



Sidy, a returning migrant in Senegal, exchanges with his counsellor. Learn his story [here](#). © IOM 2022 / Beyond Borders Media

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Geographical coverage	Global
Donor	Sweden, Ministry of Justice
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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The overall objective of the RR P2P project is to mainstream a rights-based approach to return migration through the operationalisation of the principles and strategic objectives introduced by [IOM's Policy on the Full Spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration](#) (RRR Policy). The main outcome of the project is to support Governments and partners to adopt practices and advocate for a rights-based return and reintegration of migrants.

To this end, the RR P2P Project continues to promote engagement of migrants, their communities, and governments and fosters informed decision-making throughout the entire process of return and reintegration. In addition, the project continues to promote dialogue between host, transit, and countries of origin where stakeholders share good practices, challenges and jointly explore solutions for better return and reintegration programming.

### As a result:

- Governments are able to put into practice a migrant rights-centred and development-oriented approach to return migration through development of migrant sensitive migration policies;
- Governments, partners and IOM staff are better equipped to make evidence-based decisions and implement migrant sensitive return and reintegration programmes;
- There is increased advocacy and sensitization of rights of returning migrants and their communities.

This is achieved through the following mutually reinforcing outputs:

**Output 1.1:** Dialogue and coordination in the framework of IOM's Policy on the Full Spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration is facilitated among governments and partners.

Under this output, IOM organizes continuous dialogue and coordination to build in field experience and advocacy among partners. IOM is committed to continue its convening role and global advocacy on the principled approach to return, readmission, and reintegration through the RRR Policy. Specifically, IOM facilitates the engagement of a variety of actors – governmental and non-governmental, public and private, local and international – with different mandates and areas of expertise.

**Output 1.2:** Processes and guidelines on safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration are piloted in key countries and regions.

Based on its implementation, the RRR Policy aspires to set a standard for other actors to work towards a rights-compliant return migration and promote programmatic coherence through the internal facing Due Diligence Process. This will be achieved through the piloting of several initiatives on the Due Diligence Process, in coordination with governments and partners, which will convert the RRR Policy's principles into tangible actions. IOM will also operationalize global guidelines and tools including the

United Nations Network on Migration's (UNNM) [Return and Reintegration Checklist](#), in line with the newly adopted Strategic Collaboration Framework between IOM and UNICEF.

**Output 1.3: Capacity-development of government stakeholders, partners and IOM staff on safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration is promoted.**

Under this output, the RR P2P project contributes to the safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration operations and supports governments to uphold the rights of migrants within return migration programmes; in line with international human rights law, international humanitarian law, global standards and effective practices. Actions aims at setting benchmarks and developing guidelines on safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration, mainly through development of internal standards and guidelines for IOM staff and support governments with legislation, policy development, and improved practices. Synergies for roll-out of these materials through trainings are enhanced with IOM global and regional programs such as the Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration Program (MPRR) among others.

**Output 1.4: Evidence-based practices, research and learning exchanges are available and effectively distributed to governments and partners.**

Under this output, the project reinforces evidence and learning on return and reintegration to inform policy, programme design and implementation. This is undertaken through a pool of experts

working on broad range of topics, including complementary thematic areas as well as research and academia. Migrant protection considerations continue to be at the core of knowledge and learning exchanges. This include the development of tools to advocate for and implement meaningful action to ensure that migration is safer, more dignified, and better governed. All the knowledge and learning activities strive for a balance between harmonisation and local adaptation. Finally, a key component of this output involves dissemination and uptake of research and effective communication of research findings through IOM's Migrant Protection Platform, which ensures availability of easy-to-digest communication materials, such as briefs, videos, and podcasts.

Additionally, a monitoring and evaluation component is an integral part of the project structure to ensure continued revision of the methodology undertaken for the operationalization of IOM's RRR Policy, as well as continuous learning through the pilot efforts and dialogue with stakeholders. All this provides feedback for improvement at both technical and policy levels of return and reintegration programming as a continuous learning process.

## PROJECT UPDATES: JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2023

So far, within the framework of the Swedish funded RR P2P project, the following has been achieved.

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RETURN, READMISSION AND REINTEGRATION POLICY

The **Due Diligence Process (DDP)** forms part of IOM's effort to operationalize the [IOM's Policy on the Full Spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration](#) and contributes directly to compliance with several of its guiding principles. On 19 January 2023, an update meeting with Regional Thematic Specialists (RTS's) provided information on the planned rollout and implementation of the RR DDP package. Two global webinars on 25 January 2023 brought together over 300 IOM staff around the world. Between March and April 2023, three regional webinars were conducted in English, Spanish and French to ensure inclusivity and wide reach. The webinars covered an overview of the DDP package, case studies and field experience discussions between host and countries of origin, and practical integration of the DDP in the case management processes. Overall, over 200 IOM staff were engaged and contributed to the roll out of the DDP.

Between April and May 2023, the **DDP training materials** were developed and shared to facilitate regional and country level trainings. In addition, the DDP package which includes tools and user guide manuals is now available in French and Spanish ensuring wider reach and use.



Othmane, a returning migrant in Morocco, invested in sheep herding his reintegration seed capital. Learn his story [here](#). © IOM 2022 / Beyond Borders

## INTERREGIONAL BRIEFINGS SESSIONS

In 2023, IOM continued to play a key as a convener and facilitator of dialogue among Member States and various stakeholders and partners to build a common understanding and vision on the implementation of the IOM's [IOM's Policy on the full spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration](#). The Inter regional briefing sessions also provided opportunities to share good practices, raise awareness, lessons learnt and innovative ways to better protect and assist migrants in line with international law and standards. They also provided support to policymakers and practitioners to develop and coordinate joint actions in return and reintegration programming.

Between March and July 2023, two sessions on (i) *Return Counselling and Promoting Migrants' Protection and Decision-making* and (ii) *The Interlinkages between Sustainable Reintegration and Development* were held, bringing together over 240 Member States representatives from 95 countries globally.

Finally, on **9 November 2023**, a briefing on the *Whole-of-government approach* is scheduled with invitations extended to Member States globally.

On 5 and 6 June 2023, IOM hosted a **Return and Reintegration Strategic Workshop** in Geneva, bringing together 42 (31 female, 11 male) migrant protection staff including Regional Thematic Specialist, Regional focal points and HQ teams. Discussions focused on the

changing landscape of the return and reintegration and IOM's added value. The workshop concluded with several actions bolstering the IOM's Protection Pillars which were further expanded through an internal action document.

On 28 June 2023, IOM facilitated a discussion between the global **GCM Workstream on Return, Readmission and Reintegration (RRR)** of the UN Network on Migration and the LAC Regional network. IOM co-leads the global workstream together with UNICEF, UNHCR, and MPI.

Between 10 and 12 October 2023, IOM supported the organization of the **United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM) first peer learning exchange with Member States in the North and Central America Region on Safe, Dignified and Rights-based Return, Readmission, and Sustainable Reintegration** in Honduras. The event brought together over 50 participants from Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Mexico and Canada, and provided a platform for exchange of good practices and knowledge between government entities, UN agencies and civil society organizations working on migration. During the event, participants discussed the regional migration context and dynamics; child protection; gender dimension of migration; implementation of the UNNM Checklist for safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration and visited return centers in Honduras.



UNNM peer learning exchange in the North and Central America Region on Safe, Dignified and Rights-based Return, Readmission, and Sustainable Reintegration. © La Tribuna

## VIRTUAL COUNSELLING COMPONENT

In 2023, IOM continued to **expand virtual counselling structures** connecting migrants in host countries and counsellors in countries of origin. So far, IOM has established virtual counselling in 11 host countries and 17 countries of origin. Following which 78 initial counselling sessions have taken place benefiting 121 migrants; in addition, 43 follow up sessions have also taken place. As part of the virtual counselling outreach campaign through social media, IOM carried out digital campaigns in Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands reaching over 600,000 people. This provided information to potential migrants on the availability of virtual counselling and what it entails.

To ensure **continuous monitoring and learning**, IOM has conducted over 20 virtual trainings covering basic concepts of return counselling, establishment of virtual counselling structures and the standard operating procedures and the use of IOM's Community Response Map for monitoring and evaluation of counselling sessions. The Community Response Map is a monitoring and evaluation tool which provides general information on the vast network of virtual counsellors, their contact details and the information provided by each counsellor including indications of the language used for counselling.

On 14 June 2023, IOM launched a dedicated [Virtual Counselling](#) forum on the Community of Practice of the [Migrant Protection Platform](#) forum provides a learning space for counsellors and case managers in both host countries and countries of origin and encourages the joint exploration of solutions to the challenges experienced. Learn more and access the platform [here](#).

Finally, on 24 and 25 October 2023, a **Global Virtual Counselling Workshop** was held in Berlin bringing together 27 virtual counsellors and protection teams from over 10 countries globally. During the workshop, discussions covered good practices, challenges, and innovative ways of scaling up Virtual Counselling as a tool to promote migrant's access to accurate, unbiased and context specific information were discussed and explored.

Virtual counselling sessions conducted with migrants thus far have illustrated the benefits of information provision in identifying and mitigating protection risks among migrants before return. For example, eight (1 male, 7 female) migrants considering return to Brazil from Portugal participated in virtual counselling provided by IOM. During the counseling session, the migrants raised questions regarding the return process, documentation required and possibility of reintegration support. Following the counselling session, the migrants reported that they felt better informed of the situation of return in Brazil in order to make an informed decision.

## PROJECT CLOSING EVENT

On 23 November 2023, IOM in coordination with the Swedish Ministry of Justice organized the RR P2P Project closing event in Stockholm. The event brought together 26 representatives from the Swedish government, UN, Civil Society, and NGOs working in Sweden and provided a platform for exchange and information sharing on the rights-based approach to return and reintegration. As a closure to the event, a photo exhibition on return and sustainable reintegration stories was organized by IOM, following which the exhibition photos were donated to the Swedish Ministry of Justice.



Project closing event in Stockholm and photo exhibition. © IOM