



Launch of the OECD Report

Sustainable Reintegration of Returning Migrants: A Better Homecoming

Date: 15 October 2020, 14:00-17:00

Conference supported by the

**German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development
and GIZ – German Corporation for International Cooperation**

Objectives of the Event

In recent years, assistance for reintegration of returning migrants has expanded in many OECD countries, both in terms of individual support and broader capacity building. Programmes have taken different approaches with different objectives. The OECD, working together with a number of OECD member countries and with support from GIZ, has examined how these new programmes are contributing to a more sustainable framework for supporting reintegration of returnees and the broader migration, asylum and development cooperation agendas in which they are usually situated.

The event, jointly organized by OECD and IOM, is an opportunity to present the findings of the Report and its recommendations. Policymakers, practitioners and other stakeholders in the reintegration framework will have an action-oriented discussion on how to implement the recommendations at different levels.

Agenda

14:00 Opening remarks

Stefan Oswald, Director General, Directorate-General 2: Marshall Plan with Africa, German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

Ulrich Weinbrenner, Director General of department for Migration, Refugees and Return Policy, (BMI) German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community

14:05 Opening remarks by Stefano Scarpetta, Director, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

14:10 Keynote speech on Reintegration by the Director General of IOM, Antonio Vitorino

14:20 Presentation of the main findings of the report by the OECD by Jonathan Chaloff, International Migration Division, OECD

14:40 Panel One: Better targeting of programmes - identifying the target population, matching programme benefits to expectation and promoting uptake

Programmes must balance the needs for standards, protocols and quality control with the need to take an individual approach to the situation of each returnee, each context and each partnership. At the same time, evidence suggests that for most returnees, reintegration assistance is just one of many factors affecting the return decision. Some migrants eligible for assistance return even without it. For others, outreach, counselling and even the scope of assistance affect return decisions. This panel addresses the question of how to identify those



individuals for whom reintegration assistance can make a difference in the return decision and reintegration outcome, and how to promote uptake of support for these individuals. It will also address the question of how to capture and understand the results of programmes on different participants and on the migration and asylum system as a whole.

Panellists:

- Christina Jespersen, Special Advisor on Migration Issues, Ministry of Immigration and Integration, Denmark
- James Martin, Senior Program Advisor, Canada Border Services Agency
- Henrik Malm Lindberg, Migration Studies Delegation, Sweden, and Associate Professor, Department of Economic History, Uppsala University

15:40 Break

15:50 Panel Two: New measures to ensure that programmes offering individual reintegration support and contribute to broader sustainability of reintegration in the origin country

Programmes must reconcile the individual reintegration support offered to returnees, whether arranged prior to return or following return, and the complex infrastructure to administer assistance, with the interest in strengthening the broader capacity of countries of origin to meet their responsibility to address the needs of all their citizens. But reintegration assistance in most origin countries involves relatively few individuals compared to the broader flows of migrants and the population as a whole. This panel will examine how the highly targeted initiatives can have effects beyond the immediate circumstances of returnees and their families. It will look at how to adapt programmes so that individual assistance is integrated into, and supports, origin country policy and institutions, and how partnerships can favour the capacity of local actors involved in reintegration. It will also address how to incorporate evaluation of the broader impact of reintegration assistance frameworks on other goals, including development of countries of origin and cooperation on migration management.

Panellists:

- Emmanuel Igbinosun, Deputy Director Department for Wages and Employment, Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment Nigeria
- Nicola Graviano, Senior Specialist, Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration, Migrant Protection and Assistance Division, International Organization for Migration
- Nassim Majidi, Research Associate, African Centre for Migration and Society, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa and Samuel Hall

16:50 Concluding remarks by Mark Pearson, Deputy Director, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

For information on the OECD report, please contact Return&Reintegration@oecd.org.