

IOM Italy opens office in Milan for the Senegalese diaspora

In the framework of the West Africa's Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in Migration-Prone Areas project, financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IOM Italy has opened a **Bureau d'Appui aux Sénégalais de l'Extérieur (BASE)**, in partnership with the City of Milan and the Senegalese Embassy in Italy. Since 16 December 2016, the BASE team, which consists of four Senegalese office assistants and one Italian consultant, is on board. The Milan-based Office aims to orient those diaspora groups in Italy interested in investing in land management in Senegal through the provision of technical and financial services.



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Terra Munda supports migrant workers in Southern Italy

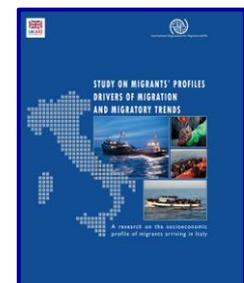
Two roving teams were deployed in Campania and Apulia to provide legal orientation to vulnerable migrants living in informal settlements and so-called "ghettos". So far, legal counselling concerning stay permit-related issues, employment conditions and protection procedures for victims of exploitation has been provided to over 320 migrants. Among them, 75 cases have been detected for specific assistance and/or referred to territorial services. On 2 December, almost half of the "Rignano Gran Ghetto" wooden shacks – the biggest informal settlement of migrant workers in Italy – went up in flames. The IOM team granted its support and coordinated the transfer of about 50 workers to a safe environment together with the representative of the regional government and the Italian Caritas' "Presidio" project. [Find out more about Terra Munda.](#)



The **Aware Migrants** campaign, financed by the Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Italian Ministry of the Interior and implemented by IOM, aims at informing potential migrants about the dangerous journey across the desert and the Mediterranean, with a strong focus on the risks faced in Libya. The campaign features migrants who themselves have made the journey, and it is run on social media (FB, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram). [Hear their stories.](#)

Assisted Voluntary Return activities

On 1 July 2016, IOM Italy launched the "RISTART – Sustainable Return through Reintegration Support" – financed within the FAMI 2014-2020 framework. The project grants assistance for voluntary assisted return to third-country nationals living in Italy contributing their reintegration through individual plans. In the first six months of the project implementation, 120 migrants of 30 different nationalities were assisted.



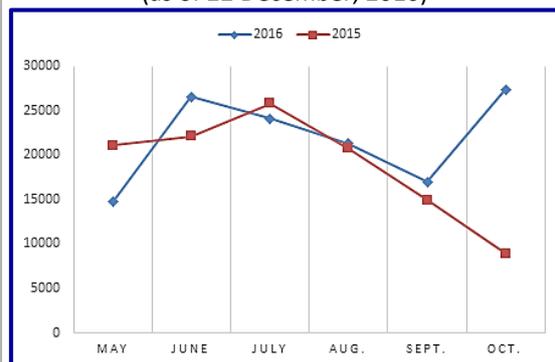
Assistance and Monitoring

In 2016, within the framework of the FAMI projects funded by the Ministry of Interior, IOM has been active in identifying vulnerable cases – especially victims of human trafficking – at landing points in Southern Italy. Moreover, IOM has also supported local institutions in monitoring migrant hosting facilities and services. [Read more.](#)

IOM Italy, with support from the UK Department for International Development (DfID) published a study on the socioeconomic profile of migrants in Italy, including their education level, previous work experience, professional aspirations and future employment prospects. [Download here.](#)

ARRIVALS IN ITALY

(as of 22 December, 2016)



- **179,525** migrants reached Italy by sea;
- They represents about 49% of total arrivals in Europe, this year;
- Among these, there are 23,261 women and 24,659 unaccompanied minors;
- The largest nationality groups are:
Nigeria: 36,352
Eritrea: 20,176
Guinea: 12,534
Ivory Coast: 11,556
Gambia: 11,384
- While en-route to Italy, 4,410 migrants died at sea.

THE BUZZ



Film festival – IOM Italy joined other 90 IOM Missions all over the world in the first edition of the Global Migration Film Festival. The Italian edition of the Festival was

hosted by the Cine Detour in Rome, where it was presented the documentary “Wallah – je te jure” produced by IOM Niger, and the short film “Il Potere dell’Oro Rosso” by the Italian NGO Fondazione CON IL SUD. [Read more.](#)



New partnership – On 6 December 2016, William L. Swing and Cesare G. Zucconi, Secretary General of the Community of

Sant’Egidio (CSE), signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which conferred CSE with the status of observer at the IOM Council. [Read more.](#)

IOM Italy to select the best Migraventure’s Business Ideas

Migraventure is a project that supports the African diaspora in Italy to create and consolidate businesses in the country of origins.

After the closing of the First Call for Business Ideas for the Migraventure project, IOM Italy is now selecting the best proposals among the 60 projects from 20 different African countries that were presented for the Call. [Read more.](#)



Updates on IOM Italy’s relocation and resettlement activities

This month marked a record of migrant departures within the “Relocation Scheme” project. From 20 November to 20 December, a total of 884 asylum seekers have benefited of the relocation from Italy to other European countries, including Norway and Switzerland.

The relocation beneficiaries are migrants who were residing at hosting centers in Sicily, Calabria, Apulia, and also in Bologna, Rome and Milan.

Since July 2016, 212 refugees from Lebanon, Turkey, Sudan and Jordan have been part of the resettlement program and transferred in Italy. Through this project, IOM supports those countries that host the largest number of refugees, and asylum seekers themselves.

[Read more.](#)



Workshops targeted to social workers in Italy

The Migration and socio-economic integration Unit at IOM Italy is organizing trainings and workshops for social workers who are participating to the **ADMin4ALL project**, which began in May 2016. After the workshops that took place in Milan, there will be a **new session** in Bari on 24 January and 7-8 February, and another in Florence from 2-9 and 23 February. [Read more.](#)

IOM Italy’s role within the RDPP Management Support Unit

Since the signature of the Grant Agreement on 13 July 2016 between the European Commission – DG HOME and the Italian Ministry of the Interior (MOI) as the Consortium leader, IOM Italy is continuing to be part of the established “Management Support Unit (MSU)”. The MSU aims at ensuring technical support to the MOI for the overall implementation of the Regional Development and Protection Programme for North Africa (RDPP NA).

The RDPP NA aims at improving protection of refugees and migrants and providing alternatives to the risks of irregular migration by facilitating dignified living conditions and opportunities. At the same time, the programme supports the welfare of host societies by promoting their empowerment and resilience.