IOM UN MIGRATION | THE NETHERLANDS

2022

*Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading intergovernmental organization on migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. As the United Nations Migration Agency, we are dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.*

# IOM in the Netherlands

The International Organization for Migration started its activities in the Netherlands in 1991. Our projects include facilitating voluntary return and reintegration, supporting refugees accepted for resettlement and family reunification, services aimed at integration and labour market participation and temporary return assignments for diaspora experts living in the Netherlands.

With 174 member states, a further 8 states holding observer status, and more than 15,000 staff worldwide IOM works to:

- Help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration.
- Promote international cooperation on migration issues.
- Assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems.
- Provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need including refugees and internally displaced persons.

## Voluntary Return and Reintegration

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) is an essential element of migration management. Our AVRR programmes aim to assist the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host or transit countries and wish to return to their countries of origin or to a third country where permanent residence is guaranteed. Our assistance and support are provided before, during, and after departure. The assistance we offer includes information and counselling services, acquiring the necessary travel documents, arranging safe travel, and providing the necessary support needed for successful reintegration. Our offices worldwide offer individual in-kind reintegration support by setting up income-generating activities or financing educational or training programmes.

The beneficiaries of our AVRR programmes are regular migrants, irregular migrants, stranded migrants, asylum seekers whose claims were unsuccessful or unpursued, and migrants in vulnerable situations. We provide tailored assistance for vulnerable groups such as migrants with health-related needs, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, families or single parents with minor children, and undocumented migrants. We advocate for safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration where the individual's well-being is in focus. We empower migrants to make informed decisions and participate actively in their process to make decisions of their own free will and not out of necessity.

International Organization for Migration in the Netherlands
T 070 – 318 15 00 T 088 – 746 44 66 (Voluntary Return) T 088 – 746 44 66 (Family Reunification)
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# Resettlement, Family Reunification, Inclusion, Labour and Skills Mobility

We facilitate the resettlement and relocation of selected refugees to the Netherlands, in close cooperation with our offices in countries of departure and partner organizations. Furthermore, IOM assists in the safe transfer of Afghans to the Netherlands. We also provide assistance to family members entitled to reunite with their family in the Netherlands by arranging the travel and logistics, and serving as a contact point for relatives or sponsors in the Netherlands. IOM moreover assists with DNA sample collection to confirm family ties.

We also support the integration and inclusion of migrants into new communities. In partnership with Tilburg Municipality we are improving the knowledge and capacities of local and regional authorities in the region Hart van Brabant.

Moreover, the Moving the Middle project improves the position of migration in the Netherlands through gaining knowledge about effective communication tools to address the ambivalent segment of the Dutch population and further highlighting the added value of migration. A Migrant Advisory Board helps us to achieve these goals.

Together with the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC), we promote existing legal pathways for highly skilled talents from Nigeria and Senegal to conduct work placements in Dutch companies. Through the MATCH project we enable them to contribute to sectors with identified labour shortages.

# Migration and Development

We strengthen links between migration and development through diaspora engagement in development initiatives and by enhancing cooperation between countries of origin and destination to facilitate labour and skills mobility.

Our project Connecting Diaspora for Development 2 (CD4D2) enables diaspora professionals to use their knowledge and expertise for development in Iraq, Nigeria and Somalia. Through physical and online assignments, diaspora experts residing in the Netherlands are connected to institutions in their countries of origin.

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