

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Assisting a World on the Move for 60 Years



Migration for the Benefit of All

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration



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New Beginning

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Protection

7. Future of AVRR



History of AVRR

- 1951: IOM Constitution spelling out various types of migration assistance and services the Organization can provide for voluntary return migration, including "voluntary repatriation" (art. 1(d))
- 1979: First implementation of REAG/GARP in Germany, forming basis for implementation of similar programmes in other European countries in 1980s (Belgium) and 1990s (Italy, Netherlands)
- 1990s: IOM Council formally recognizes importance of AVRR in the context of the Balkan Wars
- 2010: IOM Strategy: « Humane, safe and dignified return and reintegration options for irregular migrants and asylum-seekers [...] who wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin"." (MC/INF/302 (2010))





Germany REAG/GARP

- 1979: IOM implements the Reintegration and Emigration Program for Asylum Seekers in Germany (REAG) in coordination with the German government
- 1989: IOM initiates the Government Assisted Repatriation Program (GARP) as a supporting measure with financial support provided by the German government
- 2000: The German Ministry of the Interior took over entire responsibility for both programs





Germany REAG/GARP

- The REAG/GARP-program is a humanitarian program assisting with financial and operational support the voluntary return and migration to third countries.
- It offers start-up assistance and serves as a steering instrument for migration movements.

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 Those people eligible to benefit from the program are asylum-seekers, rejected asylum-seekers and recognized refugees as well as war and civil-war refugees, victims of forced prostitution or trafficking and other foreigners



Germany

- Assistance provided through R R G/A/B/ GA/BP
 - Payment of transportation costs (by plane, train or bus)
 - Petrol allowance for return by car
 - Travel assistance

New Beginning

Protection

- Initial start-up cash to people from countries that are particularly relevant in terms of migration
- To date, IOM Germany has assisted more than half a million people to voluntarily return home or emigrate to a third country.

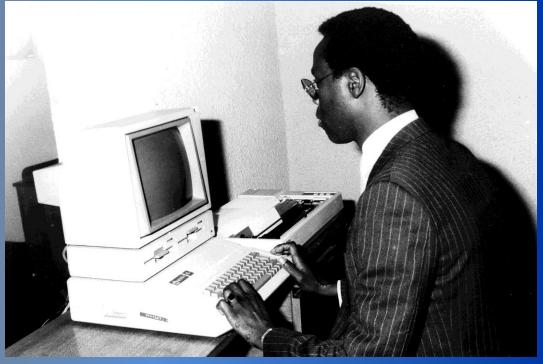


History of AVRR

Kenya, 1987: Sulleman Mwaronga Kamolleh gained vital professional experience at the Commonwealth Bank in Australia. He has returned to Kenya with assistance from **ICM's Return of Talent** Programme, bringing with him vital skills to Kenya's banking sector.

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History of AVRR

Uruguay, 1988: Andrés Nemseff Zamury returned to Uruguay with assistance from ICM's Return of Talent Programme. He is a surgeon who specializes in facial reconstruction and microsurgery.

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Viet Nam, 1991: Vietnamese citizens return home with IOM's Voluntary Return Programme from Hong Kong to Viet Nam.

Protection

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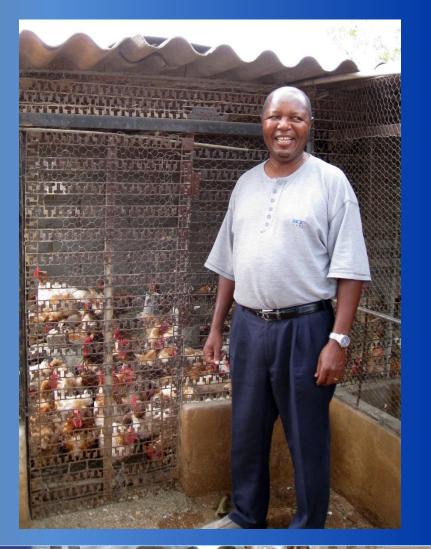


History of AVRR

Zimbabwe, 2007: Under the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme, IOM UK assisted this man to return to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and start a poultry farm. This reintegration assistance has proved successful and Mr. N can now provide an income to support six members of his family.

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History of AVRR



El Salvador, 2012: IOM Project Assistant, Tatiana Ortiz, accompanies a beneficiary to make initial purchases for her new clothing business.

Protection

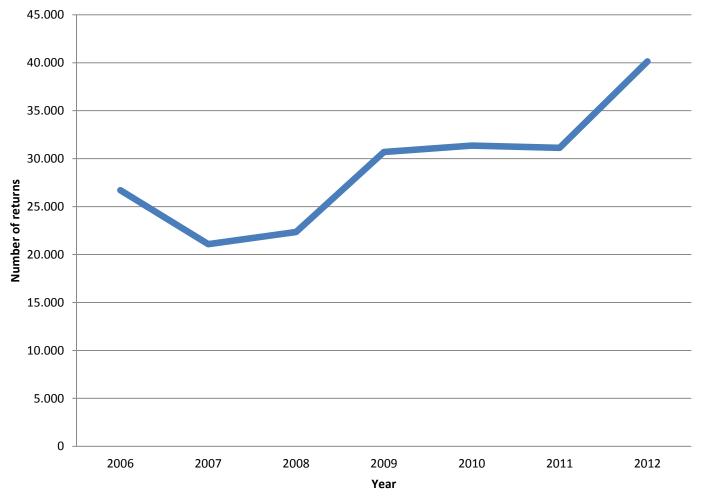
New Beginning





Migrants assisted through AVRR 2006-

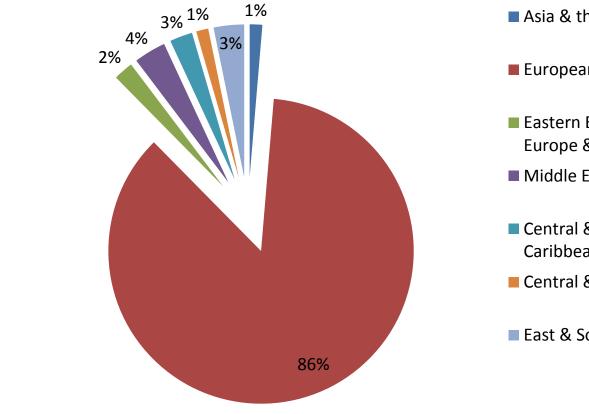
2012







AVRR in 2012 according to region of departure of migrants



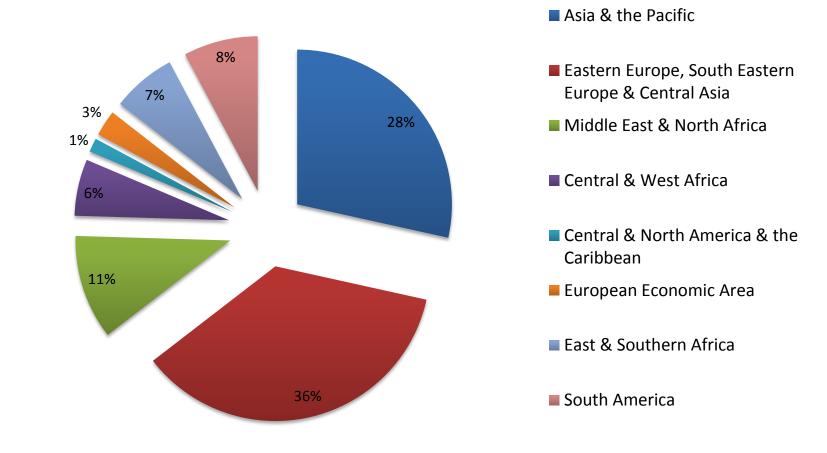
Asia & the Pacific

- European Economic Area
- Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe & Central Asia
- Middle East & North Africa
- Central & North America & the Caribbean
- Central & West Africa
- East & Southern Africa





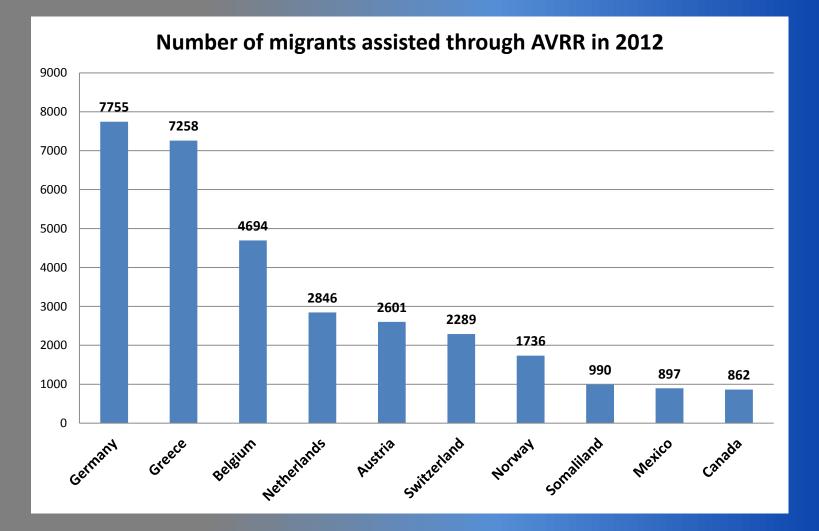
AVRR in 2012 according to region of origin of migrants







Top 10 host countries for AVRR in 2012



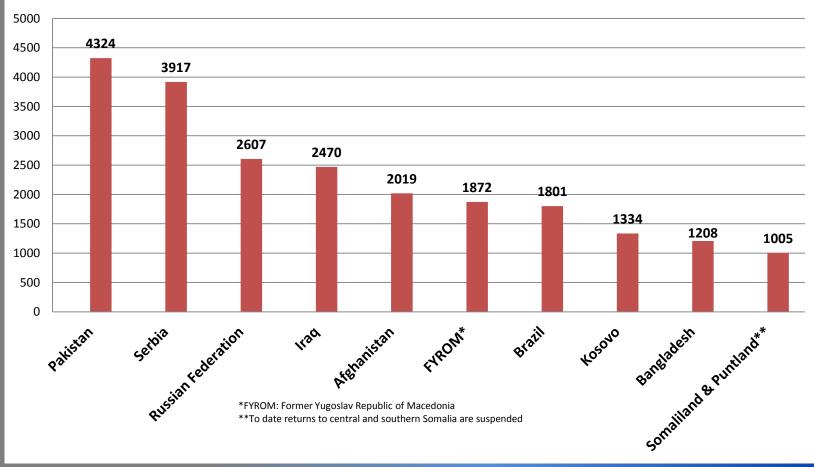




Top 10 countries of origin for AVRR in

2012

Top 10 countries of origin for AVRR worldwide in 2012







Post-Arrival Reintegration Assistance (PARA)

Short term humanitarian assistance or mid-term reintegration support provided to migrants returned under the auspices of the host country's government after they have been formally readmitted in the country of origin

- No IOM involvement in the host country and during the return process
- Involvement of IOM Mission in Country of Origin based on confirmed support of Government in the country of origin
- Assistance varies from "meet and greet" to tailored reintegration assistance, including for vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied minors (El Salvador, Guatemala) or individuals suffering from drug addiction (Georgia).

New Beginning

Protection



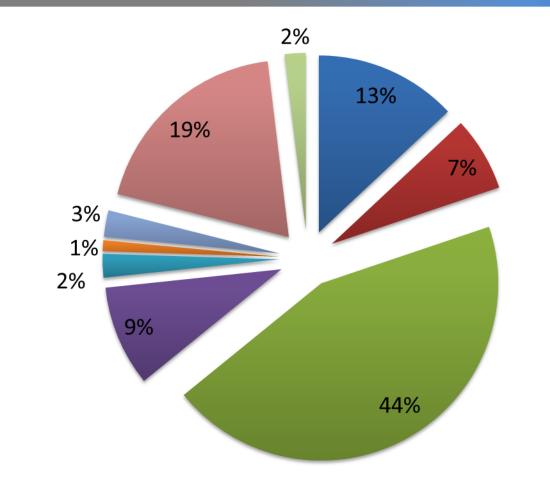
Reintegration Assistance

Types of Assistance	Description
Reintegration allowances	Cash grants (pre-departure/post- arrival)
Temporary Reception Arrangements	Can range from a few weeks to a few months accommodation
Micro/Small Business Development	Credits/grants to start small business
Community Assistance	Construction of schools/ hospitals/ training facilities, etc.
Institutional Approach	Promotion of self-employment/on-the-job training
Socio-economic Assistance	Assistance in-kind (education, business set up, training)



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Reintegration Assistance provided in 2012



Cash Grants

Business set up

- Pre-Return Counselling
- Post-Return Counselling
- Housing/Shelter
- Vocational Training
- Medical & Psychosocial Assistance
- Reception at arrival

Other





Reintegration assistance (contd.)

Policy Considerations

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- Impact on the local community
- Link to local development
- Link of pre-departure counselling with reintegration assistance
- Tailored to individual needs

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- Measuring Progress during the reintegration process
- Identification of trends/needs/changes among beneficiary population
- Recording successes/best practices and challenges encountered during project implementation
- Assessment of:

Protection

Performance of reintegration assistance system

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- Impact of reintegration assistance on beneficiaries
- Impact of reintegration assistance on local communities



AVRR Glossary

- <u>Return</u>: The act of going back (from either transit or destination origin) to the country of previous transit or origin
- Voluntary Return: The assisted or independent return to the country of origin, transit or another third country based on the free will of the returnee
- **Spontaneous Return:** Individual or group who initiate and proceed with their return plans without any outside assistance
- Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR):

Provision of logistical and financial support by IOM to migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in the host country and who volunteer to return to their countries of origin or another third country. Reintegration is the reinclusion or re-incorporation of a person into a group or process, e.g. of a migrant into the society in his country of origin.



Protection





 Post-arrival reintegration assistance (PARA) Short term humanitarian assistance or mid-term reintegration support provided to migrants returned under the auspices of the host country's government after they have been formally readmitted in the country of origin.

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AVRR vs. Forced

The benefits of AVRR over forced returns:

- Preferable option for return management policies e.g. EU context (Return Dir.)
- Reduces number of forced returns
- More beneficial for migrants due to:
 - a) More humane and dignified approach

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- b) Allows for provision of impartial and objective advice
- Based on cooperation between origin, transit, and host countries
- Reduced likelihood for irregular re-migration of migrants after return
- Tends to be more cost-effective than forced return, because:
 a) No need for costly law-enforcement elements



AVRR and Migration Management

Migrants:

- Takes into account migrants decision
- Allows for preparation to return
- Ensures respect for human rights
- Avoids stigma of forced return and negative repercussions for reintegration
- Provides counselling, financial and/or logistical and reintegration support

Governments:

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Generally more cost-effective for host countries

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- Politically palatable to both, host countries and countries of origin
- Enhances international cooperation



Phases of AVRR Programmes

- I. PRE-DEPARTURE ASSISTANCE
- II. RETURN/TRANSIT ASSISTANCE
- III. POST-RETURN RECEPTION SUPPORT
- IV. REINTEGRATION SUPPORT
- V. MONITORING





Pre-Departure Assistance

• Outreach

- Profiling/information dissemination
- Implemented/targeted through diasporas, NGOs, migrant associations, mobile counselling teams, regular newsletters, specific websites
- Return Information & Counselling
 - Provision of general country of origin information for return and reintegration purposes (Country Fact Sheets, Stories of Return)
 - Information on individual queries
- Application processing/Health Assessments
- Travel preparation (Documentation Assistance/ Escorts/ Temp. Shelter)





Pre-Departure Assistance (contd.)

- Importance of up to date, thorough & objective information about the country of origin
- An informed decision contributes to the sustainability of return
- Possibility for migrant to decide whether return is the preferred option over forced removal
- Pre-departure counselling crucial for management of returnees' expectations



Return/Transit Assistance

- Travel arrangements
 - Ticketing/luggage allowance
 - Embarkation assistance
- Transfer Assistance to the airport
- Payment of installation grant/ Pocket money (if applicable)
- Transit assistance

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- Medical or non-medical escorts for vulnerable cases
- Temporary accommodation (if necessary)

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Reception Assistance

- Information & Counselling
 - Identification of special needs
 - Preparation of re-integration phase
- Onward transportation to family/community

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- Temporary accommodation/Shelter
- Health assistance/Referrals (if applicable)

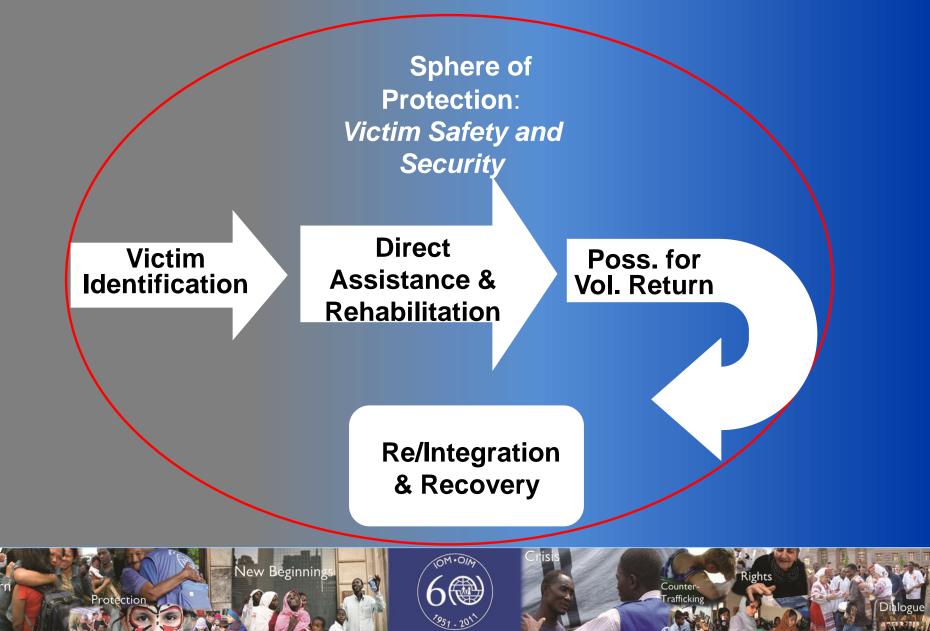
New Beginning







I) AVRR and VoTs





AVRR of VoTs

The Assistance Process:

- 1) Victim Identification/Determination
- 2) Provision of protective services
- 3) Risk Assessment/Family Tracing
- 4) Issuance of necessary travel documentation





II) AVRR and UMC

Definition of Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC)

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Persons under 18 years who arrive in a third country, or areas outside their habitual residence, unaccompanied or separated from both parents and other adults who are by law or custom their primary caretakers.

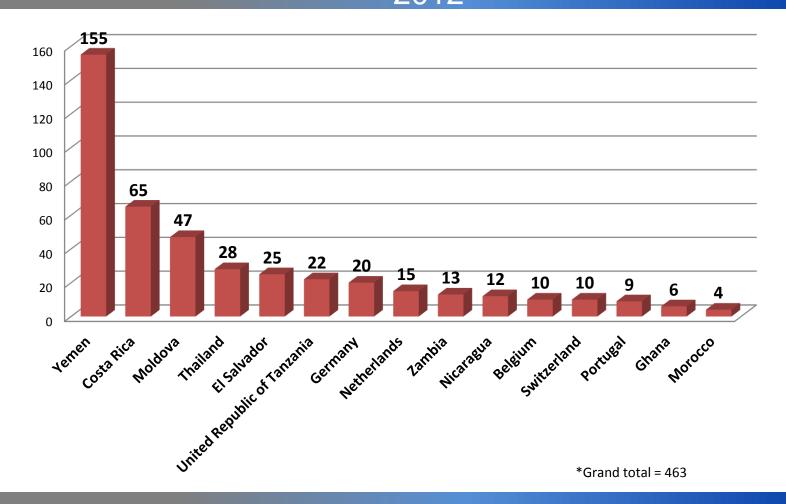
AVRR of UMC

Protection

Applies when an unaccompanied migrant child, regardless of his or her status, expresses a wish to, or agrees freely with the recommendation of a guardian, to be assisted in returning home.



Top 15 IOM Missions assisting UMC through AVRR in 2012







Assistance for Cases with Medical

In host country

Needs

- Treatment by local treating physician or IOM doctor to determine
 - Fitness to travel/specific medical conditions
 - Capacity to decide/informed consent
 - Appropriateness of return

During travel

 Assignment of medical escort (IOM medical staff, nurse/physician, specialized companies)

<u>In CoO</u>

Ensure continuity of care

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- Support through family or other
- Availability of medication
- Specialized reintegration support



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Thank You

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Counter-Trafficking

Dialogue