ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION
2016 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

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Cover: Sri Lankan Returnee engaged in livelihood activity under reintegration support. © International Organization for Migration

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All charts and maps presented in this report are based on IOM data.

This report has been issued without formal editing by IOM.

FOREWORD

2016 has been a landmark year for the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in which IOM celebrated the 65th anniversary of its founding, and welcomed four new Member States, including China. On 19 September, following the signing of the agreement on IOM–UN relationship, IOM joined the United Nations System, marking a historic moment in the evolution of the Organization. In a world on the move, 2016 has also seen increased global focus on migration, offering hope and creating new opportunities for migrants and for stakeholders involved in the field of migration. Among recent milestones, 2016 also brought the adoption of the "New York Declaration" during the Summit on Refugees and Migrants, and negotiations of the Global Compact on "Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration", to be adopted at an intergovernmental conference in 2018. However, considerable challenges remain to be addressed given the growing complexity of migration trends worldwide.

Return has gained renewed political importance in the agenda of national and international policymakers around the world because of its impact on host countries, transit countries, countries of origin and of course migrants and their communities. Assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR), firstly introduced by IOM in 1979, is increasingly looked at as an indispensable, effective component of contemporary migration governance, as it represents a humane and dignified way for a migrant to return, contributing to the socioeconomic well–being of migrants within their communities, and facilitating dialogue among all concerned stakeholders.

In line with the rising volume of migration in recent years, the number of AVRR beneficiaries has also significantly increased. In 2016, 98,403 migrants benefited from AVRR assistance, the highest level in the past fifteen years. It represents a sharp increase (approximately +40%) in comparison to 2015, which had already marked a considerable growth in comparison to previous years. Europe represented 83% of the total AVRR caseload in 2016, and Germany alone accounted for 54% of this total. These trends can be explained by a combination of factors, including continuous arrivals to Europe and the re-activation of the key funding instrument for AVRR from Europe, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Recent developments also indicate that returns from transit countries, such as Greece or Niger, and South–South returns are on the rise.

This year has also seen significant steps being taken towards a more comprehensive approach to migrant reintegration. Stemming from the need to address the various factors that influence a person's ability to reintegrate into their country of origin, the European Union and IOM developed the Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration, funded through the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and with contributions from Germany and Italy. This Initiative will target 14 countries in West and Central Africa as well as Libya, with the aim, inter alia, to increase protection and assistance to vulnerable and stranded migrants, including for voluntary return and reintegration. Similar programmes will also be implemented by IOM in the Horn of Africa, three countries in Asia and three countries in Southern Africa with the support of the European Union.

The AVRR Key Highlights report showcases some of IOM's most significant contributions for the year 2016. This report is structured by two distinct though complementary chapters: while the first chapter presents an overview of current trends and facts for AVRR at both the global and regional levels, the second chapter provides the reader with a series of thematic highlights, showing how AVRR activities were implemented across the globe in 2016 from both policy and operational perspectives.

We wish you all a pleasant reading!

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IOM Headquarters

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IOM Headquarters

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LIST OF CHARTS, MAPS AND TABLE

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AMIF	Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
AVRR	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EEA	European Economic Area
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISIC	Institut Supérieur de l'Information et de la Communication
MENA	Middle–East and North Africa
MIDSA	Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa
MMRR	Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism
NGO	Non–governmental organization
NRM	National Referral Mechanism
RCA	Regional Cooperation Agreement
RCM	Regional Conference on Migration
REG	Return Expert Group
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SEEECA	South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
TRM	Transnational Referral Mechanism
UMC	Unaccompanied Migrant Child
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USD	United States Dollar
USAIM	United States Association for International Migration
VoT	Victim of Trafficking
WCA	West and Central Africa

98,403 migrants assisted in 2016

32% women

68% men

27% children

3,143 migrants in vulnerable situations

40% unaccompanied migrant children

28% identified victims of trafficking

32% migrants with health-related needs

110 host countries

161 countries or territories of origin

Total number of migrants assisted

In 2016, IOM provided AVRR support to 98,403 migrants, which represents a 41 per cent increase as compared to the previous year.

The sex distribution (68% male, 32% female) remained the same between the two years.

Migrants in vulnerable situations

In 2016, IOM assisted 3,143 migrants in vulnerable situations, including 1,253 unaccompanied migrant children, 995 migrants with health–related needs and 895 victims of trafficking.

Compared to the overall number of migrants assisted, the share of migrants in vulnerable situations assisted with AVRR decreased from 5 per cent in 2015 to 3 per cent in 2016.

Regions

The European Economic Area remained the region where most of the migrants returned from. 81,671 migrants returned from this region (83% of the total caseload), mainly to Albania, Iraq and Serbia.

South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia remained the region where most migrants returned to. 48,664 migrants returned to this region (49% of the total caseload), in their vast majority from Germany.

More than 10 per cent of AVRR beneficiaries returned within the same region. The West and Central Africa region accounted for 47 per cent of these intraregional flows.

Countries

With 54,006 returns Germany remained the country from where most AVRR beneficiaries returned and accounted for 54 per cent of the total. This represented a 52 per cent increase as compared to 2015. Niger (+260%), Greece (+64%) and the Netherlands (+58%) experienced an important increase of returns.

With 17,976 cases Albania remained the country to where the highest number of AVRR beneficiaries returned to. This accounted for a 50 per cent increase as compared to the previous year. Afghanistan (+402%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (+295%) and Iraq (+254%) experienced an important increase of returns.
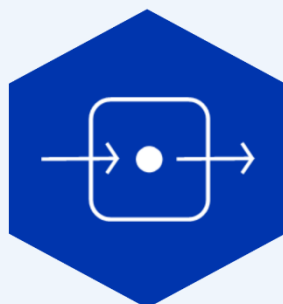
AVRR from transit countries

The share of returns from transit countries remained stable as compared to the previous year, amounting to more than 20 per cent of the total number of returns globally.

Greece (+64%) remained the main country of transit with 6,153 cases. Niger (+260%), Djibouti (+82%) and Turkey (+185%) experienced an important increase of returns. On the contrary, a decrease of 68 per cent was observed in Indonesia.

Financial support to returnees

An estimated USD 32.7 million (an increase of 30 per cent as compared to 2015) was disbursed to financially support 39,000 returnees (+39% as compared to the previous year) before departure or upon arrival in their country of origin.

CHAPTER 1 – FACTS AND FIGURES

1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Main trends

2005–2016 overview

Chart 1: AVRR overview, 2005–2016
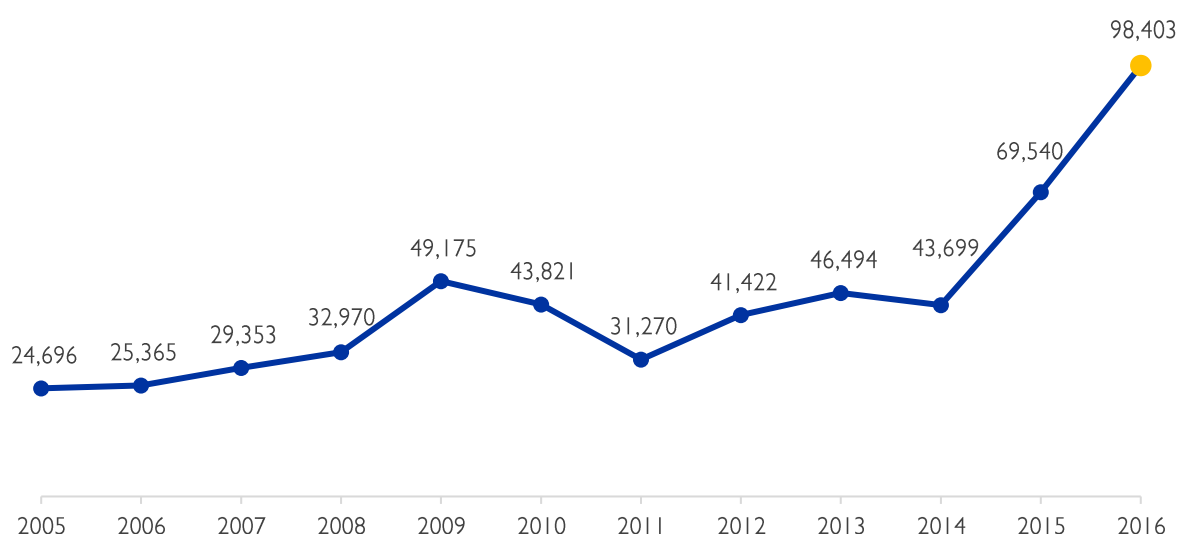
IOM considers assisted voluntary return and reintegration[1] to be a humane and dignified approach to supporting migrants who are unwilling or unable to stay in a host or transit country and wish to return[2] to their country of origin. It is a core activity that the organization conducts for migrants and IOM Member States across the world.

Looking at the period from 2005 to 2014, the number of migrants assisted per year varied from approximately 25,000 to around 49,000, with a yearly average of 37,000 returns.

In 2015, IOM assisted 69,540 migrants to return voluntarily to their countries of origin (which represented a 60 per cent increase as compared to 2014).

This figure increased again in 2016, as IOM provided AVRR support to **98,403** migrants, from 110 host countries to 161 countries and territories of origin. As highlighted in Chart 1, this is the highest caseload recorded over the last 15 years and the AVRR caseload more than doubled in just the last two years.

It is worth noting that these figures do not include voluntary humanitarian returns undertaken by IOM from Libya in 2016.

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[1] Reintegration assistance may range from limited financial support before and/or upon arrival to more robust support (for example for income generation activities, housing or education related needs). The scope of such support, provided along with assisted voluntary return schemes, vary significantly, depending on programme design and eligibility criteria. However, the term "AVRR" is used throughout the present report for easier reference.

[2] The term "return" used across the present report exclusively relates to AVRR facilitated by IOM.

Sex breakdown

Of the total 98,403 migrants assisted with AVRR in 2016, 68 per cent were male while 32 per cent were female. This is comparable to the sex breakdown of AVRR beneficiaries in 2015.

Chart 2: Sex breakdown of AVRR beneficiaries, 2016

32%
female

98,403

68%
male
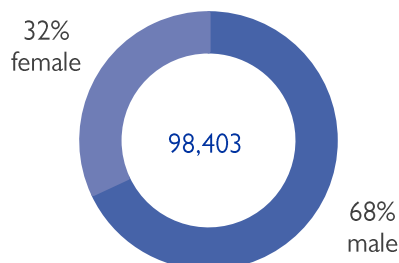
Age breakdown

As highlighted in Chart 3, more than one in four AVRR beneficiaries in 2016 were children (27%), which is comparable to the share of children who were assisted with AVRR by IOM in 2015 (24%). More than half of the returnees (52%) were aged between 18 and 40.

Chart 3: Age breakdown of AVRR beneficiaries, 2016

27%
children

98,403

73%
adults
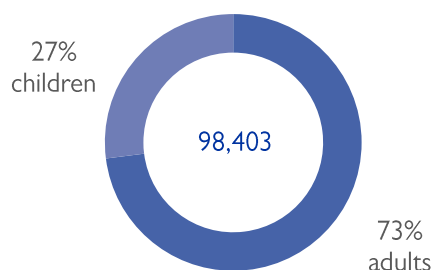
Migrants in vulnerable situations

The provision of a specific and tailored assistance is particularly critical for returning migrants in vulnerable situations[3] (which may be related to their age, traumatic experiences, psychosocial and medical condition, self–sufficiency, education or security concerns, among others) who may have particular protection needs. IOM implements specific projects and programme components targeting these specific needs and aiming at ensuring a more comprehensive and tailored approach.

The number of migrants in vulnerable situations assisted with AVRR hereafter reported is limited to the following migrant categories: unaccompanied migrant children, victims of trafficking, and migrants with health–related needs. In 2016, among all AVRR beneficiaries, over 3 per cent were migrants in vulnerable situations.

Chart 4 provides the breakdown of the **3,143 migrants in vulnerable situations** assisted with AVRR in 2016. As compared to 2015, this number remained relatively stable.

Looking at the breakdown per vulnerability types, the number of unaccompanied migrant children increased by 116 per cent as compared to the previous year. However, in comparison to the total AVRR caseload, the

share of unaccompanied migrant children only increased from 0.8 per cent in 2015 to 1.2 per cent in 2016.

The number of victims of trafficking assisted dropped by 51 per cent. The proportion of this category of migrants compared to the total number of migrants assisted decreased from 2 per cent in 2015 to 0.9 per cent in 2016. The number and the proportion of migrants with health–related needs remained stable between the two years.

Chart 4 : Vulnerability types breakdown of AVRR beneficiaries, 2016

28%
Victims of
Trafficking

3,143

40%
Unaccompanied
Migrant Children

32%
Migrants with
health-related
needs

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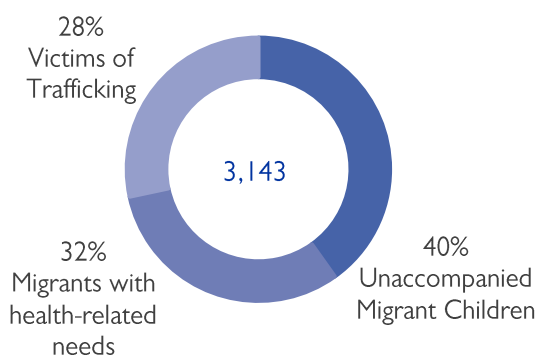
[3] While the concept of vulnerability does not focus solely on protected categories of migrants or on the migrant's membership in a particular group, data presented in this report relates to AVRR operations and is therefore limited to those migrants in vulnerable situations who are assisted with tailored support in their voluntary return and reintegration process (i.e. unaccompanied migrant children, victims of trafficking, and migrants with health–related needs).

Financial support to returnees

In 2016, approximately 39,000 returnees[4] were provided with financial support in cash[5] and/or in kind before departure or upon arrival in 2016 in their countries of origin. This assistance allowed migrants to address their most immediate needs upon return and contributed to their reintegration in countries of origin through education and training, small business set–up, medical support, and/or housing.

The level of reintegration–related expenditures in 2016 is estimated at USD 32.7 million, from which 10 per cent was allocated to the support of activities directly targeting migrants in vulnerable situations.

As shown in the map below, this amount was mostly distributed to migrants returning to the Middle East and North Africa region (approximately 35%), the Asia and the Pacific region (approximately 32%) and the South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia region (approximately 19%).

Main countries/territories of origin where these expenses were made are Iraq (12%), Afghanistan (9%), UNSC resolution 1244–administered Kosovo[6] (8%), Pakistan (8%), the Russian Federation (6%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (6%), Ukraine (5%), Georgia (5%), Mongolia (4%) and Bangladesh (3%).

Legend:
- >4,000,000
- 1,000,000 - 4,000,000
- 500,000 - 1,000,000
- 100,000 - 500,000
- <100,000

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO RETURNEES IN USD, IN 2016

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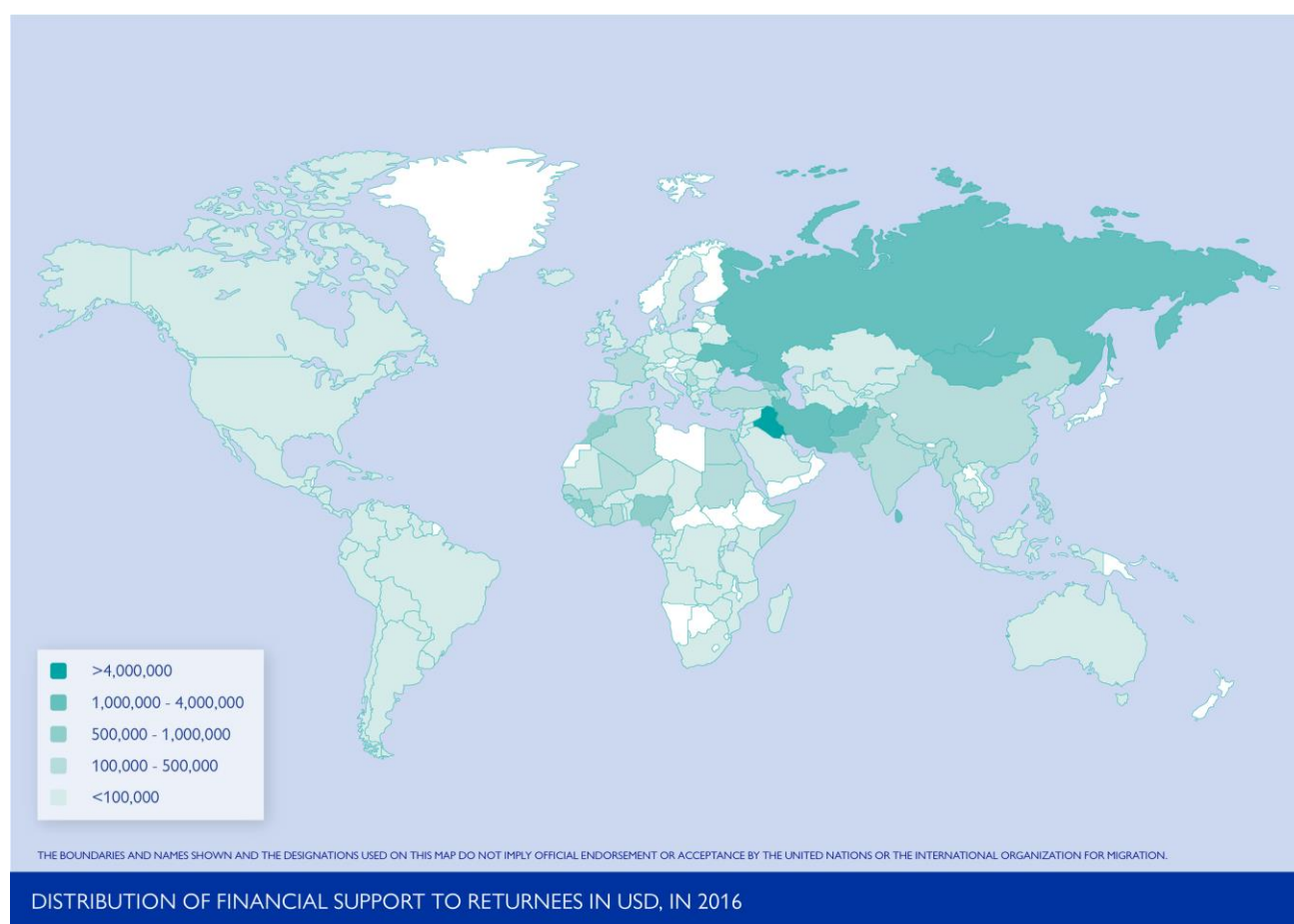
[4] This includes beneficiaries who returned in 2016 or in the previous years.

[5] Cash support provided under AVRR is diversified, ranging from limited support to more robust financial assistance. It includes cash provided before and upon arrival to help addressing migrants' most immediate needs upon return in their country of origin.

[6] Hereinafter referred to as "Kosovo/UNSC 1244".

As shown in Chart 5, 61 per cent of these expenditures were provided in cash either upon departure in the host country or after arrival, and about 39 per cent was provided in kind in the country of origin (mostly for setting up micro–businesses and to provide for housing support).

In addition to the support provided to individual returnees, IOM implemented several projects targeting communities of return in countries such as Azerbaijan, Mali, the Gambia, Guinea–Bissau, Nigeria and Senegal, through a diversity of activities including agriculture,

farming, fishing, and livelihood support. Furthermore IOM engaged in a diversity of initiatives aiming at reinforcing local capacities to deliver reintegration–related assistance. In Tunisia for example, IOM participated in consultations with representatives of the Government of Tunisia and civil society to promote the inclusion of reintegration–related provisions in the Anti–Trafficking in Persons Law. In Georgia, IOM has supported the development of a guidebook for service providers in the field of reintegration assistance, in coordination with the Georgian State Commission on Migration Issues and NGO partners.

Chart 5: Estimated financial expenditures per type of support, 2016

Education 0.81%
Social protection schemes 0.17%
Vocational training 0.16%
Job placement 0.11%
Legal services 0.09%

Medical support
2.29%

Housing
4.08%

Micro-business
30.74%

USD
32.7 million

Petty cash
61.55%
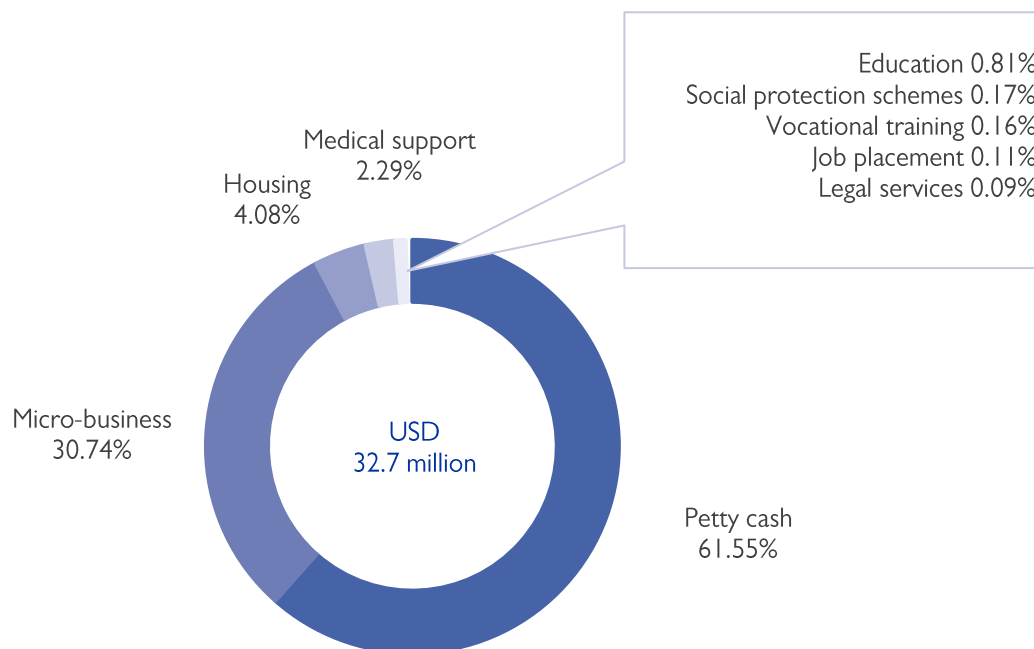
1.2. Overview by regions

Host regions

In 2016, 83 per cent of the AVRR beneficiaries returned from the European Economic Area (EEA), which saw a 46 per cent increase in the number of migrants assisted as compared to 2015.[7]

However, the share of AVRR beneficiaries returning from the EEA in 2016 remained relatively stable as compared to 2015 (where 85% of the beneficiaries returned from the EEA).

Although experiencing an important increase from 1,341 to 4,935 beneficiaries, the number of returns from the West and Central Africa region remained proportionally low compared to the EEA in 2016.

Chart 6: Comparison of returns from host regions between 2016 and 2015

Region	2016	Compared to 2015
European Economic Area	81,671	↑ 46%
West and Central Africa	4,935	↑ 260%
Middle East and North Africa	4,802	↓ 16%
East and Horn of Africa	2,035	↑ 67%
Asia and the Pacific	1,883	↓ 49%
South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia	1,489	↑ 55%
Southern Africa	990	↑ 89%
Central and North America and the Caribbean	572	↑ 278%
South America	26	↑ 8%

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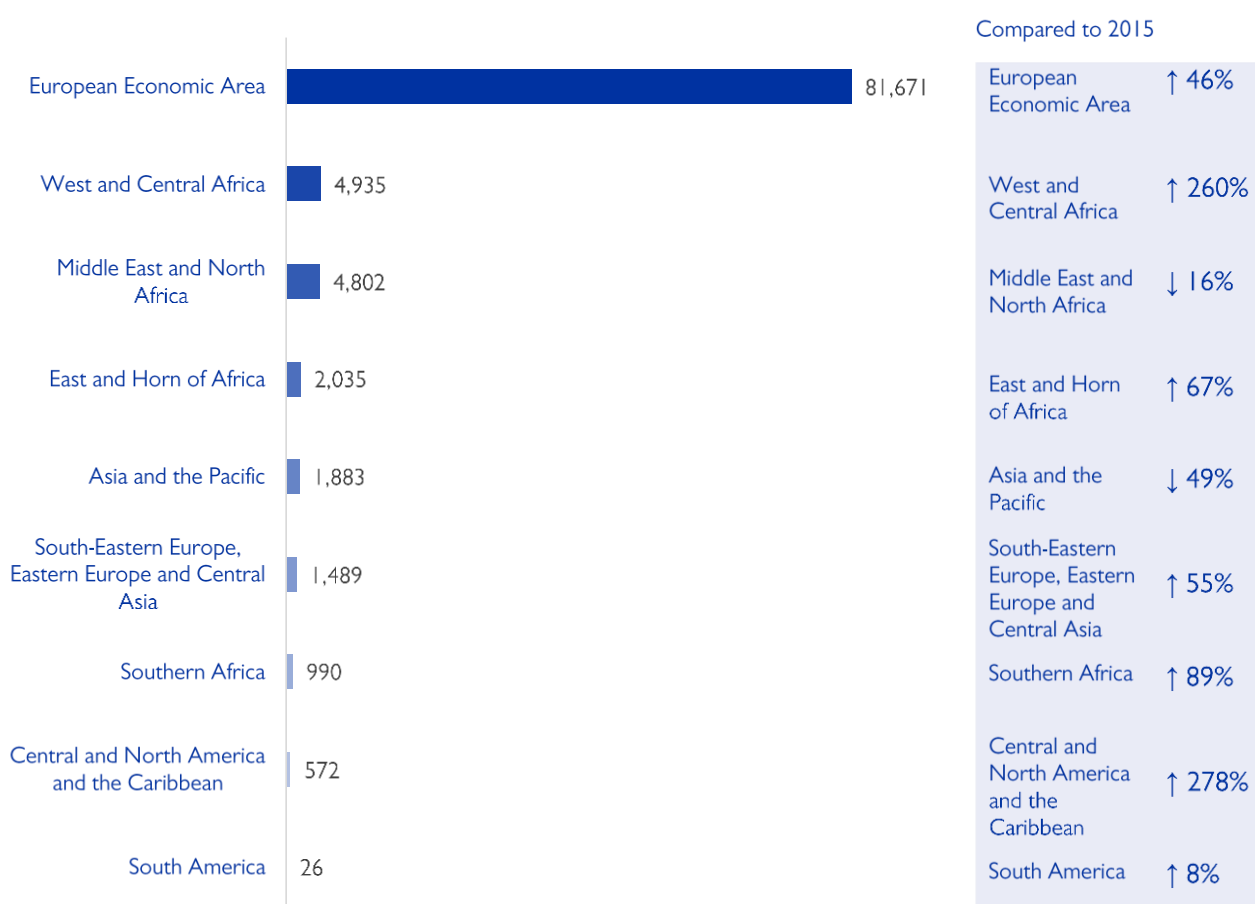
[7] The level of returns in 2015 has been affected by gaps in the main AVRR funding instrument, the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. This applies to all return figures from the EEA for 2015 reflected in this report.

Regions of origin

At the regional level, South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SEEECA) remained the main region of origin of AVRR beneficiaries (approximately 49% of the total).

As highlighted in Chart 7, among the main changes in comparison with 2015 are the increased volume in the number of returns to the Middle East and North Africa (+234%), the Central and North America and the Caribbean (+150%), and the Asia and the Pacific (+65%) regions. Returns to the Middle East and North Africa and to the Asia and the Pacific regions each represented a share of approximately 16 per cent in the 2016 total. In comparison with 2015, this proportion remained stable for the Asia and the Pacific region, but augmented significantly for the Middle East and North Africa (which accounted for only 4% of the total in 2015).

Chart 7: Comparison of returns to regions of origin between 2016 and 2015

Region	2016	Compared to 2015
South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia	48,664	↑ 16%
Asia and the Pacific	16,397	↑ 65%
Middle East and North Africa	16,262	↑ 234%
West and Central Africa	7,316	↑ 57%
East and Horn of Africa	6,103	↑ 21%
European Economic Area	1,304	↓ 3%
South America	1,090	↓ 10%
Central and North America and the Caribbean	888	↑ 150%
Southern Africa	379	↑ 63%
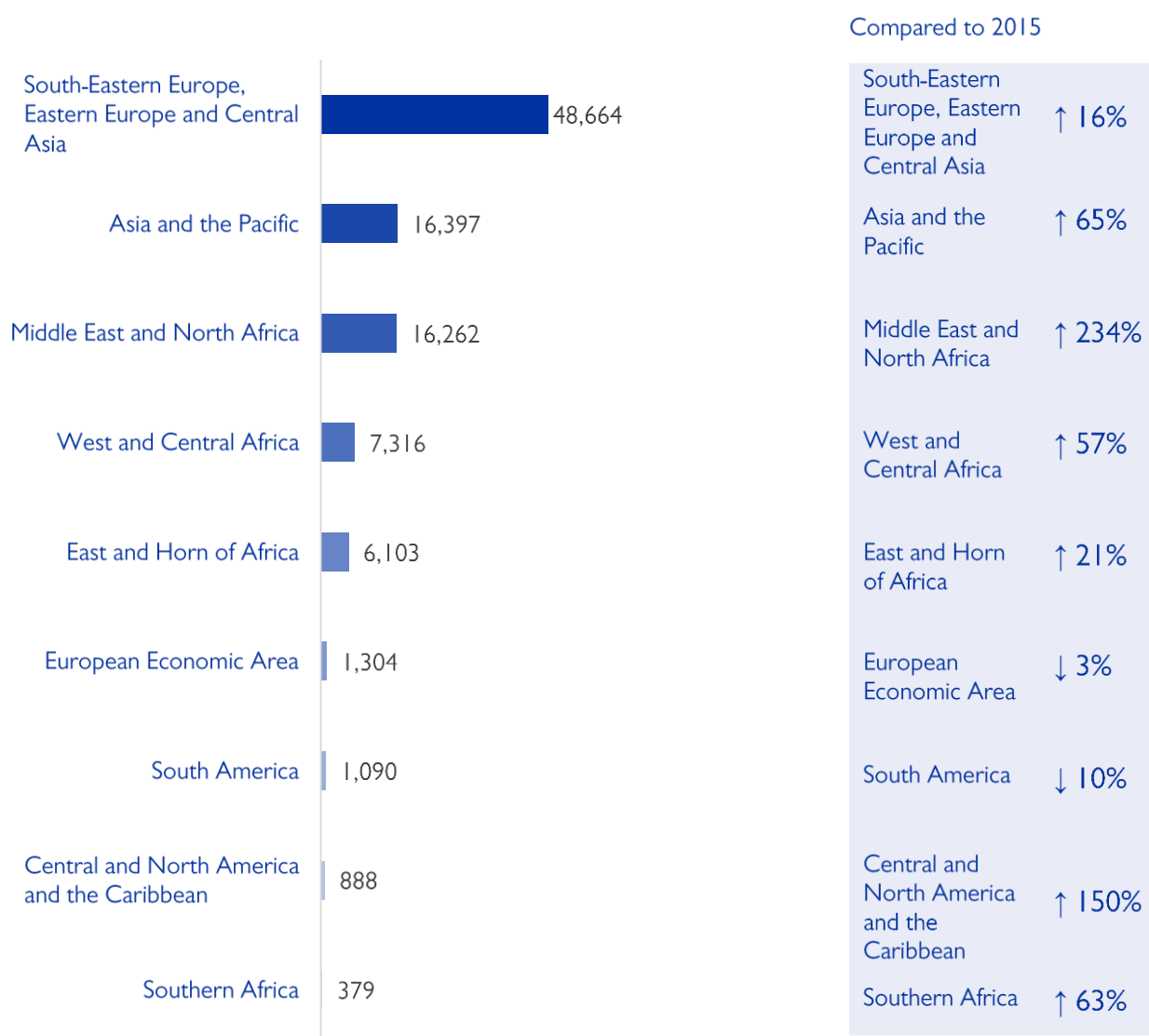
1.3. Overview by countries

Host countries

Germany remained the host country from which most migrants returned home. Chart 8 shows that 54,006 migrants, which corresponds to more than half of the total, left Germany to return to their country or territory of origin, mainly to Albania (16,381 returns), Serbia (6,138 returns), Iraq (5,657 returns) and Kosovo/UNSC 1244 (5,397 returns). Other countries such as Greece, Niger, Finland and Djibouti experienced a sharp increase in the number of migrants assisted with AVRR in 2016. Moreover, seven out of the top ten countries of origin are from the European Economic Area.

Chart 8: Top 10 host countries for AVRR, 2016

Country	Returns	Compared to 2015
Germany	54,006	↑ 52%
Greece	6,153	↑ 64%
Austria	4,812	↑ 16%
Niger	4,788	↑ 260%
Netherlands	4,635	↑ 58%
Belgium	4,117	↑ 6%
Yemen	2,594	↓ 11%
Finland	2,116	↑ 243%
Djibouti	1,803	↑ 82%
Norway	1,459	↑ 25%

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

NUMBER OF AVRR BENEFICIARIES PER HOST COUNTRY IN 2016

Legend:
- >7,000
- 4,000 - 7,000
- 1,000 - 4,000
- 100 - 1,000
- <100

Transit countries

The volume of returns from transit countries remained stable as compared to the previous year, amounting to more than 20 per cent of the total number of returns globally.

Out of the top ten host countries in 2016, four are referred to as transit countries,[8] namely Greece, Niger, Yemen and Djibouti. With a 64 per cent increase in the number of assisted migrants who transited through the country compared to 2015, Greece remained the main transit country for AVRR in 2016. As it was the case in 2015, over half of the top ten transit countries were in the MENA region, with the highest number of beneficiaries returning from Niger, which experienced an important increase, from 1,322 migrants assisted in 2015 to 4,788 in 2016. Significant increase was also recorded in Djibouti (from 990 to 1,803) and Turkey (from 419 to 1,196), whereas the number of AVRR beneficiaries returning from Indonesia dropped from 2,168 to 684.[9]

Chart 9: Top 10 transit countries for AVRR, 2016
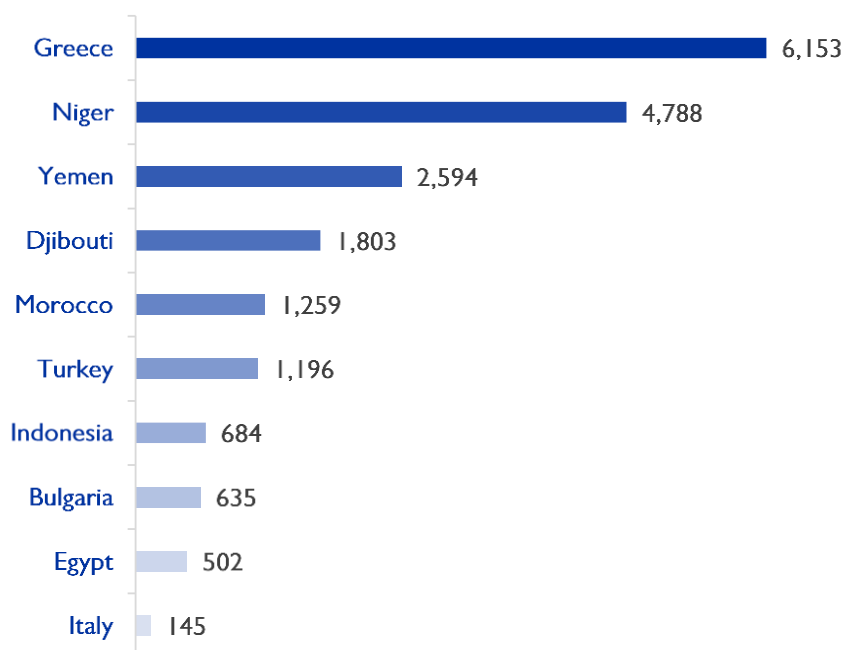
Country	AVRR beneficiaries	Compared to 2015
Greece	6,153	↑ 64%
Niger	4,788	↑ 260%
Yemen	2,594	↓ 11%
Djibouti	1,803	↑ 82%
Morocco	1,259	↓ 10%
Turkey	1,196	↑ 185%
Indonesia	684	↓ 68%
Bulgaria	635	↑ 613%
Egypt	502	↑ 13%
Italy	145	↓ 59%

Countries and territories of origin

Chart 10 shows that AVRR beneficiaries in 2016 mainly returned to Albania and Iraq. Both countries together accounted for about a third of the total in 2016. The chart also highlights the higher share of migrants returning to Afghanistan, with a 402 per cent increase compared to 2015. The number of migrants returning to the Islamic Republic of Iran also saw an important increase but remained relatively low compared to the above–mentioned countries. Moreover, six out of the top ten countries of origin are from the SEEECA region.

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[8] In the migratory context, transit countries are usually referred to as countries through which a person or a group of people pass on a journey to the country of destination. Nevertheless, many migrants, especially those migrating irregularly, often cannot continue their journey for a variety of reasons and instead become stranded in a transit country. In this context, transit and destination countries are not always clearly distinguishable.

[9] See Chapter 1, Regional highlights, pp. 19–36 for more information.

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

NUMBER OF AVRR BENEFICIARIES PER COUNTRY/TERRITORY OF ORIGIN IN 2016

Legend:
- >10,000
- 5,000 - 10,000
- 1,000 - 5,000
- 100 - 1,000
- <100
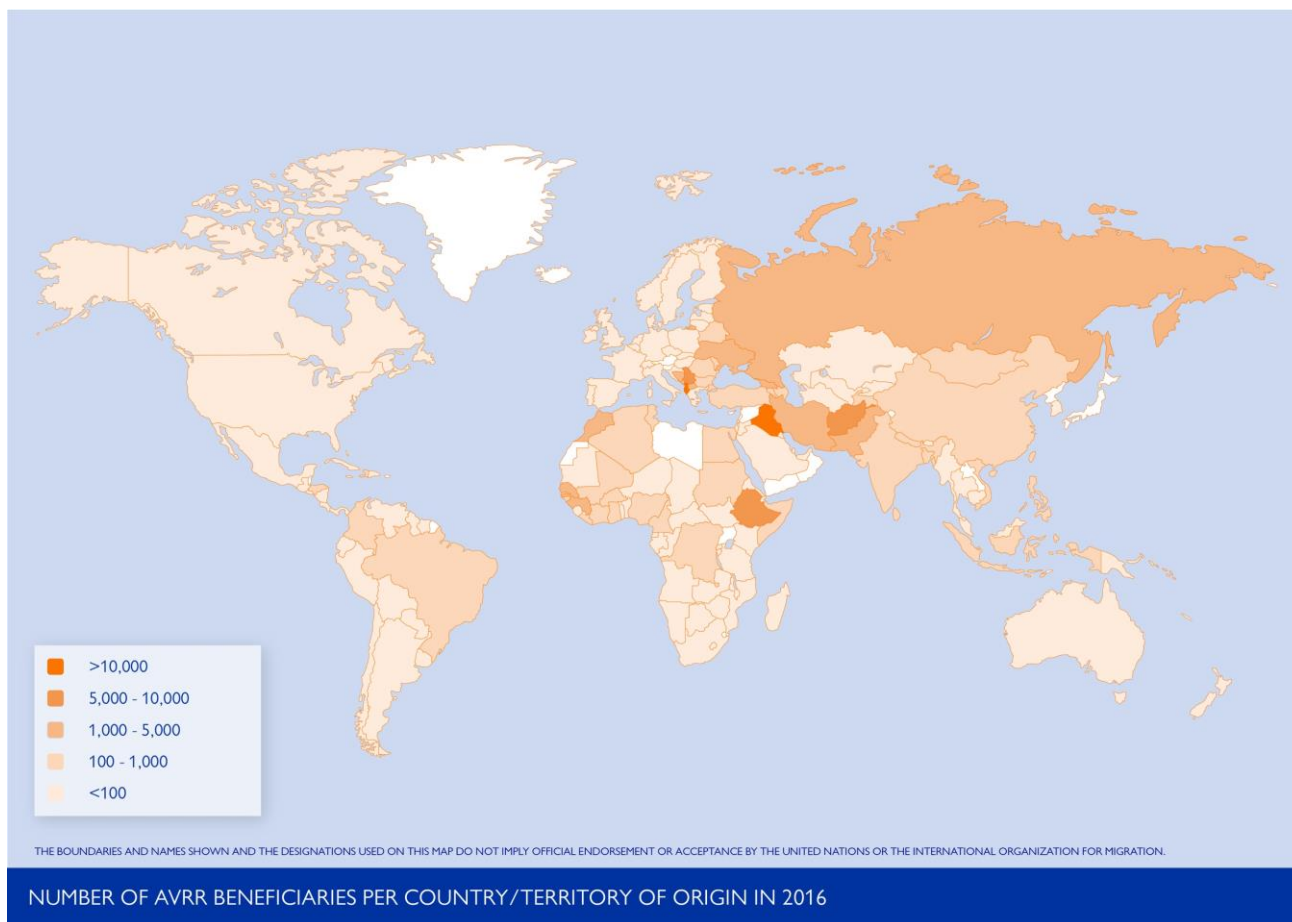
Chart 10: Top 10 countries/territories of origin for AVRR, 2016

Country	Beneficiaries	Compared to 2015
Albania	17,976	↑ 50%
Iraq	12,776	↑ 254%
Afghanistan	7,102	↑ 402%
Serbia	6,978	↑ 4%
Kosovo/UNSC 1244	5,889	↓ 40%
Ethiopia	5,675	↑ 21%
Macedonia*	4,986	↑ 59%
Islamic Republic of Iran	4,485	↑ 295%
Ukraine	3,438	↑ 55%
Russian Federation	2,058	↓ 2%
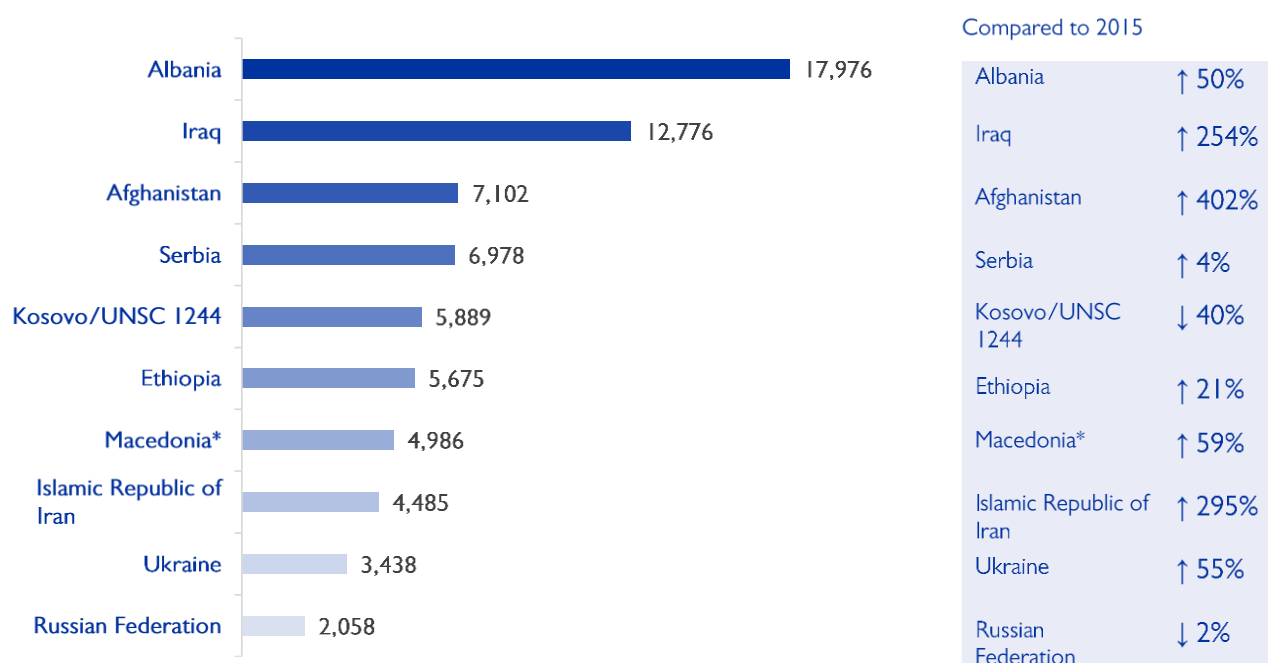
*The former Yougoslav Republic of Macedonia

2. REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

2.1. Asia and the Pacific

Asia and the Pacific is a diverse and dynamic region, home to nearly 60 per cent of the world's population, and marked by sustained growth and deepening connectivity. It is also characterized by considerable disparity between and within countries, which helps explain why it has some of the world's largest migration corridors. Given the long and porous land and sea borders, most of the flows occur between countries. Migration routes are also known to extend much further, over land and by sea, to connect non–contiguous States.[10]

In 2016, IOM assisted 16,397 migrants to return to the Asia and the Pacific region (the second region of origin for AVRR returnees), mainly from the European Economic Area region, which represents a 65 per cent increase as compared to 2015. However, a decline in the volume of returns from the region was observed in 2016 (1,883 returns in 2016, 3,744 returns in 2015). This can be explained by IOM's increased support in response to the Andaman Sea Crisis, which saw more than 25,000 people fleeing Myanmar and Bangladesh by boat,[11] and to the discovery of thousands of trafficked fishers in Eastern Indonesia in 2015.[12] IOM was among the first responders in both situations, providing AVRR support to large numbers of migrants in need along with humanitarian assistance.

The map on the next page reflects the top three migration flows for the Asia and the Pacific region, both as a host region and as a region of origin. Among the migrants who returned to the region, 84 per cent (13,717 returnees), returned from the EEA; 7 per cent (1,125), returned from the SEEECA region; and 8 per cent (1,352) returned within the Asia and the Pacific region. Most migrants returning from Asia and the Pacific countries returned within the same region (72%), while the remaining returned to the MENA region (11%), and to the EEA (6%).

In 2016, IOM continued to provide tailored AVRR support to migrants in vulnerable situations, including victims of trafficking and unaccompanied migrant children. Among the 895 identified victims of trafficking who were assisted with AVRR in 2016, one third returned to the Asia and Pacific region, mainly from the MENA region to Nepal and from Indonesia to Cambodia and Myanmar, the majority of them reporting being victims of forced labour.

Table 1: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the Asia and the Pacific region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted.

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Australia	963	Indonesia	2,168	Afghanistan	7,102	Pakistan	1,927
Indonesia	684	Australia	819	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4,485	Bangladesh	1,534
China	64	Thailand	287	Pakistan	1,278	Afghanistan	1,413
Malaysia	60	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	181	Mongolia	704	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1,133
Thailand	41	Micronesia (Federated States of)	111	India	482	Myanmar	915

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[10] For more information, see www.iom.int/asia-and-pacific.

[11] AVRR 2015 Key Highlights, p.22 www.publications.iom.int/books/assisted-voluntary-return-and-reintegration-2015-key-highlights.

[12] See IOM Report on Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Fisheries Crime in the Indonesian Fishing Industry (2016), www.indonesia.iom.int/human-trafficking-forced-labour-and-fisheries-crime-indonesian-fishing-industry-iom.

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION, 2016
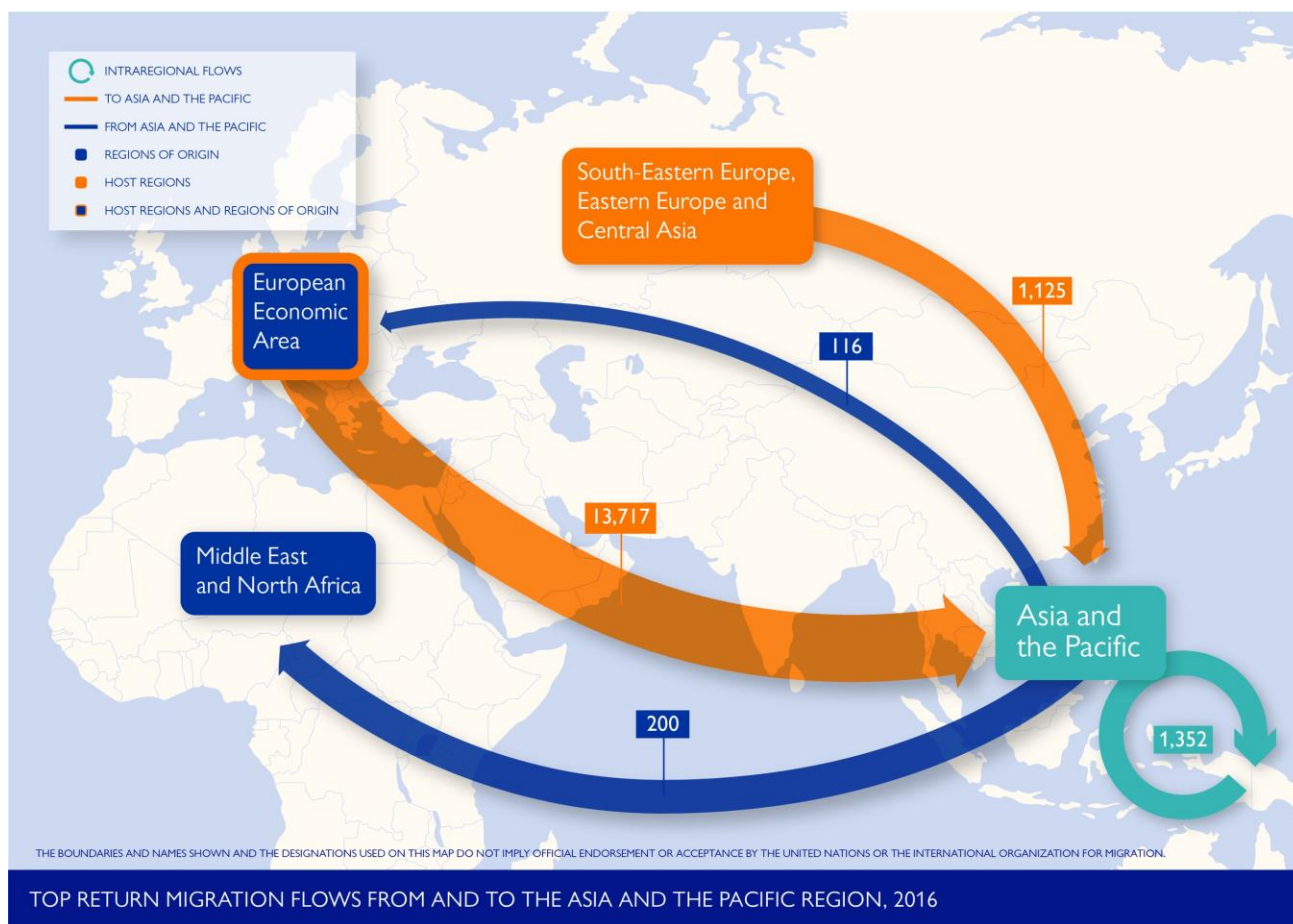
2.2. Central and North America and the Caribbean

With less than 10 per cent of the total global population, the Central and North America and the Caribbean region hosts about 25 per cent of all migrants in the world.[13]

In 2016, the Central and North America and the Caribbean region experienced an important increase of returns in comparison to the previous year, both from the region (+278%) and to the region (+150%). Nevertheless, the share of returns from and to the region in the total number of returns remained relatively low in 2016.

The top three return migration flows highlighted in the map on the next page show that 491 returnees (or 55% of the total returns to the region), returned within the same region, mainly from the Dominican Republic to Haiti (471). This can be explained by the launch of an AVRR component within the project "Reduction of Haitian Migrant Vulnerability in the Dominican Republic via Regularization and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration.[14] 342 migrants returned from the EEA to the Central and North America and the Caribbean region, which amounts to 39 per cent of the total returns to the region. Another 30 migrants returned from the Asia and Pacific region to the Central and North America and the Caribbean region.

In addition, 66 migrants returned from the Central and North America and the Caribbean region to South America and 15 to the Asia and the Pacific region.

Table 2: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the Central and North America and the Caribbean region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted.

Host countries		Countries of origin	
2016	2015	2016	2015
Dominican Republic 502	Canada 116	Haiti 485	Honduras 113
Costa Rica 27	Dominican Republic 9	Honduras 107	Nicaragua 49
Saint Lucia 12	Bahamas 7	Dominican Republic 63	Suriname 33
Guyana 12	Mexico 7	Nicaragua 50	El Salvador 29
Panama 9	Panama 5	El Salvador 43	United States 22 of America

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[13] See www.iom.int/central-and-north-america-and-caribbean.

[14] Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM).

INTRAREGIONAL FLOWS
TO CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
FROM CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
REGIONS OF ORIGIN
HOST REGIONS
HOST REGIONS AND REGIONS OF ORIGIN

491

342

30

Central and North America and the Caribbean

European Economic Area

15

66

Asia and the Pacific

South America

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION, 2016

2.3. East and Horn of Africa

The number of migrants returning from the East and Horn of Africa region increased sharply in 2016 (+67%). The region also remained a relatively important region of origin for returning beneficiaries (+21%). However, the share of migrants returning to the East and Horn of Africa region remained relatively low (6.2%) in the overall number of returns in 2016.

As shown in the map on the next page, 2,940 AVRR beneficiaries returned to the region from the MENA region. 2,578 of them returned from Yemen to Ethiopia. This represents 48 per cent of the total returns to the region.

In addition, 2,009 migrants returned from countries within the East and Horn of Africa region, mainly from Ethiopia to Djibouti. As such, intraregional return movements represented 33 per cent of the total number of returns to the region.

Another 779 migrants returned from the Southern Africa region, amounting to 13 per cent of the returns to the East and Horn of Africa region.

The East and Horn of Africa region alone received 696 of the 3,143 migrants in vulnerable situations provided with AVRR support in 2016. Among them, 670 unaccompanied migrant children returned to Ethiopia, mainly from Djibouti (371) and Zambia (207).

Table 3: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the East and Horn of Africa region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted.

Host countries		Countries of origin	
2016	2015	2016	2015
Djibouti 1,803	Djibouti 990	Ethiopia 5,675	Ethiopia 4,689
Somalia 219	United Republic of Tanzania 148	Somalia 184	Kenya 118
Kenya 9	Somalia 72	Kenya 77	Uganda 71
United Republic of Tanzania 3	Kenya 4	Uganda 61	Somalia 45
Uganda 1		United Republic of Tanzania 39	United Republic of Tanzania 43

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA REGION, 2016

2.4. European Economic Area

In 2016, EEA authorities continued to face increasing mixed migration flows – including refugees, asylum seekers, economic migrants, victims of trafficking (VoTs), unaccompanied migrant children (UMCs), and other categories of migrants.

The political and operational emphasis in the EU remained on the swift implementation of the EU Action Plan on return, adopted and endorsed in 2015. In support to the EU Migration and Home Affairs Policy, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) allowed Member States to further develop national programmes and responses. It also contributed to strengthening a European concerted approach to migration management and return in specific countries of origin. The European Migration Network Return Expert Group (REG) became increasingly active over the past year, serving as the platform for the follow–up, planning and monitoring of practical cooperation among the Member States and other relevant stakeholders in the field of return, hence linking policymaking to implementation and operational activities.

In 2016, a total of 81,671 migrants voluntarily returned from the EEA with the support of IOM, which represented more than 83 per cent of the total number of returns. This represented an increase of 46 per cent compared to 2015 for the number of assisted voluntary returns from this region. In comparison with 2015, the number of returns to the EEA region remained relatively stable and accounted for 1.3 per cent of the total returns in 2016. AVRR beneficiaries mainly returned from Germany (54,006), Greece (6,153), Austria (4,812), the Netherlands (4,635) and Belgium (4,117). Also, IOM assisted some 39,616 beneficiaries from EEA to the Western Balkans mainly to Albania (17,974), Serbia (6,968) and Kosovo/UNSC 1244 (6,002).

The map on the next page highlights the main return flows from the EEA and shows that a total of 48,453 migrants left to the SEEECA region, which corresponds to 59 per cent of the total number of returns from the EEA region. Another 15,846 beneficiaries returned from the EEA to the MENA region (among whom 12,718 returned to Iraq) and 13,717 to the Asia and the Pacific region (among whom 6,295 returned to Afghanistan). This map also shows that most of the return flows to the EEA were intraregional with 1,186 migrants mainly returning to Romania and Bulgaria. Furthermore, 116 beneficiaries returned from the Asia and the Pacific region and 2 from the Southern Africa region.

With regards to migrants in vulnerable situations assisted at the global level in 2016, 29 per cent of the UMCs, 78 per cent of the migrants with health–related needs, and 25 per cent of the identified VoTs returned from the EEA. Of the 226 victims of trafficking assisted with AVRR from the EEA, 141 returned within the same region, including 56 to Bulgaria and 40 to Romania.

Table 4: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the European Economic Area region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Germany	54,006	Germany	35,446	Romania	826	Romania	806
Greece	6,153	Austria	4,126	Bulgaria	128	Bulgaria	125
Austria	4,812	Belgium	3,870	Poland	43	Slovakia	114
Netherlands	4,635	Greece	3,746	Slovakia	41	Hungary	60
Belgium	4,117	Netherlands	2,972	Italy	36	Croatia	39

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA REGION, 2016
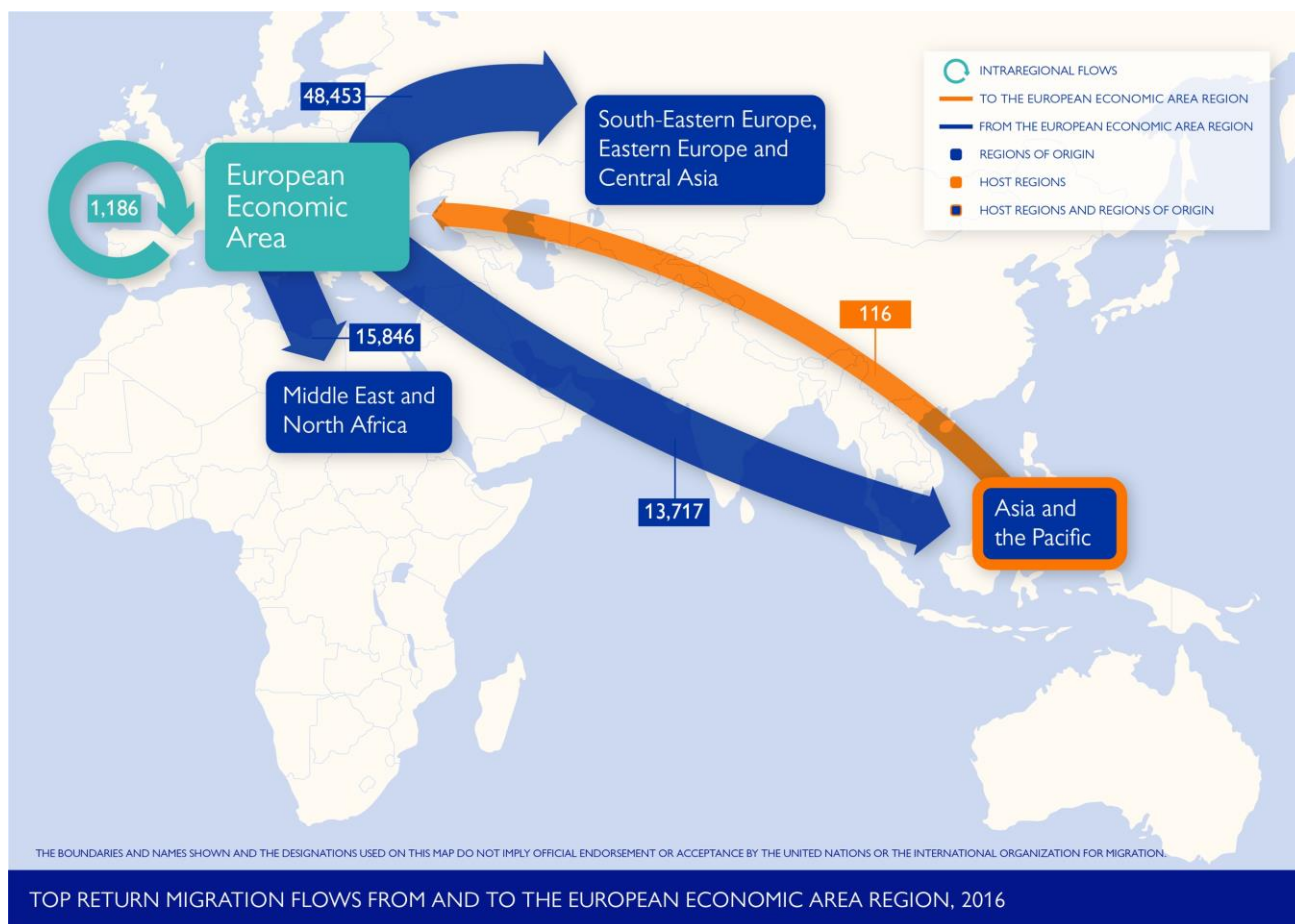
2.5. Middle East and North Africa

As in 2015, over half of the top ten transit countries in 2016 belonged to the MENA region.

A total of 16,262 migrants returned to the region, which corresponds to a considerable increase of 234 per cent compared to 2015. The share of the MENA region as a region of origin consequently reached 16.5 per cent in 2016, while it represented 6 per cent of the total returns in 2015.[15]

As highlighted in the map on the next page, 15,846 AVRR beneficiaries returned to the region from the EEA, which constituted 98 per cent of the total returns to the MENA region in 2016. Moreover, 79 per cent of returnees from the EEA returned to Iraq, among whom 45 per cent returned from Germany only. With regards to the outflows, 2,940 beneficiaries (61%) returned to the East and Horn of Africa region, including 2,578 from Yemen to Ethiopia. Another 1,507 (31%) returned to the West and Central Africa region, more specifically to Guinea, Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire.

Finally, the MENA region saw the return of about 8 per cent of the total migrants in vulnerable situations provided with AVRR support in 2016. Most of them were UMCs as well as migrants with health–related needs returning to Iraq.

Table 5: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the Middle East and North Africa region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Yemen	2,594	Yemen	2,733	Iraq	12,776	Iraq	3,607
Morocco	1,259	Morocco	1,399	Morocco	1,395	Morocco	308
Egypt	502	Libya	495	Lebanon	954	Egypt	230
Sudan	181	Tunisia	456	Algeria	437	Sudan	215
Saudi Arabia	79	Egypt	406	Sudan	231	Lebanon	172

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[15] **These figures do not include voluntary humanitarian returns implemented by IOM from Libya.**

INTRAREGIONAL FLOWS
TO MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
FROM MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
REGIONS OF ORIGIN
HOST REGIONS

European Economic Area — 15,846

South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia — 81

Middle East and North Africa — 135

West and Central Africa — 1,507

East and Horn of Africa — 2,940

Asia and the Pacific — 169

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGION, 2016

2.6. South America

In 2016, the share of returns from and to South America in the overall return numbers (both as a host region and as a region of origin) remained relatively low, as in 2015. In total, 26 migrants returned from South America, while 888 beneficiaries returned to the region, accounting respectively for 0.1 per cent and 1.1 per cent of the total in 2016.

As shown in the map on the next page, migrants returning to South America mostly returned from the EEA (965 migrants, which corresponds to 89% of the total inflows). More than half of AVRR beneficiaries from the EEA region returned to Brazil.

In addition, 66 migrants returned from the Central and North America and the Caribbean region to South America, and 47 from the Asia and the Pacific region. As shown in the map, returns from the South America region remained relatively low.

Table 6: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the South America region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted.

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Chile	7	Argentina	9	Brazil	496	Brazil	578
Uruguay	7	Uruguay	5	Colombia	168	Colombia	180
Brazil	4	Brazil	4	Paraguay	92	Ecuador	88
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	4	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2	Chile	69	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	79
Ecuador	2	Ecuador	2	Peru	63	Chile	66

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE SOUTH AMERICA REGION, 2016

Legend:
- INTRAREGIONAL FLOWS
- TO THE SOUTH AMERICA REGION
- FROM THE SOUTH AMERICA REGION
- REGIONS OF ORIGIN
- HOST REGIONS
- HOST REGIONS AND REGIONS OF ORIGIN

European Economic Area — 965
Central and North America and the Caribbean — 66
11
Asia and the Pacific — 47
South America
11

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

2.7. South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Significant mixed and complex migration flows run through the SEEECA region. Migrants from, and those transiting through the region are often desperate to reach their intended destination, and in the absence of available legal migration routes, are particularly vulnerable to the crimes of trafficking in human beings, migrant smuggling and exploitation. Consequently, a wide range of people on the move need special protection, assistance and a comprehensive migration management response.

As in 2015, the SEEECA region remained the first region of origin for AVRR beneficiaries in 2016. 48,664 migrants returned to the region, which corresponds to 49 per cent of the total number of returns in 2016. This represents a 16 per cent increase in the number of returns to this region as compared to 2015. In addition, returns from the SEEECA region increased by 55 per cent in 2016. That being said, the share of returns from the SEEECA region in the total number of returns in 2016 remained relatively low (1.5%).

While most countries in the region are traditionally countries of origin for migrants, some countries in the region (mainly in the Balkans) are increasingly becoming host/transit countries.

As shown in the map on the next page, 48,453 of all returning migrants to the SEEECA region departed from the EEA. This represents close to 99 per cent of the total number of returns to the SEEECA region. Among migrants returning from the EEA to the SEEECA region, 17,975 returned to Albania (with 90 per cent of the latter returning from Germany). Another 6,978 returned to Serbia and 5,889 to Kosovo/UNSC 1244, among whom respectively 87 per cent and 91 per cent also returned from Germany. In addition, 14 beneficiaries returned from and 1,125 returned to the Asia and Pacific region, including 799 who returned from Turkey to Afghanistan and 246 from Turkey to Pakistan. Half of the 81 returnees to the MENA region returned to Iraq.

Out of the 3,143 migrants in vulnerable situations assisted in 2016, 662 returned from the EEA to the SEEECA region. Among them were 88 UMCs, mainly returning to Albania; 162 VoTs mainly returning to Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Uzbekistan; and 412 migrants with health–related needs mainly returning to the Russian Federation, Serbia and Georgia.

Table 7: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Turkey	1,196	Turkey	419	Albania	17,976	Albania	12,014
Russian Federation	129	Russian Federation	292	Serbia	6,978	Kosovo/UNSC 1244	9,908
Georgia	54	Kazakhstan	124	Kosovo/UNSC 1244	5,889	Serbia	6,659
Serbia	53	Georgia	108	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4,986	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3,134
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	32	Ukraine	12	Ukraine	3,438	Ukraine	2,210

184

48,453

European Economic Area

South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SEEECA)

1,125

81

14

Middle East and North Africa

Asia and the Pacific

◯ INTRAREGIONAL FLOWS
— TO THE SEEECA REGION
— FROM THE SEEECA REGION
■ REGIONS OF ORIGIN
■ HOST REGIONS
■ HOST REGIONS AND REGIONS OF ORIGIN

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE, EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGION, 2016

2.8. Southern Africa

In 2016, the Southern Africa region saw an important increase in the number of returns both as a host region and as a region of origin. However, as in 2015, the share of returns from and to the Southern Africa region in the overall number of returns remained relatively low (less than one per cent, both as a host region and as a region of origin).

A total of 990 migrants returned from the Southern Africa region in 2016, which corresponded to a 89 per cent increase as compared to 2015. As highlighted in the map on the next page, more than 17 per cent of these returns (177) took place at the intraregional level (in comparison, they represented seven per cent of the returns from the region in 2015), mainly from South Africa to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (85

returns), Malawi (43 returns) and Zimbabwe (26 returns). Another 104 migrants returned from the EEA mainly to Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

60 out of these 177 returnees within the Southern Africa region were unaccompanied migrant children. Most of them returned from South Africa to Malawi (30 returns) and Zimbabwe (19 returns).

In addition, 779 migrants returned to the East and Horn of Africa region, in great majority to Ethiopia (735). 405 of the returnees to Ethiopia departed from Malawi and 300 from Zambia. Out of the 24 migrants who returned to the West and Central Africa region, 22 left from South Africa to Ghana.

Table 8: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the Southern Africa region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted

Host countries		Countries of origin	
2016	2015	2016	2015
Malawi 405	Malawi 392	Democratic Republic of the Congo 131	Democratic Republic of the Congo 76
Zambia 304	South Africa 65	Malawi 62	Angola 35
South Africa 238	Zambia 25	Zimbabwe 46	Mauritius 21
Mozambique 36	Botswana 14	Zambia 31	Comoros 20
Botswana 6	Democratic Republic of the Congo 7	Comoros 30	Malawi 20

INTRAREGIONAL FLOWS
TO THE SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION
FROM THE SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION
REGIONS OF ORIGIN
HOST REGIONS

European Economic Area

Middle East and North Africa

West and Central Africa

East and Horn of Africa

104

41

24

779

Southern Africa

177

THE BOUNDARIES AND NAMES SHOWN AND THE DESIGNATIONS USED ON THIS MAP DO NOT IMPLY OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OR ACCEPTANCE BY THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION.

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION, 2016

2.9. West and Central Africa

Migration is a driving force for the West and Central Africa region (WCA). It is deeply rooted in the culture and history of its populations and has always been a major factor for human and economic development. Its potential positive impact on socioeconomic development of both host countries and countries of origin led to the establishment of free movement within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Nevertheless, irregular migration from sub–Saharan Africa towards Europe has substantially increased along the Central Mediterranean route. From West Africa, the main migration routes currently transit through Niger with many migrants then crossing the border with Libya and Algeria and eventually trying to reach Europe.

WCA experienced a very important increase in the number of AVRR beneficiaries returning from (+260%) and to the region (+57%) as compared to 2015. In total, 4,935 migrants assisted with AVRR departed from the region and 7,316 returned to it. In 2016, the share of WCA in the total number of returns was 5 per cent as a host region and 7.4 per cent as a region of origin.

As highlighted in the map on the next page, WCA is characterized by a very high prevalence of intraregional flows (99.6% of the returns from WCA took place within the region). Out of the 4,916 beneficiaries who returned within the same region, nearly 97 per cent returned from Niger to Senegal (1,303 returns), Guinea (1,138 returns), Guinea–Bissau (425 returns), and the Gambia (391 returns). Moreover, 1,507 beneficiaries returned to the WCA region from the MENA region, mainly from Morocco to Guinea (596 returns), Cameroon (201 returns), Côte d'Ivoire (166 returns) and Senegal (105 returns). Regarding returns from the EEA, Nigeria alone accounted for 262 returns.

Return of migrants in vulnerable situations is another relevant feature of the WCA region: 399 beneficiaries in vulnerable situations returned home within the region. This included: 135 UMCs mainly returning from Niger to Guinea (25 returns), from South Africa to Ghana (22 returns) and from Ghana to Liberia (25 returns); 149 VoTs mainly from the Russian Federation (26 returns) and Niger (18 returns) to Nigeria; 16 migrants with health–related needs from Tunisia to Côte d'Ivoire.

Table 9: Top 5 host countries and countries of origin within the West and Central Africa region in 2016/2015, with number of migrants assisted

Host countries				Countries of origin			
2016		2015		2016		2015	
Niger	4,788	Niger	1,322	Guinea	1,868	Senegal	743
Mauritania	52	Ghana	6	Senegal	1,527	Nigeria	725
Guinea–Bissau	35	Côte d'Ivoire	4	Cameroon	630	Mali	719
Guinea	25	Guinea	4	Nigeria	624	Guinea	571
Côte d'Ivoire	8	Senegal	4	Côte d'Ivoire	587	Cameroon	489

TOP RETURN MIGRATION FLOWS FROM AND TO THE WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION, 2016

CHAPTER 2 – THEMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

The following sections of the 2016 Key Highlights intend to further illustrate facts and figures presented in the first part of this report. These thematic highlights do not aim to encompass the full complexity and diversity of AVRR. Rather, their objective is to provide the reader with a picture of why and how AVRR projects have been implemented across the globe in 2016 from both the policy and the operational perspectives. The following themes are highlighted in this chapter:

AVRR from transit countries – Increasingly, AVRR support is provided from countries of transit. In 2016, AVRR from these countries amounted to more than 20 per cent of the total number of returns globally. In Niger for example, IOM continued implementing the Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) and deployed staff to assist migrants with basic protection and with AVRR support. In 2016, AVRR was also a key support mechanism provided by IOM to migrants returning from transit countries such as Bulgaria, Greece and Indonesia.

Assisting migrants in vulnerable situations – Various mechanisms and partnerships have been established by IOM to assist migrants in vulnerable situations. In 2016, for example, IOM France launched the TACT platform and developed a Transnational Referral Mechanism for victims of trafficking. IOM offices in Malawi and Ethiopia, in partnership with governments, international and non–governmental organizations assisted a group of detained UMCs to return from Malawi and reunite with their families.

Dialogue and partnerships – Dialogue and partnerships between all stakeholders engaged in return migration are key to effectively respond to the plight of migrants, as well as to broader migratory challenges at the policy level. In

2016, IOM Morocco concluded a partnership with the *Institut Supérieur de l'Information et de la Communication*,[16] with the aim to foster a better understanding among future journalists and to promote a positive narrative on migration–related issues and on migrants themselves. At the policy level, the Regional Conference on Migration adopted a "Manual for the Drafting of National Reintegration Policies", while the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa developed an operational guidance package, including Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and profiling tools to facilitate the implementation of AVRR activities.

Research and evidence–based programming – Research and evidence–based programming are key to enhancing the quality and the impact of the assistance delivered. From within the great diversity of research and studies published by IOM in 2016, this chapter will feature two reports published by IOM Bern and by the IOM Subregional Coordination Office for Central Asia, which explored, respectively, access to microcredit for returning migrants, and opportunities for migrants vulnerabilities and integration needs in Central Asia.

What migrants say – Equally important is the need to give voice to migrants who have returned, allowing them to provide both the general public and AVRR stakeholders with a realistic insight on the return process from their own perspective. This chapter will present stories of returnees who sought IOM's assistance to return to Nepal after suffering from labour exploitation in Sudan, as well as the story of Leonardo Latoja, a Chilean migrant who was assisted to return voluntarily and reintegrate in his country of origin, after 16 years spent in Switzerland.

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[16] *Higher Institute of Information and Communication.*

1. AVRR FROM TRANSIT COUNTRIES

A migrant at an IOM transit centre in Niger.

As global migration routes grow in complexity, many migrants worldwide become unable to continue their journey to their intended destination and, unable or unwilling to regularize their status in the country of transit, they are stranded, often with limited access to basic assistance and protection.

Around the world, migrants in transit are often found in vulnerable situations and are dependent on smugglers for precarious travel arrangements. In some countries, they may even fall victim to human trafficking, exploitation or extortion.

In this context, stranded migrants willing to return to their country of origin may lack the financial resources and/or the necessary travel documents that would allow them to do so. In these cases, AVRR represents a viable, dignified and humane option to respond to their plight.

IOM transit centres in Niger

Niger is a key transit country in the West and Central Africa region. In addition to the provision of immediate protection assistance, migrants hosted in the five IOM transit centres throughout the country are supported in the preparation and the implementation of their return and reintegration process in their country of origin.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel listens to migrants talk about their migration stories at IOM's transit centre in Niamey, Niger, on 10 October 2016. © IOM/Monica Chiriac.

Niger is mainly known as a transit country for migratory flows from West Africa towards Libya and Algeria, and for some, further to the Mediterranean. Between February and December 2016, IOM observed over 400,000 people transiting through Niger towards (mainly) Libya and Algeria. In this context, IOM set up a Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM)[17] with the aim to support Niger in promoting viable alternatives to irregular migration, informing individuals about safe migration and encouraging activities that ensure that migrants can actively contribute to the economies in their countries of origin.

Transit centres are key components of IOM's MRRM. A transit centre is a reception facility where migrants who opted for AVRR programmes are hosted while their

return travel is organized. In Niger, IOM runs five open–type transit centres with the capacity to host a total of 1,650 migrants. Transit centres are open, therefore migrants can leave at any time. All migrants arriving at the centres are registered, interviewed and counselled by IOM staff. In the centres, migrants are provided with basic protection assistance: food, water, shelter and medical assistance.

The stay in the centres generally lasts for one to two weeks. Within this time, and with the support of IOM, migrants finalize their return plans, contact their family, ensure the obtention of travel documents, and receive tickets for the return transportation back home.

Additionally, IOM tailors its assistance to the specific needs of migrants in vulnerable situations, providing

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[17] The Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism in Niger is funded by the European Union and co–funded

by the German Cooperation and the Governments of the Netherlands and France.

psychosocial support and referral mechanisms for victims of trafficking for instance. Some centres also provide short professional trainings to migrants who wish to acquire additional skills before returning home.

In 2016, approximately 15,000 migrants registered in IOM Niger's centres in 2016 and 4,788 were provided with AVRR support to return to their countries of origin.[18]

In addition to individualized reintegration support, IOM Niger has implemented community–based reintegration

projects in key countries of origin to strengthen the sustainability of the reintegration process. By the end of 2016, a total of 77 projects had been set up in Senegal, Guinea, Nigeria, Mali and Guinea–Bissau with over 875 direct beneficiaries including community members, migrants and potential migrants. The projects covered joint community activities in the areas of agriculture, fishery, transportation, trade, and others.

In spotlight: transit migration in Bulgaria and Greece

Bulgaria and Greece are among the main entry points to the European Union. IOM Bulgaria and IOM Greece have scaled–up their awareness–raising activities to provide stranded migrants, who may be willing to return to their countries of origin, with accurate and up–to–date information on AVRR schemes.

Stranded in Bulgaria – Located in the South–Eastern corner of the European Union, Bulgaria is one of the gates into Europe along the Balkan and the East Mediterranean migration routes. Prior to 2013, the country was not a preferred entry or transit destination for migrants. Since June 2013, however, it became a key transit country for refugees and migrants seeking to reach West and Northern Europe. IOM reported that in 2016, 18,844 undocumented migrants have been identified in the country, and 14,310 were identified when trying to exit the country, suggesting that most of the migrants are in transit and do not consider Bulgaria as their country of destination.

Nevertheless, many migrants remain stranded in Bulgaria or in Balkan countries for months. In this situation, an increasing number of migrants choose to return to their country of origin, and subsequently request IOM's assistance in facilitating the process. In 2016, 635 migrants were assisted by IOM Bulgaria, which represents a sharp increase from the 89 migrants assisted in 2015.

Stranded in Greece – IOM estimates that 176,906 migrants arrived in Greece in 2016. Many were seeking international protection, reunification with family members, or economic opportunities in Europe. IOM was present at the arrival points and provided legal assistance to migrants arriving by sea, monitored the conditions in reception centres and supported the authorities in the identification of migrants in vulnerable situations. However, due to this large influx, the reception capacities in the country were stretched beyond capacity and many migrants found themselves stranded and destitute. As of 29 December 2016, IOM estimated that over 62,000 were stranded in Greece.[19] Within the same year, 6,153 migrants chose to return from Greece to their countries of origin through IOM Greece AVRR programmes.[20]

IOM Bulgaria and IOM Greece have deployed staff at key entry and exit points to inform migrants about AVRR schemes. Those who wished to return voluntarily were provided with pre–departure counselling, assistance to obtain appropriate travel documents, purchase of flight tickets, travel assistance, and reintegration support.

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[18] Migrants are at will to leave the transit centres at any time, therefore, some migrants left the centre before the return component of the assistance was delivered. This explains the discrepancy between the number of registered migrants and those that benefitted from AVRR.

[19] See www.migration.iom.int/docs/2016_Flows_to_Europe_Overview.pdf.

[20] IOM Greece AVRR programmes are primarily funded (75%) by the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and by the Hellenic Ministry of Interior (25%).

Migrants at a transit camp at the Greek border.

Assisting irregular migrants in Indonesia

Indonesia is the main transit country in the Asia and the Pacific region. Over the past 16 years, IOM has provided direct assistance and AVRR support to over 33,000 migrants in irregular situation in the country, within the framework of the Regional Cooperation Arrangement (RCA).

Every year, thousands of migrants, mostly originating from conflict–affected countries, are found transiting through Indonesia on their way to other countries, mostly to Australia. These migrants often face difficult situations, risking being intercepted or having to pay considerable amounts of money to smugglers, or even falling victims of abusive treatment and/or trafficking. Every year, hundreds of others are found dead after attempting the dangerous journey by boat to and from Indonesia.

To respond to these challenges, IOM has built on its close working relationship with government partners, non–governmental organizations, civil society and local communities to support national and regional capacity–building efforts and to provide direct assistance to migrants in need. The Regional Cooperation Arrangement (RCA) is a mechanism through which the Australian Government and IOM support the Government of Indonesia in addressing trafficking, smuggling and irregular migration across the archipelago. Activities undertaken under the RCA aim at providing support to migrants in irregular situation, and to enable those who signal a possible need of protection to have access to a refugee determination process through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). From its inception in 2000 until the end of 2016, IOM has assisted over 33,000 irregular migrants within the framework of the RCA.

2. ASSISTING MIGRANTS IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS

With limited legal avenues for migration, migrants may turn to irregular and unsafe routes, often with the help of smugglers who may deceive them about costs, risks, transportation methods, routes, and conditions of travel. In many instances, migrants are subject to abuse, exploitation, discrimination, and other human rights violations. These dangers are evidenced by the 7,495 reported deaths of migrants in 2016.[21]

AVRR represents a viable and humanitarian solution for migrants in vulnerable situations, who find themselves stranded or destitute in countries they do not wish to remain in. In these cases, the provision of a tailored assistance based on their specific needs before, during, and after return is essential.

A migrant in transit in El Salvador. © IOM/Keith Dannemiller 2014.

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[21] See www.missingmigrants.iom.int

TACT: a model of transnational referral mechanism for victims of trafficking

> Launched by IOM France in 2016, the TACT Transnational Referral Mechanism platform has been designed to help host countries and countries of origin to concretely link the different existing National Referral Mechanisms at a transnational level.

In 2016, IOM France launched an online platform (www.iomfrance.org/tact) displaying a Transnational Referral Mechanism (TRM) model for VoTs, developed in the framework of the EU–funded TACT Project. A TRM is an operational framework linking the different stakeholders from two or more countries involved in identification, referral, assistance, return, and reintegration monitoring of victims of trafficking. A TRM defines clear roles for each stakeholder, along with procedures to follow, to ensure protection of the victims' human rights at every step of the assistance provision, including during their return and reintegration process.

The TACT project, funded by the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and managed by IOM Paris, has been implemented from May 2015 to October 2016.

The TACT project contributed to the improvement of the safe return and reintegration conditions of victims of trafficking returning from France, Greece, Italy, Poland and Spain to 3 countries: Albania, Morocco and Ukraine, which were defined as priority countries by the European Union and the Member States in the Action Oriented Paper, adopted in 2009. The TACT project built upon previously acquired expertise, in particular by further developing the CARE project approach, which focused primarily on developing a coordinated approach to reintegration of VoTs returning to their countries of origin among key EU Member States and on providing reintegration assistance to any VoT returning to a third country.

In total, 80 victims of trafficking received direct assistance under the CARE and TACT projects, allowing testing and refining the Standard Operating Procedures for the return and reintegration of VoTs.

The TACT TRM platform, designed for counter–trafficking practitioners, was therefore created to help host countries and countries of origin to concretely link the different existing National Referral Mechanisms (NRM) at a transnational level. The platform is composed of four main elements:

- The **Standard Operating Procedures for the Return and Reintegration** of victims of trafficking, which have been mapped out to better show how the process goes as well as the safeguards to be put in place at each level to guarantee victims' fundamental rights;

- **The Counter–Trafficking Directory** for embassies and consular staff, whom have been identified as key stakeholders within the TRM, by acting as pivots between host countries and countries of origin. The Counter Trafficking Directory gathers basic information on more than 50 countries (key facts and figures, assistance available in the host country, assistance for voluntary return to the country of origin, and national emergency hotlines);

- The **resources database**, which contains more than 60 documents covering a broad range of thematic areas related to the direct assistance to VoTs;

- The **tools** tab, which contains eight practical tools that can be used by practitioners when identifying, referring, and assisting victims of trafficking in the framework of a TRM.
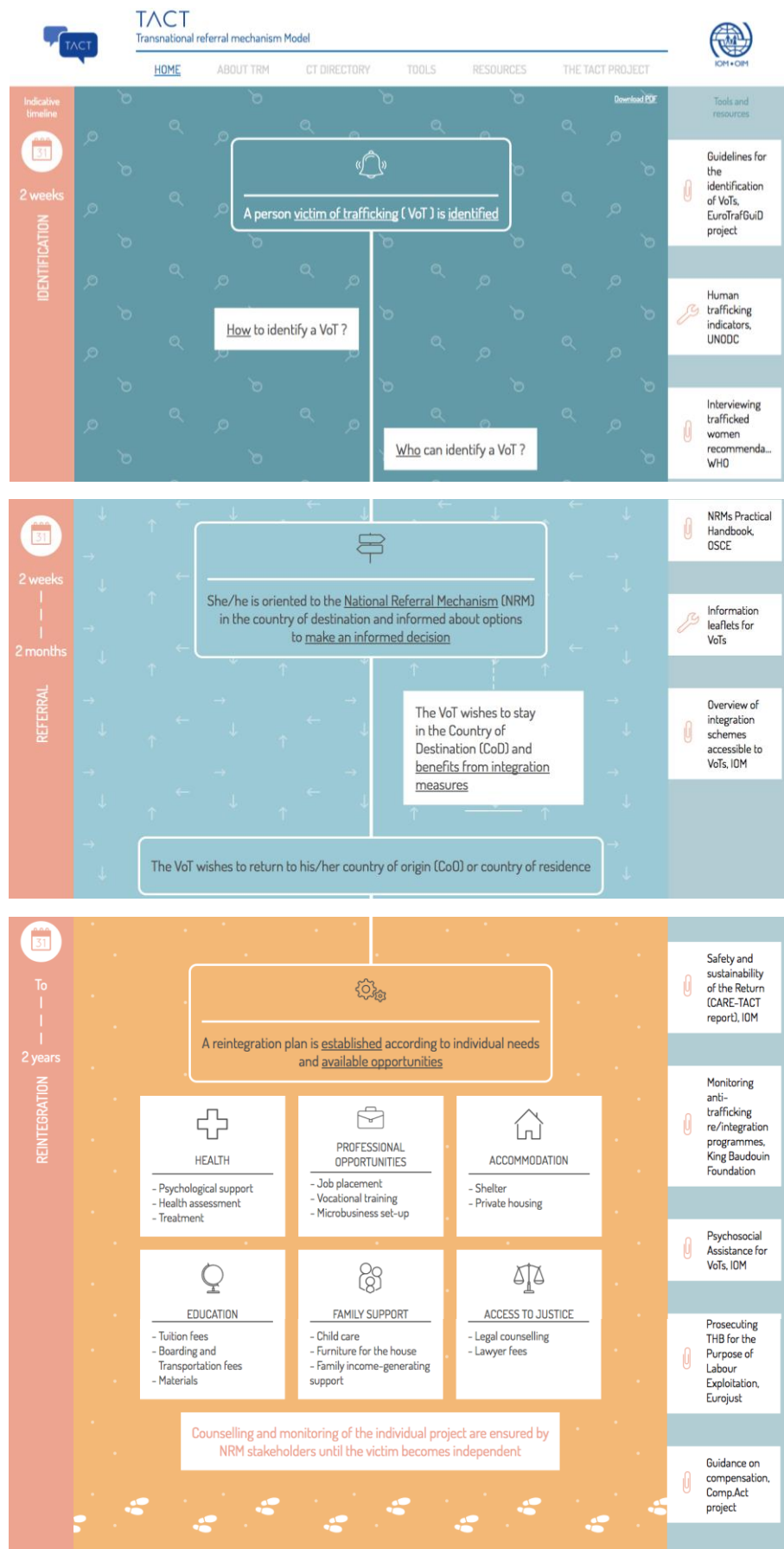
Screenshots of the online TACT TRM platform.

Reuniting families with Ethiopian unaccompanied migrant children detained in Malawi

Over the past years, IOM has been providing vital assistance to unaccompanied migrant children wishing to reunite with their families in their countries of origin. In September 2016, for example, IOM facilitated the voluntary return of 53 Ethiopian UMCs detained in Malawi and reunified them with their families in Ethiopia.

A migrant child reunited with his mother in Ethiopia.

Assisting the voluntary return and family reunification of unaccompanied migrant children can be a complex undertaking for all stakeholders involved in the process of return, as these children are particularly vulnerable and require specific care and safeguards. In this regard, the principle of the best interest of the child[22] is the primary consideration during the whole AVRR process.

In September 2016, IOM facilitated the voluntary return and the reunification of a group of 53 Ethiopian unaccompanied migrant children with their families. Due to a lack of formal alternatives to detention facilities, these 53 children had been detained in Malawi for several months after being found trying to cross the border illegally on their way to South Africa, where they hoped they would be able to find work.

The operation was led in partnership with the U.S. Association for International Migration (USAIM), in coordination with the governments of Ethiopia and Malawi, and was funded by Raising Malawi, a non–profit organization founded by the singer Madonna. Other partners including UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières, and the Ethiopian Community in Malawi also played important roles in supporting the return and reunification process.

All pre–departure activities including screening interviews, pre–departure medical checks, flight bookings, and ground transportation to the airport were coordinated by IOM Malawi. IOM Ethiopia ensured the availability of post–arrival assistance consisting in transportation to the reception centre,

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[22] Article 3, Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989).

shelter, psychosocial support, family tracing, medical assistance and onward transportation to the children's communities of origin. Upon completion of the family tracing process, all minors were safely escorted to their respective homes and reunited with their families and relatives.

Madonna reacted a few days later on the Twitter account of Raising Malawi: "With all the madness in this world, I am grateful to share some light. All the 53

Ethiopian boys who were detained in #Malawi for over 10 months have been reunited with their families in #Ethiopia. Thank you #IOM and the #Malawian government for working with us to make this a reality", she wrote, signing the tweet with her initial "M".

A tweet published on the Raising Malawi *account on 9 September 2016.*

3. COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

In today's increasingly interconnected world, migration has been rising steadily towards the top of the international political agenda. Owing to the dynamics and the volume of returns, and to the complexity of migration flows, there is a need for a more comprehensive approach to AVRR, and for effective dialogue and partnerships between all stakeholders engaged in voluntary return migration, both at the policy and programmatic levels.

Among other factors, partnerships reinforce the credibility of AVRR messages by diversifying information channels, supporting (potential) returnees in taking an informed decision, and by providing them with additional support for reintegration (beyond the assistance offered by IOM directly). As such, partnerships have been at the core of AVRR in host/transit countries and countries of origin.

In addition, contributing to strengthen dialogue between migration stakeholders at bilateral, regional and global levels is one of IOM's strategic priorities in migration policy, and particularly in the field of AVRR. IOM's engagement in Inter–State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration [23] for instance, aims at providing evidence–based technical support; informing and influencing policy; advancing multilateral understanding and action on migration; and contributing to shaping practical solutions to contemporary migration challenges.

At IOM's International Dialogue on Migration at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 18 and 19 April 2017. © IOM / John Walder.

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[23] **For more information, visit www.iom.int/fr/inter-state-consultation-mechanisms-migration.**

Migration media coverage: toward a positive and a humane approach

The partnership concluded by IOM Morocco with the Institut Supérieur de l'Information et de la Communication (ISIC) aims to foster a better understanding among future journalists and to promote a positive narrative on migration–related issues and on migrants themselves.

Participants at a training in Morocco, organized by IOM and the Institut Supérieur de l'Information et de la Communication on 31 May 2016.

In 2016, within the framework of the European Union project "Addressing the Needs of Stranded and Vulnerable Migrants in targeted sending, transit and receiving countries", IOM Morocco has signed an agreement with the ISIC, one of the main training centres for journalists in the country, with the aim to improve the knowledge journalism students have on migration and to foster a positive narrative on issues related to migrants and migration.

On 30, 31 May and 1 June 2016, a training attended by 31 young journalists was organized in Rabat by IOM and the ISIC under the thematic: "Migration Media Coverage: towards a positive and a humane approach". Among the 20 panelists who intervened during the various thematic sessions were several eminent personalities, including H.E.M. Anis Birrou, Minister in Charge of Moroccan Expatriates and Migration Affairs; H.E.M. Rupert Joy, Ambassador of the European Union to Morocco; Abdelmjid Fadil, Director of ISIC; and Ana Fonseca, IOM's Chief of Mission in Morocco.

The sessions focused on a diversity of topics including: migration and its specific terminology; migration media coverage; the Moroccan media and migration context; and migration global trends and challenges. Interventions were grounded in concrete examples and experiences from other countries (Senegal and Qatar for instance). The training reiterated the necessity to apply critical thinking, rigor and sensitivity while covering migration related issues, linking journalism deontology to the respect of migrants' rights.

Building on the success of the Rabat training, similar trainings were replicated by IOM in Mauritania, Senegal and Niger. IOM Morocco currently continues its collaboration with ISIC, by facilitating trainings within the ISIC's Master on migration and media, and by promoting exchange visits and internships for journalism students in media and migration–related institutions.

Promoting the adoption of national policies on reintegration in Central America and the Caribbean

The Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), also called the Puebla Process, is a key platform for inclusive dialogue on migration–related issues in the region. In 2016, the RCM has adopted a "Manual for the Drafting of National Reintegration Policies".

Since 2011, IOM has focused in promoting co–responsibility of countries of origin to provide reintegration assistance to their returning nationals. To do so, IOM has approached both regional and national platforms.

The Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), also called Puebla Process, has provided the best platform in the region to position the need for reintegration assistance. In 2011, IOM promoted a regional workshop on return and reintegration where Member States discussed their own institutional challenges in assisting their returning nationals. Following the workshop, IOM drafted a document titled "General Principles for the Return, Integration and Reintegration Assistance", [24] which was later approved by the RCM as guidelines to improving states' capacities to provide reintegration assistance to their own nationals.

Since then the issue of return migration has been discussed at length within the RCM. In 2015, the Mexican Presidency Protempore selected return and reintegration of migrants as a core discussion topic for their Presidency and subsequently organized various seminars with the participation of think tanks and a wide range of government, civil society and academia representatives. It was evidenced throughout the year that locally endorsed reintegration–related policies are key to promoting effective and sustainable reintegration. To operationalize the main recommendations formulated during these consultations, IOM drafted the "Manual for the Drafting of National Reintegration Policies" which, as recommended by the RCM Member States, was discussed and adopted during a validation meeting, attended by a diverse group of governmental and non–governmental representatives in October 2016.

In November 2016, during the XXI Ordinary Meeting of the RCM, Member States approved the Manual and recommended it to be used by Member States as a reference document in drafting national reintegration policies. Thus, several countries in the region are currently in the process of drafting national protocols, coordination mechanisms and other tools that will strengthen the reintegration process of their nationals. In El Salvador, for example, IOM has been working closely with the National Reintegration Committee (under Foreign Affairs) to develop a country strategy to reintegration, now approved and under implementation, partially funded by IOM.

Strengthening and standardizing the delivery of assisted voluntary return and reintegration through the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa

Based on the outcomes of the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA), IOM has developed an operational guidance package, with SOPs and profiling tools that will be used by Member States of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) to carry out AVRR activities, in full compliance with human rights principles.

The Southern Africa region has increasingly seen mixed movements coming from the East and Horn of Africa and from the Great Lakes Region. Large mixed migratory groups, pushed by war, lack of protection, economic disparity or hope for better livelihood opportunities, have been moving south, passing through Kenya and/or the United Republic of Tanzania towards Southern Africa. The countries of the SADC region (including Comoros) are all affected by migration, either as host countries, countries of origin, transit countries, or a combination of these categories.

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[24] Document available upon request to IOM Regional Office in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The overall objective of the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) is to facilitate dialogue, enhance cooperation among SADC Member States, and to improve migration governance within the SADC region.

Since its creation in 2000, the MIDSA conference has contributed to shaping the migration discourse in the region and resulted in concrete recommendations which have been incorporated into SADC country–led initiatives. To date, a diversity of issues related to migration management have been discussed within this platform: the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations; refugees and asylum seekers; mixed migration flows; assisted voluntary return and reintegration; border management; labour migration; and trafficking.

In July 2015, the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) Ministerial Conference in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, issued a signed Ministerial Statement that approved a Regional Action Plan on Mixed and Irregular Migration. In the Statement, Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Home Affairs/Interior from Member States of the SADC recommended, inter alia, that SADC Members States individually and collectively prioritize the sections of the Action Plan pertaining to the protection of unaccompanied migrant children, and begin the implementation of the proposed actions, as well as pursue the preliminary work on statelessness, alternatives to detention and return.

During a Regional Stakeholders Workshop held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in November 2015, the need to develop a guidance tool to facilitate AVRR activities was identified.

To address this need, IOM developed a Guidance Package, including SOPs as well as profiling tools to be used by SADC Member States to carry out coherent and lawful AVRR, in full compliance with human rights principles.

The Guidance Package is based on international and regional legal instruments, including human rights principles; as well as on existing guidance documents used and recommended by renowned actors in the field of assisted voluntary return and reintegration.

Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa meeting on mixed and irregular migration, July 2016.

4. RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE–BASED PROGRAMMING

Each year, IOM Headquarters and offices worldwide conduct and produce a diversity of papers addressing the various dimensions of the AVRR spectrum.[25] Monitoring, evaluation, and research remain fundamental to ensuring the efficiency of AVRR programmes; enabling IOM and its partners to enhance and improve their programme delivery; and helping to respond better to migrants' needs and specific vulnerabilities.

IOM Staff conducting a site surveying. © IOM / Muse Mohammed 2016.

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[25] Several AVRR–related research can be accessed through the IOM online bookstore at www.publications.iom.int.

Exploring access to microcredit opportunities for migrants

In a study published in 2016, IOM Switzerland explored opportunities for improving access to financial services for returnees in their countries of origin. Following the publication of the study, several Microfinance Institutions showed interest in cooperating with IOM.

A Colombian returnee in his farm in Valle del Cauca.

As part of reintegration assistance schemes, IOM frequently supports returning migrants in re–establishing a livelihood strategy in their country of origin. As per earlier study, 84 per cent of AVRR beneficiaries who are given the opportunity opt to open a small business, but 65 per cent of those find they need to invest additional funds beyond IOM's assistance, and 28 per cent mention that they would like to expand but lack funding to do so (IOM Bern, 2013). In 2016, building on these findings, IOM Switzerland published a study, aiming to explore opportunities for improving access to financial services for returnees in their countries of origin.[26]

The study examined the accessibility of microcredits to returnees in five target countries: Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sri Lanka, showing great variation in general availability of microcredits and their accessibility to returnees. It appears that some institutions may have negative attitudes towards migrants (considered as unstable, not trustworthy, and some of the common lending criteria may be harder to fulfill for returnees – e.g. minimum duration of residence), who may also be reluctant to take up microcredit because of the complexity and risks involved. The study suggested that microcredit is an option worth considering but that microcredit cannot be recommended as a general solution for returnees who are in need of financial means.

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[26] Access to Microcredit Opportunities for Returned Migrants during and beyond IOM Support (2016), available at www.publications.iom.int/books/access-microcredit-opportunities-returned-migrants-during-and-beyond-iom-support.

Vulnerabilities and integration needs in Central Asia

Changing economic situation and regulatory framework in the Russian Federation has led to shifting migration flows in Central Asia: decreasing demand for foreign labour in a worsening economic climate in the Russian Federation as well as re–entry bans have interrupted the socioeconomic strategies of many migrants. Current demographic trends, economic growth prospects, environmental factors, as well as the regional geopolitical situation all point to a likely further increase and change in patterns of internal and cross border population movements within the region.

IOM's 2016 Regional Field Assessment of Migrant Vulnerabilities and Integration Needs in Central Asia analysed the recent developments in migratory flows in Central Asia, proposing strategies for assisting migrants affected by the changing context.[27] At both national and regional levels, states need to offer returning migrants opportunities for safe return and (re)integration into the local labour markets. The impact of the economic downturn, the presence of radical messages in religious communities in host countries and countries of origin, the sense of social injustice and desperation felt by certain migrants when they lose their legal status and are confronted with uncertain economic future, all point towards the growing need to focus on prevention of violent extremism. Effective prevention requires going beyond the security approach with more prominence to be given to the **integration approach as complementary to security measures**. This includes long–term engagement with migrants in vulnerable situations, their families and home communities through education, information dissemination and raising migrants' awareness on their rights and on the assistance and services available to them. It is also important to point to the crucial role that women play in transmitting values and shaping opinions which might be powerful deterrents to radicalization (women represent approximately half of all migrants in Central Asia).

Direct assistance activities, introduced by IOM in Central Asia in 2016, included, inter alia, return and reintegration, seed funding, legal, psychological and health-care support. It was provided to 79 migrants in vulnerable situations involving different degrees and types of vulnerabilities.

A Child in a market in Astana, Kazakhstan, in 2015.

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[27] Migrant Vulnerabilities and Integration Needs in Central Asia: Root Causes, Social and Economic Impact of Return Migration (2016), available at www.iom.kz/images/inform/FinalFullReport18SBNlogoc om.pdf.

5. WHAT MIGRANTS SAY

While IOM's ambition is not to persuade all parties of the value of AVRR, a balanced and proactive communication about AVRR is as relevant and necessary as ever. In this context, stories of return are key to offer a realistic insight on the return process from the beneficiaries' perspective, by empowering migrants to speak about their personal experiences, achievements, and challenges encountered, and by providing a visible space for return stories to be showcased.

A returnee at the airport seems to be lost in thoughts. © IOM/Santosh Manandhar.

Labour exploitation – Nepalese returnees recount their experiences

In 2016, a group of Nepalese migrants were told by an agent that they would obtain employment once they arrive in Sudan. However, upon arrival, a different agent received them in Khartoum, apprehended their travel documents and forced them to work in a plastic factory. IOM's AVRR support allowed them to return home and to reintegrate safely in their country of origin.

"We had lost our hope of going back to our country and family, but today, because of IOM Sudan and the police, we are going back to our family, our country."

In a letter sent to IOM on 11 September 2016, a group of Nepalese migrants narrate their plight as victims of labour exploitation in Sudan. As reported in the letter, they arrived in Sudan at the end of January 2016 encouraged by an agent, having been promised employment at a UN peace keeping camp. However, upon arrival in Khartoum, they were taken to work in a plastic factory, their travel documents were seized, and they were forced to work with no benefit other than food and lodging.

After enduring these conditions for six months, they ran away from the plastic factory to a UNHCR office to obtain help. UNHCR provided the migrants with immediate assistance and referred them to IOM.

Upon arrival at IOM premises, the migrants shared their story with IOM staff. They were not in possession of any official document, nor financial resources, and were in a state of shock after what they had been through. IOM staff provided them with basic protection assistance (food and shelter). With the help of Sudanese authorities, IOM retrieved the migrants' travel documentation and recovered their unpaid wages from the plastic factory.
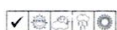
Date 11/09/2016

Respected sir/Madam,

We are from Nepal. We came to Sudan at the end of January. Our agent promised us that we will be working in the camp of UN peace keeping force. But the agent who received us in Khartoum took us to the plastic factory of omdurman and told us to work there as a common labour. We told him we are not willing to work there and requested him to return us back to our country but he denied and threatened us. So being helpless we started working there. They provided us lodging and fooding only. They did not gave us our salary. We worked there for six months.

IOM provided us food and shelter. IOM started their process immediately and they brought our passport and salary from the company with the help of police. We had lost our hope of going back to our country and family but today because of IOM Sudan and the police we are going back to our family, our country. We cannot express our happiness in words. We are very happy and thankful to you. We will remember this untill our last breathe of our life. Everyone who is involved in this came us to our life as a god/Allah. We are very very thankful and we will remember you all in our prays.

Thankyou very much.

Excerpts from a letter written to IOM by a group of migrants assisted with AVRR.

Starting a new life back home after a long time living abroad

Leonardo lived and worked in Switzerland for 16 years prior to reaching out to IOM for assistance to return to his country of origin. He has also benefited from IOM's reintegration assistance and is happy to be back in Chile developing his own business.

Leonardo Latoja.

"I traveled to Switzerland after finishing my first semester in political science at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaiso) in Chile. I settled in Switzerland for 16 years, got married, had a child, divorced, and had countless work and personal experiences. I am now back in Chile, per my own decision, to set up a business.

There came a time when things became difficult because I couldn't renew my permit to remain in Switzerland. After being asked to leave the country, I went to the Red Cross to ask for help. They referred me to IOM where I learned about their AVRR programmes. IOM provided me with financial support for my return to Chile. I am now back in my country, and IOM is currently providing me with financial reintegration support for a personal business project I have in the audiovisual field.

While I was living in Geneva, I had the opportunity to work at *L'Usine*, a cultural center. There, I learned about electronic music and image projection (mapping). My project at home consists of mixing music with mapping, and eventually replicating the model from the cultural center. With the help that I received from IOM, I am buying the necessary resources. It is starting slowly, but I am confident that I will be able to achieve it. I am currently searching for a business location and putting together a group of DJs for the project.

I would tell those who want to approach IOM to trust them, they are professionals. I have also been at the IOM Chile office and received additional assistance. When I returned to Chile from Switzerland, they waited for me at each airport to accompany me while I waited for departure, and they gave me the tranquility and support I

needed so that I could arrive in Chile calm and confident. I advise migrants who are currently in difficult situations, like the ones I went through, that they should make the decision to return to their country if they are not well where they are or if they are suffering. They should not be afraid to approach IOM.

While in Geneva, I heard about the case of an Ethiopian national who received the same help as I did, bought a cow and started making cheese, then bought another cow and another, and now owns a farm. You must start somewhere and, with the will to do so, you can be happy here, there, or wherever. I want to thank IOM for the help that they have given me, I am truly grateful. I would like to invite them to the inauguration of my project so that they can see what I have accomplished."

Leonardo Latoja

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: IOM regional coverage

Asia and the Pacific

Afghanistan	Australia	Bangladesh	Bhutan	Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia	China	Fiji	India	Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Japan	Kiribati	Lao People's Democratic Republic (the)	Malaysia
Maldives	Marshall Islands	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Mongolia	Myanmar
Nauru	Nepal	New Zealand	Pakistan	Palau
Papua New Guinea	Philippines	Republic of Korea	Samoa	Singapore
Solomon Islands	Sri Lanka	Thailand	Timor–Leste	Tonga
Tuvalu	Vanuatu	Viet Nam		

Central and North America and the Caribbean

Antigua and Barbuda	Bahamas	Barbados	Belize	Canada
Costa Rica	Cuba	Dominica	Dominican Republic	El Salvador
Grenada	Guatemala	Guyana	Haiti	Honduras
Jamaica	Mexico	Nicaragua	Panama	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Suriname	Trinidad and Tobago	Turks and Caicos Islands
United States of America				

East and Horn of Africa

Burundi	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya
Rwanda	Somalia	South Sudan	Uganda	United Republic of Tanzania

European Economic Area

Andorra	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia
Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland
France	Germany	Greece	Holy See	Hungary
Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Monaco	Netherlands
Norway	Poland	Portugal	Romania	San Marino
Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland
United Kingdom				

Middle–East and North Africa

Algeria	Bahrain	Egypt	Iraq	Jordan
Kuwait	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Oman
Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Sudan	Syrian Arab Republic	Tunisia
United Arab Emirates	Yemen			

South America

Argentina	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Brazil	Chile	Colombia
Ecuador	Paraguay	Peru	Uruguay	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Southern Africa

Angola	Botswana	Comoros	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Lesotho
Madagascar	Malawi	Mauritius	Mozambique	Namibia
Seychelles	South Africa	Swaziland	Zambia	Zimbabwe

South–Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Albania	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Georgia	Israel	Kazakhstan	Kosovo/UNSC 1244	Kyrgyzstan
Montenegro	Republic of Moldova	Russian Federation	Serbia	Tajikistan
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Turkey	Turkmenistan	Ukraine	Uzbekistan

West and Central Africa

Benin	Burkina Faso	Cabo Verde	Cameroon	Central African Republic
Chad	Congo	Côte d'Ivoire	Equatorial Guinea	Gabon
Gambia	Ghana	Guinea	Guinea–Bissau	Liberia
Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal	Sierra Leone	Togo		

ANNEX 2: Host countries and territories for AVRR, 2012–2016

Host country/territory	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Afghanistan	17	–	–	–	–	17
Albania	–	–	–	–	1	1
Angola	–	–	–	6	–	6
Argentina	–	2	3	9	–	14
Australia	428	699	800	819	963	3,709
Austria	2,601	2,896	2,299	4,126	4,812	16,734
Azerbaijan	–	–	–	5	3	8
Bahamas	–	–	–	7	–	7
Belarus	–	–	–	2	–	2
Belgium	4,694	4,388	3,459	3,870	4,117	20,528
Benin	200	9	3	1	–	213
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	–	–	–	2	1	3
Botswana	–	–	–	14	6	20
Brazil	–	–	–	4	4	8
Bulgaria	51	147	330	89	635	1,252
Burkina Faso	–	–	–	–	3	3
Cabo Verde	–	–	–	–	5	5
Cambodia	–	8	3	5	4	20
Cameroon	–	5	2	–	5	12
Canada	862	2,024	1,244	116	–	4,246
Chile	–	–	–	1	7	8
China	–	1	–	33	64	98
Hong Kong	–	37	11	12	7	67
Macao	–	7	–	3	–	10
Costa Rica	93	–	2	–	27	122
Côte d'Ivoire	–	–	–	4	8	12
Cyprus	–	–	–	–	85	85
Czech Republic	223	146	173	202	209	953
Democratic Republic of the Congo	–	–	–	7	–	7
Denmark	66	219	110	243	531	1,169
Djibouti	–	–	–	990	1,803	2,793
Dominican Republic	–	–	1	9	502	512
Ecuador	–	–	2	2	2	6
Egypt	296	185	173	406	502	1,562
El Salvador	–	–	2	–	2	4
Estonia	29	17	23	48	40	157
Fiji	–	–	–	–	5	5
Finland	327	342	318	632	2,116	3,735

Host country/territory	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
France	6	3	8	–	–	17
Gabon	–	–	–	–	4	4
Georgia	4	–	–	108	54	166
Germany	7,546	10,251	13,574	35,446	54,006	120,823
Ghana	17	10	–	6	1	34
Greece	7,290	9,325	7,357	3,746	6,153	33,871
Guatemala	–	–	2	2	–	4
Guinea	102	13	12	4	25	156
Guinea–Bissau	–	–	–	–	35	35
Guyana	–	–	–	–	12	12
Haiti	–	–	–	2	–	2
Honduras	–	3	–	–	–	3
Hungary	414	353	491	138	65	1,461
Iceland	–	–	–	–	30	30
India	–	–	68	3	1	72
Indonesia	–	955	561	2,168	684	4,368
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	–	–	–	181	–	181
Iraq	–	–	–	–	5	5
Ireland	359	340	188	114	143	1,144
Italy	848	993	867	356	145	3,209
Japan	–	4	7	21	34	66
Jordan	–	2	5	60	37	104
Kazakhstan	–	–	–	124	4	128
Kenya	543	–	1	4	9	557
Kuwait	–	–	–	–	26	26
Lao People's Democratic Republic	–	–	1	–	–	1
Latvia	89	82	94	34	75	374
Lebanon	–	–	–	95	12	107
Libya	172	847	218	495	27	1,759
Lithuania	65	43	66	44	69	287
Luxembourg	97	116	186	149	–	548
Malawi	–	–	–	392	405	797
Malaysia	36	23	11	29	60	159
Mali	21	8	7	–	2	38
Malta	39	55	72	12	14	192
Mauritania	1	–	–	–	52	53
Mauritius	23	23	–	–	–	46
Mexico	897	17	25	7	5	951
Micronesia (Federated States of)	–	–	–	111	–	111
Mongolia	–	1	4	1	5	11
Montenegro	–	–	–	–	4	4

Host country/territory	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Morocco	89	498	1,158	1,399	1,259	4,403
Mozambique	–	–	–	2	36	38
Myanmar	–	1	–	1	1	3
Nauru	50	17	46	10	–	123
Netherlands	2,905	2,489	2,269	2,927	4,635	15,225
Nicaragua	13	–	4	–	1	18
Niger	–	82	6	1,322	4,788	6,198
Nigeria	2	–	–	–	–	2
Norway	1,753	1,899	1,622	1,164	1,459	7,897
Oman	–	–	–	–	5	5
Pakistan	–	–	–	4	1	5
Panama	–	1	1	5	9	16
Papua New Guinea	3	177	278	47	5	510
Paraguay	–	4	–	–	1	5
Peru	–	2	3	1	–	6
Philippines	–	–	1	–	–	1
Poland	753	1,949	1,463	975	790	5,930
Portugal	753	692	412	243	67	2,167
Qatar	–	–	–	–	27	27
Republic of Korea	–	–	2	3	3	8
Republic of Moldova	73	10	–	–	–	83
Romania	312	197	113	117	111	850
Russian Federation	117	10	–	292	126	545
Saint Lucia	–	–	1	2	12	15
Saudi Arabia	–	–	–	–	79	79
Senegal	1	1	–	4	6	12
Serbia	–	–	–	–	53	53
Sierra Leone	6	–	–	–	–	6
Singapore	–	–	–	2	4	6
Slovakia	54	50	57	92	115	368
Slovenia	11	20	16	20	62	129
Solomon Islands	–	–	–	4	–	4
Somalia	990	–	–	72	219	1,281
South Africa	247	–	–	65	238	550
Spain	785	758	889	628	663	3,723
Sri Lanka	–	1	–	–	1	2
Sudan	–	–	–	86	181	267
Swaziland	–	–	–	7	–	7
Sweden	98	98	63	37	10	306
Switzerland	2,289	1,655	478	374	513	5,309
Syrian Arab Republic	–	–	–	–	7	7
Thailand	–	49	13	287	41	390

Host country/territory	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	–	–	–	–	32	32
Timor–Leste	1	–	–	–	–	1
Togo	183	2	5	–	1	191
Trinidad and Tobago	–	–	4	1	–	5
Tunisia	9	251	99	456	26	841
Turkey	569	618	495	419	1,196	3,297
Uganda	–	–	–	–	1	1
Ukraine	72	21	–	12	16	121
United Arab Emirates	–	7	–	–	15	22
United Kingdom	–	–	2	25	1	28
United Republic of Tanzania	–	–	589	148	3	740
Uruguay	–	–	–	5	7	12
United States of America	–	–	–	–	2	2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	–	–	–	–	4	4
Viet Nam	–	1	–	–	–	1
Yemen	794	335	827	2,733	2,594	7,283
Zambia	34	–	–	25	304	363
Zimbabwe	–	–	–	5	1	6
Total	41,422	46,494	43,699	69,540	98,403	299,558

ANNEX 3: Countries and territories of origin for AVRR, 2012–2016

Country /Territory of origin	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Afghanistan	2,019	1,624	1,304	1,413	7,102	13,462
Albania	330	326	1,239	12,014	17,976	31,885
Algeria	176	140	41	94	437	888
Angola	69	69	76	35	28	277
Antigua and Barbuda	1	–	1	–	3	5
Argentina	140	77	89	57	40	403
Armenia	532	448	435	516	437	2,368
Australia	2	24	2	1	5	34
Austria	1	2	7	–	–	10
Azerbaijan	220	216	249	199	295	1,179
Bahamas	–	5	1	–	–	6
Bahrain	1	–	–	–	8	9
Bangladesh	1,208	2,000	1,334	1,534	360	6,436
Barbados	–	10	1	–	–	11
Belarus	269	188	159	156	165	937
Belgium	5	1	1	–	4	11
Belize	1	–	1	–	–	2
Benin	19	73	19	19	38	168
Bermuda	–	4	–	–	–	4
Bhutan	–	–	1	–	2	3
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	256	225	183	79	53	796
Bosnia and Herzegovina	500	935	1,511	1,906	1,753	6,605
Botswana	8	12	3	4	9	36
Brazil	1,802	1,418	881	578	496	5,175
Bulgaria	90	82	75	125	128	500
Burkina Faso	46	208	91	347	152	844
Burundi	133	34	29	6	32	234
Cabo Verde	19	25	25	12	5	86
Cambodia	30	64	30	152	89	365
Cameroon	90	159	345	489	630	1,713
Canada	13	67	27	9	15	131
Central African Republic	1	–	1	1	1	4
Chad	94	23	15	52	36	220
Chile	183	169	120	66	69	607
China	674	657	519	490	415	2,755
Hong Kong	4	6	9	1	4	24
Taiwan Province of China	1	–	4	–	–	5
Colombia	346	320	293	180	168	1,307

Country /Territory of origin	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Comoros	5	2	6	20	30	63
Congo	14	26	74	49	35	198
Costa Rica	9	1	7	4	4	25
Côte d'Ivoire	81	215	316	290	587	1,489
Croatia	76	140	120	39	16	391
Cuba	9	15	20	18	14	76
Cyprus	–	–	–	6	–	6
Czech Republic	60	82	64	13	7	226
Democratic Republic of the Congo	187	109	96	76	131	599
Denmark	19	2	3	–	3	27
Djibouti	1	13	–	12	12	38
Dominica	–	1	–	6	–	7
Dominican Republic	81	39	34	18	63	235
Ecuador	780	356	276	88	30	1,530
Egypt	221	366	501	230	222	1,540
El Salvador	47	90	79	29	43	288
Equatorial Guinea	3	1	2	3	1	10
Eritrea	13	11	13	7	7	51
Estonia	11	6	9	4	11	41
Ethiopia	1,515	542	1,610	4,689	5,675	14,031
Fiji	10	11	16	29	22	88
Finland	1	–	–	1	5	7
France	11	10	8	7	6	42
Gabon	–	–	1	1	5	7
Gambia	221	300	76	164	450	1,211
Georgia	706	1,157	1,874	1,489	1,703	6,929
Germany	22	9	6	4	10	51
Ghana	324	355	222	196	175	1,272
Greece	8	7	15	36	18	84
Grenada	–	2	1	–	–	3
Guatemala	28	28	25	17	10	108
Guinea	142	244	270	571	1,868	3,095
Guinea–Bissau	55	68	33	83	431	670
Guyana	1	3	2	–	1	7
Haiti	67	5	1	8	485	566
Honduras	73	95	113	113	107	501
Hungary	347	1,099	517	60	27	2,050
India	415	604	530	365	482	2,396
Indonesia	145	184	139	147	151	766
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	550	1,346	1,219	1,133	4,485	8,733
Iraq	2,472	1,930	1,280	3,607	12,776	22,065
Ireland	19	15	12	12	22	80

Country /Territory of origin	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Israel	33	64	15	12	4	128
Italy	17	7	21	12	36	93
Jamaica	17	13	17	13	7	67
Japan	4	7	2	5	–	18
Jordan	66	68	99	66	96	395
Kazakhstan	207	182	147	84	64	684
Kenya	75	68	48	118	77	386
Kiribati	–	1	–	–	–	1
Kuwait	1	2	2	7	17	29
Kyrgyzstan	119	123	81	103	74	500
Lao People's Democratic Republic	4	1	2	–	–	7
Latvia	5	5	16	3	3	32
Lebanon	95	60	143	172	954	1,424
Lesotho	–	–	–	1	3	4
Liberia	15	34	18	78	146	291
Libya	50	80	82	–	–	212
Liechtenstein	–	–	5	–	–	5
Lithuania	11	4	15	13	10	53
Madagascar	9	1	15	4	5	34
Malawi	3	15	12	20	62	112
Malaysia	42	20	21	22	81	186
Mali	32	173	126	719	408	1,458
Malta	1	–	3	12	7	23
Mauritania	18	35	14	6	12	85
Mauritius	37	58	31	21	8	155
Mexico	190	56	45	13	16	320
Mongolia	527	458	541	778	704	3,008
Montenegro	127	83	174	675	1,936	2,995
Morocco	523	482	416	308	1,395	3,124
Mozambique	11	9	7	6	3	36
Myanmar	48	72	137	815	77	1,149
Namibia	2	34	17	2	2	57
Nepal	202	205	136	136	274	953
Netherlands	10	8	5	2	7	32
New Zealand	3	3	2	2	3	13
Nicaragua	23	25	35	49	50	182
Niger	48	31	30	37	48	194
Nigeria	689	914	609	725	624	3,561
Norway	4	–	14	1	9	28
Oman	–	1	–	–	–	1
Pakistan	4,324	5,606	3,860	1,927	1,278	16,995
Panama	7	3	3	1	4	18

Country /Territory of origin	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Papua New Guinea	2	2	13	6	11	34
Paraguay	60	49	75	57	92	333
Peru	149	183	207	48	63	650
Philippines	132	244	198	231	188	993
Poland	65	52	44	35	43	239
Portugal	3	15	16	1	4	39
Qatar	–	–	1	5	1	7
Republic of Korea	16	45	57	26	54	198
Republic of Moldova	199	213	149	209	551	1,321
Romania	168	140	776	806	826	2,716
Russian Federation	2,607	5,048	4,538	2,120	2,058	16,371
Rwanda	40	35	21	18	16	130
Saint Kitts and Nevis	–	1	–	–	1	2
Saint Lucia	13	39	23	–	–	75
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	–	52	12	–	0	64
Samoa	4	1	1	1	1	8
Sao Tome and Principe	23	14	7	6	3	53
Saudi Arabia	4	5	–	7	9	25
Senegal	201	328	283	743	1,527	3,082
Serbia	3,917	3,933	4,570	6,659	6,978	26,057
Kosovo/UNSC 1244	1,334	1,542	1,546	9,908	5,889	20,219
Seychelles	1	1	–	–	–	2
Sierra Leone	29	37	23	32	97	218
Singapore	4	1	11	–	–	16
Slovakia	141	181	188	114	41	665
Slovenia	10	–	1	2	–	13
Solomon Islands	–	–	1	2	1	4
Somalia	1,005	14	13	45	184	1,261
South Africa	36	20	38	18	19	131
South Sudan	120	74	–	–	–	194
Spain	12	9	21	14	19	75
Sri Lanka	847	409	374	415	423	2,468
Sudan	276	161	216	215	231	1,099
Suriname	46	56	58	33	25	218
Swaziland	–	3	2	–	2	7
Sweden	14	12	10	4	11	51
Switzerland	5	–	3	–	–	8
Syrian Arab Republic	13	–	–	–	–	13
Tajikistan	45	49	77	122	104	397
Thailand	17	24	22	26	41	130
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1,872	2,526	2,387	3,134	4,986	14,905
Timor–Leste	–	1	–	–	–	1

Country /Territory of origin	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total 2012–2016
Togo	26	74	31	21	36	188
Tonga	–	2	1	10	6	19
Trinidad and Tobago	8	5	–	1	2	16
Tunisia	451	609	139	79	109	1,387
Turkey	371	256	276	180	172	1,255
Turkmenistan	89	74	4	14	4	185
Turks and Caicos Islands	3	–	–	–	1	4
Tuvalu	–	–	–		1	1
Uganda	62	51	70	71	61	315
Ukraine	677	789	970	2,210	3,438	8,084
United Arab Emirates	1	8	2	11	5	27
United Kingdom	41	59	50	32	31	213
United Republic of Tanzania	47	50	35	43	39	214
United States of America	137	32	41	22	37	269
Uruguay	39	42	33	25	22	161
Uzbekistan	200	159	190	221	77	847
Vanuatu	–	–	5	–	–	5
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	34	45	34	40	57	210
Viet Nam	215	251	179	265	130	1,040
Yemen	40	46	29	21	–	136
Zambia	8	4	4	9	31	56
Zimbabwe	35	5	12	20	46	118
Palestinian Territories	60	41	21	36	10	168
Total	41,605	46,232	43,785	69,540	98,403	299,566

ANNEX 4: Main return flows for AVRR, by host countries and territories, 2016

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Albania	Philippines						
	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Australia	Sri Lanka	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Malaysia	India	Republic of Korea	Others	
	227	105	67	66	44	454	963
Austria	Iraq	Afghanistan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Serbia	Russian Federation	Others	
	1,396	593	580	299	283	1,661	4,812
Azerbaijan	Philippines	China					
	2	1	–	–	–	–	3
Belgium	Iraq	Ukraine	Romania	Brazil	Russian Federation	Others	
	1,062	646	596	227	167	1,419	4,117
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Colombia						
	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Botswana	Zimbabwe	Kenya	Uganda				
	4	1	1	–	–	–	6
Brazil	Georgia	Colombia					
	3	1	–	–	–	–	4
Bulgaria	Afghanistan	Iraq	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Algeria	Ukraine	Others	
	276	237	52	21	12	37	635
Burkina Faso	Sri Lanka						
	3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Cabo Verde	Guinea	Nigeria	Liberia				
	2	2	1	–	–	–	5
Cambodia	Viet Nam						
	4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Cameroon	Sri Lanka	Botswana					
	3	2	–	–	–	–	5
Chile	Colombia	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	China	Ecuador			
	3	2	1	1	–	–	7
China	Cambodia	Colombia	Congo	Belarus	Indonesia	Others	
	20	14	9	4	4	13	64
Hong Kong, China	Sri Lanka	Uganda	Afghanistan				
	4	2	1	–	–	–	7

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Costa Rica	Haiti	Brazil	Nicaragua	Colombia	Pakistan	Others	
	13	9	2	1	1	1	27
Côte d'Ivoire	Nigeria						
	8	–	–	–	–	–	8
Cyprus	India	Bangladesh	Philippines	Viet Nam	Sierra Leone	Others	
	24	12	10	10	8	21	85
Czech Republic	Ukraine	Viet Nam	Republic of Moldova	Uganda	Uzbekistan	Others	
	93	20	16	13	9	58	209
Denmark	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iraq	Russian Federation	Afghanistan	Ukraine	Others	
	197	67	58	48	47	114	531
Djibouti	Ethiopia	Somalia	Zambia				
	1,713	69	21	–	–	–	1,803
Dominican Republic	Haiti	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Colombia				
	471	24	7	–	–	–	502
Ecuador	Colombia						
	2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Egypt	Ethiopia	Sudan	Comoros	Nigeria	Guinea	Others	
	219	128	29	27	22	77	502
El Salvador	Argentina						
	2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Estonia	Ukraine	Lebanon	United States of America	Armenia	Iraq	Others	
	14	5	5	4	3	9	40
Fiji	Ukraine						
	5	–	–	–	–	–	5
Finland	Iraq	Albania	Afghanistan	Kosovo / UNSC 1244	Russian Federation	Others	
	1,530	147	144	40	34	221	2,116
Gabon	Togo	Benin	Nigeria				
	2	1	1	–	–	–	4
Georgia	Nigeria	Ukraine	Sri Lanka	Russian Federation	Côte d'Ivoire	Others	
	16	7	6	4	3	18	54
Germany	Albania	Serbia	Iraq	Kosovo/ UNSC 1244	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Others	
	16,831	6,138	5,657	5,397	4,576	15,407	54,006
Ghana	Philippines						
	1	–	–	–	–	–	1

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Greece	Afghanistan	Morocco	Iraq	Pakistan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Others	
	1,257	1,081	1,080	706	622	1,407	6,153
Guinea	Liberia						
	25	–	–	–	–	–	25
Guinea–Bissau	Guinea	Ghana					
	28	7	–	–	–	–	35
Guyana	Brazil	Dominican Republic	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)				
	9	2	1	–	–	–	12
Hungary	Pakistan	Morocco	Algeria	Albania	Iraq	Others	
	10	9	7	6	6	27	65
Iceland	Albania	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Azerbaijan			
	18	9	2	1	–	–	30
India	United Republic of Tanzania	–	–	–	–	–	
	1						1
Indonesia	Iraq	Afghanistan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Myanmar	Sri Lanka	Others	
	147	123	87	71	67	189	684
Iraq	Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Nepal				
	2	2	1	–	–	–	5
Ireland	Brazil	Romania	Malawi	Bangladesh	South Africa	Others	
	46	22	11	6	6	52	143
Italy	Nigeria	Peru	Senegal	Bangladesh	Egypt	Others	
	15	13	11	10	10	86	145
Japan	Philippines	Thailand	Indonesia	Argentina	Cambodia	Others	
	17	9	3	2	1	2	34
Jordan	Kenya	Philippines	Sudan	Bangladesh			
	24	7	5	1	–	–	37
Kazakhstan	Republic of Moldova						
	4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Kenya	Ethiopia	Nepal					
	7	2	–	–	–	–	9
Kuwait	Nepal	Mauritania	Nigeria	Cameroon	Côte d'Ivoire	Others	
	19	2	2	1	1	1	26
Latvia	Iraq	Ukraine	Uzbekistan	Republic of Moldova	Georgia	Others	
	35	13	7	5	4	11	75

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Lebanon	Gambia 7	Nepal 4	Kenya 1	–	–	–	12
Libya	Nigeria 23	Bangladesh 1	Djibouti 1	Ethiopia 1	Kenya 1	–	27
Lithuania	Ukraine 14	Belarus 11	Azerbaijan 10	Russian Federation 6	Armenia 5	Others 23	69
Malawi	Ethiopia 405	–	–	–	–	–	405
Malaysia	Nepal 33	Sri Lanka 19	Cambodia 5	Nigeria 1	Uganda 1	Others 1	60
Mali	Sri Lanka 2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Malta	Ghana 3	India 2	Mali 2	Niger 2	Chad 1	Others 4	14
Mauritania	Côte d'Ivoire 26	Sierra Leone 22	Democratic Republic of the Congo 3	Cameroon 1	–	–	52
Mexico	Colombia 5	–	–	–	–	–	5
Mongolia	Nigeria 3	Gambia 1	Uganda 1	–	–	–	5
Montenegro	Bangladesh 3	Algeria 1	–	–	–	–	4
Morocco	Guinea 596	Cameroon 201	Côte d'Ivoire 166	Senegal 105	Mali 54	Others 137	1,259
Mozambique	Ethiopia 24	Malawi 8	United Republic of Tanzania 3	Democratic Republic of the Congo 1	–	–	36
Myanmar	Nigeria 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Netherlands	Albania 778	Ukraine 526	Iraq 499	Mongolia 449	Serbia 445	Others 1,938	4,635
Nicaragua	Colombia 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Niger	Senegal 1,303	Guinea 1,138	Guinea–Bissau 425	Gambia 391	Cameroon 376	Others 1,155	4,788
Norway	Iraq 777	Afghanistan 203	Iran (Islamic Republic of) 91	Lebanon 78	Russian Federation 45	Others 265	1,459

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Oman	Nepal 5	–	–	–	–	–	5
Pakistan	Bangladesh 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Panama	Colombia 3	Nicaragua 3	Peru 3	–	–	–	9
Papua New Guinea	India 2	Congo 1	Ghana 1	Pakistan 1	–	–	5
Paraguay	Colombia 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Poland	Ukraine 456	Russian Federation 252	Georgia 12	Viet Nam 9	Armenia 6	Others 55	790
Portugal	Brazil 52	Cabo Verde 4	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 4	Sao Tome and Principe 3	Angola 1	Others 3	67
Qatar	Nepal 27	–	–	–	–	–	27
Republic of Korea	Colombia 1	Nigeria 1	Uganda 1	–	–	–	3
Romania	Philippines 30	Morocco 24	Kosovo / UNSC 1244 8	Republic of Moldova 7	Algeria 5	Others 37	111
Russian Federation	Nigeria 26	Republic of Moldova 24	Uzbekistan 24	Ukraine 17	Kyrgyzstan 11	Others 24	126
Saint Lucia	Nepal 12	–	–	–	–	–	12
Saudi Arabia	Nepal 79	–	–	–	–	–	79
Senegal	Sierra Leone 2	Togo 2	Sri Lanka 1	Zambia 1	–	–	6
Serbia	Iran (Islamic Republic of) 16	Morocco 16	Iraq 10	Algeria 5	Afghanistan 3	Others 3	53
Singapore	Viet Nam 4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Slovakia	Iraq 70	Algeria 9	Ukraine 9	Cuba 3	Peru 3	Others 21	115
Slovenia	Iraq 18	Afghanistan 15	Iran (Islamic Republic of) 10	India 6	Bangladesh 3	Others 10	62

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Somalia	Ethiopia 218	Sri Lanka 1	–	–	–	–	219
South Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo 85	Malawi 43	Burundi 28	Zimbabwe 26	Ghana 22	Others 34	238
Spain	Colombia 97	Honduras 97	Paraguay 81	Brazil 50	Nicaragua 42	Others 296	663
Sri Lanka	Côte d'Ivoire 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Sudan	Ethiopia 89	Nigeria 67	Niger 5	Nepal 4	Democratic Republic of the Congo 3	Others 13	181
Sweden	Bulgaria 9	Romania 1	–	–	–	–	10
Switzerland	Iraq 111	Guinea 38	Afghanistan 37	Kosovo / UNSC 1244 26	Mongolia 24	Others 277	513
Syrian Arab Republic	Republic of Moldova 6	Nepal 1	–	–	–	–	7
Thailand	Sri Lanka 17	Pakistan 15	Colombia 2	Côte d'Ivoire 2	Nigeria 2	Others 3	41
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Iraq 29	Egypt 1	Iran (Islamic Republic of) 1	Morocco 1	–	–	32
Togo	Sri Lanka 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Tunisia	Côte d'Ivoire 26	–	–	–	–	–	26
Turkey	Afghanistan 799	Pakistan 246	Kyrgyzstan 22	Mongolia 15	Uganda 12	Others 102	1,196
Uganda	Congo 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Ukraine	Republic of Moldova 16	–	–	–	–	–	16
United Arab Emirates	Nepal 11	Republic of Moldova 4	–	–	–	–	15
United Kingdom	Hungary 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
United Republic of Tanzania	Kenya 2	Congo 1	–	–	–	–	3

Host country/territory	Top 5 countries/territories of origin					Other countries	Total number of returns
Uruguay	Dominican Republic 7	–	–	–	–	–	7
United States of America	Republic of Korea 1	Thailand 1	–	–	–	–	2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	El Salvador 4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Yemen	Ethiopia 2,578	Somalia 16	–	–	–	–	2,594
Zambia	Ethiopia 300	Philippines 4	–	–	–	–	304
Zimbabwe	Mauritius 1	–	–	–	–	–	1

ANNEX 5: Main return flows for AVRR, by countries and territories of origin, 2016

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Afghanistan	Germany 3,319	Greece 1,257	Turkey 799	Austria 593	Bulgaria 276	Others 858	7,102
Albania	Germany 16,831	Netherlands 778	Finland 147	Belgium 102	Austria 56	Others 62	17,976
Algeria	Greece 174	Germany 125	Netherlands 37	Belgium 32	Bulgaria 21	Others 48	437
Angola	Belgium 6	Germany 5	Netherlands 4	Romania 4	Spain 3	Others 6	28
Antigua and Barbuda	South Africa 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Argentina	Spain 27	Belgium 4	El Salvador 2	Ireland 2	Japan 2	Others 3	40
Armenia	Germany 245	Netherlands 63	Belgium 53	Austria 35	Denmark 10	Others 31	437
Australia	Germany 3	Austria 1	Poland 1	–	–	–	5
Azerbaijan	Germany 237	Netherlands 17	Austria 12	Belgium 10	Lithuania 10	Others 9	295
Bahrain	Germany 8	–	–	–	–	–	8
Bangladesh	Greece 155	Indonesia 59	Germany 49	Australia 14	Belgium 12	Others 71	360
Belarus	Germany 71	Denmark 21	Netherlands 15	Austria 14	Lithuania 11	Others 33	165
Belgium	Australia 3	Austria 1	–	–	–	–	4
Benin	Niger 25	Germany 5	Belgium 2	Egypt 2	Italy 2	Others 2	38
Bhutan	Australia 2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Spain 29	Netherlands 8	Switzerland 5	Ireland 4	Chile 2	Others 5	53
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany 1,448	Netherlands 204	Austria 63	Finland 21	Belgium 6	Others 11	1,753

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Botswana	Ireland 4	Cameroon 2	Germany 2	Australia 1	–	–	9
Brazil	Belgium 227	Netherlands 82	Portugal 52	Spain 50	Ireland 46	Others 39	496
Bulgaria	Austria 43	Spain 30	Belgium 22	Sweden 9	Germany 8	Others 16	128
Burkina Faso	Niger 108	Morocco 21	Egypt 6	Germany 6	Netherlands 3	Others 8	152
Burundi	South Africa 28	Belgium 3	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	32
Cabo Verde	Portugal 4	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	–	5
Cambodia	Indonesia 59	China 20	Malaysia 5	Australia 2	Finland 1	Others 2	89
Cameroon	Niger 376	Morocco 201	Belgium 15	Germany 7	Finland 4	Others 27	630
Canada	Australia 9	Germany 3	Netherlands 2	Austria 1	–	–	15
Central African Republic	Egypt 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Chad	Niger 17	Germany 8	Egypt 5	Belgium 2	Denmark 1	Others 3	36
Chile	Spain 38	Austria 10	Switzerland 6	Belgium 4	Netherlands 3	Others 8	69
China	Germany 136	Austria 105	Netherlands 103	Greece 24	Australia 20	Others 27	415
Hong Kong, China	Australia 4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Colombia	Spain 97	China 14	Netherlands 14	Australia 8	Dominican Republic 7	Others 28	168
Comoros	Egypt 29	Sudan 1	–	–	–	–	30
Congo	Morocco 13	China 9	Germany 2	Greece 2	South Africa 2	Others 7	35
Costa Rica	Spain 2	Belgium 1	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	4

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Côte d'Ivoire	Niger 342	Morocco 166	Mauritania 26	Tunisia 26	Egypt 8	Others 19	587
Croatia	Austria 16	–	–	–	–	–	16
Cuba	Slovakia 3	Hungary 2	Spain 2	Australia 1	Austria 1	Others 5	14
Czech Republic	Belgium 6	Australia 1	–	–	–	–	7
Democratic Republic of the Congo	South Africa 85	Belgium 25	Morocco 4	Greece 3	Mauritania 3	Others 11	131
Denmark	Austria 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Djibouti	Belgium 8	Norway 2	Germany 1	Libya 1	–	–	12
Dominican Republic	Greece 36	Turkey 9	Uruguay 7	Spain 3	Austria 2	Others 6	63
Ecuador	Spain 12	Switzerland 9	Italy 4	Austria 1	Belgium 1	Others 3	30
Egypt	Greece 92	Germany 54	Netherlands 16	Belgium 14	Austria 12	Others 34	222
El Salvador	Spain 12	Belgium 8	Italy 6	Netherlands 6	Germany 5	Others 6	43
Equatorial Guinea	Spain 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Eritrea	Switzerland 3	Norway 2	Germany 1	Netherlands 1	–	–	7
Estonia	Australia 5	Austria 3	Norway 2	Denmark 1	–	–	11
Ethiopia	Yemen 2,578	Djibouti 1,713	Malawi 405	Zambia 300	Egypt 219	Others 460	5,675
Fiji	Australia 22	–	–	–	–	–	22
Finland	Australia 5	–	–	–	–	–	5
France	Australia 5	Austria 1	–	–	–	–	6

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Gabon	Germany 3	Morocco 2	–	–	–	–	5
Gambia	Niger 391	Germany 12	Morocco 11	Lebanon 7	Austria 5	Others 24	450
Georgia	Germany 813	Greece 552	Belgium 122	Netherlands 72	Austria 77	Others 67	1,703
Germany	Austria 5	Australia 3	Greece 2	–	–	–	10
Ghana	Niger 38	Germany 31	Netherlands 22	South Africa 22	Belgium 8	Others 54	175
Greece	Germany 13	Australia 2	Finland 2	Austria 1	–	–	18
Guatemala	Spain 6	Austria 2	Denmark 1	Italy 1	–	–	10
Guinea	Niger 1,138	Morocco 596	Switzerland 38	Guinea–Bissau 28	Egypt 22	Others 46	1,868
Guinea–Bissau	Niger 425	Germany 2	Morocco 2	Portugal 1	Switzerland 1	–	431
Guyana	Ireland 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Haiti	Dominican Republic 471	Costa Rica 13	Greece 1	–	–	–	485
Honduras	Spain 97	Switzerland 4	Belgium 3	Australia 1	Italy 1	Others 1	107
Hungary	Netherlands 8	Switzerland 6	Belgium 4	Germany 3	Austria 2	Others 4	27
India	Germany 216	Australia 66	Greece 51	Austria 40	Cyprus 24	Others 85	482
Indonesia	Netherlands 117	Australia 14	Turkey 7	Greece 5	China 4	Others 4	151
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Germany 2,307	Greece 622	Austria 580	Netherlands 314	Denmark 197	Others 465	4,485
Iraq	Germany 5,657	Finland 1,530	Austria 1,396	Greece 1,080	Belgium 1,062	Others 2,051	12,776
Ireland	Australia 21	South Africa 1	–	–	–	–	22

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Israel	Austria 2	Germany 2	–	–	–	–	4
Italy	Austria 18	Australia 10	Germany 5	Netherlands 2	Denmark 1	–	36
Jamaica	Netherlands 5	Australia 1	Turkey 1	–	–	–	7
Jordan	Germany 41	Greece 18	Netherlands 8	Australia 6	Austria 5	Others 18	96
Kazakhstan	Germany 14	Belgium 13	Austria 8	Netherlands 7	Lithuania 5	Others 17	64
Kenya	Jordan 24	Australia 14	Greece 7	Netherlands 7	Belgium 5	Others 20	77
Kuwait	Austria 11	Germany 4	Australia 1	Netherlands 1	–	–	17
Kyrgyzstan	Turkey 22	Russian Federation 11	Germany 10	Belgium 8	Czech Republic 7	Others 16	74
Latvia	Belgium 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Lebanon	Germany 658	Norway 78	Greece 64	Belgium 41	Austria 40	Others 73	954
Lesotho	South Africa 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Liberia	Niger 97	Guinea 25	Morocco 18	Germany 3	Cabo Verde 1	Others 2	146
Lithuania	Austria 8	Ireland 2	–	–	–	–	10
Madagascar	Germany 2	Sudan 2	Bulgaria 1	–	–	–	5
Malawi	South Africa 43	Ireland 11	Mozambique 8	–	–	–	62
Malaysia	Australia 67	Germany 5	Netherlands 5	Ireland 2	Austria 1	Others 1	81
Mali	Niger 333	Morocco 54	Egypt 7	Germany 6	Malta 2	Others 6	408
Malta	Australia 6	Germany 1	–	–	–	–	7

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Mauritania	Belgium 6	Kuwait 2	Niger 2	Egypt 1	Norway 1	–	12
Mauritius	Ireland 5	Austria 1	Belgium 1	Zimbabwe 1	–	–	8
Mexico	Spain 4	Finland 2	Netherlands 2	Norway 2	Austria 1	Others 5	16
Mongolia	Netherlands 449	Belgium 156	Austria 34	Switzerland 24	Turkey 15	Others 26	704
Montenegro	Germany 1,899	Netherlands 14	Austria 13	Belgium 9	Poland 1	–	1,936
Morocco	Greece 1,081	Germany 113	Belgium 49	Netherlands 44	Austria 28	Others 80	1,395
Mozambique	South Africa 2	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	–	3
Myanmar	Indonesia 71	Australia 2	Netherlands 2	Finland 1	Japan 1	–	77
Namibia	Germany 1	South Africa 1	–	–	–	–	2
Nepal	Saudi Arabia 79	Malaysia 33	Qatar 27	Australia 19	Kuwait 19	Others 97	274
Netherlands	Austria 4	Australia 2	South Africa 1	–	–	–	7
New Zealand	Australia 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Nicaragua	Spain 42	Panama 3	Costa Rica 2	Denmark 1	Germany 1	Others 1	50
Niger	Belgium 16	Morocco 10	Egypt 7	Sudan 5	Netherlands 3	Others 7	48
Nigeria	Niger 133	Germany 79	Sudan 67	Austria 41	Morocco 41	Others 263	624
Norway	Australia 7	Austria 2	–	–	–	–	9
Pakistan	Greece 706	Turkey 246	Germany 163	Austria 38	Australia 24	Others 101	1,278
Panama	Belgium 2	Netherlands 1	Spain 1	–	–	–	4

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Papua New Guinea	Australia 11	–	–	–	–	–	11
Paraguay	Spain 81	Switzerland 7	Belgium 3	Costa Rica 1	–	–	92
Peru	Australia 14	Spain 14	Italy 13	Netherlands 8	Belgium 4	Others 10	63
Philippines	Netherlands 45	Romania 30	Australia 29	Japan 17	Norway 11	Others 56	188
Poland	Austria 32	Australia 5	Belgium 3	Norway 2	Germany 1	–	43
Portugal	Austria 2	Australia 1	Ireland 1	–	–	–	4
Qatar	Norway 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Republic of Korea	Australia 44	Germany 8	Finland 1	United States of America 1	–	–	54
Republic of Moldova	Germany 353	Greece 47	Austria 30	Russian Federation 24	Czech Republic 16	Others 81	551
Romania	Belgium 596	Austria 187	Ireland 22	Spain 7	Switzerland 4	Others 10	826
Russian Federation	Germany 1,137	Austria 283	Poland 252	Belgium 167	Denmark 58	Others 161	2,058
Rwanda	Belgium 5	Norway 4	South Africa 4	Netherlands 2	Romania 1	–	16
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Samoa	Australia 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Sao Tome and Principe	Portugal 3	–	–	–	–	–	3
Saudi Arabia	Germany 5	Norway 3	Austria 1	–	–	–	9
Senegal	Niger 1,303	Morocco 105	Spain 33	Germany 26	Belgium 13	Others 47	1,527
Serbia	Germany 6,138	Netherlands 445	Austria 299	Belgium 37	Finland 24	Others 35	6,978

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Kosovo/UNSC 1244	Germany 5,397	Austria 203	Netherlands 122	Belgium 76	Finland 40	Others 51	5,889
Sierra Leone	Niger 45	Mauritania 22	Netherlands 9	Cyprus 8	Egypt 5	Others 8	97
Slovakia	Belgium 40	Germany 1	–	–	–	–	41
Solomon Islands	Australia 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Somalia	Djibouti 69	Switzerland 22	Germany 21	Indonesia 18	Yemen 16	Others 38	184
South Africa	Australia 7	Ireland 6	Netherlands 3	Belgium 1	Norway 1	Others 1	19
Spain	Austria 8	Germany 5	Australia 2	Denmark 1	Finland 1	Others 2	19
Sri Lanka	Australia 227	Indonesia 67	Switzerland 20	Malaysia 19	Thailand 17	Others 73	423
Sudan	Egypt 128	Germany 35	Indonesia 18	Netherlands 14	Norway 7	Others 29	231
Suriname	Netherlands 24	Turkey 1	–	–	–	–	25
Swaziland	Ireland 1	South Africa 1	–	–	–	–	2
Sweden	Australia 6	Germany 4	Austria 1	–	–	–	11
Tajikistan	Germany 74	Netherlands 11	Russian Federation 8	Latvia 4	Belgium 2	Others 5	104
Thailand	Japan 9	Australia 5	Germany 5	Denmark 4	Norway 4	Others 14	41
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Germany 4,576	Austria 154	Netherlands 145	Belgium 50	Switzerland 23	Others 38	4,986
Togo	Niger 12	Belgium 6	Morocco 6	Germany 5	Gabon 2	Others 5	36
Tonga	Australia 6	–	–	–	–	–	6
Trinidad and Tobago	Germany 1	Netherlands 1	–	–	–	–	2

Country/territory of Origin	Top 5 host countries/territories					Other countries	Total number of returns
Tunisia	Germany 33	Greece 27	Austria 10	Belgium 10	Netherlands 8	Others 21	109
Turkey	Germany 89	Austria 29	Belgium 16	Norway 13	Netherlands 9	Others 16	172
Turkmenistan	Georgia 3	Turkey 1	–	–	–	–	4
Turks and Caicos	Belgium 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Tuvalu	Belgium 1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Uganda	Czech Republic 13	Turkey 12	Netherlands 7	Norway 5	Switzerland 4	Others 20	61
Ukraine	Germany 1,284	Belgium 646	Netherlands 526	Poland 456	Austria 184	Others 342	3,438
United Arab Emirates	Norway 2	Belgium 1	Germany 1	Netherlands 1	–	–	5
United Kingdom	Australia 30	Austria 1	–	–	–	–	31
United Republic of Tanzania	Belgium 12	South Africa 5	China 3	Mozambique 3	Netherlands 3	Others 13	39
United States of America	Australia 18	Germany 9	Estonia 5	Belgium 1	Ireland 1	Others 3	37
Uruguay	Spain 17	Czech Republic 2	Greece 1	Norway 1	Switzerland 1	–	22
Uzbekistan	Russian Federation 24	Turkey 11	Czech Republic 9	Latvia 7	Netherlands 7	Others 19	77
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Dominican Republic 24	Spain 15	Austria 4	Portugal 4	Belgium 2	Others 8	57
Viet Nam	Germany 50	Czech Republic 20	Australia 10	Cyprus 10	Poland 9	Others 31	130
Zambia	Djibouti 21	Australia 6	South Africa 2	Denmark 1	Senegal 1	–	31
Zimbabwe	South Africa 26	Australia 11	Botswana 4	Netherlands 3	Belgium 1	Others 1	46
Palestinian Territories	Germany 8	Belgium 1	Finland 1	–	–	–	10

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IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM's mandate is to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to aid in the search for practical solutions to migration problems, and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, be they refugees, displaced persons or other uprooted people. The IOM Constitution gives explicit recognition of the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development as well as respect for the right of freedom of movement of persons.

IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. Cross–cutting activities include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

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