

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has implemented Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programs since 1979, as a humane and dignified approach to return and reintegration and an integral part of a comprehensive migration management. These programs provide administrative, logistical, and financial support, including reintegration assistance, to migrants unable or unwilling to remain in

the host/transit country and who decide to return to their country of origin.

Through partnerships with government and non-governmental stakeholders, as well as other international organizations, IOM has increased its expertise and reach of AVRR programs, effectively assisting more than 1.6 million people throughout the years.



7.234
people



64
countries

ARVoRe VIII PROJECT

To this day, 7.234 people were assisted to return voluntarily from Portugal to 64 countries of origin. The current **Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration project** is the **ARVoRe VIII** (contract PT/2020/FAMI/668), co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service (SEF). The purpose of the initiative is to provide assistance to migrants from non-EU countries,

who are unable to remain in Portugal and who wish to return voluntarily to their countries of origin, so that they can return in a dignified and secure manner and can be supported to achieve sustainable reintegration, in full respect of their human rights, regardless of their migratory status.

PROJECT DURATION: 24 MONTHS
(1st January 2021 until 31st December 2022)

WHO CAN BENEFIT?

Non-EU migrants, including stranded migrants, irregular migrants, regular migrants, and asylum seekers who decide not to pursue their claims or who are found not to be in need of international protection. AVRR assistance can also be provided to migrants in vulnerable situations, such as victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied and separated children, or elderly migrants with health-related needs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES DURING THE RETURN PROCESS

Pre-Departure	Return Journey	Post-Arrival
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Information and counselling to migrants about voluntary return and the possibility of reintegration assistance· Coordination with Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service (SEF)· Psychosocial support available before the return journey· Especial attention to cases of vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Flight arrangements for the return journey, choosing the airport closest to the city of return· COVID-19 test (PCR) included, whenever necessary. PPE to be provided, together with practical information on how to travel safely· Operational assistance at the Lisbon airport, as well as transit and arrival assistance whenever possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Possibility of reintegration assistance for a limited number of people, according to their vulnerability and their needs upon arrival. Reintegration monitoring for 6 months after the return· Possibility of psychosocial support (in Brazil) for beneficiaries of reintegration assistance· In the case of Brazil: possible referrals to local support services mapped in 3 federal states

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

1

Partnerships and Capacity Building

Partnerships in Portugal for pre-departure information and counselling. Capacity building about vulnerabilities in migration. A partnership for pre-departure psychosocial support in Portugal. Partnerships with local NGOs in Brazil for reintegration assistance and psychosocial support.

2

Outreach and Communication

Communication about the program in Portugal to reach migrants who may be in need of this support. Information and awareness sessions in Portugal with partner institutions, as well as local actors. Visibility materials and communication on social media.

3

Mapping local organisations

Mapping exercise to identify referral mechanisms and support initiatives for migrants in vulnerable situations in Portugal.


In Brazil: mapping services and existing local organizations in one Brazilian federal state, in order to provide this information to migrants preparing to return to this specific region.




Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Objective 21: “Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable Reintegration”.

IOM's Migration Governance Framework, Objective 13: “Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner”; as well as Objective 1, which states that “Good migration governance and related policy should seek to advance the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society”. With this approach, voluntary return and reintegration should not be considered in isolation from other components of migration management.

The Sustainable Development Goals, under targets 10.2, 10.7, 17.9 and 17.17: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status; Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies; Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation; Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

 (+351) 213 242 940
(+351) 915 030 860

 iomlisbon@iom.int

 **Schedule:**
Mondays till Fridays
9am to 1pm | 2pm to 5:30pm

Website

www.retornovoluntario.pt

Facebook

www.facebook.com/oimportugal

WHO ARE WE?

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

IOM is the United Nations Agency for Migration committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants



Project implemented by:



Co-funded by:

