

April 2019



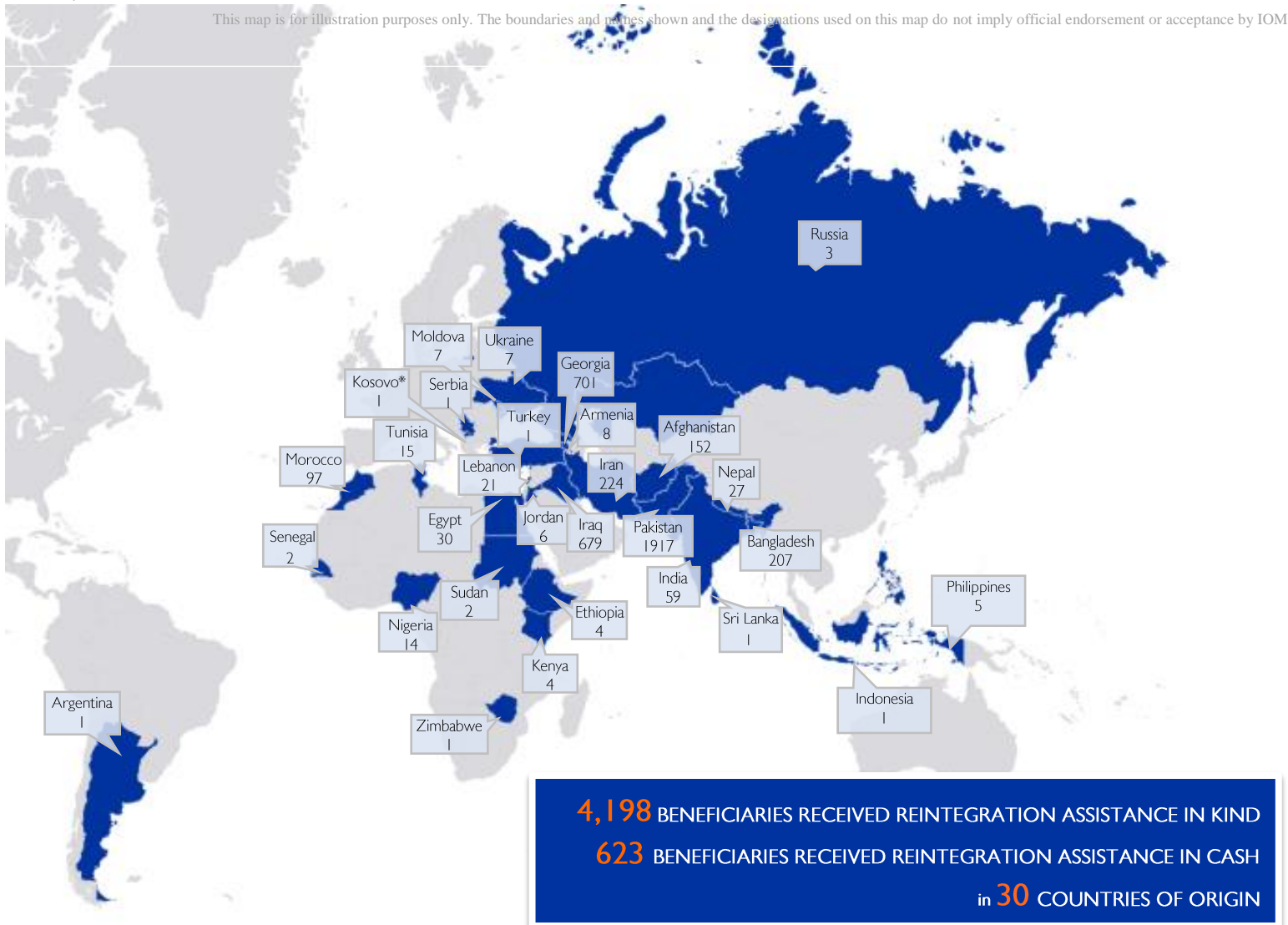
**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURNS INCLUDING REINTEGRATION MEASURES (AVRR)**

I June 2016 – 30 April 2019

IOM Greece through the AVRR programme provides reintegration assistance to project beneficiaries who return to their countries of origin, contributing to Greece’s comprehensive management of migration through facilitating the safe and dignified return of third-country nationals to their countries of origin.

Reintegration is a fundamental aspect of the return process and contributes to the sustainability of returns for all parties – migrants, the host countries and origin countries. According to IOM’s definition, **reintegration** can be defined as the re-inclusion or re-incorporation of a person into a group or process, for example, of a migrant into the society of his or her country of origin or habitual residence. Reintegration is thus a process that enables the returnee to participate again in the social, cultural, economic and political life of his or her country of origin. Beneficiaries of AVRR are informed by specialized personnel and cultural mediators, in order to follow personalized reintegration plans, based on their needs. AVRR programmes are implemented in cooperation with IOM offices, located in origin countries and benefit the returnees, the local societies and the reception countries.

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.



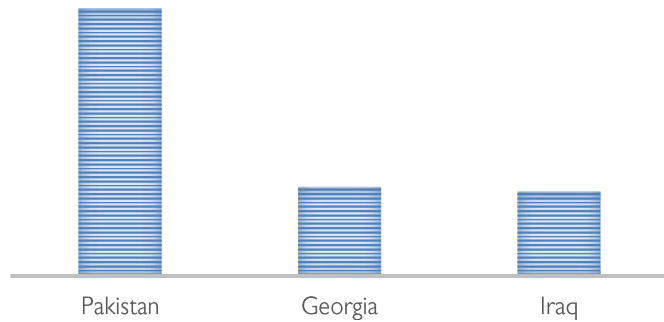
**4,198** BENEFICIARIES RECEIVED REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN KIND  
**623** BENEFICIARIES RECEIVED REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN CASH  
 in **30** COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

In April 2019, 217 returnees (184 men and 33 women) were benefited from in-kind reintegration assistance. The vast majority of them were nationals of Pakistan, Georgia and Iran.

From 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019, **4,821** beneficiaries originated from **30** countries have been assisted with reintegration assistance. Among them, **4,198** have received reintegration assistance in kind and **623** non-vulnerable returnees have been provided with an additional reintegration package that was given in cash, under a 6-month pilot scheme in 2017.

### TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



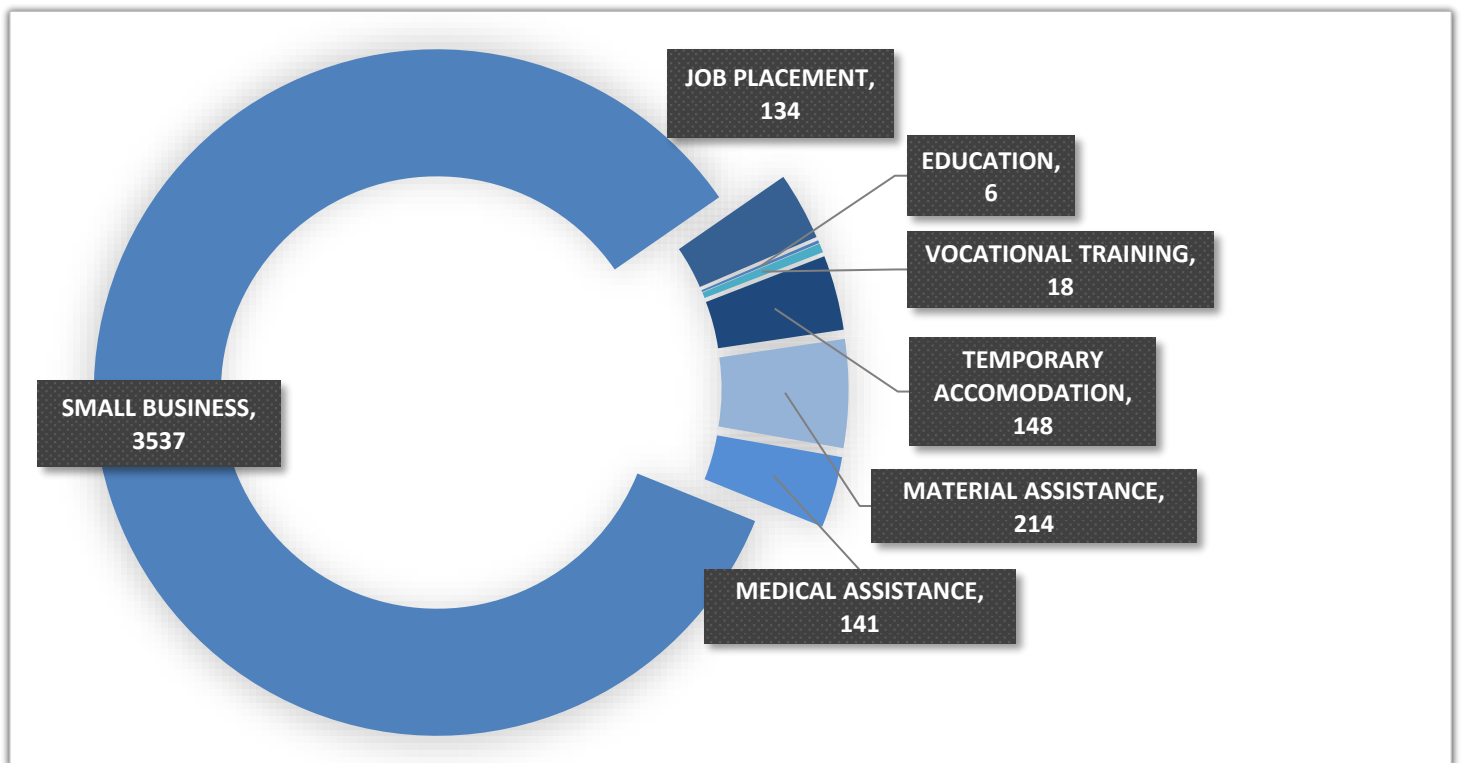
### GENDER BREAKDOWN

3,437  
MALE

761  
FEMALE

3,172  
VULNERABLE CASES  
Among M/F

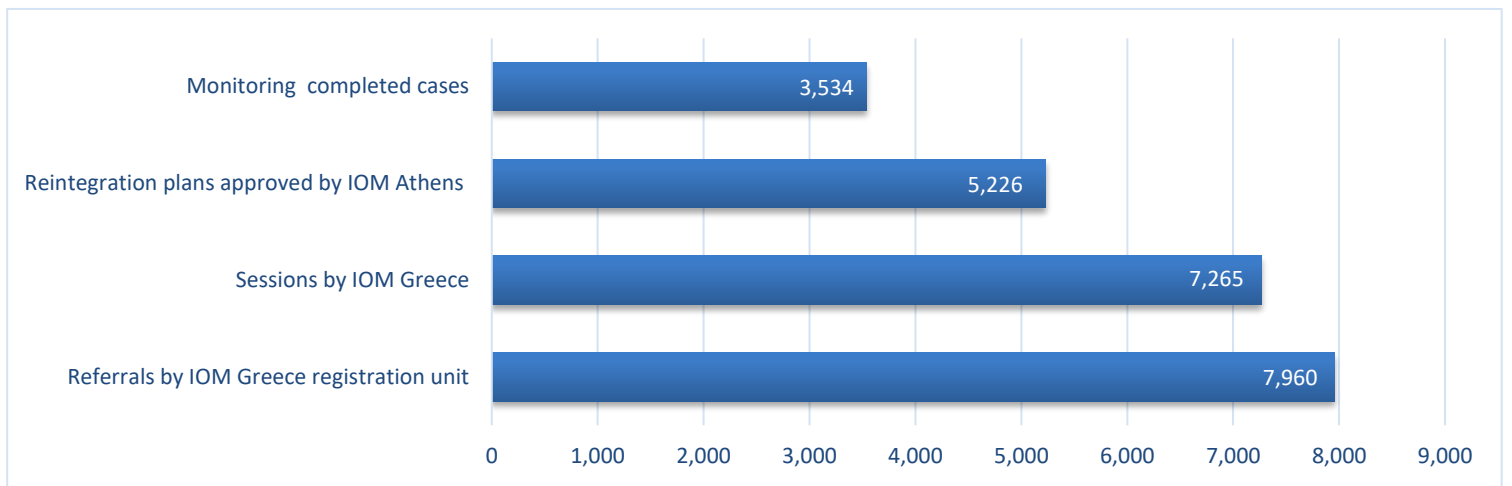
### TYPES OF ASSISTANCE IN KIND



With individual reintegration support, tailored packages have promoted the returnees' economic self-sufficiency and reinsertion in the local labor market while increasing returnees' skills. From June 2016 to April 2019, the vast majority of the project's beneficiaries (84%) decided to use the reintegration support in order to set up a small business.

8% of the project's beneficiaries were migrants who were able to get material and medical assistance upon their return to their countries of origin. Migrants who preferred to be assisted with temporary accommodation and job placement consisted the 7% of those who benefited with in-kind reintegration assistance during the reporting period.

Other types of reintegration assistance in kind including vocational training and education were preferred less by the eligible returnees.



The reintegration unit of IOM Greece, with the support of cultural mediators, conducted individual counselling sessions with the returnees in order to provide them with information regarding the implementation of reintegration plans in their countries of origin so as to facilitate successful long-term reintegration. During the reporting period, IOM Greece registration unit made 7,960 referrals to IOM Greece reintegration unit, which conducted 7,265 reintegration counselling sessions to assess eligibility for reintegration assistance and 5,226 reintegration plans approved by IOM Greece.

### New AVRR video - Reintegration assistance in kind

IOM Greece, in cooperation with IOM Georgia launched a new video under the AVRR programme emphasizing on the reintegration assistance, which is paramount to support returnees' economic self-sufficiency, social stability within their communities and psychosocial well-being.

This video showcases the stories of 3 Georgian citizens who were assisted to return voluntarily, in safety and dignity from Greece to their country of origin and were supported in achieving sustainable reintegration.

Watch the video [here](#):

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (AVRR) - Reintegration stories





The project is co-funded 75% by European Funds (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) and 25% by National Funds



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### Media Contacts

For media inquiries and other information, please contact the IOM Greece Media Department, [iomathensmedia@iom.int](mailto:iomathensmedia@iom.int)

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