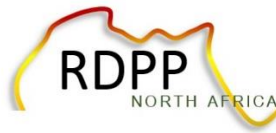




Funded by the European Union



Italy, lead of the RDPP NA Consortium

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAMME FOR NORTH AFRICA (RDPP NA)

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) In Algeria

Executing agency: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Funding: European Union – Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

Co-funding: Italy

Geographical Coverage: Algeria

Partners: Algerian authorities, UNHCR, national and international NGOs, CSOs

Beneficiaries: Vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking; UMC; LGBTI migrants; and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence

Duration: 24 months

Budget: € 1.536.070, 60

CONTEXT

Following the Arab Spring, **Algeria has become a haven for mixed migration flows**. While many see these flows only as a transit route to Europe, there is an increasing number of migrants who are choosing to stay in Algeria.

Combating irregular migration has always been a priority of the Algerian authorities. From the EU-Algerian Association Agreement (2002) which includes countries of origin cooperation in order to prevent and control irregular migration; the 2008 law governing foreign nationals' conditions of entry, stay and circulation, which modified the 1966 law ruling foreign nationals; the 2009 reforms of the penal code, to introduce the offence of irregular exit from the national territory for citizens and foreign residents, as well as the crimes of migrant smuggling and trafficking of human beings.

Algeria has worked with the EU MS and several UN agencies to strengthen its judicial administration and law enforcement structures. Moreover, on the basis of an agreement between the Nigerien and Algerian authorities on sending back Nigerien migrants in irregular situation in Algeria, the Algerian Government, in collaboration with the Algerian Red Crescent and IOM, has

facilitated the return to Niger of 16,621 Nigeriens (2016, IOM) .

IOM Office in Algiers has, since then, received requests from several embassies, as well as directly from migrants themselves, to assist with voluntary return and reintegration.

In light of these concerns, **IOM Algiers recognizes an effective AVRR mechanism as a key tool of migration management and proposes AVRR activities to contribute to AMIF priorities.**



OBJECTIVES

Based on the experience of 'Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration' (AVRR) programmes implemented in the surrounding region, IOM will contribute to increasing the awareness and understanding of AVRR among migrants and **enhancing the government of Algeria's management of migration through efficient voluntary return of migrants in irregular situation in Algeria** (approx. 600 beneficiaries) **and sustainable reintegration assistance** (approx. 300 beneficiaries) in their countries of origin. The action will further contribute to **establish a referral mechanism** to serve as a concrete tool with clear procedures and guidelines facilitating a coordinated approach to AVRR among the Algerian Government, International Community, CSOs and NGOs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Organize **project kick-off meeting** with the Algerian authorities, representatives from institutions/NGOs and diplomatic missions in Algeria active in the migration field;
- Set up a **technical committee**, comprised of the MFA, the MOI and Local Government, the Directorate General for National Security, UNHCR, one representative of the relevant CSOs and NGOs working with migrants in Algeria, to lead the development of a **Referral Mechanism for a coordinated approach to AVRR in Algeria**;
- **Organize 5 2-day capacity building workshops on AVRR guidelines and the referral mechanism** for ministerial officials, law enforcement officials, immigration officers, representatives of CSOs and NGOs;
- **Develop a SOP** to facilitate and strengthen the screening, identification as potential

beneficiaries of the AVRR programme under the Referral Mechanism;

- **Organize a two-day workshop** with members of the technical committee of the Referral Mechanism to validate the SOP and receive inputs from a broad range of partners;
- Organize quarterly meetings at the level of the technical committee of the Referral Mechanism;
- **Establish contact with migrants** through outreach, visits to relevant locations working in close cooperation with CSOs, NGOs, embassies and consulates in Algeria;
- Verify existing documentation and arrange necessary and appropriate travel documentation, in collaboration with relevant Consulates of Countries of origin, including assistance in obtaining required transit visas;
- Provide **travel arrangements and assistance**;
- Coordinate with IOM missions in transit countries and countries of origin for further assistance when necessary;
- Conduct **Fit for Travel** medical examination prior to travelling for all successful beneficiaries;
- Provide **departure assistance at airports** to ensure safe departure;
- Provide **reintegration counselling and assistance to 300 returnees**;
- Conduct **Monitoring and Evaluation exercise** in Algeria and the countries of origin.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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