



AD HOC QUERY ON 2019.103 FR AHQ on Voluntary return and reintegration in the Rabat process

Requested by EMN NCP France on 26 November 2019

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden plus Norway (21 in Total)

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1. Background information

On 3 June 2019, France officially took the chairmanship of the Rabat Process, succeeding Burkina Faso.

An international conference will be organized by France in March 2020 in Yaounde on 'Voluntary return and reintegration'. In order to prepare the conference, France would like to have an overview of Voluntary return and reintegration programs from European Member states for the African countries involved in the Rabat process (list of countries below):

Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Chad, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Sierra Leone, Togo and Tunisia.

THis AHQ is sent to EMN NCPs and EMN REG practitioners.

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2. Questions

1. 1. What is the budget dedicated to return and reintegration in the last 3 years?
2. 2. How many nationals from the African countries listed above benefited from the voluntary return programs in the last 3 years? Please differentiate 'single' return, reintegration and return country if possible.
3. 3. Please detail the supporting and accompanying process for the beneficiaries (type of support / benefits and duration)
4. 4. What is the target public? How is it recruited?

We would very much appreciate your responses by **26 December 2019**.

3. Responses

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		Wider Dissemination ²	
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¹ If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

² A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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	EMN NCP Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This information is not available at the moment. 2. Please find enclosed the figures of voluntary returns per individual for the above mentioned countries for year 2018. be_figures_rabatprocess.xlsx 3. Beneficiaries from the above mentioned countries benefit from the same support as any other potential returnee. Nevertheless, a pilot project has been implemented in Guinea with the collaboration of Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency. The "Intergra" project aims at supporting the integration on the labour market through trainings and administrative support. Similar projects are in the pipe line for other countries in the aera such as Niger. 4. The target public is the same as for other reintegration programmes. However, it can be noticed that individuals returning to the above mentioned countries are mainly rejected applicants and a significant share of migrants who came with a student visa at first.
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International Organization of Migration (IOM) - Bulgaria provides in-kind reintegration support only. It is always provided in cooperation with IOM mission in the respective country of return that could support returnee in providing in kind reintegration support including contracting goods and services, payment, etc. The financial aid for reintegration assistance is limited to EUR 1000. It may be increased up to EUR 2000 for vulnerable persons and up to EUR 2000 in case of voluntary return of families.


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			<p>2. Most of the migrants arriving in Bulgaria are from Asia (Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Syria, etc.). Therefore, most of the migrants provided with AVRR supports are from these countries. Migrants from African countries, including Rabat Process countries represent smaller part of migration influx toward Bulgaria and respectively they represent smaller percentage of migrants provided with AVRR assistance. For 2017 there are 35 voluntary returnees from Rabat countries (Algeria – 23, Cote d' Ivoire – 1, Ghana – 6, Morocco – 3 and Nigeria – 2) out of 874 returnees supported by IOM Bulgaria. For 2018 there are 23 returnees from Rabat countries (Algeria – 6, Cameroon – 2, Cote d' Ivoire – 2, Gambia – 1, Ghana – 1, Guinea – 2, Democratic Republic of Congo – 4 and Nigeria – 5) out of 311 returnees supported by IOM Bulgaria. For 2019 up to 30 November, there are 7 returnees from Rabat countries (Morocco – 5, Senegal – 1, Cote d' Ivoire – 1) out of 81 returnees supported by IOM Bulgaria.</p> <p>3. IOM-Bulgaria provides individual consultations presenting and explaining the voluntary return option and support available for assisted voluntary return and reintegration. During these meetings the persons are get acquired with the opportunities offered by the AVRR program, focusing on individual approach and compliance with humanitarian principles and taking into account the physical and psychological condition of each person considering the voluntary return option. The pre-departure assistance usually includes the following set of support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information and counselling for voluntary return option; - flight ticket; - cash incentive amounting to EUR 100 per person (EUR 150 for vulnerable migrants)q including minors; - assistance for obtaining travel documents; - internal transport in Bulgaria related to preparation of voluntary return travel; - assistance at the Sofia Airport authorities and Border Police to facilitate departure process; - assistance during transit stage of the travel; - assistance upon arrival in the country of origin. <p>In principle the following measures are possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assistance in starting small business or other income generation activities, including agriculture sector; - assistance in job placement; - health assistance if necessary, as per availability in the country of origin; - financial support for education;
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - housing or purchase of house equipment; - financial support for inclusion of the returnee in vocational training courses. <p>In practice the most common reintegration grant is for starting small business or other income generation activities or housing.</p> <p>4. IOM – Bulgaria implements Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programmes that provide assistance to migrants from all of the countries of origin, including all the countries involved in the Rabat Process.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of the IOM AVRR programmes may include stranded migrants, irregular migrants, asylum seekers who decide not to pursue their claims or who are found not to be in need of international protection and migrants benefiting from international protection. AVRR assistance can also be provided to migrants in vulnerable situations, such as victims of trafficking, unaccompanied and separated children, migrants with health-related needs, etc. This means that on an individual basis, IOM-Bulgaria provides specific tailored assistance to vulnerable migrants including in kind reintegration assistance after voluntary return in the country of origin.</p>
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	<p>1. The funds for return are foreseen in the budget of the Ministry of the Interior, which is responsible for return. Considering that this is a regular job of the Ministry, the exact amount is not determined. The funds are provided in the budget of the Border Directorate. The cost of returning an unaccompanied child is provided by the Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy (child and guardian, while police escort, if necessary, is provided by the Ministry of the Interior).</p> <p>2. There were no voluntary returns.</p> <p>3. On December 19, 2018, the Ministry of the Interior signed a contract with the International Organization for Migration on the implementation of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration for two years (from January 4, 2019 to January 3, 2021). The project covers all Rabat process countries.</p>


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			<p>4. The target public are migrants in an irregular situation who are under a legal obligation to leave the country, or who do not or do no longer fulfil the conditions for entry, stay or legal residence in Croatia, applicants of international protection whose claim has been rejected, applicants of international protection who withdrew their application for international protection, beneficiaries of international protection, who choose to return home, migrants in vulnerable situations. Target public is recruited by the dissemination of information (website, leaflets).</p>
	<p>EMN REG Practitioners Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. In 2017 and 2018, IOM implemented the AVRR programme in Cyprus through annual agreements; total annual budget 560,289EUR. In 2019, IOM was awarded a multi-annual programme of 21 months and the total budget is 1,100,000EUR. In the current programme (2019-2020), the reintegration component has been expanded aiming to provide reintegration assistance to a quarter of the total number of returnees while in the previous programme/Call for Proposals reintegration was on a pilot basis with only few available reintegration assistance grants.</p> <p>2. In total, 164 beneficiaries were assisted to return in 2017; 150 in 2018; and, 173 in 2019.</p> <p>Please see below countries and number of nationals assisted to return: Cameroon: 5; 4 were eligible for reintegration assistance in 2019. Gambia: 5; 3 were eligible for reintegration assistance in 2019. Ghana: 1 Guinea: 3 Nigeria: 5; 1 was eligible for reintegration assistance in 2019.</p> <p>3. Beneficiaries are supported with individualized return and reintegration counselling, and pre-departure assistance in kind based on their needs, including for example, issuance of travel documents, health checks for migrants with health needs, etc. Reintegration assistance in kind is available to eligible beneficiaries based on factors such as vulnerability, family situation, etc. All returnees are provided with airport assistance (departure and transit) and are given cash assistance prior to departure.</p>


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			<p>4. The target includes migrants residing in Cyprus - asylum seekers, migrants who do not hold a valid residence permit, migrants with a valid residence permit, including unaccompanied migrant children, migrants with health needs, victims of trafficking. Migrants are able to visit the AVRR Centre three times a week while an AVRR mobile unit provides information throughout the Republic of Cyprus. Also, IOM organizes information events with local stakeholders.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. In principle, the funds dedicated to voluntary returns are aimed to cover travel expenses of returnees. In certain instances, other expenses such as a small departure fee can be provided or consular fees can be covered. The reintegration support has been introduced just recently and so far there has been no beneficiaries. There is no special budget dedicated to returns and reintegration of nationals of abovementioned countries.</p> <p>2. Following nationals benefited from voluntary return program in last 3 years (single return):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nigeria (7) - Algeria (2) - Tunisia (2) - Cameroon (2) - Ghana (1) - Sierra Leone (1) <p>3. The process involves assistance provided to the returnees mainly during the pre-departure phase such as consultations regarding the stay in the Czech Republic and realization of the return, medical assistance, assistance related to the identification and issuance of travel documents, purchasing the tickets and assistance at the place of departure (usually an airport). The duration is for the period necessary for successful realization of the voluntary return and can vary considerably (from hours to several months).</p>

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			<p>4. Detailed information on foreign nationals who are eligible to apply for voluntary returns are stipulated in Article 123a of the Act No. 326/1999 Coll. on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic, as amended and in the Act No., 325/1999 Coll., the Asylum Act, as amended and in Article 54a of the Act No., 325/1999 Coll., the Asylum Act, as amended.</p> <p>The Ministry may bear the costs incurred in connection with the voluntary return of a foreign national:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) who is detained for administrative expulsion; (b) for whom a time limit for departure from the territory has been prescribed by a decision on administrative expulsion; or (c) who is staying in the territory without a valid residence authorisation, if he or she personally presents himself to the Police, intends to leave the territory voluntarily, and is subsequently issued with a decision on administrative expulsion; <p>to the country of which he or she is a citizen or to another State that will allow the foreign national's entry into its territory; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) who is an applicant for international protection. <p>They can apply for voluntary return programme at the Ministry of Interior or at the Police:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) at the time of his or her detention in a facility; or (b) after the decision on administrative expulsion becomes final, provided that the time limit prescribed for departure has not yet expired.
	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. 01.07.2015-30.06.2018 – 354,418 EUR and 01.07.2019 – 31.12.2020 – 402, 456.27 EUR. Includes everything, actual operational costs related to return and reintegration, but also capacity building and costs for implementation. Covers all countries of origin – no separate project/budget on African countries involved in the Rabat Process.</p> <p>2. Returns: Nigeria 2017 (0), 2018 (2), 2019 (3) Algeria 2017 (0), 2018 (1), 2019 (1) Cameroon 2017 (2) Morocco 2017 (1), 2018 (1)</p>



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			<p>Reintegration: Nigeria 2017 (1), 2019 (1) Algeria 2019 (1) Cameroon 2017 (3) Morocco 2017 (1), 2018 (1) Cote D`Ivoire 2017 (1)</p> <p>3. Assisted voluntary return involves pre-return counselling services, pre-departure assistance (needs based and covering basic needs, e.g accommodation, food, basic hygiene and seasonal clothing); FTT if needed; travel assistance (at departure point and tickets, transit assistance and assistance upon arrival if required). In most cases returnees are provided with limited cash support varies from 50-200 EUR depending on the migrants situation and destination.</p> <p>Reintegration support is valid for 12 months after arrival in country of return. Is always provided as in-kind and is meant for micro-business set up, business partnerships, vocational training or educational purposes. The types can be combined and support is opened up only once the beneficiary has submitted reintegration plan along with supportive documentation which has also been approved by IOM. Based on the needs identified in pre-return services, the beneficiary might be entitled to additional support – temporary accommodation, medical assistance.</p> <p>4. The assisted voluntary return and reintegration programme has following beneficiaries (as defined by the AMIF funds): Third country nationals staying irregularly in the country – e.g overstay, irregular arrival, termination of residence permit etc. Asylum seekers, incl withdrawing their applications or failed asylum seekers Beneficiaries of international protection in Estonia Information to target groups is provided through website and information materials, but also during information sessions in institutions where target group is staying. Similarly referral mechanism is in place with law enforcement and other institutions dealing with migrant population in Estonia</p>
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	<p>EMN REG Practitioners Finland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Finland has an extensive budget for all the return countries compared to the amount of Finnish returnees, also incl the Rabat process countries.</p> <p>2. Less than 20. Finland does not have many asylum seekers from these countries.</p> <p>3. Either cash (up to 2000 eur) or in-kind (up to 5000 eur, depending on the country) is available, support is given through IOM. More information about support amounts by countries: migri.fi/en/amounts-of-assistance-by-country</p> <p>4. If by target public is meant potential returnees, in Finland we are only able to support asylum seekers, thus recruiting happens in the reception centres, where all the asylum seekers must be registered in.</p>
	<p>EMN REG Practitioners France</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. 2017 : 17.81M€ 2018 : 23.45M€ 2019 : (to be confirmed at the end of the year)</p> <p>2. see attached</p> <p>qah_processus_de_rabat_reponse_fr.docx</p> <p>3. Support for reintegration is divided into 3 levels: Level 1: social reintegration (6 months) This support aims to pay for the first installation costs of the applicant / family. This includes assistance to pay for the rent, the purchase of furniture and electrical goods, for medical costs or children school. If the applicant is from Nigeria, s/he can benefit from assistance at the airport. Level 2: Employment and vocational training (one year) This support aims to accompany the return of the applicant through the support to find an employment by a local specialized provider. The OFII (French office for immigration and integration) assist for the job</p>

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			<p>research, the drafting of resume and can pay for the training or pay for a part of the applicant's monthly salary for one year.</p> <p>Level 3: creation of business (1 year)</p> <p>This support aims to favor the applicant's reintegration by creating an income-generating company. When the beneficiary presents a project for creating a company approved by the OFII, he can benefit from a training in relation to the required activity and benefit from a financial support to start his/her business.</p> <p>4. Voluntary returns apply to migrants who have been residing irregularly in France for at least 6 months, holding or not an obligation to leave the French territory, or under an asylum application process. For reintegration support, the public concerned also includes students, young professionals or civic service volunteers whose residence permit expires within 3 months maximum.</p> <p>Assistance for reintegration concern people nationals from the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinée Conakry, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, Togo, Nigeria and Tunisia.</p> <p>Most beneficiaries of reintegration also benefit from the return assistance.</p> <p>The promotion of voluntary return and reintegration is done through the website http://www.retourvolontaire.fr/</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. 2017: 63.890 000 €</p> <p>2018: 70.654 000 €</p> <p>2019: 64.480 000 €</p> <p>These figures include the main budget for voluntary return and reintegration. Please note that the budget also includes other third countries apart from the African countries listed in this AHQ.</p> <p>2. See attached table</p>

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			<p>191220_ahq_voluntary_return_rabat_process.xlsx</p> <p>3. There are two mayor programs to support the voluntary return and reintegration of African nationals.</p> <p>REAG/GARP and StarthilfePlus</p> <p>In Germany the main return programme is called REAG/GARP. REAG/GARP is expanded by a reintegration programme called StarthilfePlus.</p> <p>In general, the REAG /GARP-Program assists returnees, who are unable to cover their expenses, to return to their country of origin or a receptive third country. For all returnees, the program includes the organisation of the trip and the covering of the travel costs. Depending on the nationality, the returnee may also receive a financial travel assistance of 200 EUR/per person over 18 years (100 EUR/pp under 18 years) and a one-time financial start-up assistance of 1.000 EUR per person over 18 years (500 EUR per person under 18 years), max. 3.500 EUR per family. In case of an early departure, a supplementary one-time payment of 500 EUR will be granted in addition to the one-time financial start-up assistance. This one-time payment applies to a single return or the return of a family unit. The amount is given in addition to the maximum subsidy of 3.500 EUR.</p> <p>Medical costs of max. 2.000 EUR/pp up to three months after arrival in the destination country can be granted, if necessary, for returnees of all citizenships after a medical evaluation. Since 2017, the REAG/GARP program has been supplemented by the StarthilfePlus program, which provides reintegration assistance to returnees, e.g. financial support in the destination country (a 2nd financial start-up assistance of 1.000 € per person after 6-8 months).</p> <p>Regarding the African Countries involved in the Rabat process, see the attached document</p> <p>ERRIN</p>
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			<p>In addition to the REAG/GARP and StarthilfePlus program, Germany is participating in the ERRIN project (European Return and Reintegration Network), which supports third country nationals who either have returned to their country of origin voluntarily or have been forcibly returned since 2011.</p> <p>ERRIN offers in-kind reintegration assistance which is based on the individual needs of the beneficiary and his/her family if applicable. The assistance covers among other things general counselling, job placement, vocational training, guidance for setting up a business, legal/administrative assistance and social accompaniment. Special attention is being paid to the needs of vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The exact kind of reintegration support which can be granted is agreed upon between the returnee and the service provider in a reintegration plan post arrival.</p> <p>ERRIN support for returnees from Germany is currently available in the following African countries: Gambia, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria and Somalia. In the course of the expansion of reintegration activities of ERRIN in 2020 through the French partner organization OFII, ERRIN will expand its services to other third countries. regarding_the_african_countries_involved_in_the_rabat_process.docx</p> <p>4. Target Group</p> <p>All third country nationals interested in voluntary return are considered the target group for AVRR programs, regardless of residence status. However, persons who entered the Federal Republic of Germany for the purpose of taking up employment, studying, working as an au pair, marrying a German national or as a tourist are excluded from this group. The national programs implemented by the IOM also target vulnerable groups like victims of forced prostitution, human trafficking and persons with disabilities. The means of information on AVRR mentioned below also address return counsellors and volunteers who support refugees as a target group.</p> <p>Means of information provision:</p>
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			<p>Concerning information on voluntary return and reintegration one can distinguish between return counselling and outreach and information provision. Return Counselling involves a conversation (either face to face or via phone or messenger) with the person(s) wanting to get information about return. During counselling, the individual case and available AVRR programs are discussed. Counselling sessions are treated confidentially and have no effect on ongoing asylum procedures or the residence permit or lack thereof of the third country national.</p> <p>In contrast, outreach and information provision activities aim to inform a broader public about the possibility of voluntary return and available programs in general. These include all kinds of information given to third country nationals (flyers, social media, short film clips, brochures, etc.)</p> <p>Return counselling in Germany can either be provided by state authorities or independent actors (NGOs, welfare organisations, etc.). However, only return counselling centres registered with the IOM, who is responsible for the implementation of the REAG/GARP and StarthilfePlus programs, are allowed to file applications for the said programs.</p> <p>Outreach and information provision</p> <p>The following outreach and information campaigns were implemented by the Federal Government (Bund) since 2015:</p> <p>A return hotline has been established by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge / BAMF) in 2016. It offers first level information for third country nationals interested in voluntary return and refers them to return counselling centres in their vicinity.</p> <p>An online information platform (https://www.returningfromgermany.de/) for all return related issues has been launched in 2017. It offers comprehensive information on all return and reintegration programs available in Germany. In addition, return counselling centres can be searched for and information on the various countries of origin can be called up and requested. The content of the site can be accessed in 10 different languages and is constantly being expanded and updated. The website is implemented by the IOM on behalf of the BAMF. In addition the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</p>
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			<p>has also launched a web portal (https://www.startfinder.de) to support the reintegration of third country nationals.</p> <p>The Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (Bundesministerium des Innern, für Bau und Heimat BMI) has implemented a large scale poster campaign in 2018 with the intention to inform the larger public about the possibility of AVRR.</p> <p>A joint event series (Option: Freiwillige Rückkehr) has been launched in 2018. It is a cooperation of the BAMF, the IOM and GiZ. It aims to inform return counsellors about return and reintegration-related activities and programs of the aforementioned organisations. Several events in different federal states are being held each year.</p> <p>Since 2015, a large number of new flyers, brochures and posters with information on AVRR programs offered by the federal government have been produced and distributed throughout Germany, both offline and digitally. A number of these materials have been created by the IOM on behalf of the BAMF.</p> <p>The IOM implements a number of outreach and information activities on behalf of the BAMF. This includes operating and maintaining the aforementioned information platform "ReturningfromGermany", providing flyers, short information clips, posting information on its AVRR programs social media and organizing outreach events in the scope of a pilot "Virtual counselling" project.</p> <p>Additionally, the following methods to provide information for the target group exist:</p> <p>Introduction of a general return note during the asylum procedure counselling in 2018/19, which informs asylum seekers about the option of a voluntary return in a neutral and general way.</p> <p>In cases where the BAMF is offering return counselling, people with a negative decision receive a letter of invitation in order to visit the return counselling centre (2018/19).</p> <p>In context of the Armenian reintegration project (CAROB Armenia), the BAMF intends to reach out to the Armenian Diaspora in Germany. To accomplish this task contact with a community leader was made</p>
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			with the intention to use his reputation as a multiplier for promoting the project. The process is still ongoing.
	EMN NCP Hungary	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	<p>1. No information available.</p> <p>2. None of the countries above featured in the top five nationalities or countries of return for voluntary return programmes for the last three years (2018, 2017, 2016).</p> <p>3. The Department of Justice and Equality, in conjunction with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), offers voluntary assisted return and re-integration programmes for asylum seekers, failed asylum seekers and other illegally present migrants.</p> <p>Asylum seekers, or asylum seekers who have failed in their claim and who have not had a deportation order made against them, unaccompanied minor children (where return has been deemed to be in their best interests by relevant social work teams) and suspected victims of trafficking (identified within the national referral mechanism identification system), who wish to return home, are assisted with return under the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP). Other illegally present migrants are assisted with return under the Irregular Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (IVARRP), which is co-funded by the EU on a 75/25 basis. Under these programmes, all travel arrangements including flights for such persons are arranged and paid for and, where required, the IOM will assist in securing travel documents, arranging fitness to travel medical assessments, providing medical escorts where required, and give assistance at the airport at departure, transit and arrival. Persons availing of these programmes can apply for reintegration assistance to allow them to</p>




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			<p>start up a business or enter further education or training when they are back in their country of origin. This takes the form of an 'in-kind' grant rather than a cash payment.</p> <p>4. Voluntary return is an option for protection applicants and for rejected protection applicants and other migrants without permission to remain who have not had a deportation order made against them. Once a deportation order is made, voluntary return is no longer possible.</p>
	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. In the last 3 years several financial resources, both from the European funds and the Italian ones, have been allocated in favour of the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Measure.</p> <p>2. see file attached adhocqueryrabatprocessdati.xlsx</p> <p>3. In Italy, the AVR&R measure is implemented by entities or organizations, which, according to a call for proposal issued by the competent Offices of the Ministry of the Interior, are regarded as eligible for the AMIF Funds.</p> <p>Such entities provide with the following assistance activities:</p> <p>Individual pre-departure counselling; Drafting of an Individual Reintegration Plan (PIR) for the effective socio-economic reintegration in the country of origin; Assistance in obtaining travel documents; Organization of travel, purchase of airline tickets and support for the preparation of the necessary travel documentation; Airport assistance in the country of departure and in the country of arrival; Provision of a pre-departure contribution in cash, given upon departure; Provision of an in-kind contribution in the country of origin for the realization of the Individual Reintegration Plan;</p>

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			<p>Support for the implementation of the Individual Reintegration Plan in the country of origin and monitoring of reintegration activities for at least 6 months after the date of arrival.</p> <p>4. By looking at data from current and previous AVR&R projects, the majority of third country nationals assisted by AVR&R programs are i) irregular migrants whose period of legal stay in Italy has expired and/or has not been extended and ii) persons who have entered the country by illegal means. AVR&R programs in Italy also provide assistance to failed asylum seekers, asylum seekers who have voluntarily terminated the procedure for obtaining the refugee status as well as persons who have been granted temporary protection or a residence permit and decide to renounce their status.</p> <p>Some activities are developed, in order enable migrants to access to the AVR&R measure, such as: the information activities carried out by the projects implementing the AVR&R measure; the outreach activity carried out by the institutional network RE.VI.TA. an info Campaign which has recently delivered the relevant message Dissemination of leaflets.</p>
	EMN NCP Latvia	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	EMN NCP Lithuania	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	1. See table attached. luemn_ncp_answer_to_fr_ahq_2019.103.docx

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			<p>2. See table attached. luemn_ncp_answer_to_fr_ahq_2019.103.docx</p> <p>3. In Luxembourg the individuals who come from the African countries can benefit of the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration from Luxembourg Program (AVRR-L) which is a scheme for the assistance of voluntary returns and of reintegration of third-country nationals to their country of origin is made available by means of the AVRR-L program, which is implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) through a convention signed between the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the IOM.</p> <p>There are two types of financial aid provided in regard to Return:</p> <p>Complete aid (in cash):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single adult: up to 500 € (pre-departure)• Adult couple: up to 1000 € (pre-departure)• Family: up to 500€ per adult and 400€ per child (pre-departure) <p>Basic aid (in cash):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single adult: up to 300€ (pre-departure)• Adult couple: up to 600 € (pre-departure)• Family: 300€ per person (pre-departure) <p>Vulnerable cases: no additional in cash aid (pre-departure), but 700 € in-kind per person post-departure (see below).</p> <p>This aid is a premium given to the beneficiary of the program to incentive the return but there are no activities covered by this financial assistance. This aid is given in cash before departure at the airport.</p> <p>Complete aid concerns international protection seekers registering with IOM before a month has elapsed from the time when they received the refusal decision to their application or if the asylum</p>
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			<p>procedure has lasted over 6 months and the international protection seeker willing to return hasn't had any decision on his/her application by the Minister.</p> <p>Are entitled to Basic assistance the individuals that register for the AVRR program after the deadline set for return (30 days in Luxembourg); the international protection seeker who abandons his/her application lodged less than 6 months; migrants in an irregular situation who have never lodged an application for international protection.</p> <p>In the AVRR program IOM provides: Assistance for obtaining travel documents (i.e. it covers the fees and the travels that the applicant has to do to the embassy of the country of origin in Brussels) Transport from Luxembourg to their village of origin (includes booking of the airport transportation) Assistance at the Luxembourg International Airport and at the transit airport Medical escort in case it is required.</p> <p>In regard to reintegration:</p> <p>The beneficiaries of the reintegration assistance on the AVRR-L program include third-country nationals that are: asylum seekers registering with IOM before a month has elapsed from the time when they received the refusal decision to their application or if the asylum procedure has lasted over 6 months and the asylum seeker willing to return hasn't had any decision on their application by the Minister. It does not include third-country nationals with a regularized stay in Luxembourg.</p> <p>Each third country national (from a safe country of origin) can have access to the AVRR-L program excluding the Western Balkans (Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina) and Georgia, which are only entitled to a return flight ticket and onward transportation until their city/village of destination.</p> <p>Luxembourg provides reintegration aid in the country of origin of the returnees. However, this aid in kind is available for a duration of six months.</p> <p>Complete aid (assistance to reintegration in kind):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Single adult: up to 3000 €o Adult couple: up to 3500 €
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Family: up to 4500 € <p>Basic aid (assistance to reintegration in kind):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Single adult: up to 750 € o Adult couple: up to 1000 € o Family: up to 1500 € <p>Vulnerable cases (UMC, VoTs, medical, pregnant women): 700 € per person in additional to the basic/complete assistance received</p> <p>4. The beneficiaries of the AVRR-L program includes third-country nationals that are: asylum-seekers in procedure, asylum-seekers whose claim has been rejected, recognized refugees wishing to renounce to their refugee status and migrants finding themselves in an irregular situation. It does not include third-country nationals with a regularized stay in Luxembourg nor third-country nationals from the Western Balkans (Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina) and Georgia.</p>
	<p>EMN REG Practitioners Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The budget for the return and reintegration support for the past 3 years is approximately 14 million euro per year. The budget is provided by the Ministry of Justice and Security, Repatriation and Departure Service, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and AMIF. From this budget the voluntary return and reintegration programmes of IOM are financed, as well as reintegration projects of Dutch ngo's. This budget is used to organise the voluntary return and reintegration of all migrants who need to leave the Netherlands. The budget is not limited for the specific countries mentioned in this questionnaire.</p> <p>2. See attachement. ahq_return_and_reintegration_support.docx</p> <p>3. Migrants from African countries involved in the Rabat process can be eligible for support for voluntary departure via the REAN programme, implemented by the IOM in the Netherlands and financed by the Dutch government. The REAN programme provides for information and counselling, support to obtain travel documents, logistic support including a flight ticket, medical support and financial support</p>


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			<p>to (illegal) migrants who want to return voluntarily. Migrants can obtain a maximum of €200 (adult) and €40 (child) in cash under the REAN programme for the period after their return.</p> <p>Countries in the ring around Europe, including Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, were excluded from the financial support of the REAN programme since the 1st of January 2017, following a 2017 review of our departure and reintegration support policy, but could still return with a flight ticket via IOM. Since the 1st of July 2018 some new adjustments have been made in the return policy and since then migrants from countries in the ring around Europe, including Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, can make use of the REAN programme including financial support of a maximum of €100 (adult) and €40 (child) for the period after their return.</p> <p>When certain conditions are met, apart from REAN support, returnees can receive up to 300 euro financial support in cash, in addition to reintegration support of 1500 euro for an adult (2500 euro for a child) that will be provided in kind. The cash amount aims to support returnees with initial costs upon arrival in the country of origin (CoO), whereas the in kind amount aims to support returnees in creating an income generating activity (such as starting a small business, to become a partner in an existing business, job placement or to pay for school/education).</p> <p>For the three abovementioned countries who are involved in the Rabat process and are situated in the ring around Europe, no additional reintegration support can be granted since January 1st 2017.</p> <p>4. All migrants residing in the Netherlands who want to leave voluntarily and are a national of a certain country can be eligible for the REAN programme by IOM if certain criteria are met. The same goes for the reintegration assistance, but for this assistance less nationalities are eligible.</p> <p>If you are a migrant and you are currently residing in the Netherlands, you can receive the return assistance under the REAN programme if you meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">You want to leave the Netherlands voluntarily.You are a national of one of these countries.You, or the legal guarantee for your stay in the Netherlands, lack the financial means to pay for your departure.The Government of the Netherlands does not have any objections to your departure.
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			<p>You have not received voluntary return assistance provided by IOM or the Dutch government in the past five years.</p> <p>You have, or you can obtain a valid travel document.</p> <p>Your application for voluntary return is not based on false pretenses.</p> <p>You provide the necessary information and follow instructions to organize your voluntary departure.</p> <p>Your return can logistically and safely be organized by IOM.</p> <p>If applicable: you agree with the termination of pending residence permit procedures or the withdrawal of your Dutch/EU residence permit when departing from the Netherlands.</p> <p>For reintegration assistance the following extra conditions apply:</p> <p>You meet the return conditions with IOM</p> <p>You have the nationality of one of these countries</p> <p>You are not registered with another organization offering reintegration assistance.</p> <p>You have no entry ban for more than 5 years, are not declared persona non grata and/or been convicted for severe crimes.</p> <p>You have not been denied a residence permit on basis of article 1F of the Refugee Convention.</p> <p>Migrants can always reach IOM for REAN support and IOM and other NGO's for the reintegration support via phone/email, they also have consultation hours at reception centres or in municipalities and also if a person has been denied asylum, they have a supervisor departure from the Repatriation and Departure Service who talks with them about their possibilities to return home and who refer them to IOM or an NGO.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Poland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Poland does not have projects targeting specifically African countries involved in the Rabat process. Support in return and reintegration in the country of return may be obtained only within the general programme on voluntary return fully financed by the state budget. On the basis of the Agreement between the Ministry of the Interior and Administration and the IOM Warsaw as of 2005, the latter is responsible for management of the voluntary return programme. The provisional budget for running the programme in 2019 is 1 400 000,00 PLN [around 325 000,00 EUR].</p>


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			<p>Since May 2019 IOM Warsaw is implementing additional project on assisted voluntary return and reintegration of foreigners leaving the territory of Poland, which shall last till April 2023. This project fully corresponds to the state general voluntary return programme and is also implemented with financial support of state budget [Ministry of the Interior and Administration] and the AMIF resources.</p> <p>2. None returns took place to above listed countries in 2016. In 2017, 1 person returned to Ghana, 1 to Nigeria and 1 to Senegal. In 2018, 1 person returned to Cote d'Ivoire. In 2019, 2 persons returned to Morocco All above mentioned returns as of 2017 and 2018 were „single” returns, so only cash assistance was offered to beneficiaries of the programme. Returns to Morocco were provided with reintegration assistance.</p> <p>3. Pre-departure assistance is available to returnees in the form of subsistence before travel (for the duration of preparation of return travel), medical assistance if needed, assistance with obtaining travel documents. Upon departure, returnees were provided with pocket money (approx. EUR 70). During 2016-2018 no post-arrival support was available. Additional support was only provided to returning victims of trafficking in human beings. While organizing the voluntary return of foreigners from Poland entity [in this case the IOM Warsaw] is obliged to undertake the following activities: Identification of migrants who qualify for the programme of voluntary return assistance on the basis of their documents; Confirmation with relevant Polish authorities that selected migrants are eligible to AVR or AVRR assistance under the agreement as of 2005; Provision of short-term pre-departure accommodation and boarding for destitute and homeless migrants who applied for voluntary return assistance; Provision of risk assessment concerning migrants identified as Victims of Trafficking, to the extent possible; Verification of validity of travel documents and / or assistance in arranging for their obtainment; Arrangement of “fit to travel” assessment, and for medical examination of the migrant, including</p>
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			<p>Victims of Trafficking; Provision of translation of medical documentation, in case of migrants with health problems; Provision of interpreter`s assistance, if needed; Preparation of return travel during purchase of tickets for the most convenient mode of transport, depending on the country of origin, cost of transport and individual situation of returnee; Organization of in-country transportation and arrangement of overnight accommodation, if necessary; Provision of assistance with the journey to the airport of departure or the railway station, where necessary; Provision of transit and arrival assistance and coordination and transportation with IOM offices in the transit country and the country of return, as necessary.</p> <p>4. The target group are irregular migrants, victims of trafficking and unsuccessful asylum seekers. Third country nationals are referred to IOM by friends, institutions (e.g. Border Guard, Office for Foreigners, voivodship offices), non-governmental organizations, embassies, etc. Additionally, activities are being taken (so-called outreach activities) in which IOM Warsaw Office tries to reach the target group e.g. through direct meetings.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. The budget dedicated to return and reintegration in Slovakia in the last 3 years was 326,315.00 EUR (excluded staff and office costs). It covers costs for returns of 300 migrants including material, housing and health assistance before return and 75 reintegration schemes in countries of origin.</p> <p>2. See attachment. fr_ahq_on_vrr_in_rabat_process_sk.docx</p> <p>3. Migrants returning within the framework of the Slovak AVRR program can benefit from reintegration assistance. The assistance can cover following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro business set up • Education • Training and schooling, courses


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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job search assistance • Legal assistance • Material assistance • Medical assistance • Temporary accommodation assistance • Other <p>Awarding of reintegration grant is subject to selection carried out by IOM Bratislava selection committee. The assistance can be provided to individual or whole families. Standard cases can receive a grant in the amount of 1300 EUR and vulnerable cases 1700 EUR. The final amount of the grant is decided on individual basis by the selection committee. Service Fee for implementing IOM missions is under current project max. 400 EUR. The assistance is provided IN KIND in the form of direct payment to service providers. Maximum duration of assistance is 12 months form the date of departure. Slovak AVRR programme operates on the basis of ensuing projects, current project started on 01 JAN 2017 and will finish on 31 DEC 2019.</p> <p>4. Since there is no specific reintegration assistance programme targeting African countries in Slovakia and the number of African diasporas is low, information about AVR programme to Africa is provided as a part of the general voluntary return programme entitled Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (AVRR) implemented by IOM Slovakia.</p> <p>The AVRR programme awareness raising activities include: regular distribution of information brochures and posters to the facilities of the Ministry of Interior of the SR including detention facilities, Departments of Foreign Police of the Police Force, asylum facilities of the Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior SR, non-governmental organizations which come into contact with the target group, and diplomatic offices of the countries of origin. The information campaign and counselling to the target group includes a low rate phone line (half-price of local calls) 0850 211 262. IOM provides information about the AVRR Programme also through the website www.avr.iom.sk which is designed as a source of information for migrants, state administration employees who come into contact with migrants and also for the general public. The website provides information on the conditions and procedures for entering the Programme, on the specific types of reintegration assistance and also photos and stories of returnees.</p>
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			<p>Information on AVR programme is also provided as a part of group and individual counselling sessions. Counselling is provided by IOM staff. It can be provided in any language both sides agree upon. Counselling is provided at the IOM premises in Bratislava and Kosice and at the facilities of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (asylum centers, detention facilities) which are visited by IOM staff on regular basis.</p>
	EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	<p>1. The Swedish Migration Agency's total cost for voluntary return reintegration is 22 million SEK/year (this includes the costs for the ERRIN programme as well as service fees for payment of cash reintegration assistance).</p> <p>2. The Swedish Migration Agency (SMA) does not specifically have a voluntary return program. However, failed asylum seekers who have received a final decision to leave Sweden and return to his/her COI (the expulsion order has entered into force) may apply for cash reintegration assistance or in-kind assistance through the ERRIN programme. The SMA provides cash reintegration assistance to the following African countries: Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The SMA has a contract with IOM. In all countries, except from Eritrea, the assistance is paid through IOM in the country of origin. Of the listed countries above, the ERRIN programme is available in Morocco and Nigeria. The statistics in the attachment refer to individuals who were granted support, and does not provide figures of individuals actually benefiting from the programs.</p> <p>rabat_-_attachment.docx</p> <p>3. Cash reintegration assistance offers 30 000 SEK to adults, 15 000 SEK to minors (including unaccompanied minors) and a maximum total of 75 000 SEK per family. The support needs to be collected by the returnee in the COI within three months after IOM has been informed that the returnee is eligible for the support.</p> <p>ERRIN - In-kind support offered to adults as well as minors (including unaccompanied minors) such as job counselling and job placement, temporary accommodation, reception at airport-services, vocational</p>


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			<p>training, educational support, assistance with setting up small businesses, basic medical care. Eligibility period in which the returnee coming from Sweden, has to contact the service provider for ERRIN is three months after departure.</p> <p>4. Once a failed asylum seeker has received a final decision to leave Sweden and return to his/her COI (the expulsion order has entered into force) he/she may apply for cash reintegration assistance or in-kind assistance through the ERRIN programme. Only returnees who return voluntarily to his/her COI are eligible to receive cash reintegration assistance while returnees who return to Morocco and Nigeria voluntarily or by force may take part of the ERRIN-programme. The application is made at the SMA and processed by the SMA. Before departing from Sweden the returnee will be informed if he/she is eligible to receive the reintegration support.</p> <p>Cash reintegration assistance may be granted to those returnees who: have had their asylum application rejected or have withdrawn their asylum applications. Intend to return voluntarily to a country where there is limited scope of re-establishment because of the security situation (list of countries decided by the SMA) Are likely to be received in the country they intend to return to Are applying from Sweden (before return) Are applying for support as soon as possible after having their application for asylum rejected or withdrawing it Are not Swedish citizens Have not received the support previously</p> <p>Assistance through the ERRIN programme may be granted to those returnees who: Have an expulsion decision to an ERRIN-country (countries where the SMA offers ERRIN-support) Who are not sentenced to expulsion in court Have not previously been granted the support Leave the country during the programme duration period Intend to re-establish themselves in their home country Apply from Sweden (before return)</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Norway</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Budget dedicated to return and reintegration the last 3 years in Norway: Money spent on return and reintegration in; 2017: NOK 8 600 600 2018: NOK 12 279 400</p> <p>2. In Norway, there were some nationals from African countries (Rabat process) that benefited from the voluntary return programs the last 3 years.</p> <p>Assisted return: Norwegian Authorities aim to facilitate assisted return through a program that offers an organized, secure and dignified return for persons without a legal permit to stay in Norway.</p> <p>Reintegration support There are various types of return schemes, depending on which country a person is returning to and the situation they are in (for example, there is a special scheme for vulnerable groups). The persons concerned can receive financial support from Norwegian authorities to resettle in their home country. The Norwegian government decides what kind of support the applicant can receive, and it is also the government that finances the support.</p> <p>In some cases, a person will only be granted air ticket assistance. When it comes to the countries below, we only have one Nigerian case from 2017 where this was the case. In the rest of the cases listed below they have all received some sort of reintegration support upon return. SEE ATTACHED table: In Norway 53 persons received voluntary assisted return with reintegration support between 2017 - 2019 from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Dem.Rep.Kongo (DRC), Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Morocco, Nigeria, Togo Note: research project about return to Nigeria 2016: Summary in English https://www.udi.no/en/statistics-and-analysis/research-and-development-r...</p>

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			<p>3. As mentioned above, there are various types of return schemes, depending on which country a person is returning to and the situation they are in (for example, there is a special scheme for vulnerable groups). The persons concerned can receive financial support from Norwegian authorities to resettle in their home country. The Norwegian government decides what kind of support the applicant can receive, and it is also the government that finances the support.</p> <p>The financial support is meant to help the person in the initial phase of resettling in their home country. The Norwegian government decides what kind of support the applicant can receive, and it is also the government that finances the support. The amount will depend on when the migrant applies in relation to the deadline for leaving the country.</p> <p>Assisted return is an alternative to staying in Norway without legal residence and risk being forcibly returned by immigration police.</p> <p>Reintegration support rates: See attachment with table There are special support schemes for certain citizenships, from the following countries: Afghanistan Morocco Somalia</p> <p>There are also special support schemes for vulnerable groups (including unaccompanied minors). What can be gained from participating in a return program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information about the return and advice• The necessary travel documents• Organisation of the journey itself• Assistance prior to departure, in transit and on arrival• Help and transport all the way to the destination• Further follow-up, subject to availability and needs
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			<p>4. The target group for assisted return with reintegration support are foreigners without a legal permit in Norway and foreigners who have applied for international protection in Norway. However, there will be some requirements that must be met – see examples below of categories where the program will not apply.</p> <p>The target group is not recruited as such, but Norwegian authorities make sure relevant information is available to the target group through various channels. Relevant information is available at UDIs webpage, it is given at reception centers for those living there as well as information about the possibility of applying for assistance.</p> <p>The scheme does not apply to foreign nationals who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">are nationals of a country exempt from the visa requirementhave previously received support through programs for assisted return or repatriation, and who have re-immigrated to Norway and want to return to a country under the Dublin Regulations· had been granted a residence permit on other grounds than a need for protection; that has (i) since expired or (ii) been revoked or that (iii) has not been renewed.· have received a rejection of their application for protection or of another application for residence in Norway because he or she has been granted protection, residence, or a visa in another EU/EEA country. <p>no_response_2019.103_fr_ahq_on_voluntary_return_and_reintegration_in_the_rabat_process-4.docx</p>
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