appropriate service provision and facilitating the delivery of assistance. The predominance of reintegration provision “in kind” (usually conducted by IOM offices in countries of origin) rather than “exclusively cash” has, in a way, “legitimized” IOM’s contact with returnees during the delivery of reintegration to ensure that assistance can meet individual needs. Assistance in kind, if phased out over a period of time, ensures better ongoing support for the returnee, while also allowing for feedback from the beneficiaries on the assistance provided. Feedback from the returnees has been used by IOM: 1) to facilitate country-of-origin information for pre-return planning stages, and 2) to inform project developers on how to address different modalities of assistance.

The experience of IOM and its partners in 2010 indicates once again that implementation in cooperation and partnership with stakeholders is crucial to the success of AVRR. Projects need to: 1) respond to the needs and expectations of both the migrants and countries involved, 2) be based on the assumption that the decision to return home is the outcome of a complex and personal process, and 3) be led by the principle of maximizing migrant strength and entrepreneurship. Return migration has increasingly become a key issue on the agendas of national and international migration policymakers around the world, in light of its impacts on countries of origin, transit and destination and its implications for the integrity of asylum and migration management systems.

1

**Understanding
AVRR**

AVRR is one of the many services IOM offers to its Member States in the interest of efficient migration management within and between countries. It aims at orderly, humane and cost-effective return and reintegration of migrants who either have applied for asylum or have seen their asylum applications rejected, and other migrants currently residing or stranded in host countries who are willing to return voluntarily to their country of origin. The services provided within AVRR programmes are the following:

In host countries

The provision of return-related information, through outreach work by IOM and/or partners:

- Individualized counselling on return and reintegration assistance: Individualized return counselling is usually provided by IOM caseworkers and NGO partners in host countries, but it can also be provided via national/regional entities such as local counties or municipalities. A network of relevant players in the field of outreach and return-related information is usually established in each host country;
- Specialized assistance and referral services to vulnerable individuals: The vulnerability of beneficiaries is determined by the circumstances, profile and needs of the individual. Assistance aims to be tailored to each case. However, IOM generally deals with certain categories already pre-defined as vulnerable: UAMs, victims of trafficking (VoTs), aged groups and those with medical needs;
- Temporary accommodation, where necessary;
- Facilitating travel documentation;
- Air or land travel arrangement;
- Arrangement for return escorts, if required.

In transit

- Assistance with travel in transit;
- Assistance with escort in transit, if required.

In countries of origin

- On arrival, assistance through immigration and customs, if necessary; post-arrival reception, information and referral to local partners or other local stakeholders;
- Onward travel to the final destination;
- Immediate² and/or medium³-term reintegration assistance (depending on the respective AVRR project and resources made available by the donors). Reintegration assistance may also include medical assistance (if necessary), and/or other assistance that is tailored to meet the returnee's special needs.

² Immediate assistance is comprised of provision of emergency housing assistance for a short-term period, referral to services provision to meet basic needs, and assistance with a re-installation cash grant for immediate needs.

³ Medium- to longer-term assistance is comprised of provision of vocational training, job placements or help with training and in-kind assistance for self-employment usually called "small business set-up", with the aim of providing returnees and their families with the necessary tools for their self-sufficiency and access to local services.

AVRR: The concept

IOM is mandated by its Constitution to ensure orderly migration, inter alia, through voluntary return and reintegration assistance. Article 1, paragraph 1(d) of the IOM Constitution spells out the various types of migration assistance and services the Organization can provide, including “voluntary return migration”⁴ and “voluntary repatriation.”⁵ IOM policy guidelines on the implementation of voluntary return assistance are enshrined in three IOM council documents⁶.



Derived from the Organization’s mandate, voluntariness is a prerequisite to IOM’s AVRR assistance throughout the whole process of return, which means that a returnee can withdraw from the process at any moment before departure. Voluntariness is assumed to exist if the decision to return is taken by the migrant. Such decision embraces two elements: “freedom of movement”, which is

A voluntary returnee to Moldova says his goodbyes at the airport before leaving from Norway. © IOM Oslo

defined by the absence of any physical force, and “informed decision”, which requires having enough accurate and objective information available – both on the situation in the country of origin and the potential impact of return to the host country – upon which to base the decision. Voluntariness is a precondition for any AVRR assistance and essential for the credibility of AVRR activities.

In line with its mandate and principles, IOM’s key policy considerations when providing AVRR services and developing and implementing AVRR projects are as follows:

- Safeguard the dignity and rights of migrants in operating returns, seeking adherence to applicable international principles and standards.
- Preserve the integrity of regular migration structures and asylum procedures.
- Enhance cooperation between origin, transit and host countries in the return process and reinforce the responsibility of countries of origin towards their returning nationals.
- Address the root causes of irregular migration.

Advocate the adoption of comprehensive voluntary return approaches inclusive of post-return reintegration assistance, wherever possible, as a more effective, sustainable and mutually beneficial option that can contribute to addressing repeated irregular migration.

⁴ The projects discussed in this report.

⁵ Voluntary repatriation projects refer to IOM humanitarian assistance provided to refugees returning home when conditions allow. These are projects implemented in partnership with UNHCR.

⁶ IOM Return Policy and Projects: A Contribution to Combating Irregular Migration, MC/INF/222 (1992); IOM Policy Concerning its Assistance to Unsuccessful Asylum-Seekers and Irregular Migrants Returning to their Country of Origin, MC/EX/INF/51 (1996); Policies and Practices with Respect to Rejected Asylum-Seekers, MC/INF/236 (1997).

IOM expertise and the historical evolution of AVRR

In 1979, IOM developed the first AVR project in Europe, the “Reintegration and Emigration Project for Asylum-Seekers in Germany” (REAG), at the request of the German government, followed by Belgium and the Netherlands. Since then, IOM’s AVRR activities have grown to include more than 100 projects worldwide, helping individuals return to some 160 countries. The range of host countries where AVRR activities are implemented has grown steadily beyond the limits of the European Union (EU) to include Northern Africa, as well as host countries in Asia, the Americas, Australia and Oceania. In the past decade alone, IOM has assisted more than 400,000 migrants to return voluntarily to their home countries.

Many IOM AVRR projects started three decades ago merely offered basic support to facilitate return transportation arrangements. They have since evolved into more comprehensive projects that integrate a range of services in order to promote the sustainability of returns (i.e. the continued presence of the returnee in the country of origin) or to prevent irregular emigration at any cost. In 2010, reintegration assistance was an integral part of AVRR projects. Many IOM initiatives not only support the reintegration of individual returnees, but also address the concerns of communities of return in facilitating effective and sustainable returns. In response to the diversification of target groups, more comprehensive approaches are being adopted and assistance is becoming more individualized, with special attention being paid to vulnerable groups as well.

Ten years ago, AVRR in Europe received a boost from IOM’s experience in undertaking a major Europe-wide voluntary return project to UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo (hereinafter referred to as Kosovo/UNSC 1244) at the end of the conflict in this region. Thousands of refugees accommodated by Europe decided to return home immediately after the end of the conflict to reunite with their relatives and regain their assets back home. This major European voluntary return programme received very significant media attention, which led governments to consider AVRR as a viable and feasible option to offer to other migrants already residing in their countries who needed this type of international assistance. Since then, the number of AVRR projects has increased and AVRR has been widely applied in Western European countries and beyond Europe.

Soon after AVRR was reaffirmed in the late 1990s, a new application of AVRR in migration management emerged in so-called “transit regions” such as the Balkans, Eastern Europe and, more recently, Northern Africa.

One can describe the present international context as one wherein the differentiation between host country, transit country and country of origin is becoming more and more unclear. This is obvious, for example, in Mexico, which fulfils at the same time the functions of host and transit country for migrants from Latin America and country of origin for Mexican nationals returning mostly from Europe. Similarly, Belarus, Turkey and Ukraine – traditional countries of origin of migrants returning from Europe and the United States – over the past few years have become locations where IOM provides return assistance to migrants who wish to return from these countries to their country of origin.

AVRR and migration management

The progression of AVRR projects in different parts of the world is a reflection of the fact that return migration has been increasingly incorporated into the migration management strategies of many governments and has gained prominence in international policymaking discourse due to the developments outlined earlier. AVRR is also becoming part of key measures to be implemented in coordinated responses to address irregular transit migration in affected countries, providing needed assistance to affected countries as well as stranded migrants who are in distress and often destitute.



IOM considers AVRR an indispensable part of a comprehensive approach to migration management that combines efficient border management, effective asylum processing structures and respect for human rights by facilitating the safe and dignified return of migrants and encouraging their sustainable reintegration in their country of return. IOM also advocates the establishment of a cooperative approach and partnerships for the management of return migration frameworks by engaging countries of origin, transit and destination. The cooperation initiated in the context of voluntary return among the various parties involved in the process constitutes a platform on which discussion may be expanded to explore, inter alia, possibilities to establish facilitated regular migration channels between those same countries. In doing so, it enhances the positive value of coordinated migration management, including voluntary return options rather than the unilateral approach that may be adopted to handle such issues.

A Burundi assisted voluntary return poster in French © IOM Oslo

Comparative advantages of AVRR

AVRR is more beneficial to migrants and governments than forced return, in as much as it represents a more humane and dignified approach. This has been highlighted by several national and international research studies which confirm that an important number of host governments in the EU have recognized AVRR as a “preferable outcome in relation to forced return”, mainly due to the more humane and dignified nature of the return process and for reasons of cost efficiency.⁷ On the one hand, AVRR offers an opportunity for migrants who wish to return home voluntarily to their country of origin as a result of their personal circumstances; on the other hand, AVRR can be an alternative option for migrants who are or may become subject to potential removal or deportation from the host country. In contrast to forced returns, AVRR allows for the provision of impartial advice and support for migrants’ return and reintegration. In addition, voluntary return tends to be more cost-effective than deportation; this becomes clear when comparing the costs of voluntary returns with: (1) the costs of deportation, which usually involve complex law enforcement elements, or (2) costs arising from the provision of social welfare benefits to migrants in the medium- to long-term before their removal from the host country.

AVRR programmes delivered by IOM as an intergovernmental organization with a network of offices and partners worldwide allow for the smoother delivery of assistance throughout the process: preparation for return; travel documentation obtained by the relevant diplomatic representations of countries of origin based in the host countries; smooth assistance at departure and arrival at customs in countries of origin; and additional help with onward transportation and reintegration if resources allow.

⁷ See for example: EMN (2010) *Study on Projects and Strategies Fostering Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) and Reintegration from EU Member States*, <http://emn.intrasoft-intl.com/html/news/news.html#N4>. This study lists in particular Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and Sweden as countries which have recognized AVRR as a “preferable option” (p. 90).

AVRR projects can have the following positive effects by:

- Allowing the migrant to make his/her own choices about return, prepare for the journey, and avoid the stigma of deportation and its negative repercussions for successful reintegration and future aspirations for legal return to the host country;
- Offering an effective (both in terms of costs and timing) and consensual alternative to the often contentious and politically charged environment in which forced returns may be operated in host countries;
- Reinforcing the integrity of regular migration projects and fair asylum procedures;
- Ensuring that the return process is devoid of human rights violations by facilitating respect of international principles and standards, and helping to ensure that the highest standards are applied throughout the return and reintegration process by providing counselling, assessing the voluntary nature of the return and considering the protection concerns and needs for support of the returnees;
- Allowing the migrants concerned to prepare for their return and encouraging them to identify potential opportunities for socio-economic reinsertion into communities of origin, thereby facilitating the sustainability of return;
- Providing more likely appropriate responses to the needs of vulnerable migrants requiring return assistance;
- Offering the possibility of more effective reintegration assistance that can respond in some capacity to the immediate needs of returnees and contribute not only to their self-sufficiency upon return, but also to the local development of the communities of return;
- Offering the possibility to support labour migration arrangements and agreements and assist with the return and socio-economic reinsertion of returning workers;
- Facilitating and enhancing a cooperative approach to return between the relevant authorities in host, transit and origin countries;
- Leading countries of origin to assume greater responsibility for their returning nationals through the AVRR process than would be the case for forced returns.

Addressing the root causes of irregular migration and supporting institutional and economic development efforts in countries/regions of origin, through targeted return and reintegration support to returnees and communities of return; such support can be more effective when combined with measures such as the return of qualified nationals, improved management of a country's expatriate workforce, or linkage to development policies, in general.

Reintegration assistance and sustainable returns

In recent years, there have been growing efforts to improve return policy formulation and make return assistance more effective for those in need of such support. Among other things, facilitating the sustainability of returns is a crucial component of the return assistance provided to migrants and of the policies formulated by governments.

Reintegration assistance plays a key role in facilitating sustainable returns for all parties – the migrants, the host countries and the origin countries. Unless the factors that compel individuals to emigrate by irregular means in the first place are addressed, a substantial number of returnees will not remain in the country of return; instead, they will continue to pursue migration as a solution to unsustainable living conditions in the country of origin. Individual reintegration assistance should indeed be placed in the context of wider development to ensure greater sustainability. Addressing the needs and concerns of the communities of return can help tackle the push factors of irregular migration; it can also avoid creating disadvantages for the local (non-migrant) populations through the assistance offered to

returnees. In fact, the jealousy felt by the return community towards returning migrants benefiting from IOM support could lead to the latter's isolation and possibly prevent their social reintegration, whereas the inclusion of the receiving community can facilitate the social reintegration of migrants. In this light, the forging of potential links between effective reintegration schemes and local development potential in communities of return should be encouraged at all levels, including the involvement of longer-term, structural and development aid.

Key tools for return and reintegration assistance include the socio-economic profiling of potential returnees in host countries to assess their needs and motivations, coupled with an assessment of the conditions and prospects in the country of return to support a migrant's decision to return. Strong coordination between IOM missions in host countries and countries of origin during the pre-departure stage of the AVRR process can maximize a returnee's preparedness for return, as it allows not only for the preparation of effective reports on local conditions to return, but also supports the counselling process, in particular with regard to migrants who are not familiar with the language context in the host country. Moreover, return counselling and return-related information for return counsellors and migrants are necessary to help with preparations for the migrant's return and reintegration. Post-return monitoring is equally important to ensure the appropriate and sustainable delivery of reintegration assistance and the necessary adjustments to return and reintegration assistance projects.

Experience indicates that returns are more sustainable if a migrant's decision to return is an informed and voluntary one, and moreover supported by appropriate reintegration assistance and measures initiated in both the country of origin and the host country. In this context, reintegration measures offered at the pre-departure stage in the host country (e.g. vocational training), along with return counselling and information services, play a key role and have a direct impact on sustainable reintegration.

To facilitate the reintegration process and better tailor return assistance to the needs of returnees, there should be close coordination of the counselling and information provided in the host country and in the country of origin once the returnee has arrived. AVRR can offer such a comprehensive approach to reintegration to enhance the sustainability of returns.



The sustainability of returns may ultimately be ensured in the long run when socio-economic development is attained in the origin countries; this, however, requires support measures such as development aid to come into play.

An Ecuadorian returnee from Switzerland attending to a customer in the hairdressing shop she opened with her reintegration support.
© IOM Quito

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Regional trends

IOM AVRR programmes assisted over 34,000 migrants in 168 countries in 2010. This chapter presents a regional perspective on the demographic trends and type of assistance provided to migrants in the following regions:

- The EU, including Norway and Switzerland
- Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus
- Latin America
- Asia and the Pacific
- Australia and Oceania
- Africa and the Middle East

Europe

EU, Norway and Switzerland⁸

The EU is the geographical area with the largest number of countries where IOM operates AVRR projects for migrants returning to their countries of origin; it is also the area with the largest number of projects in a single region. In 2010, IOM operated 61 AVRR projects in 26 EU Member States, including Norway and Switzerland. The EU is where the concept of AVRR was first introduced by IOM more than three decades ago and where it has evolved into an indispensable part of different national migration management systems as well as the EU migration policy framework.

At the EU regional policy level, the European Return Directive⁹ and the Decision¹⁰ establishing the European Return Fund clearly spell out the relevance for EU Member States to implement the principle of voluntary returns as a priority over forced returns and highlight the importance of promoting AVR options through enhanced return counselling and assistance.

At the national level, legislative practices in the EU vary with regard to the minimum standards of treatment of irregular migrants in the context of returns and in the context of detention. IOM acknowledges that, for certain Member States that did not have a legal framework for the provision of AVRR, the Return Directive was an improvement in that it stipulated a period of 7 to 30 days for a migrant to opt for voluntary return. However, IOM is cautious that this period may be too short, given that the success of individual voluntary returns rests in large part on having ample time for preparation and needs to take into account specific circumstances and identified vulnerabilities. Therefore, IOM, in its comments to the European Commission (EC) in March 2009 in relation to the EU Directive, encouraged EU Member States to follow the Directive's recommendations to extend this period. In the same document, IOM affirmed that the detention of migrants should only occur as a very last resort.

Several studies and evaluations have been conducted externally with regard to IOM projects, either via EU projects or national auditing systems. These studies have confirmed that AVRR is a preferable option to forced returns. In 2010, for example, the study conducted by the European Migration Network (EMN) for the EU¹¹ concluded that a growing number of Member States consider AVR as a "valid, preferable, alternative to forced return." The study operated on the assumption that AVRR is less costly and allows the individual to go back to the country of return in a more dignified and humane manner.

EU Member States, in addition to Norway and Switzerland, with major contributions from the EC through the European Return Fund, are major donors to AVRR projects. The EC and EU Member States are increasingly cooperating with IOM in the development and implementation of reintegration activities in countries of origin.

Figure 4 reflects assisted voluntary returns in 2010 under IOM projects in the EU, including Norway and Switzerland. Five countries, namely the UK, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and Belgium, stand out as major host countries, from where approximately 78 per cent of assisted voluntary returns took place in 2010.

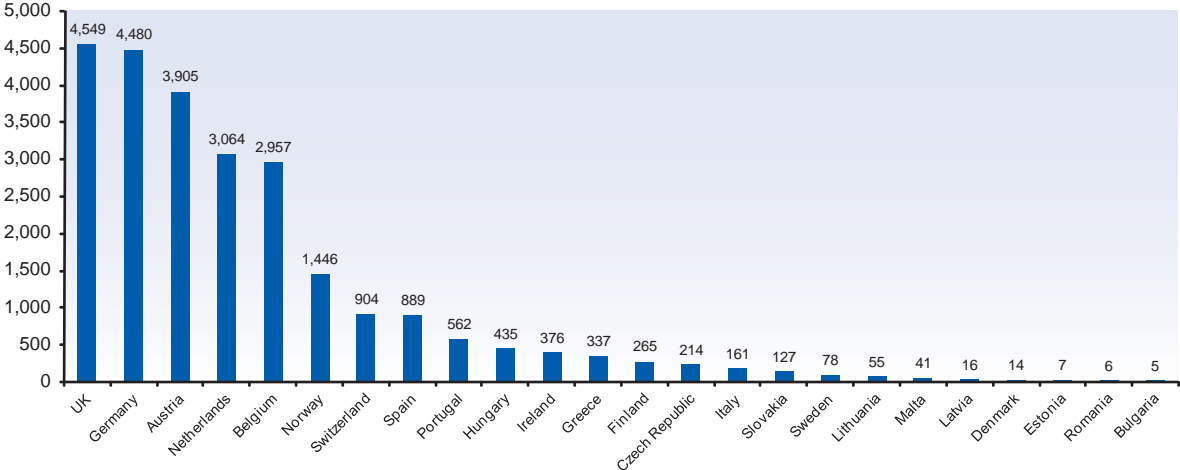
⁸ For this publication, EU, Norway and Switzerland refers to the 27 EU Member States, as well as Norway and Switzerland.

⁹ Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Common Standards and Procedures in Member States for Returning Illegally Staying Third-Country Nationals, Preamble (10).

¹⁰ Decision No 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 May 2007 establishing the European Return Fund for the period 2008 to 2013 as part of the General Programme "Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows", Preamble (22).

¹¹ EMN (2010) *Study on Projects and Strategies Fostering Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) and Reintegration from EU Member States*, <http://emn.intrasoft-intl.com/html/news/news.html#N4>.

Figure 4: AVRR from EU Member States, including Norway and Switzerland, 2010

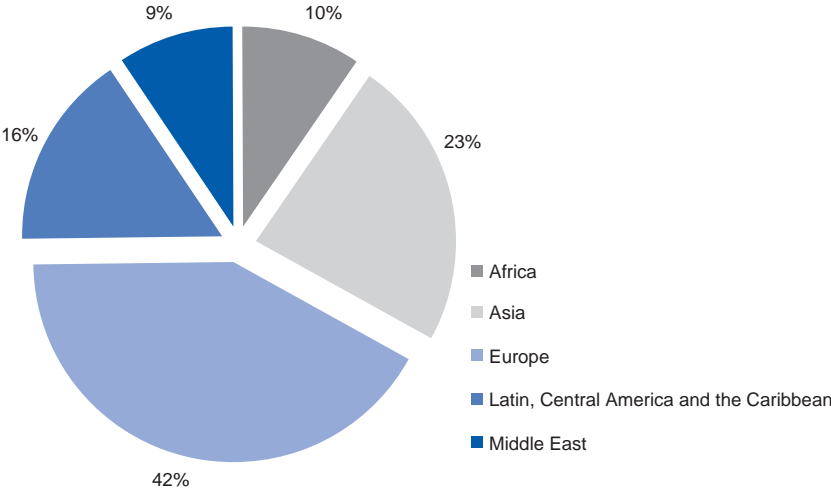


Returnee trends in terms of nationality and legal status

The greater percentage of migrants assisted were individuals who had applied for asylum at some point during their residence in the host country and who subsequently received a negative decision on their asylum claim, followed by those who had not applied for asylum (usually migrants with an irregular status in the host country) and those whose asylum claim was still in a specific legal process (pending claim, or through an appeals process).

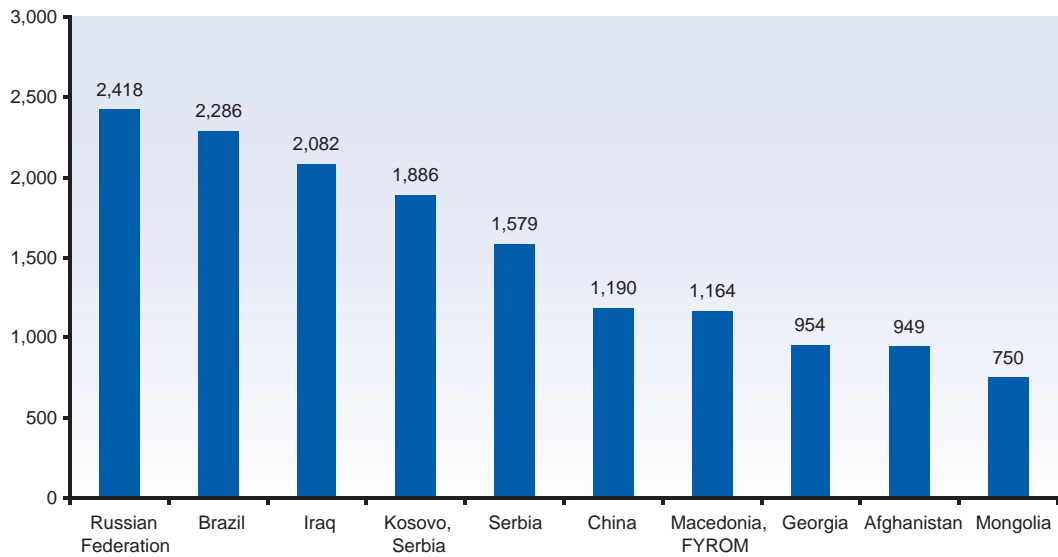
Figure 5 shows returns in 2010 from the EU area (including Norway and Switzerland) to Africa and the Middle East, the Americas, Asia and Oceania, and Europe. Europe by far has the largest proportion of migrants returning to this specific geographical region, followed by Asia and Latin America.

Figure 5: Percentage of returns from Europe to regions of origin, 2010



The largest region of origin for voluntary return of migrants assisted by IOM was Europe. This is explained by the large number of returns to countries in the Russian Federation (2,418), Brazil (2,286) and Iraq (2,082), as shown in Figure 6.

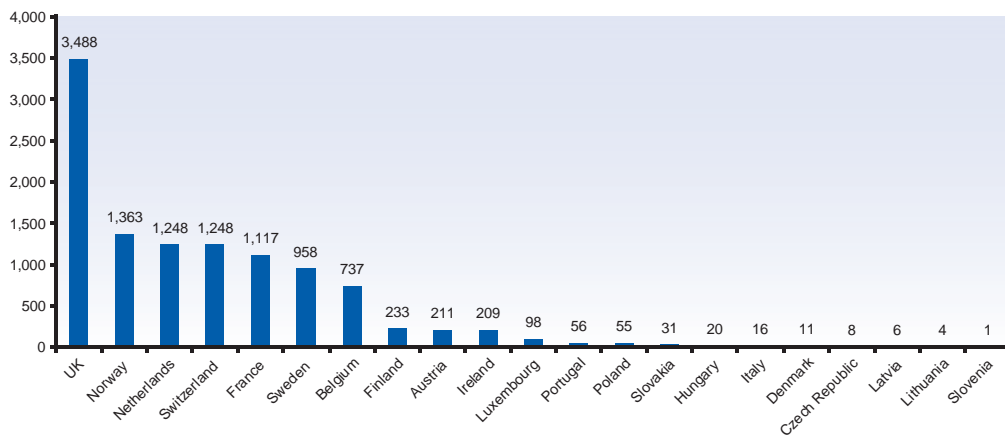
Figure 6: Top 10 countries of origin from the EU, 2010



Reintegration assistance is now an integral part of the majority of IOM AVRR projects in this geographical area. In 2010, most of the countries covered in this section of the report operated IOM projects for the reintegration assistance of AVR beneficiaries. Out of 40 AVRR national projects, 30 projects (from 23 countries in the EU, including Norway and Switzerland) offered some level of reintegration assistance to their AVRR beneficiaries.

Figure 7 shows that, through its AVRR programmes in Europe, IOM assisted more than 11,000 returnees with their reintegration in 2010. The reintegration assistance provided varied from business set-up to training and education support.

Figure 7: Total reintegration cases assisted from the EU, including Norway and Switzerland, 2010



Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe and the Caucasus¹²

Although traditionally a region of countries from which migrants originate, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as a result of the EU enlargement processes in 2004 and 2007, has gradually gained importance as a transit region for migrants on their way not only to Russia, but also to the EU. As many migrants travel through the region in an irregular manner, it is difficult to define numbers. However according to IOM's *World Migration Report (WMR) 2010*, in that year alone there were as many as 25.6 million migrants in Central and Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans and Central Asia.¹³

Migration patterns have been similar over the years, with migrants travelling towards Russia or towards the West, crossing Eastern and Central Europe to get to Western European countries. Community networks already established in the destination countries may act as pull factors for individuals to leave their home countries and try to establish themselves abroad.

AVRR activities by IOM in Central Europe and the Balkans were implemented to assist two separate strands: 1) assisting the voluntary return and reintegration of returning nationals to one of the countries in the region, and 2) providing assistance to stranded migrants in the region willing to return to their home countries in Central Asia or the Caucasus. In particular, in this region there were significant levels of complementarities between return and reintegration assistance provided to migrants returning from Europe and community development activities. These aimed at facilitating the individual's settlement in the region while addressing the root causes of irregular re-emigration from the region to the EU and other destinations. The provision of return and reintegration support to stranded migrants took place in a manner complementary to the provision of support to transit countries such as Belarus, Ukraine and Bosnia to allow them to cope with migration management challenges arising from their central location along main migratory routes to Russia or the EU Member States.

Return and reintegration assistance in Eastern Europe and the Balkans is only one part of the wider context of strategies that aim at strengthening the migration management capacities of governments. Therefore, other IOM activities in the region were conducted to address migration issues such as: promoting legal (labour) migration channels to countries of destination; implementing information campaigns directed at potential migrants to increase their awareness of the dangers of irregular migration and related risks such as trafficking; promoting access to health care for migrants; and strengthening the capacity for border management and public health.¹⁴

Assisted voluntary returns to the region

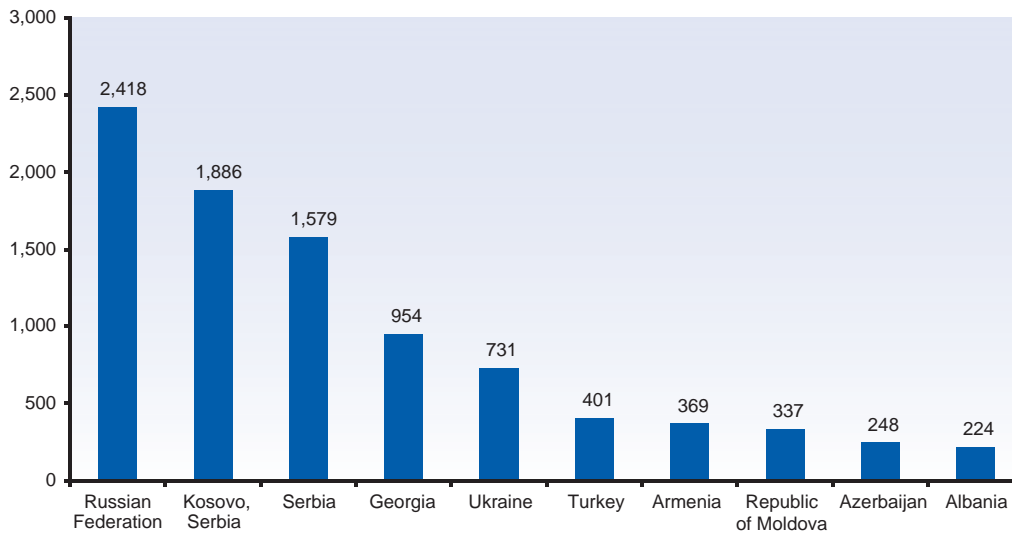
Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe, and the Southern Caucasus represent roughly 27 per cent (8,956 assisted returnees) of the total number of all migrants assisted under IOM's voluntary return and reintegration programme in 2010. As shown in Figure 8, the Russian Federation is the leading country of origin of migrants (2,418 assisted returnees), followed by Kosovo/UNSC 1244 (1,886), Serbia (1,579) and Georgia (954).

¹² For the purposes of this publication, "Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe and Caucasus" refers to the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Kosovo/UNSC 1244, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey, Ukraine.

¹³ IOM, *World Migration Report 2010*, p. 190.

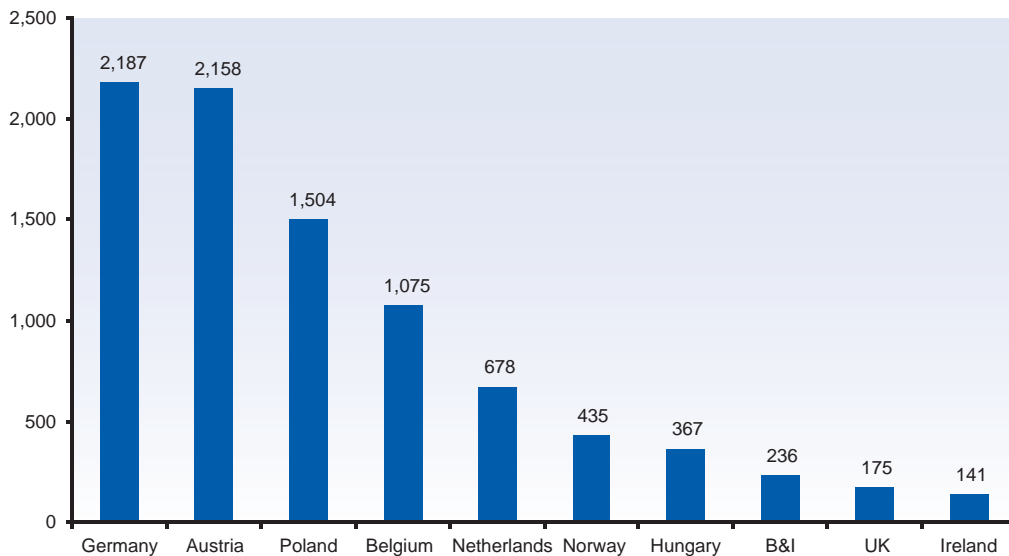
¹⁴ *Ibid.*

Figure 8: Top 10 countries of origin in Southern, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe of returnees from the EU, 2010



As can be seen from Figure 9, all major host countries for returnees from the region are located on the European continent, with less than 1 per cent of the migrants returning from other regions. Approximately 85 per cent of returns took place from only five EU Member States (Germany, Austria, Poland, Belgium and the Netherlands).

Figure 9: Top 10 host countries in the EU that provided AVR to Southern, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, 2010



Reintegration assistance for AVRR beneficiaries returning to the region

Depending on their nationality, migrants returning under European AVRR projects in 2010 benefited either from tailored reintegration assistance focusing on specific local development in countries of origin (e.g. AVRR projects tailored to the context in Kosovo/ UNSC 1244) or more generalized and flexible reintegration support that was implemented in different countries of origin, including the provision of cash grants, in-kind assistance for microbusinesses, job placements, vocational training or educational support. Moreover, IOM also delivered reintegration assistance activities tailored to certain vulnerable categories of migrants. In line with this, considering their vulnerable situation in the country of origin vis-à-vis other groups in society, migrants from ethnic minorities in Serbia or Kosovo/UNSC 1244 who were returning from Germany benefited from cash reintegration assistance that was designed to facilitate their reinsertion in the country of origin.

Reintegration assistance for Kosovar returnees and receiving communities

- Beneficiaries for the year 2010
 - 2,204 returnees from different countries: Austria (444), Germany (315), Hungary (309), Belgium (237), Sweden (236), Norway (197), Switzerland (140), France (111), Bosnia and Herzegovina (81), Luxembourg (51), Finland (23), the UK (22), Netherlands (19), Czech Republic (10), Slovakia (8), and Australia (1)
- Services provided
 - For returnees and receiving community: information and counselling on potential employment opportunities that could emerge from joint income-generating projects established between returnees and residents
 - For returnees:
 - Labour market support: information and counselling on employment-related issues, job preparation courses, referrals to employment and vocational training courses, salary subsidies/on-the-job training, micro grants, business skills training and business upgrading
 - Other support: educational support, housing, access to social services support and medical support



Considering the difficult socio-economic conditions in the Southern Caucasus, tailored reintegration assistance, in particular support for the setting up of microenterprises, was of fundamental importance to the returnees in order to allow them to reintegrate into the local labour market in a sustainable manner.

An IOM Tbilisi reintegration staff during a field visit to a Georgian returnee from Belgium who used his reintegration support for the acquisition of cattle. © IOM Brussels

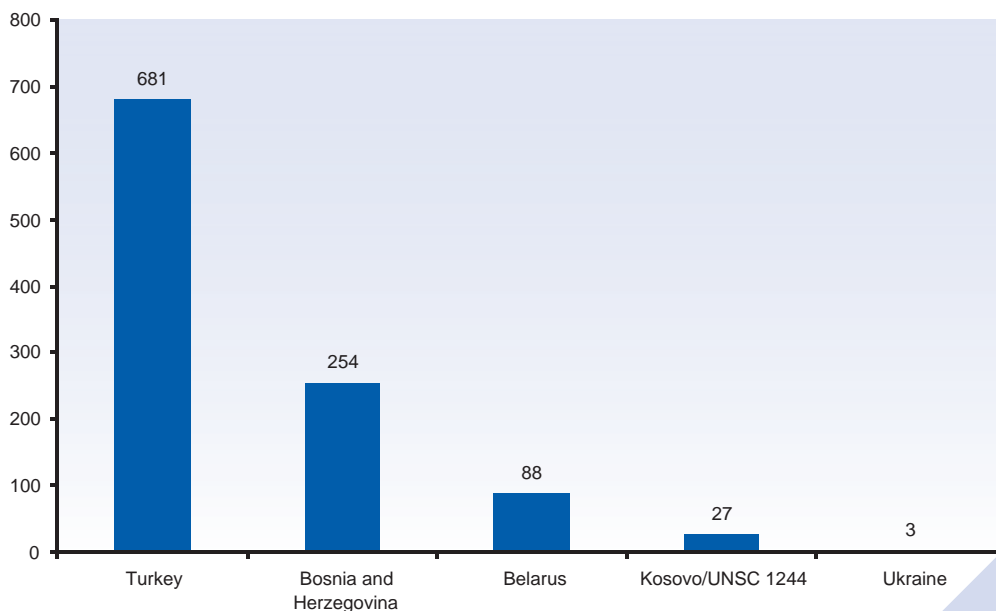
Moreover, the sharp contrast between average income levels, on the one hand, and rising expenses for medical services, on the other, led several host countries – namely the Netherlands, Poland and Switzerland – to include specific medical assistance elements in the reintegration packages provided under their AVRR projects.

In light of the considerable number of Georgian migrants living in European countries with problems related to drug abuse, individuals returning under the Swiss AVRR project implemented by IOM Tbilisi had the opportunity to continue or start hepatitis treatment or methadone substitution therapy upon their return to Georgia. Unfortunately, not all host countries can provide this additional and specific type of medical assistance after return. The type and amount of reintegration assistance provided under AVRR projects differ considerably from one host country to another, in particular when comparing traditional host countries in Western Europe with some of the new EU Member States that only recently started implementing AVR programmes.

Assisted voluntary returns from the region

The inclusion of AVR projects has been crucial for the migration management context in the region, particularly in Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and especially Turkey. Without prejudice to the region's important role as origin of migrants, countries bordering the EU in the south-east and east are starting to increasingly play the role of transit countries for migrants travelling to Europe and Russia from Central Asia or the Arabian Peninsula. In this context, IOM AVR activities are gradually on the increase in these countries (Figure 10), particularly in Turkey (681 returns). Starting with Ukraine in 2005 and followed by Belarus in 2007 and the Republic of Moldova in 2009, IOM has implemented AVR activities with the objective of helping migrants stranded in these countries to return to their countries of origin.

Figure 10: Returns from South-Eastern and Eastern Europe to countries of origin, 2010



The numbers reflected in Figure 10 show that, in comparison with long-standing projects in some EU Member States, the AVRR projects in Eastern Europe were still at a preliminary stage in 2010. Assisted migrants under these projects mainly returned to Armenia, Afghanistan and Georgia. The presence of Moldovan or Ukrainian nationals among those returning from Turkey and Belarus moreover suggest strong intraregional return flows, whereas extraregional migrants returning to Central Asia or African countries represent only a minority.

Without prejudice to the increasing importance of the Balkans as a transit route for migrants travelling to Europe, assisted voluntary returns from Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to reflect mainly the migration dynamics shaped by the end of various conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. Migrants assisted included those returning to Albania, Kosovo/UNSC 1244 and, to a lesser extent, Serbia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). The number of those returning to other countries was very limited.

Recognizing the short tradition of AVRR activities in the region and the limited financial resources of host governments to fund AVRR programmes that are as comprehensive as the programmes in the EU, IOM projects concentrated mostly in assisting voluntary returns in a timely and dignified manner and providing basic and tailored assistance for specific migrant categories, including vulnerable groups such as UAMs or migrants with particular health needs. Due to the limited resources of host-country governments, levels of reintegration assistance were either lower compared to traditional host countries in Western Europe that were implementing AVRR programmes, or completely absent.

Post-arrival reintegration assistance for migrants returned to the region by host governments

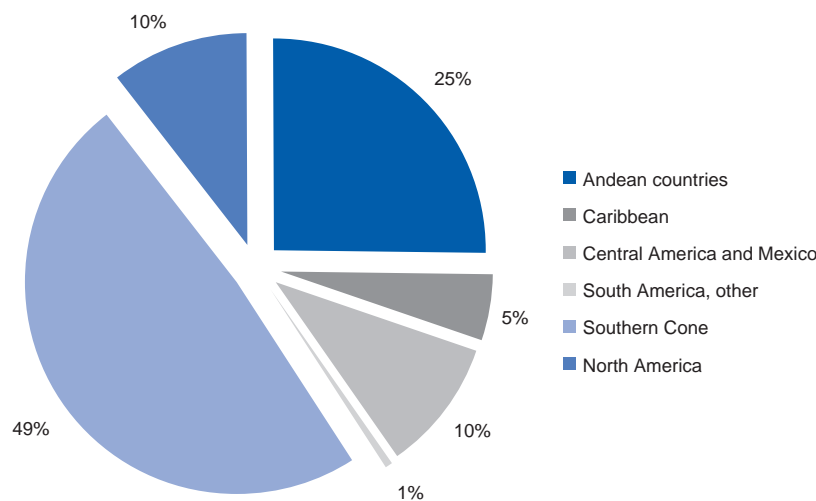
Much of IOM's activity in the region has been mainly directed at promoting AVRR options within migration management for governments in the region, so that migrants who cannot stay legally in the host country and are willing to return to their home countries can benefit from this international migrant assistance. However, there have been a small number of returning migrants who have been assisted by IOM after they arrived in their countries of origin. In 2010, Georgian nationals returned by a number of EU host-country governments benefited from IOM's reintegration support upon arrival in their country of origin. IOM Tbilisi assisted individual returnees after they had been cleared by local migration authorities and had approached the IOM office in Georgia. Assistance provided varied according to the host government's eligibility criteria; therefore, it ranged from comprehensive reintegration assistance to tailored assistance for cases of drug addiction or severe chronic illnesses such as hepatitis.

Americas

Over the last few decades, Latin America and the Caribbean has become a region of net emigration. Between 2000 and 2010, emigration flows in countries within the region surpassed immigration flows by 11 million people.¹⁵ This difference between the flows of emigrants and immigrants is widest in Central America¹⁶ (6.8 million), followed by South America¹⁷ (3 million) and the Caribbean¹⁸ (1.2 million).¹⁹ While people migrate mainly to either Europe or North America, they also migrate to other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean such as Mexico. Migration dynamics have become increasingly complex, with hundreds of thousands of migrants moving – often in an irregular manner – from a great variety of origin countries to an equally long list of transit and destination countries in South-Central and North America, as well as in the Caribbean. The number of international migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean is estimated to have increased from 6.5 million in 2000 to 7.5 million in 2010.²⁰

In 2010, IOM provided return and reintegration assistance for 4,462 migrants returning to the region. This included assistance for migrants returning from host countries within the context of IOM's AVRR projects, as well as post-arrival reintegration assistance to migrants returned by host-country governments. Figure 11 shows that nearly 80 per cent of migrants assisted returned to South America. As regards Central America and the Caribbean, IOM's assistance in the reintegration of voluntary returnees was implemented alongside the exclusive post-arrival reintegration assistance to migrants returned by governments (e.g. cases of reintegration assistance delivered in Haiti, El Salvador and Guatemala).

Figure 11: Returns from the Americas to subregions in Latin America



¹⁵ *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision*, POP/DB/MIG/Rev.08, UN DESA, Population Division, New York, <http://esa.un.org/migration/>, quoted in IOM WMR 2010, p. 155.

¹⁶ For the purposes of this publication, "Central America" refers to the following countries: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama.

¹⁷ For the purposes of this publication, "South America" refers to the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

¹⁸ For the purposes of this publication, "Caribbean" refers to the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, footnote n°21.

²⁰ IOM, *WMR 2010*, p. 153.

Assisted voluntary returns to the region

As shown in Figures 12 and 13, assisted voluntary returns to the Americas in 2010 took place from a number of EU countries and Mexico. The vast majority of migrants returned to Brazil (2,924 migrants); other major countries of origin include Ecuador (680), Bolivia (416) and Nicaragua (277). With regard to Brazilian migrants, Belgium (918 returnees assisted), Portugal (450), the UK (369) and the Netherlands (326) represented major host countries. In relation to Portugal, requests for return assistance for Brazilian migrants greatly increased over the past few years, exceeding 2006 figures by 12 times as of 2010 (2006: 128; 2009: 503; January–June 2010: 1,519). In 2010, Brazilian returnees accounted for nearly 85 per cent of all AVR applications processed by IOM Portugal. For other returning migrants, Spain and Mexico represented major host countries, with a slight preference for the former among South American returnees and a preference for the latter among migrants returning to Central America or the Caribbean.

Figure 12: Top 10 host countries that provided AVR to Latin America, 2010

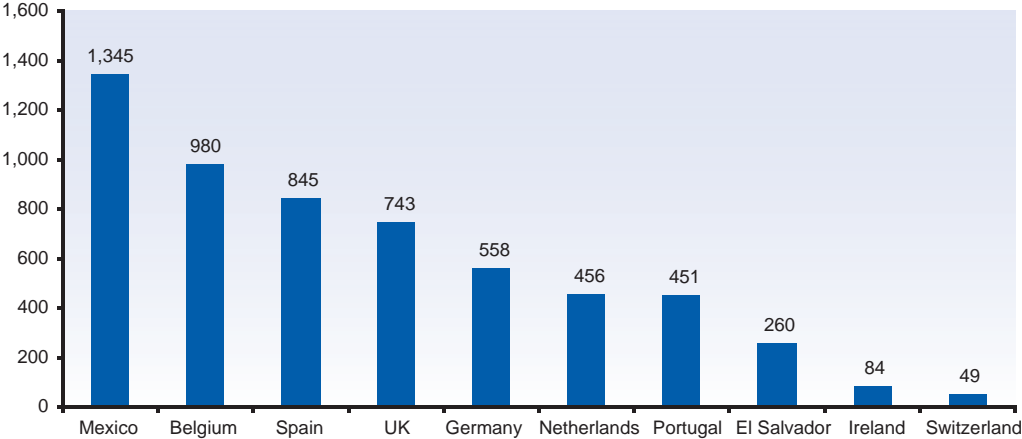
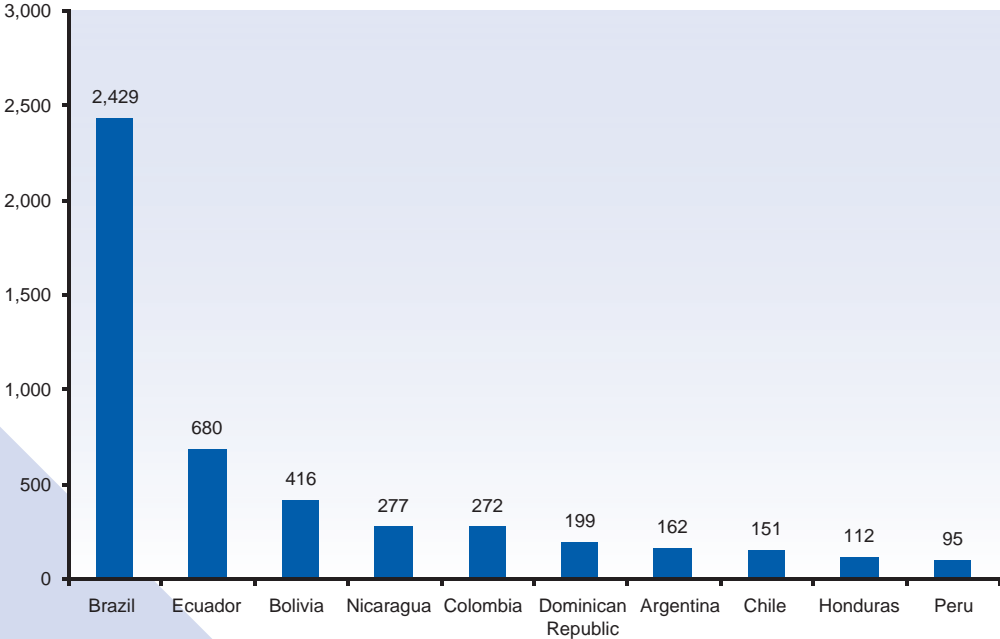


Figure 13: Top 10 countries of origin in Latin America, 2010



Reintegration assistance to AVRR beneficiaries in the region

Several IOM missions in the region, together with a number of host-country missions, were involved in delivery and coordination in order to ensure the smooth implementation of assistance (in the form of immediate assistance on arrival and medium- and long-term reintegration assistance) upon a migrant's return.

Due to the lack of IOM presence in Brazil, the Mission with Regional Function (MRF) in Buenos Aires coordinates return and reintegration support for Brazilian migrants with IOM missions in host countries. In this regard, MRF Buenos Aires provided information on Brazil to missions in host countries through the project "Enhanced and Integrated Approach regarding Information on Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin" (IRRiCO). Moreover, the Buenos Aires mission coordinates the implementation of reintegration support (where applicable) with the Brazilian returnees themselves and a number of non-governmental implementing partners throughout Brazil. With regard to partnerships in Brazil, MRF Buenos Aires collaborated closely with IOM Portugal during the implementation of a network of partners in main states of return in Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, Goiás, Minas Gerais and São Paulo) under the Portuguese AVRR programme. The network provides assistance, monitoring and guidance on the reintegration plans of Brazilian returnees, and supports IOM in identifying and collecting information on relevant community development policies and potential local partners in their respective assigned areas for future cooperation. Despite improvements due to this expansion of partnerships with NGOs, challenges remain, in particular with regard to follow-up and monitoring of the reintegration process of returnees.

IOM Ecuador is another IOM mission strongly involved in the provision of reintegration support for returnees under a wide range of AVRR projects. For example, the mission assisted IOM Mexico in producing a fact sheet about Ecuador that contained relevant information for migrants considering return from Mexico. This was considered especially important to informing migrants who had lived many years abroad about how things had changed in the country during their absence.

The levels and amounts of reintegration assistance provided under AVRR projects from European host countries differ with regard to the type and amounts of reintegration assistance provided to returnees. Whereas most projects provided in-kind assistance involving business set-up or training, others extended the list of reintegration options to support for the treatment of medical needs, access to housing schemes, or education in the case of minors. Returnees from France were able to use their reintegration support as a substitute or complementary income during job placements. IOM would contact the respective employers and ask them to commit themselves to employing the returned



individuals upon termination of the reintegration support. Wherever available, the in-kind support was handed out to the service providers supporting the reintegration process, or otherwise reimbursed to the returnees to cover costs they had incurred during the process of setting up small businesses. Due to the limited services available under

A Brazilian returnee from Portugal in her sewing room in her city of origin, Goiânia, which was opened with reintegration support provided under the Portuguese AVRR programme.
© IOM Lisbon

the Mexican programme, an important number of Ecuadorian and Colombian returnees were not eligible for any additional support beyond reception at the airport. It is worth mentioning that although Brazilian returnees represent the biggest group of beneficiaries of IOM's voluntary return assistance, only a minority of them were eligible for in-kind assistance for reintegration under the AVRR projects conducted from Europe. This fact is largely related to the status of Brazilian nationals while living in the host countries and the respective eligibility criteria set by the respective governments funding AVRR.

Key project: Assessment of Brazilian migration patterns and the AVR programme from selected EU Member States to Brazil

- Research project on Brazilian migration patterns in Belgium, Ireland, and Portugal, implemented by MRF Brussels from 2007 to 2009;
- Objective: Profiling of Brazilian returnees and contribution to the development of further policies, activities, and research on this group;
- Results: Information on the migratory status and socio-economic situation of Brazilian migrants in different host countries, and their views on return to and reintegration in Brazil:
 - Socio-economic profile: male visa overstayers who had originally entered on a student or other short-term visa and had only lived in their host country for less than two years; women are more strongly represented than in other return contexts;
 - Regions of origin in Brazil: the Central Brazilian regions of Goiás, Minas Gerais, and São Paulo;
 - Socio-economic situation in the host country: Brazilian migrants increasingly find themselves in an irregular situation and/or as VoTs, and there is an over-representation of Brazilian migrants in cases of economic exploitation (construction sector and cleaning industries for men and women, respectively) and money laundering;
 - Motivation for return: problems related to irregular stay in the host country and deteriorated socio-economic position as a result of the economic crisis;
 - Problems during reintegration: lacking of work experience in Brazil prior to emigration.

The largely varying amounts and types of support packages available are best exemplified in the work of IOM in countries such as Ecuador and Peru. IOM staff in Quito and Lima were responsible for the provision of reception and, where applicable, reintegration assistance under more than eight different AVRR projects. Despite these differences, the IOM staff in Ecuador, for example, strived to provide all returnees with a common set of services that aimed to boost their self-sufficiency and prevent irregular re-emigration. This required personal contact with the returnees for monitoring and follow-up of the reintegration process, while providing technical support to individual business plans. Due to the different requirements of AVRR programmes, the reintegration assistance delivered was monitored inconsistently across projects by IOM staff in the country of origin. Under some projects, there was scope for more extensive monitoring and evaluation exercises, whereas in others, the monitoring was rather limited to follow-up of individual projects until completion of the last disbursement of in-kind reintegration support. Generally, on-site monitoring proved difficult where returnees had returned to locations outside the Ecuadorian capital of Quito, as financial and human resources were insufficient to carry out regular monitoring missions and field visits to these distant places. Although IOM generally advocates for the implementation of comprehensive AVRR projects including reintegration support, there are still projects implemented by host countries under which assistance is limited to small cash grants that cover only immediate costs during the return process and do not provide any medium- to long-term reintegration assistance.

As regards reintegration assistance to migrants returning to Haiti, the particularly volatile situation in the country in 2010 required close monitoring of the return and reintegration process from an emergency perspective as well as from a return perspective. In particular, following the cholera outbreak in Haiti

in the aftermath of the January earthquake, pre-departure information provision and reintegration assistance focused strongly on medical support for returnees, including the provision of cholera prevention and response materials. This support was indispensable in ensuring the effectiveness of general socio-economic reintegration support, such as income-generation activities or financial support for the purchase of essential tools for microenterprises. The assistance in Haiti was mainly provided to returnees through NGO partners. These NGOs assist returnees through general counselling sessions, as well as by providing access to health and education services.

Assisted voluntary returns from the region

As shown in Figure 12, Mexico is the principal host country for migrants within the Americas region; at the same time, it is also a transit country especially for migrants trying to reach the United States. In 2010, the number of assisted voluntary returns implemented by IOM from Mexico (950 returns) was higher than those implemented from any European host country (Belgium, as principal host country, assisted 774 individuals to return to the region). The AVR project implemented by IOM Mexico provided AVR assistance to migrants from a broad range of nationalities from within the region. The majority of migrants assisted under the AVRR programme returned to Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Colombia. To a lesser extent, IOM Mexico assisted migrants returning to countries outside Latin America, principally nationals from China and India. The programme assisted returnees to receive pre-departure assistance from Mexico, including the provision of generic information on the respective countries of origin, facilitation of contact with family members, transit assistance, and a small amount of money to cover immediate needs during return and upon arrival.

In the Central American and Mexico region, MRF San José coordinated return assistance and, where required, medical support for particular cases of highly vulnerable Central American migrants returning from Mexico or Central American countries to their countries of origin. Assistance included travel arrangements, medical support upon arrival, and a small cash fund to cover immediate needs for specific categories of returnees such as elderly migrants, disabled migrants, unaccompanied children, victims of violence, migrants with medical needs and pregnant women. MRF San José carried out this function in the framework of the Reserve Funds of the Puebla Process, an intergovernmental regional migration forum for the exchange of information, experiences and best practices, and overall consultation to promote regional cooperation on migration within the framework of economic and social development for the region. The reserve funds of this forum were transferred to IOM in 2004 to assist in voluntary return operations involving particularly vulnerable cases.



In the Caribbean, activities focused on assistance for the voluntary return of Haitian nationals living in the Dominican Republic, involving mainly migrants who had been displaced to the neighbouring country as a result of the earthquake in Haiti on 12 January 2010. Whereas returns started on a spontaneous basis

IOM staff in the Dominican Republic carrying out biometric registration with Haitian AVR beneficiaries at Palmarito Barahona, Dominican Republic. © IOM Santo Domingo

after the emergency context in the country, the AVRR project implemented from February 2010 continued to provide returnees with a wide range of assistance from pre-departure to post-arrival, as well as immediate reintegration assistance including: access to health support, the provision of travel documentation to voluntary returnees, escorts for land transport into Haiti, and limited financial support for each returnee. Making slow but steady progress, the AVRR programme in the Dominican Republic has assisted over 400 migrants with voluntary return as of December 2010, with over 600 individuals registered for return assistance to be implemented in 2011.

El Salvador: Reintegration assistance to unaccompanied minors returned from the United States

- Has been implemented since 2009; in 2010, provision of tailored reintegration assistance to 52 UAMs returned from the United States;
- Objective: prevention of re-emigration in an irregular manner after return to El Salvador through tailored assistance to minors and their immediate environments (families and receiving communities);
- Partnership with the National Institute for the Development of Children and Adolescents (ISNA) in El Salvador and inter-ministerial support, including support from the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs for Salvadorans Abroad, the Vice-Minister of Justice and Public Security and its Direction General of Migration (DGME), and other ministries such as the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health;
- Formulation of a “life plan” for each child or adolescent based on his/her socio-economic profile, as well as guidance and follow-up on development and reintegration into the family/community;
- Capacity-building for local networks such as schools, health services, churches, grassroots organizations, and social networks all over El Salvador to increase their capacity to reintegrate minors and prevent them from falling back into irregular migration networks.

Post-arrival and reintegration assistance to migrants returned by host-country governments

In line with its Constitution, IOM only assists those individuals who want to return voluntarily to their country of origin. Nevertheless, migrants who are forcibly returned, often after several years in the host country, often face considerable difficulty reintegrating in their country of origin. This is especially true for vulnerable groups such as UAMs. Moreover, several forcibly returned migrants are in need of humanitarian assistance upon arrival at the borders of their countries, often after lengthy forced return procedures implemented by governments. Considering this need for assistance by a large number of forcibly returned migrants, IOM missions in several Central American and South American countries are involved in post-arrival reintegration assistance to vulnerable migrants after they have been formally admitted to their country by the authorities.

Due to the fact that receiving missions in the Americas (Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) do not have any contact with forcibly returned migrants until their arrival in the country of origin, assistance and planning for reintegration have to start from scratch once returnees arrive in the country of origin. For immediate assistance, IOM missions are involved in the provision of humanitarian aid, including food and hygiene materials, health assessments, psychological counselling and temporary accommodations for returnees. In the case of Guatemala, this assistance also involves transport assistance to migrants originating from the Guatemalan countryside who have been returned to the capital and who do not have the resources to return to their country of origin. Subsequently, IOM projects provided short- to medium-term assistance, including onward transportation to the final destination, income-generating activities, and training and education support similar to those implemented for voluntary returnees from Europe assisted under IOM AVRR programmes.

Colombia: Bienvenido a casa (Welcome home)

- Beneficiaries: vulnerable Colombian migrants returned from the United States (approximately 50%) and from other host countries such as Venezuela, Panama, and Spain (668 individuals assisted in 2010);
- Immediate assistance upon arrival, including hygiene kits and food items, onward transportation to the final destination, documentation issues, and family reunification (if requested);
- Medium-term reintegration assistance:
 - Support for business set-up (17 businesses set up in 2010), with the possibility of applying to microcredit schemes during the secondary phase in order to strengthen existing businesses and create additional employment opportunities;
 - Facilitation of access to employment opportunities through cooperation and partnerships with the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) network and other private enterprises (10 employment opportunities created during the pilot phase of the CSR network);
 - Psycho-social support, including: home visits; referrals to health, education and other public services; assessment of potential mental health needs; and personalized advice with regard to the planning of the reintegration process in Colombia.

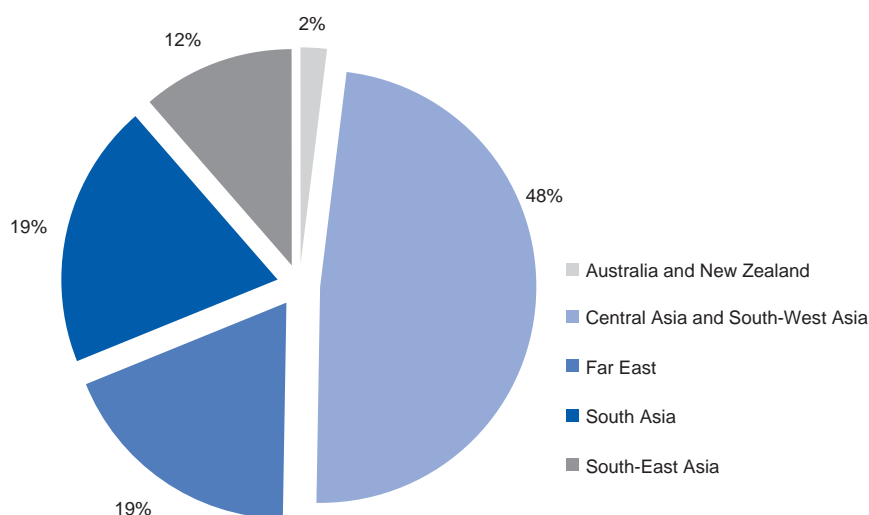
Asia and Oceania

The stock of international migrants in Asia was estimated to rise to 27.5 million in 2010, with slight increases in all subregions of Asia, except for South-Central Asia. According to the World Bank, four of the top 10 migration corridors worldwide include Asian countries.²¹ In the context of lacking or limited legal migration channels, undocumented migration is increasingly an issue within the region, becoming one of the largest overall contemporary flows of irregular migration.²² Migrants travel for different reasons, mainly economically motivated but also increasingly as a consequence of natural disasters.²³ In this context, return and reintegration assistance to help stranded irregular migrants go back to their home countries is one of IOM's key areas of intervention in the region, complementing the Organization's activities in other areas of work, such as information campaigns to prevent irregular migration, combating migrant smuggling and trafficking, and cooperation with States in the fields of border management.

Return management in the Asia Pacific region is a priority issue addressed in the framework of the Bali Process, a consultative forum established following the 2002 Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. Counting on the participation of over 50 countries in Asia and the Pacific and a number of international organizations such as IOM and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Bali Process is the principal forum for dialogue and cooperation on migration issues in the region. The assisted voluntary return and reintegration of migrants is one of the areas of work covered by the mandate of the Bali Process, which is regularly reviewed by the countries participating in this forum.

The importance of AVRR activities in the region is highlighted by the fact that, in 2010, IOM AVRR assistance involving migrants returning to countries in Asia and Oceania made up approximately 23 per cent of all activities in this field at the global level.

Figure 14: Returns to subregions in Asia and the Pacific, 2010



²¹ World Bank (2008) *Migration and Remittances Factbook 2008*, World Bank, Washington, D.C., quoted in IOM WMR 2010, p. 167, Migration and Remittances Team, Development Prospects Group, World Bank, Washington, D.C., <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROSPECTS/Resources/334934-1199807908806/Top10.pdf> quoted in IOM WMR 2010, p. 165.

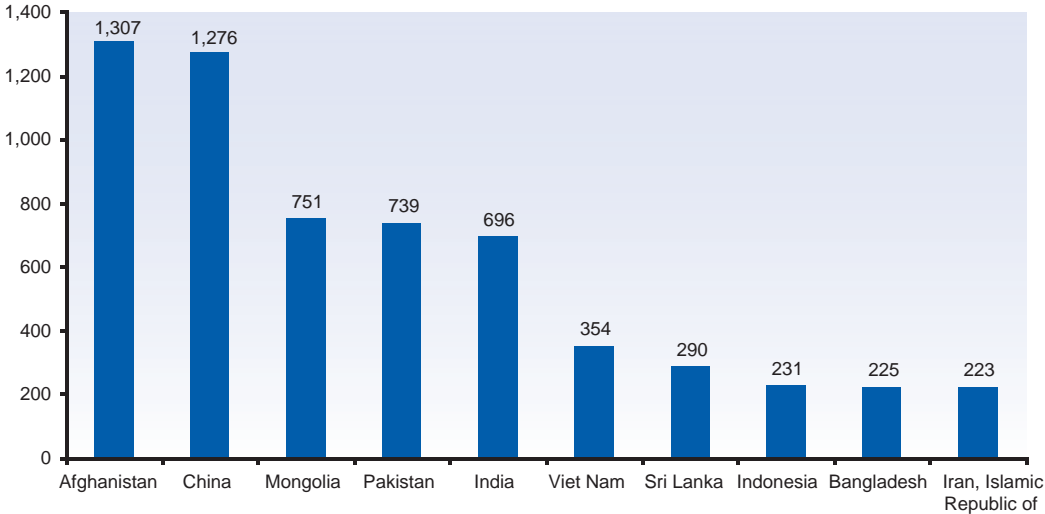
²² Hugo, G. (2010) *The Future of Migration Policies in the Asia-Pacific Region*, <http://www.iom.int/world-migrationreport-2010/backgroundpapers>, quoted in WMR 2010, p. 167.

²³ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision* (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2008), UN DESA, Population Division, New York, <http://esa.un.org/migration/index.asp?panel>, quoted in WMR 2010, p. 168.

Figure 14 shows that about 50 per cent of the approximately 6,000 returns to Asia and the Pacific were bound for Central and South-West Asia;²⁴ 30 per cent, for South and South-East Asia;²⁵ and 20 per cent, for the Far East.²⁶

Major host countries for migrants returning to the Asia and Pacific region were EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland, as well as Australia and Indonesia. Figure 15 shows the broad range of countries of origin to which migrants returned, including Afghanistan, China, Mongolia, Pakistan, Viet Nam and Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka and Afghanistan were the countries where IOM was most active in providing reintegration assistance to both voluntary returnees and those returned by their host-country governments.

Figure 15: Top 10 countries of origin in Asia and the Pacific, 2010



Considering the wide coverage of Asia and Oceania, in particular the different trends and directions of migration flows between the different subregions, the analysis of AVRR activities takes place at the subregional level, focusing separately on South-West and Central Asia, South and South-Eastern Asia, the Far East, and Australia and Oceania.

²⁴ For the purposes of this publication, “Central and South-West Asia” refers to the following countries: Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

²⁵ For the purposes of this publication, “South and South-East Asia” refers to the following countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

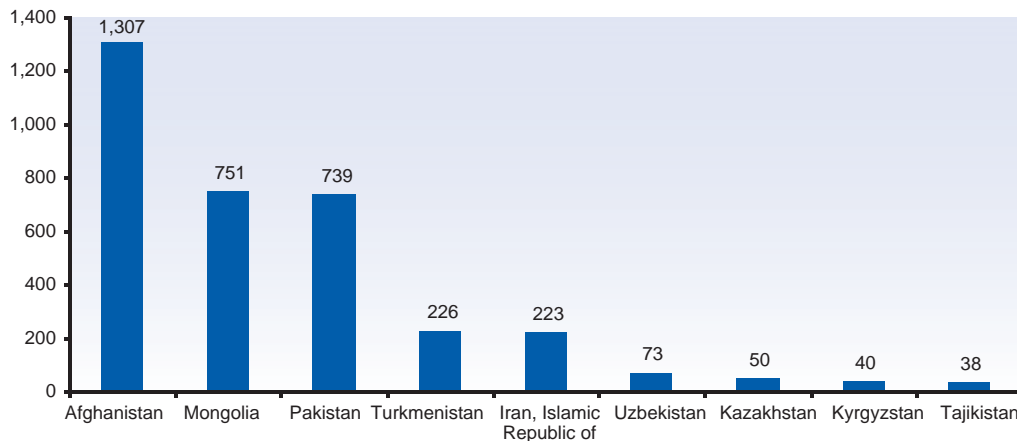
²⁶ For the purposes of this publication, “Far East” refers to the following countries: China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China (Hong Kong SAR), Japan, Republic of Korea, and Taiwan Province of China.

South-West and Central Asia

Assisted voluntary returns to South-West and Central Asia

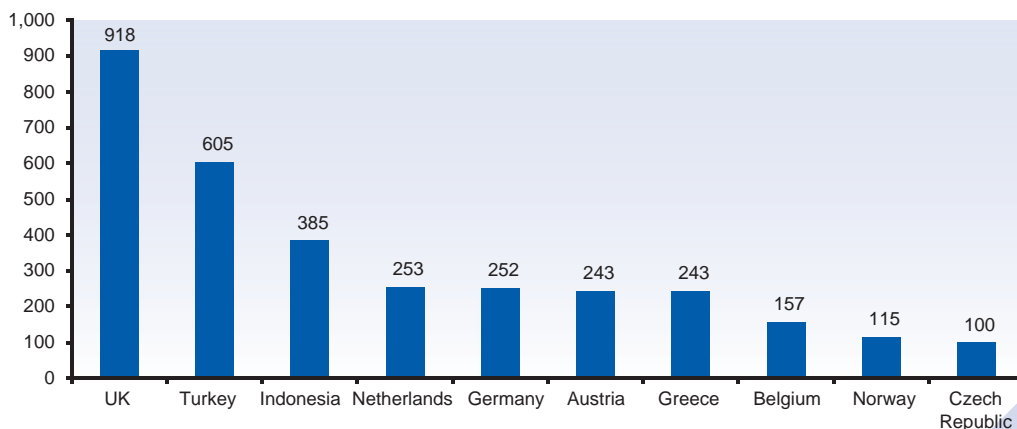
Figure 16 clearly shows the importance of Afghanistan as a country of origin within the region. Of a total of approximately 3,450 migrants who returned with IOM assistance to South-West and Central Asia in 2010, returns to Afghanistan amounted to more than one third (38%) of the overall caseload, with returns to Mongolia (751) and Pakistan (739) ranking a distant second and third, respectively.

Figure 16: Top nine countries of origin in South-West and Central Asia, 2010



As reflected in Figure 17, although returns took place from a broad range of host countries, the UK, Turkey and Indonesia stand out as principal host countries from which returns involving failed asylum-seekers and irregular migrants took place. Nearly 30 per cent of all migrants returned from the UK alone, whereas approximately 22 per cent of all migrants returning to South-West and Central Asia did so from Turkey and 12 per cent from Indonesia.

Figure 17: Top 10 host countries of migrants returning to South-West and Central Asia, 2010



Reintegration assistance in South-West Asia

The provision of reintegration assistance to returnees from Afghanistan and Pakistan and the monitoring and follow-up processes involved in this type of assistance is an important aspect of the work of IOM missions in these countries.

The levels of assistance under the voluntary return and reintegration assistance projects implemented in the three main host countries for the South and West Asian region differed considerably. While returnees under the UK project were eligible for in-kind reintegration assistance to set up a small business or access educational possibilities, returnees from Turkey and Indonesia (except for Afghan nationals) did not have any reintegration support. Afghan nationals returning from Indonesia were eligible for cash assistance of approximately USD 2,000.

In line with the different amounts of reintegration assistance provided to returnees, the possibilities for monitoring and follow-up on returnee reintegration processes varied from one project to the other. The unstable political and security situation in Afghanistan posed a common problem with regard to monitoring the reintegration processes of many returnees, which in turn impeded consistent follow-up in several cases, in particular when returnees lived a great distance away from the IOM mission in the country. However, IOM's Afghanistan reintegration team monitored the reintegration of returnees whenever feasible, bearing in mind possible restrictions due to security reasons. Whenever on-site visits to the small business set up by returnees were not possible, other methods of monitoring were put into action, including: speaking with the returnees on the phone, requesting pictures and documentation, and, whenever possible, requesting the returnees to visit one of IOM's offices in Afghanistan. In addition, in order to facilitate the overall reintegration process for returnees who choose to establish their self-employment activity in unsecured areas, IOM's normal procedure is to disburse cash assistance in one tranche instead of two.

Reintegration assistance to AVRR beneficiaries returning to Afghanistan from European countries

- Reception of more than 1,291 migrants returned under AVRR projects from 20 different host countries;
- Provision of immediate assistance, including temporary accommodation, medical assistance, mine awareness raising, and, under certain programmes, a small cash grant for immediate needs, and onward transportation (if needed);
- Implementation of tailored reintegration assistance for voluntary returnees from Denmark and Sweden; Norway and the Netherlands offering business set-up, vocational training, referrals, on-the-job training, or access to education.



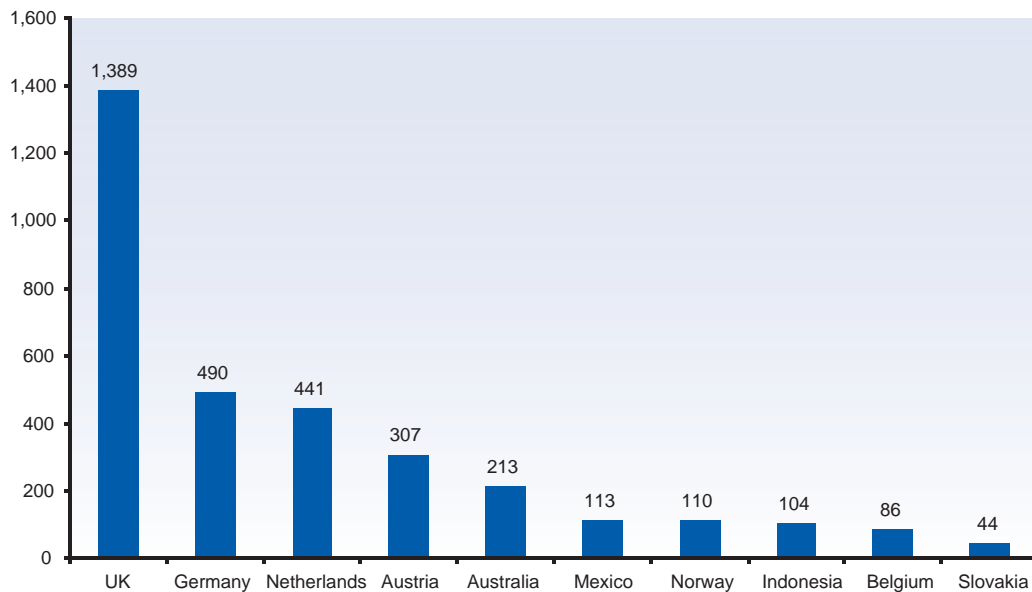
Afghan returnee from UK in the grocery store that he opened with reintegration support under UK's AVRR programme. © IOM Kabul

South Asia, South-East Asia and the Far East

Assisted voluntary returns to South-East Asia

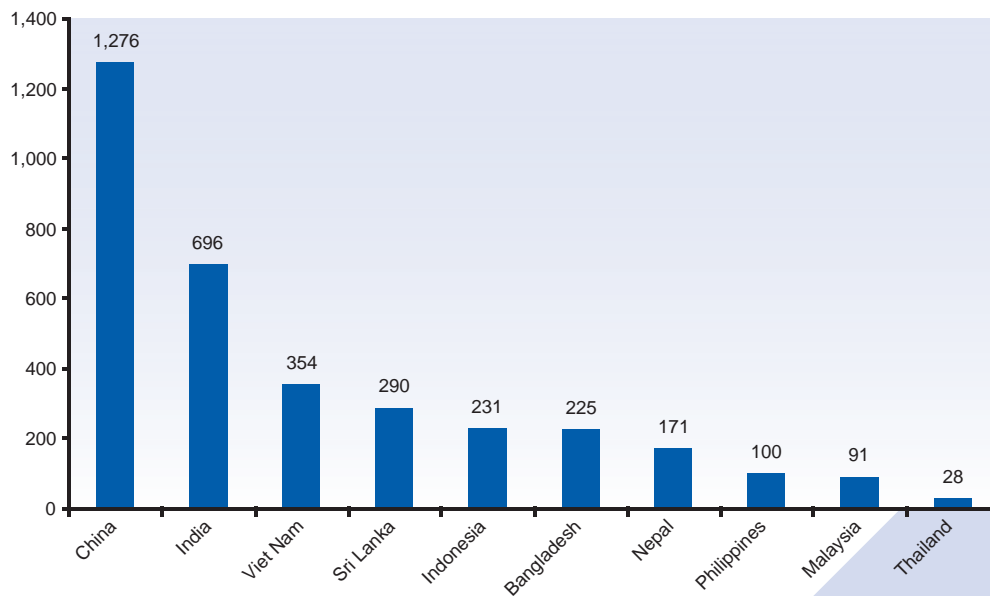
As shown in Figure 18, the top host country for migrants returning to South-East Asia was the UK, followed by Germany, the Netherlands and Austria. Approximately 40 per cent of all assisted voluntary returns to South-East Asia originated from the UK.

Figure 18: Top 10 host countries of migrants returning to South-East, Far East and South Asia, 2010



China and India stand out as important countries of origin for returning migrants, receiving more than half (57%) of about 3,500 migrants returning to the region (Figure 19).

Figure 19: Top 10 countries of origin in Far East, South-East and South Asia, 2010



Reintegration assistance in South-East Asia

Without prejudice to the importance of China and India as countries of origin of migrants, IOM was most active in providing reintegration assistance to migrants returning to Sri Lanka, supporting the socio-economic reinsertion into society of returnees from a broad range of countries.

As a measure to provide steady support, even if only for a limited period of time, IOM carried out monitoring activities in Sri Lanka with returnees who had already reintegrated into their communities of origin. In 2010, a total of 163 returnees throughout the country were monitored as to their progress and challenges in terms of reintegration in the country. Of these 163 returnees, 136 had returned from the UK, 23 from France, 3 from Switzerland, and 1 from Belgium. The feedback from these individuals was provided to IOM missions implementing AVRR programmes in the host countries, so as to allow for changes to be made to existing programme structures where necessary.

A Nepali returnee from Switzerland who returned to his village of origin (Chitwani) and started a farming project facilitated by reintegration support. © IOM Kathmandu



Business development training to Sri Lankan returnees

Building on its practice over the years, IOM Colombo, in cooperation with local NGOs, provides returnees with tailored assistance focusing on business development and entrepreneurship. This assistance is implemented in a manner complementary to other reintegration options, such as access to educational or vocational training and job placement:

- In 2010 alone, the reintegration staff of IOM Colombo and its field offices, with the support of CEFE (Competency-Based Economies through Formation of Enterprises), conducted five basic workshops that benefited a total of 69 returnees. The objective of the workshops was to provide returnees with basic business development skills and strategies, and assist them in developing a business plan prior to setting up their own small business.
- Forty-one migrants participated in two advanced training workshops that were organized with the objective to further improve already commenced businesses and provide guidance on how their functioning could be strengthened.

Although the number of returnees to Nepal was considerably smaller, the work of IOM Nepal is another example that highlights the importance of tailored reintegration support to returnees from different countries to facilitate their reinsertion into the receiving society. Beneficiaries of reintegration assistance included mainly returnees from Norway (54) and the UK (23), as well as returnees from Switzerland (10), Belgium (6) and Australia (3). The reintegration support allowed returnees to start different types of businesses, including grocery stores, farming, overseas consultancy service, gastronomy, publication office, photo studio and export of products.

Assisted voluntary returns from South-East Asia

Indonesia is not only a country of origin for migrants returning from host countries in Europe and Australia; it is also an important host country for migrants returning to their countries of origin in South-West and South-East Asia, and – on a considerably smaller scale – to countries of origin in Africa. IOM return assistance from Indonesia has been implemented since 2001.

Assisted voluntary return of irregular migrants from Indonesia

- In 2010, 466 irregular migrants were assisted to return to countries of origin, mainly Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam;
- General services provided: return, transit (where necessary), and limited post-departure assistance for onward transportation;
- Cash provision of reintegration assistance for main migrant nationalities in Indonesia along the following lines:
 - Afghan, Iraqi and Iranian nationals benefited from a reintegration cash grant of USD 2,000 upon arrival, with a maximum of approximately USD 10,000 given to families;
 - Migrants returning to Sri Lanka and Viet Nam were entitled to USD 1,000 per person, or USD 5,000 per family;
- Existence of specific safeguards and assistance for UAMs and individuals with particular health needs, including additional financial support for migrants with health-related needs following approval of the donor;
- Flexible project set-up allowing for the development of additional assistance schemes for specific groups of migrants if necessary and after consultation with government and project partners.

Australia and Oceania

Assisted voluntary returns from Australia and Oceania

The immigration information and counselling services project in Australia completes the picture of assistance provided to migrants in the Asia Pacific region. These services intend to contribute to the efforts of the Government of Australia in facilitating sustainable case management and return of asylum-seekers through an integrated approach to voluntary returns, with a particular emphasis on groups with critical status in their protection visa applications. The group of migrants who received information on return came from countries of origin in South-East Asia, the Far East, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America.

In addition to Australia and Indonesia, Papua New Guinea since 2009 has joined the group of host countries from where IOM implements return and reintegration assistance projects. The project in Papua New Guinea provides migrants with both pre-departure and in-kind reintegration support in their countries of origin; this support could be used for skills training, job placement or business set-up.

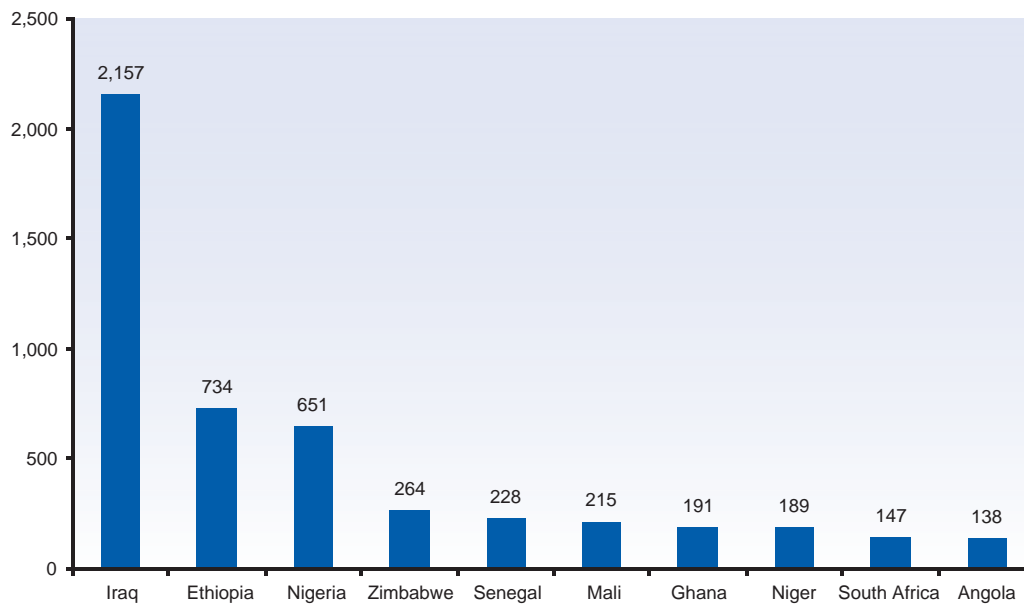
Post-arrival and reintegration assistance to Asian migrants returned by host-country governments

Apart from reintegration assistance to beneficiaries of IOM AVRR projects, IOM missions in Afghanistan and Sri Lanka were also involved in the provision of reception and reintegration assistance to migrants who had been returned by host governments, in particular, the governments of Australia, Norway and the UK. In line with IOM guidance on the provision of reintegration assistance to migrants returned by governments, the assistance did not start until the migrants were formally admitted into their countries of origin. Types and amounts of provided assistance differed: whereas IOM Afghanistan provided comprehensive reintegration assistance based on in-kind support towards job placements or self-employment schemes to returnees from Norway, IOM Sri Lanka's involvement with returnees from the UK and Australia was limited to the coordination of the returnees' onward transportation and, in the case of returnees from the UK, a small cash grant to cover basic humanitarian needs.

Africa and the Middle East

In 2010, Iraq was the biggest country of origin in the Middle East and Africa, followed by Ethiopia and Nigeria. Figure 20 shows that IOM assisted a total of 2,157 beneficiaries in Iraq returning through the Organization's AVR programmes.

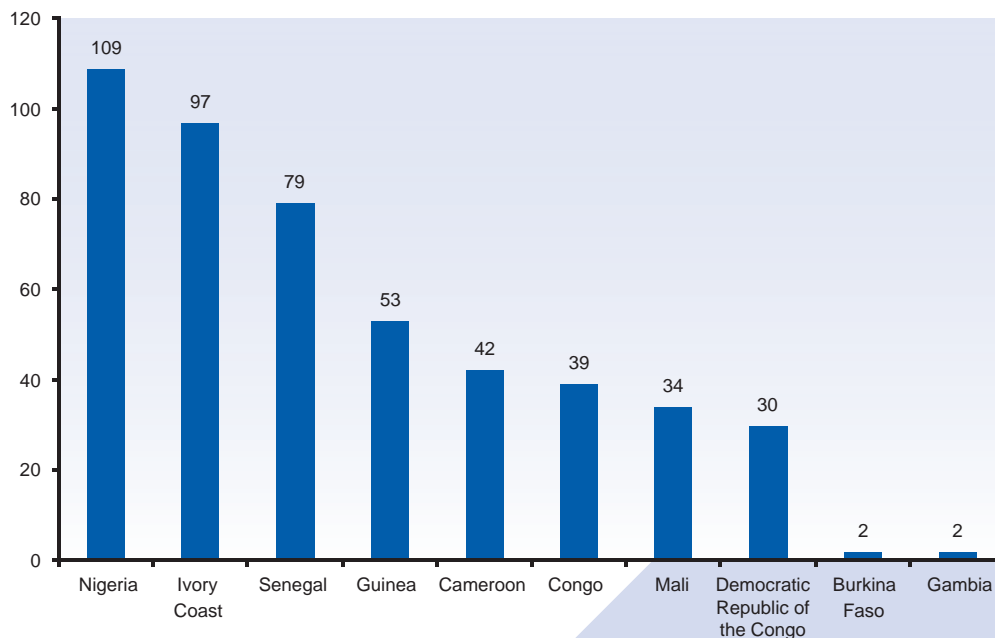
Figure 20: Top 10 countries of origin of returnees to Africa/Middle East, 2010



Assisted voluntary returns from the region: Morocco and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Morocco is a transit and, by default, destination country for irregular migrants wishing to reach European shores. The Morocco project aimed at bringing immediate responses to vulnerable migrants stranded in Moroccan territory, thereby simultaneously contributing to reduce the pressure exerted on European shores by those irregular migratory flows. As shown in Figure 21, a total of 501 migrants were assisted in 2010 to return to over 20 countries of origin. The two main countries of origin were Nigeria and Ivory Coast.

Figure 21: Top 10 countries of origin of returnees from Morocco, 2010





Amongst the 501 migrants who were assisted in 2010, 471 were provided with reintegration assistance in their respective countries of origin.

Another country that featured prominently amongst those with active AVRR projects in the region in 2010 was the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Like other countries

A beneficiary of the IOM AVRR project from Morocco to Nigeria; he opened this shop with reintegration support provided under the project. © IOM Rabat

in northern Africa, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya hosts large numbers of irregular migrants in dire conditions. Often, these migrants are neither in possession of identity documents nor resources of their own to return to their countries of origin even when they may wish to do so. Many of these migrants were stranded in 2010 in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya while on their way to destinations in Europe and elsewhere. The Libyan government has sought IOM's support in addressing issues of concern with respect to such transit irregular migration, most immediately relating to the hundreds of irregular migrants stranded in different parts of the country. The Regional Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme for Stranded Migrants in Libya and Morocco (LiMo) was implemented between 2009 and 2010 to respond to the pressure created by flows of irregular immigrants in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Morocco, countries that have become a crossroad for migrants originating their migratory experience in sub-Saharan Africa and wishing to reach Europe. On the one hand, the project intended to provide migrants in the host country with the opportunity to return to their countries of origin in full respect of their rights and to reintegrate through the implementation of a business activity of their choice upon return; on the other hand, the project worked towards strengthening State and non-State actors' capacities to approach the phenomena of migration/returns in countries of origin. Due to the conflict in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, all IOM AVRR activities were suspended at the time of the production of this report.

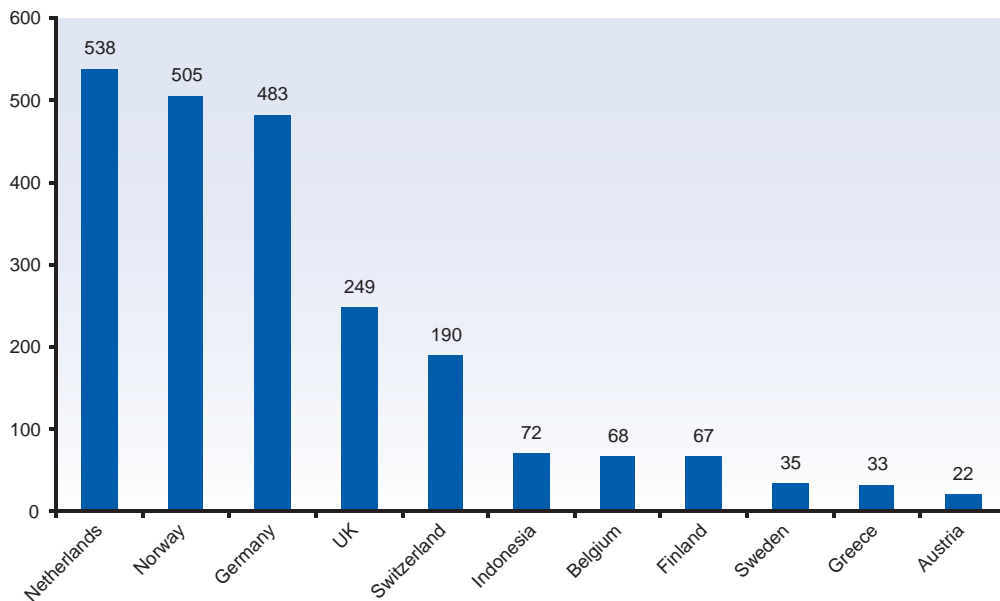
AVRR to the region

For the past 15 years, IOM has been providing voluntary return assistance to and from Iraq and its immediate region, assisting over 1 million individuals. Operations started following the first Gulf War, when approximately 165,000 migrant workers stranded in the region were provided assistance to return to Asia and Africa; many more Iraqis were also assisted to return home from the neighbouring region, and subsequently from host countries in Europe.

Current IOM activities in and around Iraq address issues of population displacement and voluntary return assistance, as well as capacity-building activities involving various Iraqi ministries. In 2003, IOM established offices in Baghdad, Basra, Mosul, Erbil, Kirkuk and Hillah; these offices are now only partially operational, with the ongoing presence of national staff working under heavy movement limitations in those areas in light of current security considerations, and much of its management hub has been relocated to Amman, Jordan. Within the region, IOM has a regional office in Cairo, Egypt, and it maintains a presence in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

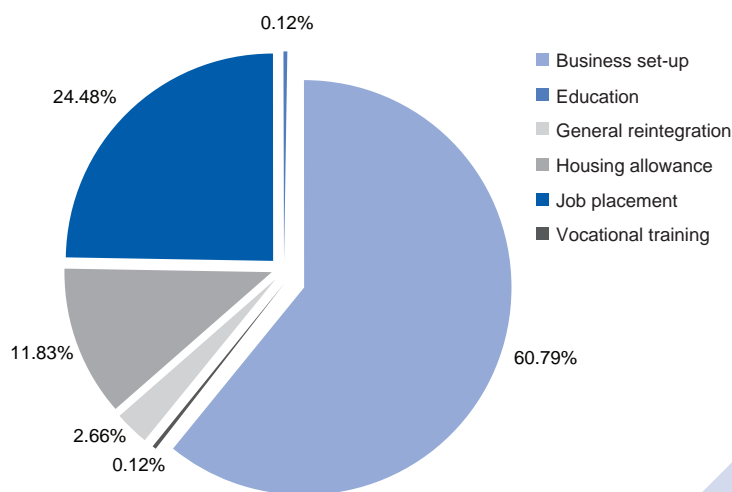
In order to ensure the provision of adequate assistance to beneficiaries, coordinate operational mechanisms and channel assistance for both returnees and third-country nationals, as well as to monitor relevant migration trends, IOM established a Regional Operations Centre (ROC) in 2004, currently based in Amman. In 2010, ROC changed its name to Iraq Movement and Assisted Migration Unit (MAM) to better reflect the scope of its activities. The MAM operates in coordination with the authorities in Iraq as well as with relevant agencies, national authorities and IOM missions in countries involved in its operations.

Figure 22: Top 10 host countries of Iraqi returnees, 2010



The presence of the MAM structure in Jordan and Iraq, with the support of other units in IOM Iraq, allows for the constant monitoring of such operational developments and the subsequent adjustment of IOM’s return and reintegration support arrangements towards greater flexibility and efficiency, for the immediate benefit of migrants.

Figure 23: Reintegration activities in Iraq, 2010



Linking AVRR with community stabilization: Community assistance projects



In addition to individual assistance to returnees, under an AVRR project funded by the Government of Netherlands, IOM Iraq has provided support to selected communities of origin through CAPs, with the aim of encouraging stabilization efforts in the areas of origin of migrants and reducing pressure for further emigration in the long run.

Rehabilitation of a playground in Alqoush – Mosul. © IOM Iraq

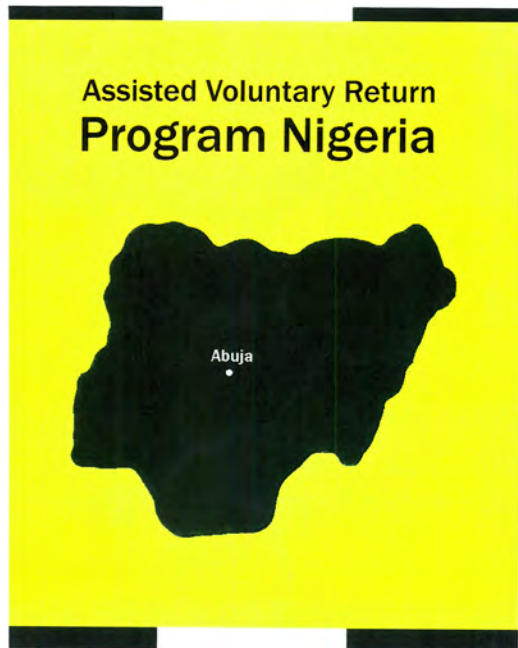
For this purpose, three CAPs have been implemented in 2010 in cooperation with local authorities, one has already been initiated and an additional five are foreseen for 2011. CAPs under this project had an average budget of EUR 25,000. CAPs have called upon local communities to define, prioritize, implement and further oversee small-scale community infrastructure projects or any other local projected initiatives benefiting not only individuals but also the whole community. IOM Iraq has been conducting needs assessment and monitoring returnees throughout Iraq and all the collected information has been processed by the IOM Joint Operations Cell (JOC) to efficiently prioritize the most urgent needs.



Rehabilitation of a playground in Alqoush – Mosul. © IOM Iraq

**Linkage between
pre-return
information and
reintegration
provision in
countries of origin**

3



Internet:
www.bfm.admin.ch
www.ch.iom.int



The linkage between the pre-departure phase and reintegration phase has become a more consistent element of IOM's AVRR projects over the past few years, with major specific return information provision programmes such as the Return Information Fund (RIF, Switzerland) and the ZIRF Counselling project (Germany) that started in 2002 and 2006, respectively. In addition to these projects, AVRR programmes have increasingly applied specific methodologies to communicate with diasporas and relevant stakeholders about the assistance provided by IOM in host countries and countries of origin. These project activities have allowed IOM and its partners to address the concerns of returnees with regard to service provision and opportunities in communities of return. Ultimately, this linkage between pre-return information and reintegration provision has been crucial to work towards sustainable returns.

The call made by EU studies (such as the one led by EMN) in 2010 for more comprehensive projects to address issues concerning the sustainability of return has been very relevant to IOM's efforts to obtain further

contributions from its Member States in order to fund AVRR and promote stronger linkages between activities in host countries and countries of origin.

Enhanced and Integrated Approach regarding Information on Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin (IRRiCO)

An example of a project providing a successful linkage between pre-departure assistance and reintegration provision in countries of origin is IOM's "IRRiCO". A project funded by the EC RETURN Preparatory Actions in 2005, developing the basis for a new project, "Enhancing Integrated Approach and Cooperation in the EU through Return and Reintegration Information Gathering", funded under the EC RETURN preparatory actions in 2007, IRRiCO aimed to further contribute to joint efforts in the EU, Norway and Switzerland to facilitate sustainable voluntary return and reintegration of irregular migrants involving nine host countries and 20 countries of origin (for more information, visit <http://irrico.belgium.iom.int>).



Return-related information is a key element throughout the different stages of AVRR in the EU. While IOM's direct involvement differs from country to country, the exchange of experiences among AVRR projects have been useful in the implementation of multilateral initiatives. As part of this project, IOM in 2010 produced the "Practical Guide on Information Provision Regarding Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin" (<http://irrico.belgium.iom.int/images/stories/documents/IOM%20Brochure%20low%20res-web.pdf>). This document is based on the practices of IOM and its partners in the EU, Norway and Switzerland, but can nevertheless also be used as a reference in other parts of the world.

Video conferences

Some innovative counselling practices, such as live video conferences (organized by IOM UK and IOM Belgium for Sri Lankan, Moroccan and Congolese returnees) have allowed members of the diaspora



to listen to the experiences of returnees under IOM's return and reintegration assistance programmes. Diaspora members subsequently passed on the first-hand information to a broader group of migrants and this greatly contributed to the outreach strategy of IOM offices.

Video conference with IOM Rabat held in IOM Brussels on 28–29 June 2010 counting the participation of a Moroccan returnee (middle) and colleagues from IOM Rabat. © IOM Brussels

Visits from IOM officials in countries of origin

IOM The Hague organized the visit of an IOM reintegration officer from Angola to The Hague, where meetings were held with migrants thinking about return to Angola. The opportunity to participate in face-to-face meetings with a person who originates from and knows the actual situation in the country of origin considerably contributes to the process of informed decision-making among potential returnees.

Ethnic media and other diaspora communication channels have been particularly relevant to AVRR outreach in Western Europe, especially because this is one area in the world where large diaspora groups have settled and developed their own networks and tailored types of communication tools to benefit members in their native languages. Diaspora mapping exercises have been a crucial research exercise used by IOM for projects in the UK, Belgium and Portugal to determine the most adequate and effective communication strategy to follow when raising awareness about AVRR within the diaspora communities in the EU.

Mapping exercises as research-based strategies

Mapping exercises were primarily designed under AVRR projects in the UK in 2005. They sought to establish: a) estimates on the size and geographical spread of particular diaspora communities; b) preferred media channels used by the diaspora (e.g. TV stations, radio stations, newspapers and magazines); c) key languages used by the diaspora to read information material; and d) institutions used for information sharing (libraries, health centres, churches, etc.). These exercises have been and remain crucial to ultimately ensuring that “appropriate” and “effective” awareness-raising and return counselling mechanisms are in place within local communities. Additionally, these activities are designed to reach those migrants who may be able to benefit from AVRR projects but who, because of their irregular status, do not have access to the normal and “traditional” network of NGOs and public services for themselves and for their families.

4

**Capacity-building
and partnerships**

In 2010, all IOM missions implementing AVRR reported that they were partnering formally²⁷ and/or informally²⁸ with a wide range of local and national partners for the assistance of migrants at the pre-return stage. These partners include: NGOs, local authorities, immigration departments, embassies, legal advice agencies, reception centres for asylum-seekers, diaspora groups, social workers, specialized agencies for vulnerable migrants (such as UAMs, VoTs and individuals with mental health problems), UNHCR and Red Cross centres, among others.

Capacity-building is defined in the IOM *World Migration Report 2010* as “the process of strengthening the knowledge, abilities, skills, resources structures and processes that States and institutions need in order to achieve their goals effectively and sustainably, and to adapt to change.” IOM works in partnership with national and international stakeholders to achieve these goals in the field of assisted voluntary returns in host countries and countries of origin.

In host countries, IOM implements a broad range of activities with national partners, including: awareness-raising for AVRR, gathering of country-of-origin information, profiling of diasporas, and outreach and information dissemination to migrant communities and referral systems to public services.

In countries of origin, capacity-building focused on the main goal to link return to local development, access to services and strengthening of local networks and improvement of local capacity to deliver reintegration assistance (via training of NGOs). The approaches followed by IOM in several countries take into account the needs of returning migrants, on the one hand, and those of the receiving communities, on the other. An example of this can be seen in Kosovo/UNSC 1244, where capacity-building formed an integral part of IOM’s activities in the context of the project Employment Assistance Services (EAS) for Kosovar Returnees from Switzerland, including ethnic minorities and their returning communities. Given the context in Kosovo/UNSC 1244, where local authorities are gradually taking over ever-greater responsibility for the readmission, reception and reintegration of returnees, IOM and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) agreed to introduce a new multifaceted capacity-building component of activities within the EAS programme to be implemented between 2008 and 2010, targeting the key line ministries involved in both the readmission and reintegration of returnees, specifically the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Local Government Administration, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

The strengthening of local networks involving NGOs is at the heart of IOM’s capacity-building activities in Central and South America, especially with regard to countries of origin with no IOM presence such as Brazil or the Bahamas. Capacity-building focused not only on NGO partners but also on governmental authorities, to strengthen the latter’s ownership of the field of migration policy, in particular with regard to policies dealing with the reintegration of nationals.

Following a joint initiative of IOM Portugal and IOM Argentina, meetings with key ministries as well as a workshop with local and regional Brazilian authorities and civil society representatives were organized to strengthen partnerships among governmental and non-governmental actors, and to promote dialogue and discussion on a joint reintegration strategy for Brazilian migrants.

Major capacity-building efforts were involved to set up a local service provider network on the Bahamas. IOM promoted the creation of a local network with faith-based organizations, public servants and civic groups. These organizations worked in coordination with the central government to provide service to individual returnees, particularly those who had returned to areas other than the main island. During the first phase of project implementation in the Bahamas, all members of the network received training on AVRR and migrants’ needs and rights in workshops and conferences. Nevertheless,

²⁷ Formally refers to partnerships that are based on a legal agreement with a predefined scope for implementation within an AVRR project.

²⁸ Informally refers to partners who refer migrants to IOM or vice versa, or those who play a part in the AVRR framework but do not hold a legal agreement as the formal partners do. In this case we can include NGOs offering migrant counselling, and State services such as health, legal, protection of victims, etc.

challenges remained as regards the functioning of the networks and common standards, as several of the organizations had not necessarily dealt with migrants or reintegration of returnees previously. On the other hand, the network encouraged individual members to share their experiences and good practices in the reintegration of returnees.

Capacity-building of local authorities also played a major role in Guatemala, where IOM provided post-arrival assistance to forced returnees. Simultaneous to the implementation of reintegration assistance, the IOM mission in the country organized training for migration authorities in data collection and policymaking, facilitated inter-institutional working groups on migration, and supported the application of migrant remittance surveys with the final aim of promoting the development of a comprehensive reintegration policy in cooperation and consultation with public and private sector partners. Moreover, the reintegration assistance project improved awareness among the receiving community through public information campaigns on the needs of returnees and the importance of successful reintegration. Finally, the project assessed the impact of the forced return on the receiving community, mainly in terms of changed remittances flows and local development.

A good example of IOM's training activities with NGOs in countries of origin is the training provided by IOM Mali and IOM Niger to a number of NGOs active in these two countries in the framework of the LiMO project. The training followed the overall objective of the project – that is, to reinforce the reintegration capacities of Mali and Niger, which are both important countries of origin for migrants returning from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Morocco.

The NGOs that participated in the training were members of the reintegration network created in each of the two countries of origin whose role was to provide proximity assistance to migrants returning to main regions of return. Under the project structure, the respective NGOs were responsible for tutoring and counselling, as well as monitoring the migrants' reintegration process following the reception of reintegration assistance from IOM. Moreover, the NGOs' involvement focused on facilitating the exchange of information between IOM, local authorities and the migrants, and to share expertise with the latter regarding reintegration possibilities, for instance, by promoting vocational training possibilities or the creation of migrants' networks and associations.

The training that took place in Niger on 14–18 December 2009 for 15 representatives of eight identified NGOs and in Mali on 11–16 January 2010 for 10 representatives of nine identified NGOs was directed at reinforcing their capacity to comply with the numerous tasks given to them under the project. The NGO representatives were trained as peer educators in project management, business opportunities and psycho-social assistance. In turn, these peer educators subsequently trained voluntary returnees from Morocco and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Some implemented training sessions for small groups of migrants and others did so in an individual manner. Reports on the training activities and their outcome/impact were subsequently shared with IOM.

**International
dialogue and
multilateral
cooperation
for AVRR**

5

IOM has been increasingly focusing on facilitating increased information sharing and networking activities between origin, transit and destination countries to find concerted solutions for AVRR and for migration management, in general. This section of the report describes the major international and multilateral events organized by IOM in 2010 in the framework of AVRR.

International meetings

EU: AVRR Annual Consultation with Member States in Brussels, October 2010

The fourth Annual IOM EU Assisted AVRR Consultation – organized by IOM Brussels in coordination with the AVRR unit at IOM Headquarters – took place in Brussels in late October 2010. The one-day event with IOM missions in the EU and respective national counterparts aimed to build on the concrete steps identified during the previous consultations held in September–October 2007, 2008 and 2009. The consultation provided a unique opportunity for the EC, IOM and its national counterparts to exchange ideas and best practices and discuss AVRR programmes and the ongoing transposition of the Return Directive into national legislation. The conference aimed to ensure that AVRR continued to be a priority within EC and EU Member States' integrated return management policies. Norway and Switzerland were also present as associated partner States. The consultation furthermore provided the opportunity to hear from several EU Member States, Sweden, UK and Belgium about the different aspects of the implementation of the EU Return Directive and EU Return Fund at the national level.



2010 AVRR Annual Consultation in Brussels.
© IOM Brussels

Central America: Puebla Process (Regional Conference on Migration)

Since its foundation, the Puebla Process²⁹ has played an important role in Central America, following the objective to establish a platform for dialogue on and exchange of ideas and experiences on migration, as well as for joint planning and cooperation on issues that are of common interest to the region. The Puebla Process is the most important regional platform for discussion and policymaking for Central American Member States. IOM forms part of the group of observers made up of South American and Caribbean countries, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) and UNHCR. The development of a regional strategy and approach to facilitate the return of migrants with irregular status, while strengthening coordination between authorities in Member States in order to ensure a safe, dignified, and orderly return, is one of the priorities identified by the Conference in its Plan of Action.³⁰ For the implementation of this strategy, the Member States of the Conference created the Reserve Fund for financing the assisted voluntary return of regional migrants in situations of strong vulnerability; this Fund is administrated by MRF Costa Rica.

²⁹ Member States to the Puebla Process are: Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States.

³⁰ See Activity 7 of the Plan of Action of the Puebla Process: <http://www.rcmvs.org/PlanAccion/Plan%20de%20Acci%F3n%20-%202009%20Eng.doc>.

Asia and the Pacific: Bali Process, November 2010

As part of the activities of the Bali Process in 2010, IOM organized a technical workshop for the Process' Ad Hoc Group on Repatriation and Reintegration in November 2010. This workshop focused on AVRR in the region, with a special focus on vulnerable groups.

International official visits

Considering the need for greater harmonization of approaches and synergies among host countries, as well as the need for increased cooperation between countries of origin and host countries, IOM promoted the implementation of capacity-building elements and bilateral and multilateral visits for government officials as part of AVRR projects. The aim of these visits was to provide the participants with a broader insight into other AVRR programmes and improve their knowledge of the "other side" (e.g. the pre-departure stage for countries of origin or vice versa). Experience has shown that the continuous involvement of national authorities in training activities related to AVRR does not only improve their knowledge of assisted voluntary return, but also gradually increases acceptance of AVRR practice in transit countries such as the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, where forced returns had been the only preferred option previously.

International visits to different countries among State officials have played a crucial role in facilitating sharing of information, as can be seen from the examples that follow:

In June 2010, an official visit to Malta was organized for officials of Mali, Niger and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Malta in 2009 was one of the main destinations for migrants from these countries who were transiting through the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. In 2010, as a result of the "closed centres policy" applied by the Maltese government, Malian and Nigerien migrants residing in the centres for up to 18 months still represented a significant proportion of the migrant community on the island. At the same time, most migrants who arrived in 2009 had experienced difficulties in leaving the island as the Government of Malta does not issue travel documents to individuals whose needs for international protection are not recognized. The Libyan, Malian and Nigerien delegations arrived in Malta in 2010 to meet with their Maltese counterparts (Ministries of Justice, Foreign Affairs and Interior) to discuss, network and propose solutions for their respective citizens "stranded" in Malta.

In this context, delegations from Estonia composed of IOM staff and State officials visited IOM The Hague as well as Dublin and Brussels in order to learn more about the AVRR programmes implemented in these countries and consider possible aspects that could be implemented in the Estonian context. Similarly, officials from Lithuania took part in an official visit to Warsaw in December 2010. The tour included the delegation's participation in a seminar on IOM's AVR Programmes for Diplomatic Representations of Non-EU/European Economic Area (EEA) Countries to the Republic of Poland and to the Republic of Lithuania in Warsaw, and, subsequently, a bilateral meeting of Lithuanian and Polish government officials to discuss potential synergies and enhanced cooperation between the two projects.

Official visits also took place between a delegation of governmental officials and IOM staff from FYROM visiting IOM The Hague. These represent important examples of bilateral meetings between host countries and countries of origin that provided the possibility of strengthening information exchange between stakeholders responsible for the pre-departure and post-arrival stages of AVRR programmes. A joint delegation from Latvia and Belorussia visited IOM Austria in April 2010 in order to deepen their insight into the Austrian AVRR programme and the possibilities for applying certain practices to their own national contexts. IOM Austria provided information about AVRR activities in Austria to Latvian stakeholders in the form of a training seminar organized in June 2010.

Similarly, meetings between Brazilian and Belgian authorities were organized in the framework of the project "Awareness Raising for Brazilian and Belgian Authorities on Managing Migration from Brazil

Visit of Belgian officials to Brazil in the framework of the project "Awareness Raising for Brazilian and Belgian Authorities on Managing Migration from Brazil to Belgium." © IOM Lisbon

to Belgium" in order to strengthen the capacity of local authorities to combat irregular migration from Brazil to Belgium, more specifically from Goiânia to Brussels. Participants in the meetings were select local authority representatives and local actors of both cities on issues linked to irregular migration, with a specific focus on trafficking in human beings, labour exploitation and smuggling. The first workshop took place in Goiânia on 7–8 April 2010, involving, on the one hand, Brazilian participants representing a large number of institutions, mainly from Goiânia but also from the federal level in Brasilia (the National Council for Migration; the Cabinet of the Governor of Goiás; the Ministry of Labour; a multidisciplinary group involving actors focusing on the fight against trafficking in human beings; religious groups; and researchers), and, on the other hand, a Belgian delegation composed of members of the Immigration Office, the Police, the Social Inspection and the Consulate in Sao Paulo. The discussions during the workshop contributed to clarify the situation of Brazilian migrants in Belgium and of potential migrants in Brazil. Moreover, the workshop helped to enhance cooperation between Brazilian and Belgian authorities, in view of a potential future information campaign on irregular migration in Brazil, and a warning message about irregular migration to Belgium was communicated to the broader public through the use of media.



Information sharing

Various governments and IOM foster exchange of information on the needs of vulnerable categories of migrants and the specific requirements for projects dealing with their return. Six Member States exchanged important information on practices in the context of AVRR of persons with mental and physical disabilities. Similarly, the seminar "In Search for Solutions: Voluntary Return of Vulnerable Migrants", organized by IOM Vilnius with the support of IOM The Hague's Medical Focal Point in November 2010,



addressed the particular needs of vulnerable migrants returning under IOM's AVRR projects. The event facilitated the exchange of information between all actors involved in the Lithuanian AVRR context, such as border authorities, reception centres, legal guardian institutions, UNHCR, the Red Cross and civil society organizations.

Presentation by IOM Kosovo on return and reintegration projects at the International Workshop in Vienna, November 2010. © IOM Vienna

The international workshop for return counsellors implemented in the framework of the AVRR projects of IOM Vienna for migrants returning to Chechnya/Russian Federation, Kosovo/UNSC 1244 and Nigeria in particular represents another example in this field of activities. The workshop organized in Vienna brought together Austrian return counsellors providing counselling to migrants returning to Chechnya/Russian Federation, Kosovo/UNSC 1244 and Nigeria and the IOM reintegration staff (and the local coordinator from Chechnya) from the three countries of origin, in order to exchange information and broaden their knowledge of the situation on the other side of the return process. Ultimately, the workshop also provided a platform for the discussion of potential and real challenges related to the return process, as well as the development of joint solutions.

6

**Greater sustainability
of AVRR through
monitoring,
evaluation and
research studies**

Assessing sustainability of Assisted Voluntary returns

In the AVRR context, sustainable return denotes the durability of return over a period of time, which can be assessed by the continued presence of the returnee in the country of origin or by the fact that he/she no longer opts for emigration at any price (e. g. irregular migration channels) to leave behind difficulties encountered in the country of origin.

An important factor for a returnee to stay in his/her country of origin upon return is, among others, an environment conducive to effective reintegration. This involves, for example, the existence of a secure socio-political climate, the ability to sustain oneself independently, and access to services. Nevertheless, this conducive environment has to be complemented by structured and comprehensive reintegration assistance mechanisms that focus on the overall objective of helping the returnee reach self-sufficiency (i.e. being able to sustain oneself and the family). Importantly, a self-sufficient returnee will be perceived by the receiving community in a more positive way, that is, as a factor contributing to local development and not as (another) weight to be carried by the non-migrating community. This in turn not only facilitates adaptation and reintegration in the non-migrating community of origin, but also allows the local community to benefit from the reintegration assistance provided and thus contribute to a more conducive environment for the reintegration of the returnee.

It becomes clear from the above that the presence of positive external factors in the country of origin and the effectiveness of the return and reintegration assistance provided go hand in hand. As a result, the sustainability of return cannot be guaranteed if one of the two fails. Considering that it is beyond the limits of an AVRR project to change the overall conditions in countries of origin, it is even more important to measure and evaluate the impact and appropriateness of the reintegration assistance provided. In this context, IOM advocates for in-kind reintegration assistance as the preferred option over one-off cash assistance, as it allows for a higher degree of guidance of the returnee to promote the use of reintegration assistance for activities that will facilitate his/her reintegration in the medium- to long-term. In other words, while it is likely that returnees spend cash grants for immediate needs upon arrival, in-kind reintegration support is normally used to set up a business project, a job placement, vocational training or educational materials, in line with the reintegration plan previously defined jointly by the returnee and IOM reintegration staff. It will thus lay the basis for the returnee's access to employment and education, among others, which will in turn be fundamentally important to his/her sustainable reintegration in the country of origin.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Studies

Without prejudice to the potential advantages of in-kind reintegration assistance, the cost-effectiveness and impact of any type of reintegration support can only be measured adequately through constant monitoring and evaluation. The constant application of a monitoring and evaluation system allows for closer assessment of how returnees use reintegration support. Moreover it helps to assess whether the type and amount used was adequate to effectively allow the returned migrants to reinsert themselves in their country of origin in the medium- to long-term (i.e. in a sustainable manner). Monitoring and evaluation allows for the modalities of the delivery of reintegration to be revised and adapted to ensure that the needs of the returnees are met while ensuring cost-effectiveness at the same time.

Finally, monitoring and follow-up of the returnee reintegration process can have positive side effects for individuals, who feel more strongly accompanied and guided through the often difficult process of reinserting themselves into their communities of origin.

Governments, IOM missions and other stakeholders have recognized the need for increased monitoring and evaluation of existing AVRR projects, on the one hand, and the need for further comparative analysis and research, on the other. This is unfortunately not possible to do in a consistent and integral

fashion within all AVRR projects due to lack of resources. The following section aims to give an insight into examples of monitoring and evaluation exercises and research studies carried out in 2010:

The pilot monitoring project implemented by IOM Bern in 2010 is an example of how consistent monitoring can provide an important insight into evaluating the effectiveness of a project. The exercises included an assessment of the reintegration of more than 100 individuals returned under its Return Assistance from Switzerland Project (RAS) in 2009. This exercise provided significant insight into the challenges of implementing reintegration assistance in the various countries of origin of migrants returning from Switzerland. According to the final monitoring report produced by IOM Bern, considering the limitations of financial assistance, individualized reintegration support was “all the more important to realize the returnee’s potential.” This indicates the advantages of individual follow-up during the reintegration process, which is greatly facilitated by the provision of in-kind assistance linked to clear arrangements that need to be in place for the disbursement of the reintegration funds available to the individual (e. g. returnees are requested to present receipts of goods acquired or permits to set up businesses). Moreover, the monitoring report confirmed that “systematic monitoring of RAS (Reintegration Assistance from Switzerland) mandates allows an in-depth analysis of the efficiency of the [Swiss AVRR] programme” and that “the monitoring concept as part of Switzerland’s return assistance programme should be standardized [...] in order to simplify [...] comparative analyses between various country programmes and the individual return assistance.”³¹

Other IOM missions have followed this trend of strengthened monitoring and evaluation of AVRR activities, with the objective of improving the quality of project delivery and thus the sustainability of AVRR. Examples of this include monitoring missions to Nepal carried out under the Belgian Return and Emigration of Asylum-Seekers Ex-Belgium (REAB) Programme in 2010. Conclusions and recommendations based on the findings obtained during the missions were consolidated in monitoring reports that were subsequently used by the network of counsellors in Belgium as a tool for capacity-building. IOM San Salvador has similarly consolidated the results of monitoring and evaluation of its reintegration assistance to UAMs returning to El Salvador from the United States in a study on best practices on post-arrival reintegration assistance for this target group. The study includes inputs obtained during field visits that were carried out jointly with government entities upon arrival of the returnees to the country which aimed at the attribution of the minors to different programme offers, as well as follow-up monitoring visits during the minors’ involvement with the reintegration assistance projects.

Apart from evaluations carried out by the IOM missions themselves, external evaluations are also considered very important components of the development of AVRR projects aiming at sustainable returns. The external evaluation of the LiMo project implemented in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Morocco, published by the Institute for Studies on International Politics in Milan, Italy, did not only evaluate the implementation of the reintegration assistance, but all phases of the project as well. It focused in particular on the impact of an information campaign implemented in the transit countries of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Morocco, pre-departure assistance and reintegration assistance provided in major countries of origin such as Mali and Niger. This evaluation pointed out several aspects that need to be strengthened in order to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the programme in the long run, such as increased research on the right tools to be used during an information campaign or the need to more carefully select the actors involved in referral networks in host countries.³² As regards the reintegration phase, the evaluation stressed once more the positive impact of close follow-up of a returnee’s reintegration process, especially in environments that are not necessarily conducive to development.³³

³¹ IOM Bern (2010) *RAS Monitoring Report*, pp. 15–16.

³² IOM (2010) *External Evaluation of the Regional Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) for Stranded Migrants in Libya and Morocco (LiMo)*, p. 45.

³³ *Ibid.* p. 63.

The impact assessment of the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP), published by the UK Home Office in 2010, is an example of governmental evaluation of AVRR projects. Among others, the assessment focused on the impact and effectiveness of the reintegration support provided to the returnees upon arrival in their home country. In-kind support was positively evaluated as business set-up or training support and was considered to more likely result “in a sustainable outcome than a cash payment for living expenses, which would quickly be spent.”³⁴ Nevertheless, the assessment called for further optimization of reintegration support in order to minimize the negative impact of “factors relating to the country of return raised concerns for the sustainability of their businesses which are [the migrants’] main sources of income.”

Along the lines of the arguments laid out in the Swiss monitoring report, the comparative EMN study “Programmes and Strategies in the EU Member States on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration in Third Countries”, conducted in 2010, calls for more systematic monitoring and evaluation that could contribute to further improving the sustainability of return. The study also highlights that in several Member States the focus of funding has shifted from AVRR projects with a pre-return and transportation phase solely, to a more comprehensive and holistic approach to return migration that includes a post-return and reintegration phase.³⁵

In assisting efforts to strengthen standards, exchange information and build capacity in Europe, comparative research carried out by IOM missions has focused on specific target groups of AVRR programmes, aiming at strengthening cooperation mechanisms among the stakeholders involved and harmonizing standards between the different national systems in place. The “Study on Best Practices under AVR Programmes in EU Member States”, carried out by IOM Vilnius in 2010 in the framework of the AVR project “Return Home”, is a good example of research carried out on voluntary return of irregular migrants, with a particular focus on Central European EU Member States (Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania). Giving an overview of other countries’ experience in organizing and practically implementing AVR programmes in their national context, the study comes up with recommendations for stakeholders involved in the Lithuanian AVRR context.

Similarly, the comparative analysis of “Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Iraqi Nationals from Selected European Countries”, carried out by IOM The Hague in October 2010, responded to a growing need for information exchange and coordination at a time when increasing numbers of Iraqi migrants were willing to return to their country of origin. Highlighting the diversity of policies and programmes in place in the different host countries, as well as the negative implications for migrants and stakeholders in the countries of origin, the study concludes with a recommendation to draw up multilateral return programmes implemented in coordination with the EC for migrants returning to major countries of origin.³⁶

³⁴ United Kingdom Home Office (2010) *The Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Project (VARRP) 2008: A Process and Impact Assessment*.

³⁵ European Migration Network (EMN) (2011) *Programmes and Strategies in the EU Member States fostering Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration in Third Countries*, p. 91.

³⁶ IOM The Hague (2010) *Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Iraqi Nationals from Selected European Countries - An Analysis of Policies and Practices*, <http://www.iom-nederland.nl/dsresource?objectid=4048&type=org>.

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Glossary³⁷

Return refers broadly to the act of going back from a country of presence (either transit or destination) to the country of previous transit or origin. There are numerous subcategories of return which can describe the way in which it takes place or is implemented, for example, voluntary, forced, assisted or spontaneous return, as well as subcategories that can describe the individual returning, for example, repatriation (for refugees).

Voluntary return is based on a decision freely taken by the individual. A voluntary decision encompasses two elements: (a) freedom of choice, which is defined by the absence of any physical or psychological pressure; and (b) an informed decision which requires the availability of enough accurate and objective information upon which to base the decision.

The concept of “voluntary return” goes further than simply an absence of coercive measures. In some cases, an assessment needs to be made of the extent to which a person is mentally and physically able to take such a free, informed decision, and who, if necessary, could legally take the decision on their behalf.

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration includes organizational and financial assistance for the return and, where possible, reintegration measures offered to the individual returning voluntarily. AVRR includes reintegration assistance, unless otherwise specified.

Reintegration assistance is provided to help individuals returning to their country of origin to re-establish themselves. Reintegration assistance can range from a limited reinstallation allowance at the micro level to a variety of socio-economic assistance measures provided directly to the returnees or to the communities of return in the countries of origin at the macro level.

³⁷ The Glossary is taken from the *Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Handbook* (2010), Chapter 2: Assisted voluntary return and reintegration, p. 6.

Annex I: Global AVRR statistics from the perspective of sending countries, 2000–2010

Sending country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Australia	-	-	342	238	47	11	48	88	275	413	446	1,908
Austria	419	427	878	1,063	1,158	1,406	2,122	2,061	2,646	3,791	3,905	19,876
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	-	3	9	1	1	8	2	24
Belarus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	42	69	88	208
Belgium	3,182	3,546	3,221	2,814	3,275	3,755	2,811	2,593	2,669	2,659	2,957	33,482
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	78	141	374	211	244	58	233	16	157	237	1,749
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	5	44
Czech Republic	355	635	617	297	315	312	399	214	-	2,224	214	5,582
Denmark	-	-	-	252	243	89	18	8	25	25	14	674
Dominican Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	512	521
Estonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Ethiopia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	801	1,765	2,566
Finland	-	-	-	122	77	41	35	38	37	228	265	843
Germany	67,953	12,851	11,691	11,588	9,893	7,448	5,757	3,437	2,799	3,107	4,480	141,004
Greece	-	-	-	7	13	14	82	59	53	0	337	565
Hungary	572	236	204	220	146	206	220	216	169	309	435	2,933
Indonesia	-	-	-	-	828	58	385	318	36	423	517	2,565
Ireland	-	4	113	440	396	220	175	255	452	404	376	2,835
Italy	-	76	169	134	205	237	220	212	140	248	161	1,802
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	49
Latvia	71	38	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	16	157
Lithuania	124	91	40	-	-	35	3	12	15	-	55	375
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	38	104	158
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	1,484	1,460	1,000	4,028
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	3	15	27
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	24	41	67
Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	390	1,164	1,504	1,261	1,084	1,442	6,845
Moldova, Republic of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	18	25

Sending country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	254	51	892	210	1,119	501	3027
Netherlands	-	1,733	2,205	3,019	3,779	3,513	2,924	1,552	1,767	2,582	3,064	26,138
Norway	-	-	954	1,458	1,072	558	434	443	568	1,019	1,446	7,952
Papua New Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Poland	-	-	-	-	10	86	412	743	962	1,565	1,627	5,405
Portugal	-	362	132	115	226	321	163	278	347	381	562	2,887
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	9	20	75	6	131
Serbia	-	78	141	374	211	244	58	233	16	157	237	1,749
Slovakia	3	46	40	104	148	119	128	153	96	139	127	1,103
South Africa	-	-	4	32	25	49	135	159	185	322	151	1,062
Spain	-	-	-	199	393	379	527	1,170	1,519	1,136	889	6,212
Sweden	-	-	-	97	86	23	3	33	99	176	78	595
Switzerland	-	25	333	479	275	401	354	305	329	659	904	4,064
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	12
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	391	391
Ukraine	-	-	-	-	-	19	40	49	116	130	14	368
United Kingdom	2,108	1,207	1,175	2,392	2,664	3,608	6,200	4,157	4,301	4,945	4,549	37,306
Total	74,787	21,433	22,406	25,818	25,696	24,043	24,956	21,520	22,680	31,970	34,014	

Annex II: Global AVRR statistics from the perspective of receiving countries, 2000–2010³⁸

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Afghanistan	73	1	557	609	777	1,192	1,018	628	514	981	1,308	7,658
Albania	433	876	747	976	831	777	619	414	173	205	224	6,275
Algeria	51	72	94	127	146	158	234	140	103	120	127	1,372
Angola	15	21	58	333	539	580	629	253	173	181	144	2,926
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	2	7
Argentina	5	6	4	22	52	69	88	148	227	228	162	1,011
Armenia	546	435	603	584	708	508	441	289	376	276	377	5,143
Aruba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Australia	699	299	195	242	129	157	212	259	232	140	103	2,667
Austria	2	28	-	5	4	1	6	6	2	5	3	62
Azerbaijan	136	153	172	200	300	377	316	226	176	233	248	2,537
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Bahrain	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	1	1	11
Bangladesh	39	12	30	35	45	149	121	97	262	127	226	1,143
Barbados	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Belarus	76	175	186	302	345	259	184	130	80	101	120	1,958
Belgium	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	5	3	1	12
Belize	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
Benin	3	11	10	10	14	20	20	17	8	22	44	179
Bermuda	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bolivia	7	10	16	36	97	163	209	486	648	506	429	2,607
Bosnia and Herzegovina	8,840	2,087	1,981	1,640	1,381	468	317	140	86	149	146	17,235
Botswana	-	-	-	4	2	-	3	5	5	3	7	29
Brazil	58	149	169	469	889	1,200	1,776	2,304	2,331	2,637	2,448	14,430
Bulgaria	185	329	647	768	700	536	371	129	92	244	90	4,091

³⁸ The overall number of individuals assisted by IOM between 2000 and 2010 differs when comparing the statistics displayed in Annex I (returns from host-country perspective) and Annex II (returns from country-of-origin perspective), creating the impression that the number of those returned to their country of origin is higher than those departed from the host country. This relates to the fact that statistics in Annex II have been taken from a database where missions not only register AVRR but also arrivals to the country of origin in the emergency context. Statistics included in Annex I reflecting only AVRR from host countries are more accurate and should therefore be considered as a reference point; Annex II should be considered as complementary information to show the contrast between the host countries' perspective on AVRR and the countries of origin's perspective on AVRR.

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Burkina Faso	4	4	6	3	14	2	5	4	3	50	73	168
Burundi	7	24	5	12	10	9	16	23	22	22	38	188
Cambodia	2		12	10	3	15	12	2	1	4	11	72
Cameroon	28	14	19	26	57	73	96	87	58	175	107	740
Cape Verde	9	2	9	2	9	14	18	11	17	6	24	121
Central African Republic	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	10	1	11	-	28
Chad	-	-	2	2	3	8	7	1	1	4	4	32
Chile	14	17	22	48	74	88	83	92	126	147	163	874
China	91	72	124	348	320	401	443	488	544	1,019	1,276	5,126
Colombia	50	51	62	103	156	144	176	184	122	177	278	1,503
Comoros	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	4
Congo	3	1		2	8	8	5	24	18	122	40	231
Congo, Democratic Republic of	28	21	29	53	60	63	111	86	81	121	74	727
Costa Rica	-	-	-	1		3	15	17	21	29	11	97
Côte d'Ivoire	11	10	2	14	10	7	20	39	20	269	133	535
Croatia	1,404	2,406	3,934	1,693	808	108	80	60	59	51	44	10,647
Cuba	2	4	2	1	5	2	6	9	4	8	8	51
Cyprus	-	3	-	17	5	1	6	4	1	-	5	42
Czech Republic	365	338	474	572	108	75	10	24	37	32	9	2,044
Denmark	2	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	11
Djibouti	3	5	2	2	1	4	1	1	1	-	1	21
Dominica	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	1	1	9
Dominican Republic	6	5	10	1	16	33	32	29	17	127	200	476
Ecuador	180	165	148	368	402	348	740	813	1,118	503	702	5,487
Egypt	43	28	34	67	100	83	136	66	77	74	100	808
El Salvador	-	4	-	4	14	12	14	27	29	21	81	206
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	2	1	4	14
Eritrea	13	21	19	15	25	17	20	9	14	9	7	169
Estonia	14	36	40	34	14	3	-	2	-	-	2	145
Fiji	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	16	6	14	38

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Finland	3	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	9
France	9	3	3	2	-	5	3	28	7	2	2	64
Gabon	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	3	2	1	1	11
Gambia	1	4	7	11	18	14	16	85	28	61	50	295
Georgia	379	268	296	316	519	435	412	289	256	723	1,001	4,894
Germany	12	15	4	2	1	8	5	21	12	19	52	151
Ghana	23	26	38	55	152	157	157	146	205	345	192	1,496
Greece	9	3	-	5	-	2	-	-	1	2	2	24
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4
Guadeloupe	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Guatemala	-	1	1	1	18	7	9	29	36	12	54	168
Guinea	33	21	21	27	64	70	66	97	80	146	110	735
Guinea-Bissau	164	12	4	3	4	9	7	8	6	14	9	240
Guyana	-	1	2	1	-	2	5	8	10	6	1	36
Haiti	7	2	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	2	6	22
Honduras	-	-	-	1	12	89	36	100	132	89	112	571
Hong Kong SAR	-	-	-	1	6	3	2	6	9	4	13	44
Hungary	58	49	54	57	57	31	9	29	24	54	38	460
India	146	115	128	111	158	265	342	320	455	511	700	3,251
Indonesia	12	14	17	36	56	68	107	94	137	158	232	931
Iran, Islamic Republic of	580	1,068	841	1,016	1,016	899	737	530	430	475	223	7,815
Iraq	5	14	16	541	2,075	1,952	2,921	939	2,000	2,748	2,347	15,558
Ireland	1	-	-	2	4	3	-	1	-	9	6	26
Israel	15	70	31	92	60	57	53	47	33	32	23	513
Italy	8	-	2	7	5	5	-	1	3	4	1	36
Jamaica	2	1	1	7	9	36	105	84	101	85	56	487
Japan	4	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	3	2	14
Jordan	98	81	62	442	74	157	169	119	96	104	132	1,534
Kazakhstan	168	210	144	149	122	78	112	81	63	42	50	1,219
Kenya	13	11	6	24	23	27	75	39	59	71	69	417

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Korea, Republic of	-	-	5	2	-	-	4	8	54	42	27	142
Kosovo, Serbia	-	25	115	7	31	21	23	26	140	1,727	1,984	4,099
Kuwait	-	-	6	-	-	-	5	-	1	1	1	14
Kyrgyzstan	81	107	78	81	96	65	73	48	66	51	40	786
Laos	-	1	2	-	1	1	4	4	1	2	-	16
Latvia	42	29	84	118	109	12	13	13	1	5	2	428
Lebanon	256	128	152	221	245	213	175	144	156	221	132	2,043
Lesotho	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	13
Liberia	1	1	3	3	7	12	22	6	8	23	10	96
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3	3	2	26	51	35	61	38	39	26	22	306
Lithuania	89	155	111	144	112	19	15	2	6	2	8	663
Macao	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of	265	200	438	601	355	208	175	167	146	213	1,184	3,952
Madagascar	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	10	2	1	19
Malawi	-	1	-	-	6	5	32	37	34	71	110	296
Malaysia	1	-	1	2	5	33	11	24	56	91	91	315
Mali	-	-	1	2	4	225	12	132	83	317	215	991
Malta	4	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	11
Martinique	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mauritania	12	-	-	1	3	8	3	2	5	2	25	61
Mauritius	-	-	6	1	8	3	27	38	43	41	96	263
Mexico	-	2	1	3	2	7	17	84	24	22	55	217
Moldova, Republic of	174	498	358	363	347	286	344	360	297	342	337	3,706
Mongolia	74	149	242	269	245	338	436	337	322	1,932	774	5,118
Montenegro	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	38	43	32	56	171
Morocco	11	11	18	19	43	45	59	90	100	179	111	686
Mozambique	8	5	1	-	3	1	5	11	1	6	-	41
Myanmar	1	-	-	4	3	2	4	3	3	4	5	29
Namibia	7	-	3	1	-	1	5	13	22	30	12	94
Nepal	19	20	21	26	31	35	82	140	114	152	175	815

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Netherlands	1	1	-	1	1	6	-	5	2	-	1	18
New Zealand	-	1	2	3	6	4	9	10	6	6	2	49
Nicaragua	-	1	1	-	-	7	8	54	39	392	279	781
Niger	8	4	18	20	59	58	40	29	111	127	190	664
Nigeria	86	55	81	158	297	349	394	369	407	762	807	3,765
Norway	3	2	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	8	9	30
Oman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pakistan	140	431	165	199	196	280	395	366	415	430	743	3,760
Palestinian Territory, Occupied	1	1	-	-	3	2	2	3	2	-	-	14
Panama	-	-	4	1	4	-	1	12	7	12	12	53
Papua New Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	16	13	31
Paraguay	1	1	-	3	10	14	12	38	72	72	52	275
Peru	27	51	22	19	23	64	56	149	134	123	96	764
Philippines	13	2	8	4	16	22	30	52	94	76	104	421
Poland	1,051	146	115	241	80	10	28	9	5	8	5	1,698
Portugal	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	7
Qatar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	8	19
Romania	233	255	331	332	377	434	379	107	74	90	91	2,703
Russian Federation	1,171	1,360	1,118	1,347	1,202	993	966	820	1,111	2,456	2,436	14,980
Rwanda	5	3	6	9	20	12	28	22	21	12	9	147
Samoa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
Sao Tome and Principe	11	3	1	-	6	14	5	3	2	2	10	57
Saudi Arabia	-	2	-	2	2	1	4	10	1	2	1	25
Senegal	10	2	22	12	10	16	26	443	31	300	235	1,107
Serbia	-	-	218	219	34	41	40	1,359	1,172	588	1,639	5,310
Serbia and Montenegro ³⁹	88,543	10,542	3,698	7,205	4,472	3,282	2,150	231	16	-	8	120,147

³⁹ Statistics relating to returns taking place to Serbia and Montenegro can be found both under "Serbia and Montenegro" as well as under "Serbia" and "Montenegro" as separate immigration countries. This relates to the fact that returns from 2000 – 2006 were mainly registered as returns to the Federation of Serbia and Montenegro which fell apart in 2006 when first Montenegro and subsequently Serbia declared to have become independent States. Subsequent to the break up of the Federation, recording in the database was gradually adapted to the new context, reflecting the returns to the two independent States, Montenegro and Serbia.

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Seychelles	-	-	-	2	8	4	2	11	2	2	12	43
Sierra Leone	3	13	12	21	34	47	46	27	42	44	26	315
Singapore	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3	3	1	10
Slovakia	1,829	966	638	851	385	679	132	133	394	147	105	6,259
Slovenia	1	3	-	15	-	-	2	-	-	2	1	24
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Somalia	10	15	19	23	46	51	69	24	7	1	1	266
South Africa	2	2	25	59	57	58	116	120	178	140	149	906
Spain	-	6	4	1	4	2	3	10	27	18	26	101
Sri Lanka	61	120	242	394	350	568	378	306	236	244	333	3,232
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	4
Saint Lucia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	3	1	-	10
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	-	-	8	1	16
Sudan	19	40	30	65	122	134	418	336	505	69	72	1,810
Suriname	22	19	21	46	62	59	45	27	41	31	33	406
Swaziland	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	8	9	4	27
Sweden	7	2	5	3	3	8	3	8	3	1	2	45
Switzerland	7	-	2	-	1	1	-	2	1	2	1	17
Syrian Arab Republic	98	86	139	163	130	159	380	122	75	115	108	1,575
Taiwan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	5
Tajikistan	75	-	256	1	1	3	3	10	-	14	38	401
Thailand	3	-	2	6	9	11	16	14	26	22	28	137
Timor-Leste	776	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	1	792
Togo	64	28	19	35	59	55	47	29	26	26	34	422
Tokelau	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Tonga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-	-	1	7	10	9	17	9	14	67
Tunisia	9	3	12	32	31	16	25	17	32	33	38	248
Turkey	1,048	739	827	1,111	1,367	1,105	1,033	610	476	438	408	9,162
Turkmenistan	1	2	4	1	4	1	3	4	3	32	226	281

Receiving country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Uganda	2	160	45	103	250	47	77	79	78	63	64	968
Ukraine	290	543	684	792	839	928	772	637	553	737	737	7,512
United Arab Emirates	5	13	7	3	2	-	3	2	43	3	8	89
UK	432	4	8	14	11	8	6	4	27	42	42	598
Uruguay	1	1	-	4	26	56	57	47	93	148	95	528
USA	1,285	694	152	212	166	81	95	82	53	57	106	2,983
Uzbekistan	44	60	73	91	66	33	52	43	35	402	73	972
Vanuatu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Venezuela	7	3	2	11	18	41	50	47	48	40	32	299
Viet Nam	162	139	244	391	419	394	401	292	205	600	356	3,603
Yemen, Republic of	10	14	18	60	51	50	72	161	26	27	18	507
Zambia	1	1	-	2	4	2	11	12	14	15	40	102
Zimbabwe	6	3	7	40	65	118	259	199	171	233	264	1,365
Total	113,841	27,781	23,064	28,904	26,763	24,437	24,752	20,203	21,064	29,697	30,835	

