

February 2019



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

I June 2016–28 February 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 programs are implemented in cooperation with IOM offices, located in origin countries and benefit the returnees, the local societies and the reception countries.

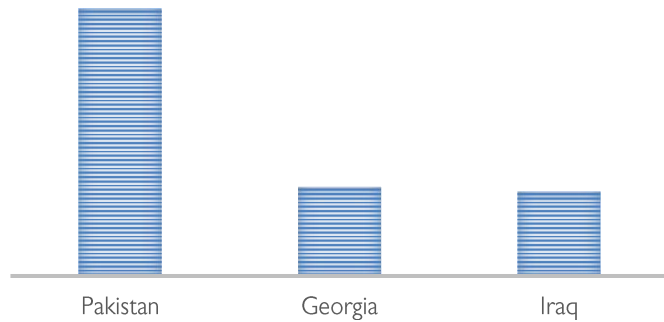


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In February 2019, 207 returnees (169 men and 38 women) were benefited from reintegration assistance in kind. The vast majority of them were nationals of Pakistan, Iraq and Iran.

From 1st June 2016 to 28th February 2019, 4,401 beneficiaries originated from 29 different countries have been assisted with reintegration assistance. Among them, 3,778 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

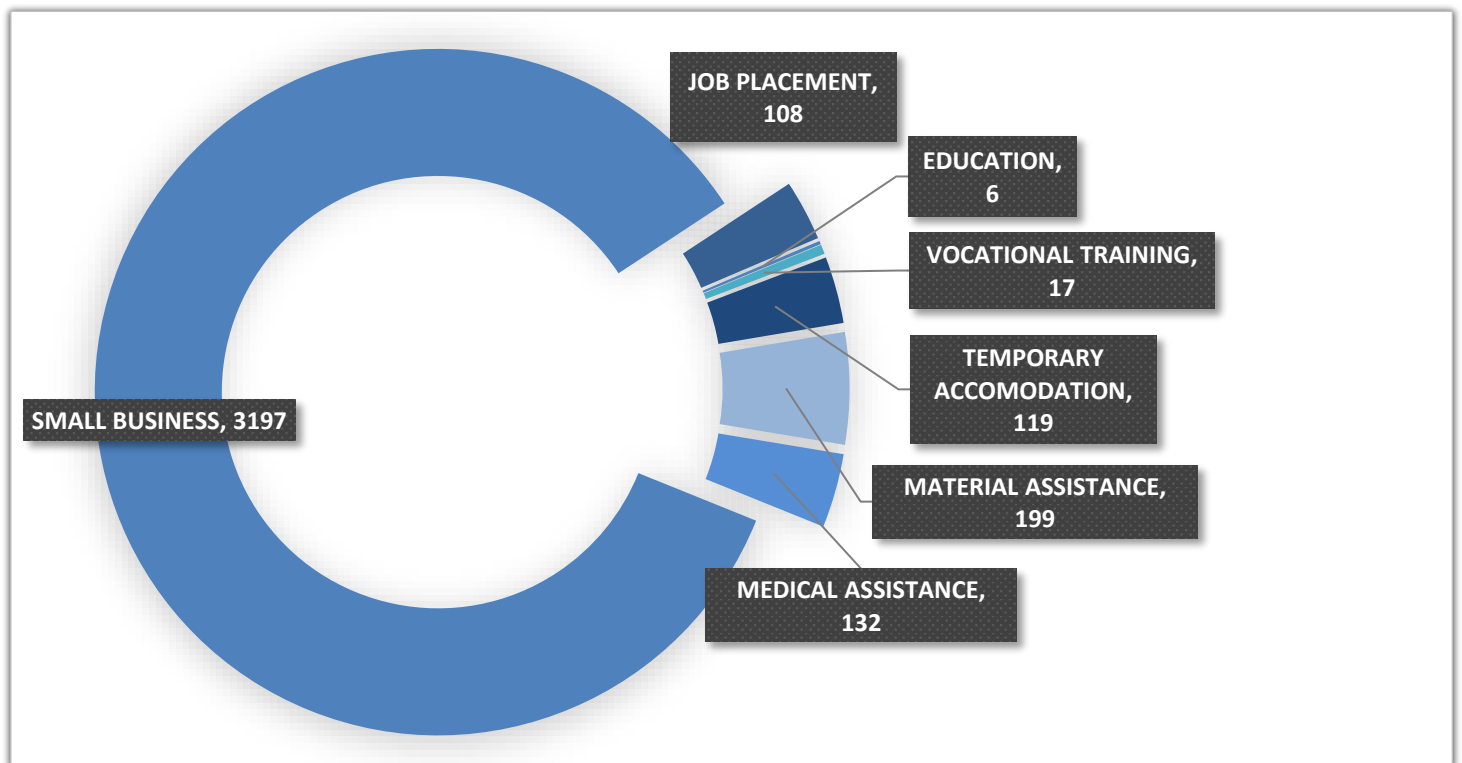
3,077
MALE

701
FEMALE

3,197
VULNERABLE CASES
Among M/F



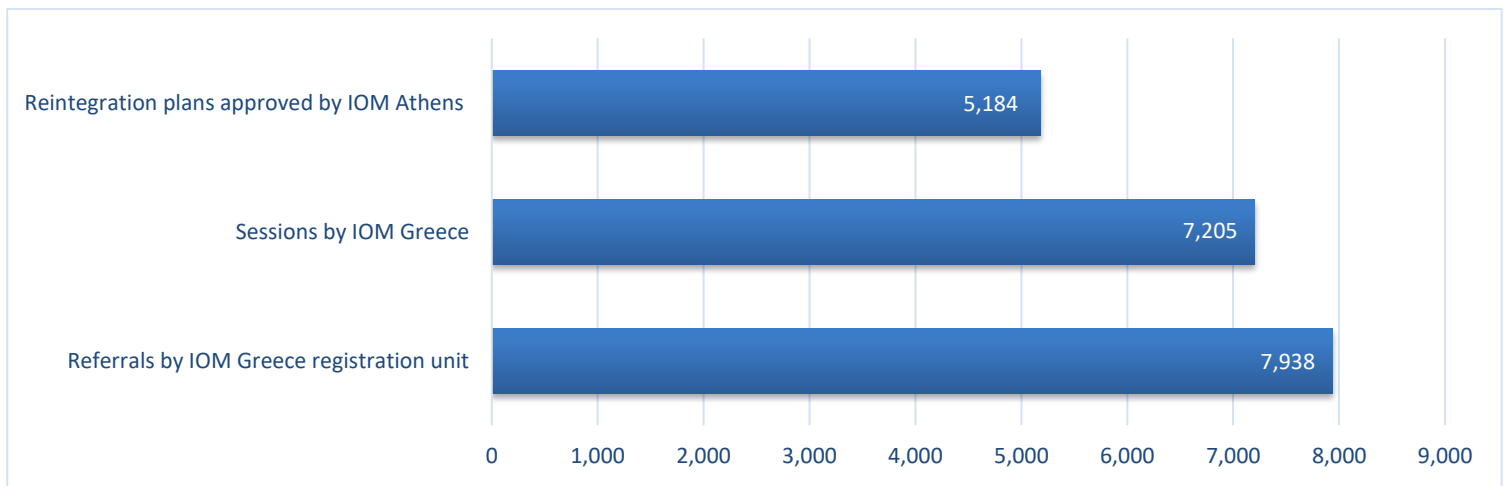
TYPES OF ASSISTANCE IN KIND



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 February 2019, the vast majority of the project's beneficiaries (85%) decided to use the reintegration support in order to set up a small business.

9% 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 6% 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 referred 7,938 cases to IOM Greece reintegration unit. The latter conducted 7,205 individual reintegration counselling sessions while 5,184 were considered eligible to receive in-kind reintegration assistance.

MONITORING VISIT TO BANGLADESH

In February 2019, IOM Mission in Greece conducted a monitoring visit to Bangladesh and specifically in the city Dhaka, in order to evaluate the progress of implemented reintegration plans of beneficiaries who were assisted through the AVRR programme carried out by IOM Greece.



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



Media Contacts

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