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Ad-Hoc Query on 2022.11 Incentives and motives for voluntary departure

Requested by the Commission on 8 March 2022

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden plus Norway (23 in Total)

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EU Member States make use of various incentives to promote voluntary departure, including the provisions of opportunities to benefit from assistance to voluntary return and reintegrate in the country of return, typically provided in the framework of specifically designed assistance programmes (AVR(R) programmes). The offered incentives can be of a financial nature, but may also include other measures. However, these incentives do not always seem to be known to the target groups and they appear to play a rather minor role in the complex combination of factors that influence the decision to depart

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voluntarily and/or making use of available assistance to return.^[1] In contrast, the concerned persons' intrinsic motivation for voluntary departure is of great importance. The motives for voluntary departure are manifold and cannot or can only to a limited extent be influenced by the host country. Nonetheless, the question to what extent the perspective of being forcefully removed is a motive for voluntary departure is answered inconsistently.^[2] However, the possibility of issuing an entry ban if the obligation to return has not been complied with seems to have some influence on the decision to depart.^[3] Equal to manifold motives for voluntary departure, there is also a wide range of motives for not returning.^[4] Last but not least, it must not be forgotten that external circumstances also play a decisive role – for example, the fact that return could be viewed as a failed migration experience^[5] or practical obstacles that hinder the voluntary departure.^[6] Such external circumstances fall outside of the scope of this inform.

This ad-hoc query counts for two ad-hoc queries for reporting purposes.

^[1] Koser K., Kuschminder K., ‘

Comparative Research on the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Migrants’, 2015,

https://www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl486/files/migrated_files/What-We-Do/docs/AVRR-Research-final.pdf, last accessed 23 November 2021, p.314.

^[2] OECD, ‘Sustainable Reintegration of Returning Migrants’, 2020, <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/da2e2637-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/da2e2637-en>, last accessed 23 November 2021, p. 34; negating, for example, Coakley L., ‘Where do I go from here? The leading factors in voluntary return or remaining in Ireland’, 2011, http://emn.ie/files/p_20121218093811iom%20research_final_lr.pdf, last accessed 1 December 2021 p. 79–80.

^[3] OECD, ‘Sustainable Reintegration of Returning Migrants’, 2020, <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/da2e2637-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/da2e2637-en>, last accessed 15 February 2022.

^[4] Schmitt M., Bitterwolf M., Baraulina T., ‘Geförderte Rückkehr aus Deutschland: Motive und Reintegration’, 2019,

https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/DE/Forschung/Forschungsberichte/fb34-evaluation-starthilfeplus.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=4, last accessed 23 November 2021, p. 41.

^[5] Dako-Gyeke M., ‘We never plan to return home: voices of pre-migrant Ghanaian youth’, 2016, Journal of Youth Studies, 19:2, p. 178.

^[6] EMN inform, ‘Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on voluntary and forced return procedures and policy responses’, 2021, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/system/files_en?file=2021-01/00_eu_inform5_return_en.pdf, p. 3, last accessed 1 December 2021.

We would like to ask the following questions:

1. What pre-departure incentives (in cash and in kind) are offered in your country to motivate third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued to depart voluntarily? (please also list other incentives that, while not exclusively, are also granted to these individuals)

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2. What post-arrival incentives (in cash and in kind) are offered in your country to motivate third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued to depart voluntarily?
 3. For incentives listed in Q1, please describe whether they are targeted/tailored to specific countries or geographic regions.
 4. What are the incentives implemented by your State that have had the most impact to influence the third-country nationals' decision to depart voluntarily? Please elaborate on the registered impact and state the evidence base for your response.
 5. Please list and elaborate on the challenges negatively impacting the effectiveness of available return incentives implemented in your State to influence the third-country nationals' decision to depart voluntarily. (e.g. a) Incentives offered are not adaptable to individual needs; b) time to receive promised/available support (in kind or in cash) is too long; c) duration of the available support is considered too short; d) the offered package is not attractive enough to outweigh the perceived benefits to stay). Please explain and if available provide any support documents for your response.
 6. Please describe how third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued are targeted with information about available incentives for voluntary departure and about the consequences of non-compliance with a return decision e.g. Return decision; Return counselling/face-to-face counselling (possibly in the country of return, e.g. through videoconferencing); Leaflets/brochures/ or Posters; Institutional Websites; Dedicated social media pages (e.g. Facebook); Online discussion forums; Helplines/info lines; Information Campaigns; Community visits; Information multipliers (e.g. migrant stakeholders, diaspora organisations...).
- As relevant please refer and update replies given to the AHQ 2019.95 on Policies and Practices of Outreach and Information Provision for the (voluntary) Return of Migrants in EU Member States and Norway.
7. What are the top features information activities (e.g. timing, tailoring or information, or messenger used) that have had a positive impact on the third-country nationals' decision to depart voluntarily? Please elaborate and indicate if possible if there is any supporting documents to your answer.

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8. Does your State collect data/information on the motives for voluntary departure? Yes/No. Please explain.

9. Does your Member State collect data/information of why voluntary departure is refused? Yes/No, please explain.

10. If you answer yes to Q.8, what are the top motives for departing voluntarily? Please list them and if available provide any support documents to your answer.

11. If yes to Q.9, what are the top motives for refusing to depart voluntarily (incentives to stay), on the assumption that there are no practical obstacles to return (e.g. medical conditions, difficulties to obtain travel or identity documents, travel restrictions beyond third-country national will)? Please list them and if available provide any support documents to your answer.

12. If you answer YES to Q.8 or Q.9, do these motives have influence in your Member State to develop new measures/incentives? Yes/no. If yes, please explain and if possible provide an example.

We would very much appreciate your responses by **11 April 2022**.


2. RESPONSES

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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.

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		Wider Dissemination ²	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued are offered the following incentives in order to depart voluntarily:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and individual voluntary return counselling at special counselling offices • Support with applications for the necessary travel documents • Travel organization including flight booking • Medical care during transfer • Accompaniment on the entire return journey in case of special support needs (e.g. vulnerable persons) • Payment of travel costs • Reimbursement of special additional costs related to the return journey (e.g. medical needs) • Financial start assistance provided cash on the day of departure (ranges from EUR 250,00 to EUR 900,00 per person depending on the legal status in Austria and country of return) • Registration for enrollment in a special reintegration program (available in 36 countries) <p>The services are offered according to individual needs after a case-by-case examination carried out by the Austrian Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. AT currently offers reintegration programs in 36 countries in cooperation with different project partners (ERRIN, IOM AT, Caritas AT). The reintegration packages include in kind assistance (up to € 3.000) and cash assistance (up to € 500). The different reintegration programs have minor differences regarding the division of in kind and cash assistance.</p>

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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		<p>Moreover, additional assistance for specific target groups through different support projects within the ERRIN Network have been provided. Within the MedRa project additional cash support has been provided in medical vulnerable cases, as in the frame of Prospect returnees who are potential victims of trafficking from Nigeria got the possibility to receive additional in-kind support. The SRI project (Sustainable Reintegration Iraq) offered a business training for returnees from Iraq.</p> <p>The development project “ESME” from ICMPD in Enugu, provides for the opportunity to interconnect reintegration with an development initiative. In the framework of this project returnees can participate in a certified vocational training for construction work with the main goal to build up a business park and create job opportunities. This educational offer is additional to the regular reintegration assistance. At in close cooperation with ICMPD is providing information on this project to Nigerian nationals with an order to leave. The information is provided by return counselors.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>3. In principle, migrants against whom a return decision has been issued must comply with their obligation to leave the country and pay the costs for the departure themselves. However, if certain conditions are met, the support services referred to in question 1 may be granted. Nationals from EU-MS, EEA countries, Western Balkan countries and visa-free countries are generally excluded from the payment of costs and financial start assistance. Also excluded are delinquents, depending on the nature and severity of the offence.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4. The incentives and support offers provided by AT have a broad target group (excluded countries are mentioned above). Therefore, we have no comparative date regarding the impact of our general support offers. We are convinced that the main factor regarding voluntary return incentives is the actual knowledge about possible assistance. Hence, AT has harmonized return counselling with the beginning of 2021 through the establishment of the Federal Agency for Reception and Support Services.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
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		<p>5. Regarding our support projects in addition to the reintegration programs we were facing several challenges and difficulties. Projects with referral mechanism are always quite challenging because during return counselling sessions a participation in the project can't be guaranteed to the returnee.</p> <p>Another obstacle are short implementation periods of projects. To produce additional information on the projects and to distribute it to all return counselors takes time. In some cases, such as the SRI project, the operative project period was too short and therefore, we were not able to build up a functionable referral mechanism on a national level.</p> <p>In addition it is always difficult to gain the interest of returnees if the foreseen support offer is not based on income generating activities. Projects which guarantee a job (placement) are quite low and should be expanded.</p> <p>An important point for all projects and programs is their credibility and the matter of building trust. This challenge mainly lies with return counsellors but the establishment of the basis for their work and distribution of the relevant information is given on a strategical level by the Ministry of Interior.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>6. Austria has taken several communication measures (posters, leaflets, brochures) to ensure that people who are obliged to leave the country are already informed about the incentives for voluntary departure at an early stage or even before the return decision has been issued. Once the return decision has become final a participation in return counseling is mandatory. This obligation is passed on by a letter of formal notice to the potential returnee in their own language and includes the contact information of the counseling center and the request to attend the consultation without delay.</p> <p>The face-to-face counselling stands at the center of the passing on of the available incentives for voluntary departure. In conversation in the respective mother tongue return perspectives are clarified and incentives and reintegration offers are presented. In addition, the consequences of non-compliance with the return decision and continuation of the irregular stay are discussed in detail. To ensure that as many people as possible, who engage with a possible voluntary departure, take advantage of free return counseling regardless of the residence or procedural status, information materials, posters and other flyers are accessible in many authorities in Austria or online.</p>
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			<p>To generate additional attention a social media campaign with paid ads was launched in November 2021 to target potential returnees on Facebook and Instagram. The campaign is specifically aimed at certain language groups and accommodation facilities in Austria where illegal people are staying and will continue until mid 2022. The social media presence is intended to improve the online communication and is aimed to refer more people online to the returnfromaustria.at landing page. Furthermore, a direct mailing campaign was started at the end of 2021 where selected people, who continue to stay illegally in Austria where again obliged in a formal letter to have another return counseling in persona. The letter was accompanied by available information material on return incentives and was temporally combined with a limited return incentive.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>7. As AT information activities are relatively new, we cannot yet draw conclusions about the effectiveness of certain activities. Nevertheless, the experience gained during our direct mailing campaign shows that personally addressing third country nationals with request/invitation to participate in a return counselling session was very successful (show-up rate of roughly 50%) . In the course of this campaign AT contacted TCN with an valid order to leave via letter to participate in another return counselling session.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>8. During return counselling sessions, it is determined whether a migrant is willing to leave the country voluntarily or not. Motives for voluntary return have not yet been systematically recorded in the course of these interviews. Therefore, information on motives for voluntary return is only available for a limited group of returnees, namely those who fill out an application form for specific reintegration projects.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>9. In the course of mandatory return counselling, the return counsellors must report to the Austrian Federal Office for Migration and Asylum whether a migrant is willing to return voluntarily or not. If a migrant does not wish to return voluntarily, a reason needs to be indicated.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
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			<p>10. n/i --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>11. Reasons for the unwillingness of migrants to return voluntarily have been systematically inquired and recorded as part of return counselling since 01.01.2021. An analysis of these data has not yet been carried out, but is currently in preparation. The result is going to be followed by a comprehensive evaluation, from which measures will be derived. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>12. n/i --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. - Pre-departure counseling - Cash grant for countries with visa obligation: 350 EUR per adult / 175 EUR per child - Cash grant for countries without visa obligation: 50 EUR per adult / 25 EUR per child</p> <p>2. - Reintegration assistance (until 1 year after arrival) - In-kind assistance for countries with visa obligation: 1000 EUR per adult / 500 EUR per child + 1500 EUR per case - In-kind assistance for countries without visa obligation: 1000 EUR per case (via exception procedure if vulnerabilities are detected) - In-kind support for families with minor children: + 1000 EUR per case (countries with and without visa obligation) - Vulnerabilities: + 500 EUR per person for vulnerable persons (persons with medical needs, pregnant women, elderly persons, victims of human trafficking) - Unaccompanied minors and ex-unaccompanied minors (< 21) from countries with visa obligation: 3000 EUR per case + 700 EUR per parent in Coo for UAMs - Unaccompanied minors and ex-unaccompanied minors (<21) from countries without visa obligation: 1500 EUR per case + 700 EUR per parent in Coo for UAMS</p>


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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adapted medical assistance after return (AMAAR): Additional amount in case of complex medical issues - AMIF top-ups: 1500 EUR (additional amount that can be used for microbusiness) <p>3. Incentives outlined in Q1 are targeted towards all geographical regions (except from EU countries). The distinction is made between countries with or without visa obligation.</p> <p>4. - In-kind assistance by our reintegration partners IOM and Caritas in the CoO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information spreading towards the target group via a free number, collaboration with cities and social organization, outreaching towards persons without legal residence permit <p>5. - Impact Covid on flight options in 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trust issues regarding support in countries of origin (that is one of the reasons why videoconferencing was made possible) - Cash support is not the main incentive for returnees to return home - it is a complex decision with multiple incentives (safety situation, relationship with family members in coo etc.) <p>6. - Return decision (by Foreign Office, not Fedasil)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Return and reintegration counselling by Fedasil, IOM and Caritas - Video conference with CoO by Caritas or IOM - Leaflets/posters/return stories/social media on Voluntary Return by Fedasil - Helpdesk: free number on voluntary return - Information multipliers: projects with diaspora communities, employees at city councils or in social organizations that are working on Voluntary Return - ICAM return desks: On 16 December 2021 the Immigration Office opened ICAM return desks in 4 major Belgian cities. ICAM stands for Individual Case Management Support. ICAM return counsellors will inform irregularly staying migrants about their situation, look into possible new residence procedures, and help and encourage to return voluntarily. If a new residence procedure is not useful and if the irregularly staying migrant refuses to return voluntarily, forced return is looked into. This fits into the implementation of the 'adherent policy' in order to increase the return rate. The 'adherent policy' (Dutch: aanklampend beleid, French: politique proactive) is a Belgian policy using a wide range of possible measures to strengthen an effective return policy. In the near future ICAM return desks will open in other Belgian cities.
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			<p>7. All the above. It's too soon to properly assess the impact of ICAM, but the Immigration Office believes its first results are promising.</p> <p>8. No. Not in a structured manner.</p> <p>9. No</p> <p>10. NA</p> <p>11. NA</p> <p>12. NA</p>
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. The International Organization for Migration-Bulgaria (IOM) is the entity that implements, at the national level, programmes supporting voluntary return and reintegration of third-country nationals. By these programmes, assistance and financing of the persons is provided throughout the process of preparation and implementation of both the voluntary return measures and the subsequent reintegration measures.</p> <p>Before leaving Bulgaria, support is rendered to these persons for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing the necessary travel documents and assistance in the procedures before the third-country representations and the national competent authorities; - providing transportation within Bulgaria in activities related to the preparation of return; - purchasing travel tickets to the country of origin; - medical examinations / treatment before departure of vulnerable persons, if necessary; - providing a small amount of cash to the voluntary returning migrants immediately before their departure. In accordance with humanitarian principles, IOM provides a one-time cash support of 100 euros when leaving Bulgaria. This amount is intended to cover any needs of the returning TCNs during their trip and immediately after arrival in the country of origin. For vulnerable persons (within the meaning of Article 3(9) of Directive 115/2008), the amount is 150 euros. - providing transportation to Sofia Airport and assistance on departure; - providing escorts for the return of unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable migrants, if necessary; - providing assistance in cases of transit, if applicable.

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		<p>Voluntary return preparation activities are carried out by IOM experts, ensuring communication with the relevant national authorities and other organisations with which the return preparation is coordinated.</p> <p>IOM provides all necessary activities for the provision of flight tickets, financial resources, as well as a medical examination before departure of vulnerable persons who need care by qualified medical personnel.</p> <p>IOM experts provide full support in the implementation of voluntary return. In addition to the above measures, third-country nationals are provided transportation, by IOM official vehicles, within Bulgaria in the framework of activities related to the preparation of their return and the medical examinations. Transportation is also provided on departure from Sofia Airport, etc.</p> <p>2. In the voluntary return programmes, the International Organization for Migration-Bulgaria also provides support for the reception and reintegration of third-country nationals after their arrival to the country of origin / of return. This support consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing assistance upon arrival in the country of origin; - providing assistance by a representative of the IOM mission in the country of origin in organising and implementing measures to support the reintegration of the returned person. <p>Reintegration measures are implemented on the basis of approved individual plans for assisted voluntary return and reintegration. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing assistance for starting one's own small business or economic activity in the field of agriculture; - assisting in finding shelter upon return, including the provision of furniture, household appliances and other items to ensure normal accommodation conditions, as well as other reintegration measures; - assisting in finding a job; - raising the professional qualification; - assisting education; - providing medical care for migrants with health problems. <p>Reintegration support measures are implemented with the support of representatives of IOM missions in the countries of origin, with a financial assistance under reintegration measures, amounting to 1,000 euros per assisted person and to up to 1,500 euros for vulnerable persons. In the case of family return, the assistance may amount to up to 2,000 euros and may be granted to one of the family members.</p>
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		<p>All IOM programmes for voluntary return and reintegration of third-country nationals provide the opportunity medical support to be ensured for people with illnesses and medical problems – both before departure, in order to establish whether the TCN is physically able to travel, and after return to the country of origin, as part of the reintegration support.</p> <p>The current programme for voluntary return and reintegration provides an opportunity for medical support, in the amount of up to 1,500 euros, to persons with diseases and medical problems after they return to their country of origin.</p> <p>3. The International Organization for Migration-Bulgaria offers support for voluntary return and reintegration of citizens originating from any third country. IOM-Bulgaria's programmes do not target individual countries or target groups but are structured in the most flexible way so that it is possible to provide support to persons from all third countries and to persons from all target groups, including persons with an imposed return decision, persons in the procedure for consideration of an application for international protection, persons with a negative decision on an application for international protection, etc.</p> <p>4. Based on the experience of the IOM programmes implemented in Bulgaria, it should be noted that each of the forms of support may be appropriate depending on the needs of the individual. Most often, third-country nationals who have made an informed and independent decision to return voluntarily need financial support to purchase flight tickets to their country of origin (returning to the most frequent countries of origin of migrants in Bulgaria, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Iraq, Pakistan, Iran, etc., requires a significant amount of funds, especially for families with children), as well as a small amount of cash. On the other hand, specific support (for example for pre-departure medical care and/or escort by a medical specialist and subsequent reintegration support for treatment and medicines in the country of origin) may be crucial for vulnerable persons with illnesses.</p> <p>5. With regard to the possibilities for improving pre-departure support measures in Bulgaria, the feedback from the supported persons shows that a significant part of them believe that the amount of money before departure should be more significant, so that it could actually fulfil the role of incentive. Similarly, for some countries of origin, the amount of reintegration support of up to 1,000 euros is perceived as insufficient to finance a small business even partially.</p> <p>6. IOM disseminates the following information: IOM experts conduct individual consultations in order to provide relevant information and explain the available support for voluntary return and reintegration of third-country nationals. During these meetings, the persons get acquainted with</p>
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		<p>the possibilities for voluntary return and with the current situation in their country of origin. The emphasis is on the individual approach and observance of humanitarian principles. The physical and psychological condition of every returnee is also taken into account. Possible reintegration measures are discussed and the most appropriate one, from the perspective of the person, is planned to be implemented, thus ensuring the sustainability of return.</p> <p>IOM experts also provide information to TCNs in the accommodation centres at the State Agency for Refugees (SAR) and the Migration Directorate - Mol (MD) in the country. They regularly visit the SAR and DM centres in Sofia to provide opportunities for direct contact with the persons accommodated in these centres and to consult and encourage them to make a decision on voluntary return and reintegration. In some of the migration centres IOM has permanent offices and contact points that provide information to TCNs.</p> <p>In parallel, IOM distributes specifically elaborated information materials – brochures and posters, which are disseminated among the target group with the support of representatives of public and non-governmental organisations in Bulgaria having competencies and responsibilities in the field of asylum, including at central and local levels.</p> <p>Information on possible support for voluntary return is also published on the IOM website and the social networks, which are preferred information channels for young people representing the vast majority of migrants in Bulgaria.</p> <p>7. Most essentially, the information channels and materials try to focus on specific and relevant information, if possible, adapted to the needs of the respective person or target group. Rapid and timely preparation of replies to inquiries on specific issues and building an environment of trust on the part of migrants are also essential. Generally presented and non-targeted information is not the best solution.</p> <p>8. IOM does not collect information on the motives for voluntary return by third-country nationals. The decision to return voluntarily has two key elements: a) freedom of choice, which is determined by the absence of any physical or psychological pressure on the persons, and b) an informed decision that requires time and sufficiently accurate and objective information on which the persons will base their decision. The decision and the reasons to make that decision are individual and may vary in every specific case.</p> <p>9. IOM does not collect information on the reasons for refusing voluntary departure.</p> <p>10. Not applicable given the answers to questions 8 and 9.</p> <p>11. Not applicable given the answers to questions 8 and 9.</p>
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			12. Not applicable given the answers to questions 8 and 9.
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	<p>1. In Croatia, IOM implements an AVRR programme co-funded by the Republic of Croatia and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. As part of the programme, information regarding conditions in Country of Origin, referrals assistance (accommodation, health, social services, legal matter etc.), travel documents support (if no respective Embassy in Croatia), and administrative procedures at the airport (check-in, border formalities) are provided prior to departure.</p> <p>2. In Croatia, IOM implements an AVRR programme co-funded by the Republic of Croatia and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. As part of the programme, pocket money for ongoing transport in country of origin, arrival assistance, referrals assistance, and reintegration assistance are provided post-arrival.</p> <p>3. In Croatian AVRR programme, there are no targeting to specific countries or geographical regions.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>6. As relevant please refer and update replies given to the AHQ 2019.95 on Policies and Practices of Outreach and Information Provision for the (voluntary) Return of Migrants in EU Member States and Norway. During handing out return decision to migrant, Ministry of Interior's migration officers also hand out AVRR multi-languag leaflet and inform migrant of AVRR programme in Croatia, pointing them to IOM if they choose to return to their country of origin voluntarily. AVRR leaflet contains basic information about the programme, link to AVRR website, location and phone number of IOM office.</p> <p>7.</p> <p>8. Yes. Motives for voluntary return are collected during the counselling process.</p> <p>9. Yes. Motives for declining voluntary return are collected during the counselling process.</p> <p>10.</p>


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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to return voluntarily against forced return, avoiding stigmatization of deportation, escorted by police officers and avoiding additional border procedures as a result of deportation. • Financial aspect, e.g. willingness to return voluntarily but no financial means to do it in their own arrangement. <p>11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to move onward to another EU MS. • Willingness to stay in country as irregular migrant. • Decision to apply for international protection <p>12.</p>
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	<p>1. In Cyprus, there are two assisted voluntary returns project</p> <p>(a) IOM implements an AVRR programme co-funded by the Republic of Cyprus and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. As part of the programme, cash assistance (300 euros to all countries) is provided prior to departure to all beneficiaries returning through the programme. Pre-departure assistance in kind (medical support, psychological support, short stay housing etc.) is also provided to beneficiaries according to individualised needs.</p> <p>(b) Civil Registry and Migration Department of the Ministry of Interior runs its own assisted voluntary returns project. It offers pre-return incentive in cash only. It offers 1500 euros to returnees to sub-saharan African countries (DRC, Nigeria, Somalia, Cote d' Ivoire, Cameroon etc.)and Syria, 1000 euros to Asian countries (Iran, Irak, Nepal, Bangladesh, India, Pakistam etc.) and 500 euros to Eastern European countries (Georgia, Russia, Armenia etc.) Western Balkans and North Africa (Egypt, Libya, Morocco etc.) and Mediterranean (Lebanon, Palestine etc.) countries.</p> <p>2. (a) As part of the IOM AVRR programme, reintegration assistance in kind is provided to eligible beneficiaries (≥ 80 beneficiaries). Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic post-arrival assistance in kind is also provided for post-arrival COVID-19 related expenses where applicable such as PCR tests, quarantine, etc.</p> <p>(b) Civil Registry and Migration Department of the Ministry of Interior participates in Frontex' Joint Reintegration Services.</p> <p>3. See Q1</p>

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			<p>4. The increased cash incentives offered by the Civil Registry and Migration Department have a severe impact in the high influx of voluntary returns. They were introduced in September 2021 and since then the number of voluntary returns has significantly increased, from appx 50 per months to appx 175-200 per month.</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. For both project the usual ways of providing informations are: return face-to-face counselling, information provision sessions in reception/accommodation centers, website, social media, leaflets/posters and using translators/interpreters as info multipliers.</p> <p>7. Face-to-face counselling provides the opportunity for tailor-based information, as well as gives the opportunity to the returnee to make a well informed decision.</p> <p>8. Not systematically. However, return counsellors prepare for each case a report, where they might refer to the motives of the returnee.</p> <p>9. Not systematically. However, return counsellors prepare for each case a report, where they might refer to why voluntary departure is refused</p> <p>10. 1. Failure to find a job in Cyprus and to have a decent life 2. Disappointment, as they could not find the better life they were looking for 3. Family issues and/or health issues of a relative in their country of origin.</p> <p>11. 1. Hope that they will eventually receive asylum status or any other legal residence status</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The Czech Republic doesn't use any system of in cash/in-kind motivation for foreigners to return. The main tool used to motivate the foreigner to depart is in-depth interview with the returnee during which the current situation of the foreigner is assessed and the advantages of the voluntary returns are emphasized (especially when the foreigner received the return decision and his/her future perspective is life in illegality or forced return).</p>


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		<p>For those foreigners who are in need (which do not have a place to return, no money etc.) the MoI can provide short term accommodation and cover other basic needs such as food, health care etc. before departure. Everything is provided in kind.</p> <p>2. Every foreigner who is travelling out of the city to which the flight is arranged can receive the in cash contribution for the continuing trip to get to the final destination. In case of long waiting time in the transit, the citizen can receive money for small refreshments. In urgent cases, the citizens might receive contribution for emergency accommodation in the country of origin. The maximum amount the foreigner can receive is about 100 EUR (given in cash). As the Czech Republic has participated in a pilot project financed by Frontex since May 2021 – Joint Reintegration Services - there was a possibility to support selected foreigners with in-kind reintegration assistance (max. 1350 EUR per person). The Czech Republic is expecting to participate in Frontex follow-up project on reintegration services and to provide more foreigners with reintegration assistance in their country of origin in the future.</p> <p>3. The provided support is fixed regardless of the country region.</p> <p>4. The Czech Republic does not use any system of incentives. The foreigner 's decision to depart voluntarily is based on his/her own will and is supported by the interviews with the return counsellor during which the best options are searched together with the foreigner.</p> <p>5. There are no negative challenges regarding the motivation of the third-nationals to depart voluntarily as during the pre-departure phase-only citizens in need are supported. The support given to the citizens before departure (as cash for the ongoing trip) is not considered a significant factor to motivate the foreigners to return. Reintegration assistance was provided just to selected foreigners. There is not any system of intensives stated in the national policy, the main tool to support foreigners 'decision to depart voluntarily is counselling.</p> <p>6. Together with the issued return decision every foreigner receives information on the voluntary return, implementation options, contact details (address to local offices) and telephone number. The information is further published on the MoI website. Employees of Return dept. hold regular meetings, workshops with NGO staff during which the detailed information about the voluntary return program is shared.</p>
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			<p>Each foreigner who is placed in the Detention Centre because he/she obtained a returned decision, is informed personally by the staff on Return dept.</p> <p>In 2022, a campaign will be launched to inform foreigners about the possibilities of the voluntary return through social networks or another application.</p> <p>7. The positive fact is that the voluntary return is realized quickly, without unnecessary delays, in the horizon of days, hours. From the first meeting each foreigner has a clear picture of the whole process, is detailed informed how the return process will carry out.</p> <p>Also, human dignity, personal input, professional communication, trained and educated staff is really important.</p> <p>8. No data influencing the motivation of foreigners to return is collected.</p> <p>9. No, there are minimum returns, that have been refused so far, we do not have relevant data or data that can constitute a representative sample.</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. Usually, the health condition that doesn't allow us to cooperate with the returnee or lack of cooperation or will to participate in the process of the return.</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	<p>1. In Estonia, if a person, to whom return decision, with term for voluntary compliance with the obligation to leave (hereinafter voluntary departure) is issued, wishes to receive support for his/her voluntary departure, the IOM Estonian office should be contacted. The Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration programme (VARRE project) includes return counselling, travel planning, assistance in obtaining travel documents and travel tickets. There are no in-cash pre-departure incentives, although IOM Estonia may provide to a person at the point of departure assistance. This support is needs based and averagely 50 EUR/per person may be paid. In some exceptional cases (if returnees are families with children), the in-cash assistance may exceed 100 EUR up to 200 EUR.</p> <p>Persons may also contact return counsellors, who may advise them to plan their departure or refer them to IOM Estonia services. Return counsellors service is provided by the Police and Border Guard Board.</p>

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		<p>One of the measures to motivate persons to return voluntarily within period for voluntary departure is, that person may apply to revoke the prohibition on entry (entry ban) if person proves that he or she has left the territory of a member state within the term for voluntary departure.</p> <p>2. The IOM Estonia is providing to a person a post-arrival re-integration support. Reintegration is in-kind support (in the form of material goods and services – not in cash). Reintegration support may cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start up a small business (IOM can assist in the implementation of income generating activities); - Join educational courses (reintegration can be used for education fees and related costs for children); - Attend professional training (IOM can pay for vocational training courses (computing, hairdressing, plumbing, etc); - Look for a work placement (IOM can cover costs relating to the acquisition of information on employment opportunities, for instance, through employment agencies). <p>3. Voluntary departure assistance provided by the IOM Estonia is not country-specific, only citizen of EEA countries (European Union countries, Norway, Switzerland and Iceland) are not eligible to apply this support. Since 2010 (IOM Estonia started the VARRE project) until 2021 600 persons has been received assisted voluntary departure support.</p> <p>4. There is no such information as, which incentives have had the most impact on voluntary departure, available. In Estonia the percentage of voluntary departure from the total number of returns, is about 90% and also the return rate of persons to whom return decision is issued and who are actually returned, has remained high about, 85%-90%. Thus, no incentives for voluntary departure, additionally to the IOM Estonia support, is foreseen. In-cash assistance may motivate persons to return, but as in Estonia the amount of assistance is quite low (about 50 EUR/per person), this may not impact as a motivator.</p> <p>5. There is very limited information available, but for instance: reintegration support is mainly addressed for long-term perspective activities (returnee may participate in vocational training; support to start a small business), though in practice even more support for short-term assistance is needed (support to pay for rent; daily-basis subsistence support). Reintegration support could be foreseen as more flexible support measure, allowing to pay for limited time subsistence allowance for a person.</p>
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			<p>6. In Estonia the information on voluntary departure will be provided by the IOM Estonian office within the VARRE project and by the Police and Border Guard Board within the return counselling service. Consultation services are provided on the basis of needs – appointments are arranged, information on webpage provided (http://varre.directmedia.ee/?lang=en). There are also phone call consultations, Skype meetings available for a person.</p> <p>In Estonia, while issuing a return decision to a person, information about possible assistance on voluntary departure will be provided.</p> <p>7. Most effective approach has been individual face to face counselling.</p> <p>8. No.</p> <p>9. No, we do not collect such information.</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A</p> <p>12. No changes are currently planned.</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Pre-departure, at the airport, 200 euros is given to adults and 100 euros to children accompanied by their parents. This is an advance payment of (a part of) an in-cash and in-kind assistance. As a part of the “Sustainable reintegration in Iraq” -project (ERRIN), which was implemented in Finland in 2021, pre-departure business training was offered to Iraqi nationals from Baghdad. The ERRIN -project was an AMIF-funded project, aiming to support and develop sustainable reintegration in Iraq, in connection with assisted voluntary return.</p> <p>2. Post-arrival assistance for voluntary return can be given in cash or in kind. The amount of cash assistance depends on the country of return: for adults it is 200, 500, 800 or 1500 euros depending on the country of return (for children 100, 300, 500, 750 euros). It should be noted that 200 euros (children 100 euros) of the total sum can be given in advance at the airport, pre-departure. An increased amount of assistance may be granted if this is justifiable due to the applicant's age, injury, illness, family circumstances, or some other personal reason. A decreased amount of assistance may be</p>

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		<p>granted, or the assistance may be denied altogether, if there are grounds for suspecting that the applicant intends to abuse the assistance system.</p> <p>The amount of in-kind support, which can be used e.g. to start a business, also depends on the country of return. In category A countries, the amount of in-kind support is 5,000 euros per adult and 1,500 euros per child. In category B, C and D countries, the amounts are 3,000 euros per adult and 1,500 euros per child.</p> <p>The categories of countries can be found here: https://migri.fi/en/amounts-of-assistance-by-country</p> <p>3. Yes, the aforementioned “Sustainable reintegration in Iraq” -project (ERRIN, 1.1.-31.12.2021) was targeted/tailored to Iraqi nationals from Baghdad. The project included pre-departure and post-arrival business training. The ERRIN -project was an AMIF-funded project, aiming to support and develop sustainable reintegration in Iraq, in connection with assisted voluntary return.</p> <p>Pre-departure (Q1) incentives are otherwise not country specific. However, the amount received as cash or in kind - assistance POST-arrival does vary by country. As stated in Q2 above (repeated here): The amount of cash assistance depends on the country of return: for adults it is 200, 500, 800 or 1500 euros depending on the country of return (for children 100, 300, 500, 750 euros). It should be noted that 200 euros (children 100 euros) of the total sum can be given in advance at the airport, pre-departure. An increased amount of assistance may be granted if this is justifiable due to the applicant's age, injury, illness, family circumstances, or some other personal reason. A decreased amount of assistance may be granted, or the assistance may be denied altogether, if there are grounds for suspecting that the applicant intends to abuse the assistance system.</p> <p>The amount of in-kind support, which can be used e.g. to start a business, also depends on the country of return. In category A countries, the amount of in-kind support is 5,000 euros per adult and 1,500 euros per child. In category B, C and D countries, the amounts are 3,000 euros per adult and 1,500 euros per child. The categories of countries can be found here: https://migri.fi/en/amounts-of-assistance-by-country</p> <p>4. Finland has not studied which incentives have had the most impact on voluntary departures/returns. It would appear that the amount of money given does not play an important role, but there are likely other external reasons behind voluntary returns (e.g. social reasons, people get tired of waiting...). In kind -assistance has become more popular in the last couple of years. For instance in 2020 50 % chose in kind-assistance for voluntary return and in 2021 66 % chose in kind-assistance.</p>
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			<p>5. It could be that the package is not attractive enough, but it has not been studied which amount would be “sufficient”. Incentives offered seem to be adaptable enough to individual needs, as one may use the assistance quite freely – it has not been restricted to certain kind of action or purpose. The time to receive the promised in-kind support upon arrival used to be too long and therefore it was not a popular option at first. However, this issue has been resolved and most likely, as a consequence, the in kind -assistance has become the most popular form of assistance. The duration of the in-kind support does not seem to be too short either, as it is still available a year after return.</p> <p>6. Consequences of non-compliance with a return decision are clearly stated in the asylum and residence permit decisions. In the decisions it is stated that the Aliens Act (301/2004) Section 147a stipulates that “A decision on denial of admittance or stay or on deportation sets a time limit of at least seven and no more than thirty days within which the alien may leave the country voluntarily. The time limit for voluntary return is counted from the day the decision is enforceable”. Section 150 of the Aliens Act stipulates that “An entry ban may be imposed in a separate decision if the alien has not left the country voluntarily within the fixed time limit”.</p> <p>Face-to-face return counselling is given at reception centres to asylum seekers. Persons staying in the country irregularly (undocumented persons) can get return counselling from the Finnish Immigration Service. The AVR-programmes and related counselling are restricted to specific groups: asylum seekers; persons who have received temporary protection or victims of trafficking in human beings with no municipality of residence; persons with an asylum seeker background staying irregularly; persons whose refugee or subsidiary status has been ended or revoked; and persons whose residence permit has been issued under section 51 of the Aliens Act due to there being an obstacle to leaving the country.</p> <p>Police can provide a return ticket for returnees, who are not eligible for the AVR-programmes and who don't have funds to purchase the ticket themselves. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) offers a special mechanism that provides member states with booking and ticketing services which can be utilized.</p> <p>Posters on voluntary return have been displayed at reception centres. Brochures on voluntary return have been distributed for instance as a part of the AMIF-funded “Voluntary return to Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan”-project (AUDA-project, implemented between 2018-2020). Updating the posters and brochures has been considered, but their actual effectiveness is questioned. There is also a leaflet on the process of voluntary return, targeted specifically for persons staying in the country irregularly (undocumented). These leaflets have been given to the police, municipalities, civil society organisations and other stakeholders, which encounter undocumented migrants in their work.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Service website includes pages, which provide information on voluntary return and on how one can apply for assisted voluntary return (https://migri.fi/en/return). The Immigration Service also maintains a webpage on “Help and Assistance on Voluntary Return”, which is available in seven languages (<a 465="" 528="" 912="" 936"="" data-label="Page-Footer" href="https://voluntaryreturn.fi/en/front-</p> </td> </tr> </table> </div> <div data-bbox=">23 of 70.</p>
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			<p>page/). Information on voluntary return is also shared via Facebook and Instagram in Finnish, English and Arabic. In addition the Immigration Service maintains a Helpline-Whatsapp (infoline), which can be called or messaged for advice related to return questions (Finnish, English and Arabic available at the moment). A social media campaign on voluntary return issues is being prepared at the moment. Community visits are also conducted with different stakeholders, who encounter undocumented migrants in their work, but work has not been done with diaspora organisations.</p> <p>7. The fact that counselling is given face-to-face on an individual basis, it is competent and very easily reachable/available has had a positive impact. Moreover, the Whatsapp-infoline through which advice is given on any return related questions (either by calling or messaging) has worked really well. The Whatsapp-infoline is available in Finnish, English and Arabic at the moment.</p> <p>8. No. In the “Voluntary return to Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan”-project (AUDA-project, implemented between 2018-2020 with AMIF-funding) information was collected from returnees post-arrival, but not on the motives of return, but rather on how they were coping post-arrival. In the AUDA-project, we tried to establish through diaspora organisations what motives of voluntary return exist, but were unsuccessful in this. It was noted that it is extremely difficult to get this kind of sensitive information from clients or from organisations working with them.</p> <p>9. No.</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Country subject to visa: EUR 650 per person (adults and minors) Visa-free country and Kosovo: EUR 300 per person (adults and minors) An exceptional increase of up to EUR 1,200 (i.e. EUR 1,850 in total) may be granted to adult nationals of countries subject to a visa, at the request of the Prefects to the Director-General of the OFII, as a priority for withdrawing and refusing asylum from third-country nationals present in dedicated accommodation (reception centers for asylum seekers - CADA, emergency housing for asylum seekers - HUDA, reception and information centers - CAO, centres for preparing</p>

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		<p>return assistance – CPAR, reception and administrative situation assessment centers - CAES, etc.) and in connection with the dismantling of camps. Depending on the country, such aid is paid in cash for embarkation or (and this is the preferred format) in dematerialised form (Western Union coupon). EUR 150 for returnees who themselves take the steps to obtain travel documents (passport or consular laissez-passer). Handling of air tickets and baggage from home to airport. Since 2015, the OFII has set up centres for preparing return assistance, dedicated to irregular migrants and based on two complementary axes, namely support for voluntary return from the OFII and accommodation provided by the State with an identified operator. The OFII shall accompany these applicants with individualised follow-up by providing them with all relevant information on the conditions for return. 33 centres are operational at national level. The OFII also set up in 2021 a medicalised return scheme to Georgia which provides for medicalised transport from home in France to accommodation in Georgia, with medical escort on flight if necessary, and assists with medicated reinsertion after return.</p> <p>2. On arrival, aid for in-kind renewal is offered in the countries covered (as at 29/03/22): — In the framework of European Partnerships: Kosovo (URA), Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan and Russia (ERRIN), for a maximum of EUR 3,000 per case; — By means of a reintegration scheme under the OFII: Armenia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Georgia, Republic of Guinea, Haiti, Mali, Morocco, Mauritius, Senegal, Togo and Tunisia; The reintegration scheme is structured around three levels of support: Support for social reintegration (level 1) to cover the first costs of settling the family (within the first six months of return) relating to the housing, health or schooling of minor children, up to a maximum of EUR 400 per adult and EUR 300 per minor child; — Support for reintegration through employment (level 2) through job-search assistance provided by a local specialist provider and financial support to cover part of the salary (maximum 60 %) over a maximum period of one year and up to a maximum of EUR 4 000, or through the financing of training improving the employability of the candidate and up to a maximum of EUR 2,000; — Aid for reintegration by setting up a business (level 3), which includes carrying out a feasibility study of the project, covering part of the start-up costs of the enterprise in addition to the personal input mobilised by the beneficiary and</p>
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			<p>monitoring the activity for one year. The maximum amount of assistance depends on the countries (priority countries EUR 6,300, countries without agreement EUR 5,200, visa-free countries EUR 3,000).</p> <p>3. All third countries are covered, with a difference in amount depending on whether the country is subject to a visa or not.</p> <p>4. As regards the aid in the present case, I noted its incentive character according to the amount allocated. Indeed, on the occasion of the dismantling of migrant camps wishing to reach England, and thanks to fieldwork carried out in the framework of maraudes, the number of assisted voluntary return applicants increased sharply under this exceptional scheme allowing an increase of EUR 1,200 in addition to the 650 traditionally allocated. The peak in voluntary return aid observed in 2018 was partly explained by these maraudes and the exceptional increase in aid. Number of AVR see table attached</p> <p>2022.11_tableau_avrr.pdf</p> <p>5. The amount allocated for reintegration must be sufficient to ensure sustainable return. In addition, coaching by a local service provider, knowing the country of return, is very important. It must be regular and over a period of at least 12 months. Knowledge of the institutions of the countries of return and of the various actors involved in local (including European) reintegration and development makes it possible to increase the scale of the projects (through additional training or the provision of additional co-financing through partnerships with the OFII). One of the obstacles to return is the lack of trust of returnees in the institutions of their countries of origin. Involving them in the selection committees and signing reciprocal commitment agreements for returnees makes it possible to involve them in the success of the applicants' return project. The Evalua study received by OFII in 2020 shows that the national reintegration scheme is a functioning scheme (evaluation of reintegration in 14 countries with interviews with 373 beneficiaries out of a total of 1357 beneficiaries over the period 2014-2017). The results show that: — 82 % of project promoters are still in their country of origin between two and five years after their project has been funded. 3 % returned to France (other: death, other country, no information); — 51 % of projects are still active (which is higher than the 5-year survival rate of micro-enterprises (24 %) and other sole proprietorships (50 %) in France;</p>
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			<p>— an average of 1,2 jobs created per assisted file (including that of the returnee). On average, 12 % created 4,4 jobs (including the promoter's job), which are involved in the development of the country of return.</p> <p>In COVID times, there have been many brakes: closure of borders, cancelled flights, positive covid test, inability to take care of quarantines or tests on arrival, etc.</p> <p>6. The French Immigration and Integration Office (OFII) is responsible for voluntary return and reintegration programmes. In order to promote these programmes and to inform third-country nationals present on French territory, the OFII has put in place several communication tools primarily of an institutional nature, mainly aimed at those who are already in a return process.</p> <p>On its website (https://www.ofii.fr/), a tab entitled "Return to your country of origin" is dedicated to return and reintegration. This page presents the procedure and the different steps of assisted voluntary return. This tab also offers thematic informative leaflets on voluntary return and reintegration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Return and reintegration assistance (also broken down into two separate leaflets 'return assistance' and 'reintegration assistance'); — A mapping of return and reintegration aid actors and schemes in Cameroon, Morocco, Mali and Senegal (available in French and English); — Aid for the reintegration of students and young professionals. <p>In addition, the OFII has set up a website dedicated to voluntary return and reintegration (http://www.retourvolontaire.fr/), available in French and English. This site presents the action and support offered by the OFII on voluntary return, in particular by means of an explanatory animated video on the return procedure. A tab, accessible in several languages, is also dedicated to questions from potential returnees on the Return and Reintegration Assistance Scheme. In addition, this website brings together the various thematic information leaflets available on the OFII website, available in 15 languages: Albanian, Arabic, English, Armenian, Cinghalese, Spanish, French, Georgian, Kurdish, Mandarin, Urdu, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Tamil. An infographic presenting the different stages of the Return and Reintegration Assistance Programme is also available, translated into 13 languages in addition to French: English, Albanian, Armenian, Beninese, dari, Georgian, Mandarin, Urdu, Pashtou, Russian, Tamil, Arabic. The site also offers promotional posters illustrating successful return and reintegration projects of Armenian, Malian, Moroccan and Tunisian nationals. The posters are translated into French and English, and the Tunisian national is also translated into Arabic. The Moroccan national is available in French and Arabic.</p> <p>Presentations of successful return and reintegration pathways, illustrated by videos of testimonies from third-country nationals who have benefited from the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration scheme, are also available on the</p>
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			<p>OFII website and YouTube channel. These videos are available in English, French and Arabic for testimonies from Moroccan and Tunisian nationals.</p> <p>In addition to the information available online, the OFII also offers its information leaflets in paper format. For example, the latter are attached to the notifications of an obligation to leave French territory, and are also available in the territorial directorates of the OFII. In addition, brochures and promotional and explanatory posters on the return and reintegration assistance scheme are made available to the various local partners of the OFII, such as prefectures, police and gendarmerie services, associations, reception centres for asylum seekers)and reception platforms for asylum seekers emergency accommodation, health centres or specialised care centres, hospital social services, as well as the various health and social institutions.</p> <p>Finally, the OFII's communication strategy is also based on "grassroots" projects: some of the OFII's territorial directorates have set up maraude missions, during which officials of the OFII, or partner associations or bodies, contact third-country nationals in an irregular situation in order to inform them of their options for voluntary return. In addition, the OFII staff responsible for return regularly promote voluntary return to asylum seekers' accommodation centres. The representations of the OFII abroad (Armenia, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, Cameroon, Mali) provide information on return and reintegration, in particular in less institutional forms and media (films, events via factions, etc.).</p> <p>The actions to promote voluntary return and reintegration undertaken by the leading associations of diasporas networks in France have also been carried out, but with little conclusive results.</p> <p>The organisation of the care of foreigners in France does not facilitate communication on return and reintegration, as the support and accommodation of asylum seekers are entrusted to the voluntary sector, while voluntary return and reintegration are strictly the responsibility of the administration. This compartmentalisation, together with a reluctance on the part of the voluntary sector to promote these measures, complicates a coordinated and effective approach to communication.</p> <p>In addition, the communication now in place, of an institutional nature, is more aimed at a foreign audience already engaged in a return process (apart from promotion activities in asylum accommodation centres and maraudes around Calais). It is more difficult to reach out to an audience further away from this project.</p> <p>In France, formal information on voluntary return is provided at the time when the asylum application is registered, but it is very limited to those concerned who are not at that time in a state of mind of return. Subsequently, apart from the occasional intervention of OFII return officers in the asylum seekers' accommodation centres, it intervenes when the negative decision is notified, accompanied by an obligation to leave French territory.</p> <p>On the other hand, except for asylum seekers, no communication is made to foreigners who are not (yet) in an irregular situation (for example, to the administrations responsible for residence permits or unaccompanied minors).</p>
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			<p>The OFII has relied on testimonies of successful reintegration projects to make films, but in some countries they have appeared to be disconnected from the language of foreigners, which are too written and bogus.</p> <p>The regular African diaspora, including cultural and religious community figures, associations, etc. are an audience that the OFII has in the past tried to raise unsuccessfully.</p> <p>The party took the view that communication by the actors involved in the implementation of voluntary return and reintegration measures is less effective in attracting interest in voluntary return and reintegration measures than information and advice by trusted personalities in neutral, physically and functionally separate contexts from the application and procedure, such as personalities of cultural and religious communities and diaspora organisations.</p> <p>The OFII has concluded an agreement with an association of nationals of a West African country to promote return and reintegration within that community. The OFII also financed an agent from this community who directly proposed vacancies in the country without any success (the Convention was terminated).</p> <p>7. See question 6.</p> <p>8. We know the administrative situation which makes it possible to infer the reason for the share (e.g. rejected asylum). But no data from qualitative questions on this point.</p> <p>9. NO</p> <p>10. n/a</p> <p>11. n/a</p> <p>12. n/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Greece</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The International Organisation of Migration (IOM) Greece implements an Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme. In this framework, the incentives offered/ provided by IOM pertain broadly to practical and financial assistance. The provision of cash allowances to all beneficiaries probably comprises the most significant incentive for third-country nationals to accept voluntary return, as this allows them to cover any expenses or needs that may come up during their travel and/or upon their return to their origin countries. Re-integration assistance is also viewed as a central</p>

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		<p>policy intervention for voluntary return. This includes training programmes, setting up a small business, temporary accommodation in their origin country, medical and material assistance. A concrete and sustainable reintegration plan that focuses on the re-inclusion, stability and self-reliance of migrants back to their countries can essentially influence migrants' decisions and motivate them to return voluntarily to their home country.</p> <p>However, in addition to these provisions, the overall support provided by IOM on any stage of the voluntary return and reintegration process, can enable and incentivise third-country nationals to make their own decisions regarding their voluntary return, as a matter of choice rather than necessity or pressure to depart.</p> <p>During their registration in the host country, the individuals receive consultation which provides comprehensive information about the process of applying to the programme. Upon their decision to apply for voluntary return, IOM offers substantial practical assistance throughout the whole process. To those cases that are experiencing certain situations of vulnerability or specific needs and/or they do not have a place to stay until their departure, IOM provides accommodation to the Open Centre for AVRR which operates in Athens, for the time required to prepare they return. Furthermore, IOM carries out all the procedures related to the issuance of all appropriate travel documents. Specifically, it liaises with the consulate services of embassies stationed in Greece, but also coordinates with the consulate services of those countries that have representatives only abroad. Such coordination contributes to the identification of migrants while also facilitates the issuance of emergency travel documents. The cost of the services related to issuing and acquiring the travel documents required for the return are mainly covered by IOM. Targeted services are also provided to migrants who experience health issues/ have medical needs.</p> <p>The IOM medical unit assists those cases with any necessary medical examinations while also coordinating any referrals to doctors in public hospitals or private clinics. Whenever necessary, IOM provides escorts to ensure that migrant with special medical requirements will reach safely and smoothly to their destination. Over the last couple of years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic additional travel requirements have been put into effect.</p> <p>Finally, costs regarding the flight tickets to the destination country are fully covered by IOM, while assistance is also provided by IOM at the embarkation point, during transit as well as upon their arrival to their home country.</p> <p>On the day of departure, beneficiaries are provided with an one-time cash grant as per below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cash grant of 1,000 euro for beneficiaries registered in the Action in mainland • a cash grant of 500 euros for beneficiaries register in the Action in an island • a cash grant of 2,000 euros for 240 beneficiaries registered in Action, within the terms of the 1st Amendment of the project, that were residing on and who have entered the islands of Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos before 31.12. and were not from Ghana, Senegal, Togo, Gambia, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Georgia, Ukraine, India and Armenia
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			<p>2. Reintegration is a fundamental aspect of the return process and contributes to the sustainability of returns for all parties – migrants, the host countries and origin countries. In the framework of the AVRR programme, personalized assistance empowers the returnees and set the grounds for an environment where they can take responsibility for the reintegration process and decide on the use of reintegration support.</p> <p>Within individual reintegration support, tailored packages promote the returnees' economic self-sufficiency, for instance by supporting the set-up of small business, promoting the reinsertion in the local labor market, and increasing returnees' skills through enrolment in education or vocational training courses. Additional types of reintegration assistance are temporal accommodation, medical and/or material assistance.</p> <p>The reintegration assistance under this project is EUR 1,500 in kind.</p> <p>3. Certain specific conditions in countries of origin may lead IOM to temporary suspend assisted voluntary return and reintegration activities. In cases of partial suspension, the voluntary return is coordinated with AVRR focal points in the missions abroad. The return counselling is tailored to the individual circumstances of the migrant taking into consideration the operational, political and security challenges in countries of origin. The return counsellor empowers the migrant to make an effective decision assessing the up-to date, reliable information and the risks entailed in returning in the home country or remaining in Greece.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. Regional Information Officers conduct visits on a daily basis to all Open and Closed Facilities across Greece. Currently, 25 officers are operating in the main entry points, 5 Reception and Identification Centers in islands and Evros, as well as the cities where there is a high concentration of migrants. Regional Information Officers approach potential beneficiaries by conducting small/large-scale group information sessions and individual sessions. Under the framework of the project, IOM Greece conducts information visits and events in various locations in Greece (outside Attica) in order to maximize the visibility of the project's positive outcome and results. Dissemination of AVRR information material (multilingual leaflets, posters, booklets) to migrants and Authorities/actors operating in each region.</p> <p>6. Information campaign activities help ensure that migrants who may be in need of return and reintegration assistance, as well as other information multipliers such as communities, consular representations and other relevant stakeholders, are aware of AVRR. Information provided to migrants should be objective and based on up-to-date facts. For this reason, a range of direct outreach strategies is used to inform migrants about the presence of AVRR.</p>
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		<p>In the framework of this AVRR project, IOM Greece produced a multilingual poster and leaflets in 12 languages (Arabic, Farsi-Dari, Urdu, Bengali, Pashto, Kurmanji, Sorani, English, Greek, French, Spanish, Georgian). Posters and leaflets are placed at points with a high majority of beneficiaries usually in open migrant accommodation centres, pre-departure detention centers, police departments where migrants are held for administrative purposes, Reception and Identification Centers, hospitals and other places where eligible beneficiaries of the Action might be accommodated.</p> <p>IOM Greece in coordination with IOM Germany has also developed an online platform, where migrants in Attica who express their will/wish to return to their country of origin, can schedule an appointment with IOM. The platform is available in 12 languages.</p> <p>Media posts informing migrants about AVRR in 12 languages as well as successful return and reintegration stories in printed and digital press and social media are also an information activity which help disseminate information regarding AVRR.</p> <p>Moreover, the mission in Greece promotes AVRR through regional information visits to various locations in Greece intending to widely disseminate information about the return and reintegration activities of the AVRR project. These visits contribute to expanding the network of collaboration with various stakeholders all over Greece and maximize the dissemination of information on the project's procedures and benefits to potential beneficiaries, local stakeholders, governmental counterparts, and other actors in the migration field.</p> <p>IOM Greece is currently conducting an AVRR outdoor campaign where advertising panels were placed on bus stations and various other prominent locations in Athens.</p> <p>7. A pilot action in terms of counselling on the possibilities of AVRR is being materialised in the pre-removal detention centres of Attica under the auspices of the Directorate for Returns and Withdrawals of the Ministry of Migration & Asylum, and in cooperation with the Asylum Service of the aforementioned Ministry and the Hellenic Police since December 2021. The said action is addressed to detainees/third country nationals whose application for international protection has been rejected at second instance.</p> <p>According to data, out of the 112 third country national who asked to be informed during the first quarter of 2022 in the pre-removal detention centres of Attica</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -83% presented themselves with the intention to be informed on the action -82% was informed about the action -14% expressed interest in voluntary return -4,5% returned voluntarily with the assistance of IOM (until 31.3.2022) -1 out of 3 who expressed interest in participating in the counselling action-
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		<p>8. Data/ information on the intrinsic motives for voluntary departure as well as for the reasons why migrants may refuse voluntary departure are gathered by IOM Greece, based on the individual accounts/ explanations and reasons provided by the migrants during the registration process. It should be noted that IOM is required to ask the applicants about their motivation for voluntary departure, after receiving their informed consent for participation. However, IOM does not require individuals to share this information and so it is not mandatory for migrants to provide an answer. All in all, migrants' answers were given freely and voluntarily, ensuring that under any circumstance they did not feel pressured or forced to answer and/or to give their consent. The data are collected by case workers who are responsible for interviewing the migrants. The data are then recorded and collated in IOM's database. In case migrants refuse to return voluntarily, the case is deactivated - unless the applicants re-approach IOM in the future, declaring that they wish to return, in which case the application reopens.</p> <p>9. Data are collected as well through questionnaires when voluntary departure is refused.</p> <p>10. According to the data gathered, the majority of migrants stated "personal reasons" as the main incentive for deciding to participate to IOM's programme for voluntary return. While not specifying the exact reason, this answer was the most given one among the cases (46.46%). It should be pointed out that personal reasons may include any of the particular reasons that were stated by other applicants (or even other reasons that were not stated at all). As regards to more specific incentives, employment difficulties (28,61%), their irregular status in Greece (9.82%), family concerns in their origin countries (8.51%) and the discrepancy between their expectations and the reality they faced in the host country (5,04%), were the most popular answers given by the applicants.</p> <p>It should be noted that the two most common incentives mentioned by the applicants (i.e. unemployment and irregular status) should be assessed more holistically, in the sense that they should not be viewed as purely intrinsic incentives but in relation to other structural/ socioeconomic factors – which basically function as extrinsic disincentives for staying. For example, the asylum application rejection could dissuade migrants to stay in the host country, against of their will, as they may not feel comfortable to settle in Greece under the fear of being detained or of being forcefully returned by the authorities. As a result, they prefer to select IOM's AVRR programme for voluntary return.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Intrinsic incentives</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Number of cases (In percentages)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>personal reasons</td> <td style="text-align: right;">46.46%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>can't find job/ unemployment</td> <td style="text-align: right;">28.61%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Intrinsic incentives	Number of cases (In percentages)	personal reasons	46.46%	can't find job/ unemployment	28.61%
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		<p>asylum rejected/ irregular status/ no legal papers/ no documents/ no residence card 9.82%</p> <p>family/ miss family, home 8.51%</p> <p>thought things completely different/ false impression of things in host country 5.04%</p> <p>insecure status/ worry about their situation/ fear of detention 0.74%</p> <p>target/ mission completed/ financial improvement 0.38%</p> <p>re-integration 0.2%</p> <p>amelioration of circumstances in their country of origin/ security improved 0.19%</p> <p>health issues 0.04%</p> <p>11. Information on why voluntary departure is refused by migrants were also based on the explanations that they freely gave to the case workers. However, as the sample of cases is quite limited the data collected are not adequate and thus cannot be deemed reliable. In any case, we do have an overall view of the main personal reasons/ motives that lead migrants to take this decision which can allow us to draw some general remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some migrants believe that there are financial or other issues in their origin country, which prevent them from returning. Family environment and/ or their community may also affect their decision, by discouraging them to return back to their homeland. • Rumours that there might opportunities to resettle in other European countries, even though they are not eligible to acquire entry permit convince many migrants to stay in the host country, thus refusing any voluntary departure. • Some have applied for legal residence status and thus they believe that the chances of receiving legal status in Greece have increased. • Others stated that they have managed to find a job during the time of their return preparation. • Some cases are not eligible for reintegration assistance. This sometimes has prevented them from accepting to return to their origin country through the IOM programme, thus putting the whole process to a halt. • Some cases wish to return within a noticeably short period of time. However, in some cases, this is not possible, because the movement process requires to be organised and prepared effectively according to the procedures and specifications stated by the AVRR programme. As a result, these cases refuse to voluntarily return under IOM auspices, thus leading to the deactivation of the AVRR process.
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			<p>12. Some of the new incentives to motivate the potential beneficiaries to enroll in voluntary return programmes are presented hereunder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adopting an approach that emphasize to the effectiveness of return counselling with tailored outreach and dynamic interaction between the counsellors and the migrants. -Provision of training and resources to return counsellors to enhance the capacities of the counsellors in assisting the applicants with making informed decisions. -Strengthening psychosocial support of vulnerable groups and focus on the psychosocial well-being of the beneficiaries before and after return to the destination country. - IOM Greece reinforced response to migrants by providing a one-stop-shop platform of relevant and up-to-date information (Mig App). The MigApp enables migrants to make informed decisions throughout their migration process. -Integrated response mechanisms: IOM mission in Greece during the pandemic crisis developed initiatives to overcome challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic crisis and mitigate the negative impact on potential applicants wishing to return to CoO. During the pandemic information related to voluntary return was communicated through online outreach activities, and the dissemination of leaflets and posters to migrant communities. In parallel, helplines operating in 13 languages supported remote counselling as needed. Furthermore, IOM established an online scheduling platform (OSA) through which the potential beneficiaries were able to book counselling appointments online. -Increasing of the flexibility of reintegration assistance schemes to allow adaptable provision of support to the returnee's profile, needs and skills, preferences, and motivation, and to the return context. - Reintegration packages tailored to the needs of the potential beneficiaries, especially the migrants with vulnerabilities. -Expanding the reintegration support to facilitate the sustainable return of migrants to destination country.
	<p>EMN NCP Hungary</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1.Hungary in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) supports the third country nationals who would like to return. If the applicant requests it IOM will organize his/her transport to the airport and provide pre-departure cash allowance (50 EUR) to facilitate onward transportation in the countries of origin. IOM provides departure, transit and arrival assistance and if it is necessary they can provide medical escort.</p> <p>2. Every beneficiary can apply for reintegration assistance. The applicant can choose from several options such as business start-up, business partnership, salary subsidy, on-the-job training and vocational and language training. IOM will offer up to 2700 EUR in-kind complex reintegration grant to selected beneficiaries to undertake income-generating reintegration activities. Beneficiaries need to participate in reintegration counselling. This will help beneficiaries to find the best option of generating income in their country of origin, taking their training and experience as well as the local</p>

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			<p>economic circumstances into account. As part of the advice IOM staff will assist in developing a reintegration plan. IOM staff in the applicant's country of origin will assist in the implementation of the plans selected for funding.</p> <p>3. Incentives listed in Q1 are not targeted/tailored to specific countries geographic regions.</p> <p>4. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>5. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>6. Hungarian aliens policing authorities in close cooperation with IOM facilitate the provision of information to the third country nationals wishing to return to their home country. To this end the IOM staff regularly visits the detention centers and the community centers maintained by the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing and informs the third country nationals about the IOM assisted voluntary return program. Furthermore, IOM helps with information through their website, publications, personal consultations and via telephone hotline.</p> <p>7. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>8. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>9. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>10. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>11. We have no such kind of statistics</p> <p>12. We have no such kind of statistics</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Ireland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. In Ireland, a return decision is broadly equivalent to a deportation order issued under section 3, Immigration Act 1999, as amended. In the Irish system, a person can only avail of voluntary return assistance before a deportation order is</p>

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			<p>issued. Ireland does not participate in the Return Directive 2008/115/EC. For these reasons, it is not possible to directly compare the Irish voluntary return assistance with that of other EU Member States.</p> <p>The following paragraphs set out the voluntary return assistance available <u>prior to a deportation order</u> being issued. The IOM, funded by the Department of Justice, offers voluntary assisted return and reintegration programmes. For persons whose international protection applications have been refused, and all appeal avenues exhausted, they have five days to decide whether to voluntarily return (section 48, International Protection Act 2015). Along with asylum seekers, they can avail of the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARPP). Other irregularly present migrants who are in a vulnerable situation are assisted with return under the Irregular Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (IVARRP), which was previously co-funded by the EU on a 75/25 basis. A person who is found in the State without a valid immigration permission can be issued with a 'proposal to deport' letter under section 3 of the Immigration Act 1999, as amended, which states that the individual can leave the State voluntarily within a certain period. After the expiry of this period, a person is issued with a deportation order.</p> <p>Under the VARPP and IVARRP programmes, the airplane tickets to person's home country are paid for and, where it is required, the IOM can assist in securing travel documents and providing assistance at the airports of departure, transit and/or arrival. Surface transportation costs are covered and IOM can arrange fitness to travel medical assessments for all returning beneficiaries. Medical and/or operation escorts can be provided, where required.</p> <p>Since the last quarter of 2020, IOM Ireland has also been providing a virtual counselling service which provides beneficiaries of the programme an opportunity to receive tailored, culturally appropriate information counselling by a staff member from the IOM Mission in the country of return. This gives the beneficiary opportunities to ask questions about the current situation in the country of return in terms of COVID-19, job opportunities or other aspects of interest and also allows the beneficiary to begin planning their reintegration. IOM Ireland has also been providing access to a professionally recognized psychotherapist who can provide independent, confidential counselling to beneficiaries of the AVRR programme. IOM Ireland AVRR staff also conduct vulnerability assessments with all applicants and make referrals into services pre-departure or in the country of return, as appropriate.</p> <p>Ireland does not provide in-kind or cash incentives prior to departure. The person availing of voluntary return assistance can apply for reintegration assistance before they depart, which can then be accessed once they have returned home (as described under question 2 below).</p> <p>2.</p>
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		<p>In line with the response for question 1, in Ireland, a person can avail of voluntary return assistance prior to a deportation order being issued. Such persons can apply for reintegration assistance before they depart Ireland, which can be accessed once they have returned to their home country.</p> <p>The Irish reintegration assistance is provided in-kind with a small portion issued in cash at Dublin airport. The in-kind assistance allows the person to start a business or enter further education or training when they are back in their home country but can also be tailored to other needs depending on the needs and vulnerabilities of the returnee. The value of this reintegration assistance for single individuals is up to €1200 and for families up to €2,000.</p> <p>In 2022 IOM Ireland has also introduced a job placement programme on a pilot bases for returnees to Georgia.</p> <p>3. N/A (no incentives listed under Q1)</p> <p>4. Information not available.</p> <p>5. Research by Liam Coakley for IOM Ireland entitled Where do I go from here? The leading factors in voluntary return or remaining in Ireland (2011), identified a number of factors that affect decisions on whether to return. These included the slow nature of the asylum-related administrative procedures which may undermine the desire to return due to the investment people have made in the asylum process in Ireland. Coakley also finds that people have hope for their future prospects in Ireland and find aspects of life in Ireland attractive. Other factors that affect decisions included fear of danger and/or difficulties in countries of origin, such as due to personal political activities, which interacts with a perceived lack of opportunity in those countries. Furthermore, Coakley highlights how a person's understanding of their place in life was important and any decision on whether to stay or return may be impacted by the length of time spent in Ireland and fear of perceptions back in their home countries (i.e. that their return is failure).</p> <p>IOM Ireland reported that internal research conducted in 2020 entitled "Experiences and views of migrants living in Ireland – focus on voluntary return and reintegration" outlined some reasons why voluntary return is not considered as a viable option. The research used mixed methods, a combination of an online survey which explored the views of 102 respondents as well as in-depth qualitative interviews with 15 persons who were, at the time of interview, current or former applicants of International Protection. Reasons for not wanting to return which were discussed during the interviews were that persons often feel disconnected from their country and communities of origin, that they have no resources to return with and may be rejected upon arrival. Interviewees also did not want to give up hope of a positive decision on their International Protection application and were reluctant to walk away from relative stability.</p>
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			<p>6. In Ireland, a notice providing for the option to apply for voluntary return is provided to protection applicants, protection applicants with negative decisions at first instance, and to applicants who have a final negative decision for international protection and permission to remain on non-protection grounds. These notices set out the options to apply for voluntary return for these categories of persons. The form of the notices is set out in the International Protection Act 2015 (Voluntary Return) Regulations 2016.</p> <p>IOM Ireland provide information and outreach, as well as counselling. The Information and Outreach work of IOM Ireland entails information provision on the general AVRR programmes, and what they offer, and how they work – both in leaflet and other material form, and through in-person delivery of information. IOM Ireland also disseminate information via social media. On IOM Ireland’s website, information on assisted voluntary return is available as well as informational videos. IOM Ireland have a dedicated confidential phonenumber and email address that are provided on their website and other forms of information provision (leaflets, posters). The Department of Justice’s website also provide the website and contact details of IOM Ireland on its page on voluntary return. Part of IOM Ireland’s outreach programme entails coordination with partner organisations, including community and diaspora groups. IOM Ireland has put up posters in some public places and has previously had advertisement campaigns in migrant papers/pamphlets.</p> <p>With regard to counselling, IOM Ireland provide this where a person has expressed a wish to return, or has already applied to return voluntarily. This is tailored, specific information pertinent to that particular person’s unique situation. It is seen as a two-way process, between the migrant and IOM, where they work together to develop a tailored AVRR plan specific to that person’s needs.</p> <p>IOM Ireland offers a virtual counselling programme where people interested in AVRR and also those who are already enrolled in the AVRR programme have an opportunity to speak virtually via video conferencing or telephone with an IOM staff member in the country of return. The purpose of the virtual counselling programme is to give beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries an opportunity to speak with someone who can provide contextualized, culturally appropriate information in their own language. Virtual counselling allows beneficiaries to ask questions prior to departure on the situation in the country of return as well as to prepare and discuss reintegration. This can help with decision making on return as well as to prepare for return and the post-arrival reintegration process.</p> <p>IOM Ireland also offers a counselling service through an independent professionally qualified psychotherapist. The aim of this service is to give beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries of the programme an opportunity to speak with someone who can potentially assist with any anxiety or fears the beneficiary may have through talk therapy. This can assist the beneficiary with decision making around return as well as to prepare for return.</p>
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		<p>7. Information provision is key to allow any potential beneficiary of the AVRR programme to make an informed decision. IOM Ireland aims to provide tailored information at each stage of the International Protection Process. IOM Ireland runs information clinics in the reception centres to provide information to newly arrived migrants. IOM outreach staff also travel to the Direct Provision centres to run information clinics which are aimed at those who may have been in the International Protection system for some time. IOM Outreach teams also work with regional and local NGOs and civil society organizations to provide information on AVRR programmes.</p> <p>IOM Ireland also communicates information on the AVRR programme through a range of communications including online via social media, our website as well as print leaflets which are disseminated in the DP centres as well as NGOs. IOM Ireland has been working with key leaders of the Diaspora communities, including Faith leaders, who are naturally trusted by migrants from their groups and can play an important role in supporting potential AVRR beneficiaries in decision making. Meetings and open discussions are held with targeted migrant groups with high possibility of availing for AVRR; training on AVRR is provided to agencies working with destitute migrants; networking and information events being held with Embassies.</p> <p>Information is tailored, as much as possible, through individual information counselling sessions. Interpreters are used to provide information in a language the applicant is familiar with. Virtual counselling sessions are also made available to beneficiaries of the programme who can have a virtual video conference or telephone call with IOM staff in the country of return.</p> <p>8. Yes, IOM Ireland collects this information through the AVRR application form.</p> <p>9. Information is sometimes shared between the Repatriation Unit of the Department of Justice and IOM Ireland when a beneficiary is not eligible for the AVRR programme and this is stored in the case files.</p> <p>10. Further analysis needs to be done but, according to IOM Ireland, top motives for departing voluntarily include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in circumstances in country of origin • Dissatisfactions with conditions and situation in Ireland, including length of time in the International Protection System. • Return to family • Unfavourable circumstances in Ireland including destitution/homelessness • Change in health circumstances prompting a return to country of origin.
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			<p>11. According to IOM Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deportation orders - Pending criminal charges <p>12. IOM monitors trends in return including motivations and countries of return. Based on this IOM has attempted to tailor the AVRR programme according to the needs of beneficiaries.</p> <p>For example, the virtual counselling system has allowed beneficiaries who have been outside of their country of origin for some time to get impartial, independent information on how their countries have changed since they migrated. Analysing the length of time in the International Protection System or in Ireland at the time of application enables IOM to identify key timings in which to provide information provision. Analysing referral agencies also allows IOM to tailor and modify its outreach and communication strategy to maximise information dissemination through the best possible methods. For 2022 IOM Ireland is introduction regional outreach counsellors who will be based in regions around Ireland and will have connections at a grassroots level. Understanding the local communities can be key to providing information that can be trusted.</p> <p>IOM and the Department of Justice have increased the reintegration grants offered through the AVRR programme for the first time since 2009. This is in response to vulnerabilities and poor socio-economic situations that have been exasperated by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. The Return Directive refers to voluntary departure in recital 10 and in art. 7, thus heading, which states that "the return decision shall set a reasonable period for voluntary departure ...", thus placing it among the return decisions.</p> <p>Our system has implemented the EU legislation in Article 13, paragraph 5 of the Legislative Decree no. 286 of 1998, adhering to the second paragraph of Article 7 ("Member States may provide in their national legislation that such a period is granted only upon request of the third-country national concerned"). The provision also incorporates the obligation of information in favour of the foreigner, the possibility of extending the period, the imposition of accessory obligations (to avoid the risk of escape (subject to validation by the Judicial Authority), as well as the causes of inapplicability of the institution.</p> <p>Moreover, Art. 13, par. 5 establishes that "the foreigner may request from the Prefect, for the purposes of the execution of the expulsion, the granting of a period for voluntary departure, also through assisted voluntary return programmes as provided for in Art. 14 ter. Among the cases of extension of the deadline, there is also the admission of the foreigner to voluntary and assisted repatriation programmes under art. 14 ter.</p>


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		<p>At the regulatory level, the incentive to voluntary departure is represented by the provision of a form of return with minimal impact on personal freedom (unlike forced accompaniment or detention) and by the non-application of the re-entry ban to the return decision itself. Another incentive could be the association of this instrument with an assisted voluntary return programme as expressly foreseen by the provision.</p> <p>As regards incentives provided in the framework of assistance programmes, it is possible to highlight, generically, that reintegration programmes, which can also be associated with foreigners subject to voluntary departure measures, have been developed, for the benefit of Member States, by European networks such as ERRIN and, within the new and broader mandate outlined by the 2019 Regulation, by the Frontex Agency.</p> <p>At the moment, these tools are neither proposed nor used in a systematic way. Information initiatives also follow the same line for the time being.</p> <p>2. Please see q1</p> <p>3. Please see q1</p> <p>4. Please see q1</p> <p>5. Please see q1</p> <p>6. Please see q1</p> <p>7. please see q1</p> <p>8. N/A</p> <p>9. N/A</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A</p>
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			12. N/A
	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	<p>1. In Latvia with return counselling deals Riga Office of the International Organization for Migration (hereinafter – IOM). Latvian national authorities, mainly the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (hereinafter – OCMA) and the State Border Guard (hereinafter – SBG) have been providing information on the existence of voluntary assisted return. IOM offer assisted voluntary return and reintegration programme (hereinafter – AVRR).</p> <p>2. There are no post-arrival incentives (in cash and in kind) offered in Latvia to motivate third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued to depart voluntarily. Competent officials of the OCMA and SBG provide information (usually oral, but may be written) regarding the option of assisted voluntary return provided by IOM.</p> <p>3. Latvia is preparing a project that TCN (IRQ citizens) who have entered the Latvian – Belarusian border illegally by 31.12.2021 and have agreed to leave voluntarily will be able granted an allowance of 1000 euros for voluntary return to IRQ. The project is planned for short period of time.</p> <p>4. We do not collect such information.</p> <p>5. We do not collect such information.</p> <p>6. Most effective communication on return and reintegration are as soon as TCN starts various procedures, for example during the process of application for asylum in accommodation centers. Communication on return and reintegration is most effective when the person takes a decision to return. Information on the possibilities to return with different kind of support, inter alia AVRR programme, shall be provided at any stage of any kind of procedure (return procedure) applied to the migrant. We are using various communication tools on voluntary return and reintegration - posters and information leaflets, brochures, return counselling/face to face counselling and most of information can be can be found in OCMA and IOM websites.</p> <p>7. We do not collect such information.</p> <p>8. No.</p> <p>9. No.</p>

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			<p>10. N/a</p> <p>11. N/a</p> <p>12. N/a</p>
	EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. According to Order No. 1V-429 of 24 December 2004 of the Minister of the Interior, as amended, the Migration Department or the State Border Guard Service may provide assistance to foreigners who crossed the border irregularly, voluntarily apply to be allowed to return to a foreign state, cooperate with responsible institutions and request support for voluntary return. In practice, voluntary returns were implemented by IOM Vilnius, which has been implementing Assisted Voluntary Return projects funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Lithuanian State for many years.</p> <p>Until August 2021, a lump sum payment for TCNs was 200 EUR (100 EUR for persons under the age of 18). In August 2021, cash assistance by IOM was increased to 300 EUR (including persons until 18 years of age). According to amendments introduced in response to the influx of irregular migrants from the territory of Belarus in 2021, the above-mentioned order now also states that adult foreigners who crossed the border illegally before 1 December 2021, apply for voluntary return before 21 May 2022, and cooperate with the responsible institutions may receive travel tickets and a lump-sum payment of 1000 euro (or 500 euro if they are under the age of 14). The same amount of cash payment will be paid by IOM Vilnius to TCNs who fall under this category. TCNs who do not fall under this category will continue to receive 300 EUR.</p> <p>2. Article 131 of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners provides for the possibility of reintegration support for foreigners who voluntarily return to a foreign state. Currently, IOM Vilnius Office is implementing the <i>Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration for Third-Country Nationals in Lithuania</i> project funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and the Lithuanian State, which provides reintegration support of up to 1500 EUR for opening a small business, obtaining vocational training, in-job placement, qualification improvement courses, housing, childcare support, medical services, etc. Reintegration assistance cannot be provided to TCNs who receive 1000 EUR cash assistance.</p> <p>3. The amount offered to irregular migrants willing to voluntarily return to a country of origin was increased in response to the influx of irregular migrants from the territory of Belarus in the second half of 2021. The predominant majority of</p>


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		<p>these migrants came from Iraq; however, there were citizens of Congo, Syria, Belarus, Cameroon, Afghanistan, Russia, Iran, and a number of other countries. In the absence of readmission agreements, it was difficult to return these people to their countries of origin. The increased payment (from 300 EUR to 1000 EUR) was thus tailored to address a specific crisis, rather than migration from specific countries or regions.</p> <p>4. The introduction and the subsequent increase in the lump-sum amount paid to voluntary returnees at the time of their departure have had a positive impact in terms of increasing the number of voluntary returnees. Since the start of the irregular migration influx in the summer of 2021, when more than 4000 irregular migrants entered Lithuania, 983 foreigners voluntarily returned to their countries of origin, including 510 in 2022 so far. Decisions to depart voluntarily were positively influenced by developing cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior and the Iraqi Ministry of Migration and Resettled Persons regarding the return of Iraqi citizens. Iraqi consular officials made several visits to Lithuania, helping to convince migrants to return voluntarily and to obtain the required travel documents.</p> <p>5. The effectiveness of return incentives is negatively affected by the absence of realistic prospects for forced return, of which third-country nationals are aware. Even increased lump-sum payment is significantly less than what the irregular migrants paid for their travel. Reintegration assistance is accessible only to a very limited number of migrants, it is not very attractive, and it is provided in-kind. Reintegration assistance is only provided by IOM Vilnius exceptionally for migrants who voluntarily return with IOM.</p> <p>6. In general, IOM has been contracted by Lithuania to implement AVRR programs and until the significantly increased irregular migration of 2021 from Belarus was the main source of information about available incentives for voluntary departure (group information sessions in the facilities, individual counseling, virtual counseling with colleagues at the IOM missions in other countries, free info line with the Arabic- and Russian-speaking counselor, WhatsApp counseling, leaflets, posters, dedicated website, information sessions for people working at the temporary accommodation facilities). Due to the irregular migration increase in 2021, the state itself intensified and multiplied the channels for information. Frontex sent 4 return counselors and the State Border Guards Service employees became the main information providers to migrants about the voluntary or forced return. NGOs, such as the Lithuanian Red Cross and Caritas, also provide information about available incentives for voluntary departure.</p> <p>7. During the irregular migration increase from Belarus in 2021, the Migration Department prepared leaflets in several languages (including Tamil, Kurdish, Arabic, Kurdish, and French) for irregular migrants, containing information about</p>
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			<p>asylum application, expulsion and return procedures, including the possibility of voluntary return and the numbers to call to. The publication had pictures that enabled the people crossing the border illegally to communicate with officials, employees and volunteers working in places of accommodation in the absence of translators, by pointing to appropriate pictures. Leaflets and information materials were distributed in temporary accommodation places. IOM Lithuania organized number of information sessions with migrants in temporary accommodation facilities.</p> <p>8. No</p> <p>9. No</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. The assisted voluntary return and reintegration – Luxembourg (AVVR-L) is a voluntary return programme implemented by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and managed by the International Organisation for Migrations (IOM).</p> <p>Third country nationals eligible for the programm: Third country nationals who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during the procedure of international protection decide to withdraw their application for international protection and to return voluntarily to their country of origin • were ordered to leave the territory under the relevant provisions of the Law of 18 December 2015 on international protection and temporary protection (Asylum Law) • were detected as an irregular migrant residing in Luxembourg residing and who decide of their own will accord to return voluntarily to their country of origin. <p>This programme does not comprehend TCNs coming from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Georgia nor Dublin cases.</p> <p>There are two types of in-cash pre-departure aid categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete aid (assistance to reintegration) – concerns :

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rejected asylum seekers registering with IOM who have been ordered to leave Luxembourg territory and who contact the authorities within 30 days of the order to leave being final or within 8 days of the date of the interview referred to in the summons for a voluntary return to the person concerned by the authorities, if this interview is scheduled for a date after the expiry of the 30-day period for a voluntary return • asylum seekers willing to return who haven't had any decision on their claim by the Minister in charge of Immigration. <p>The amounts are as follows: Single adult: up to 500€; Adult couple: 1000€; Family: up to 500€ per adult and 400€ per minor</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic aid (assistance to reintegration) - The individuals that register for the AVRR program after the deadline set for return (30 days in Luxembourg) are entitled to basic reintegration assistance. <p>The amounts are as follows: Single adult: 300 €; Adult couple: 600€; Family: 300€ per adult and 300€ per minor.</p> <p>The in-kind pre-departure assistance that is provided consists in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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); 2. Transport from Luxembourg to their village of origin; 3. Assistance at the Luxembourg International Airport and at the transit airport; 4. Medical escort in case it is required. <p>2. The in kind assistance for return consists in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reception at the airport; 2. Temporary lodging and housing; 3. Assistance to find a job; 4. Material and legal assistance; 5. Assistance in putting in place a business; 6. Professional equipment; 7. Training and learning;
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		<p>8. Medical assistance/medicines; orientation and information on the health system in the country of origin. The assistance in-kind and in-cash for reintegration is available for a duration of six months and it is managed by IOM. It consists:</p> <p>Complete aid Single adult: up to 3000 € Adult couple: up to 4000 € Family: up to 5000 €</p> <p>Basic aid Single adult: up to 500 € Adult couple: up to 700 € Family: up to 1000 €</p> <p>Vulnerable cases: Supplement of 700 € per person</p> <p>3. No. The incentives listed in Q.1 are for all the third-country nationals who want to take advantage of it, with the exception of TCNs coming from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia nor Dublin cases.</p> <p>4. During the counseling, the staff of IOM is questioning the migrants on the reasons behind their decision to return. According to their experience, the following incentives have had the most impact to influence the third-country nationals' decision to depart voluntarily:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • risk of being forcefully removed • Schengen entry ban <p>5. For the migrants who decide to stay in Luxembourg, returning to the country of origin is perceived as worse than staying, mostly because of the absence of economic opportunities, insufficient family/social support and/or security reasons in the country of origin.</p> <p>6. In Luxembourg, the topic of voluntary return is raised by the authorities to the international protection applicant since the beginning of the procedure. A flyer/brochure in different languages explaining the AVR program is handed out by the Directorate of Immigration that contains information about the voluntary return. Once that the order to leave the country</p>
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		<p>is notified to the rejected asylum seeker, the above-mentioned flyer/brochure is systematically joined to the Directorate of Immigration's decision.</p> <p>Return counselling begins from the moment on the TCN has received a return decision, or more generally when a person registers at IOM office to voluntary return. After a return decision has been issued to a person he/she automatically receives an appointment for a return interview. During this interview, the concerned person will be provided with information on the status of his/her situation (i.e. that he/she is at the end of the procedure and that he/she has been ordered to leave) and he/she will also be informed about the possibility of a voluntary return.</p> <p>7. Tailored information shared during individual counseling sessions has had a positive impact on the third-country nationals' decision to depart voluntarily.</p> <p>8. Yes. The question is raised during the individual counseling session.</p> <p>9. Yes. But this is not always possible... sometimes the contact with the migrant is lost; the migrant sometimes "disappears" and omits to specify why he/she does not want to return.</p> <p>10. Top motives for departing voluntarily :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • risk/fear of being forcefully removed • difficulties to live in EU (the conditions in the shelters, i.e. lack of intimacy, food, proximity with too many other migrants are often mentioned, feeling of not being welcomed) • absence of any social/economic perspective if staying in Luxembourg; feeling to be useless and losing time • fear to stay illegally (with all possible consequences of an illegal stay such as the perspective of being forcefully removed and living on the street) and willingness to respect the law • Schengen entry ban • feeling missing their relatives and their country, sadness and loneliness • family drama in the country of origin (i.e. death of a relative) • length of the asylum procedure • reintegration assistance in the country of origin, possibility to be supported upon return.
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			<p>11. For the migrants who decide to stay in Luxembourg and on the assumption that there are no practical obstacles to return, returning to the country of origin is perceived as worse than staying (mostly because of the total absence of economic opportunities, insufficient family/social support and/or bad security situation in the country of origin).</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. 1 and 2: First of all, we would like to make clear that having a return decision is not a precondition to be able to benefit from AVR(R). So whenever we answer the questions, it could also include TCN's without a return decision. Even though of course most TCN's do have one, it is not an eligibility criterion. We will now first set out the target groups for AVR(R) and then the different kinds of pre-departure and post-arrival incentives that are offered. Through the Return and Emigration Assistance from the Netherlands (REAN) programme IOM provides Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVR(R)) support to migrants who are staying on the territory of the Netherlands, who wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin or resettle in a third country and who cannot organise their own return. The main target group of the REAN programme consists of ex-asylum seekers and irregular migrants with the intention to settle in the Netherlands for a longer period of time, as well as stranded migrants. Furthermore, through the REAN programme IOM provides reintegration support to specific target groups. In addition to IOM, The Netherlands provides two additional AVRR programmes. First of all, the national AVRR subsidy framework called 'Ondersteuning Zelfstandig Vertrek' (OZV) provides local Dutch NGOs with the opportunity to take a microlevel approach to the pre-departure counselling track, while IOM provides AVR assistance. In order for a returning migrant to fully connect with their CoO, NGOs are required to make use of the internationally established return networks of IOM, ERSO or ERRIN/Frontex. This ensures not just a qualitative approach to pre-departure counselling, but to post-return assistance by a relevant partner organisation as well. As of 2022, the OZV framework supports five local NGOs: Dutch Council for Refugees (VWN), Goedwerk Foundation, Rotterdams Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt (ROS), Solid Road and lastely WereldWijd. Secondly, The Netherlands takes part in both the forced and the voluntary return programmes as set up under the ERRIN programme. For both the OZV, as well as the ERRIN voluntary return programme, target groups and eligibility, types of reintegration support and available budgets per returnee are similar to those under the REAN programme. The target groups that are eligible for AVR assistance are:</p>

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		<p>(a) Third-country nationals staying irregularly on the territory of the Netherlands.</p> <p>(b) Third-country nationals staying on the territory of the Netherlands who applied for a residence permit and whose application has been declined.</p> <p>(c) Third-country nationals who are staying on the territory of the Netherlands, who are in a procedure to obtain a residence permit and who revoke their application for a residence permit before they leave the Netherlands.</p> <p>(d) Third-country nationals who are staying on the territory of the Netherlands, who hold a valid temporary asylum residence permit and who revoke their residence permit before they leave the Netherlands.</p> <p>(e) Third-country nationals who have the nationality of or have a (temporary) valid residence permit or a valid long or short term (Schengen) visa, in an EU member state, the UK, a state which belongs to the European Economic Area (EEA) or the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), a European Microstate or a country that is among the top 35 of the highest incomes per capita according to the World Bank, are not eligible for AVR support.</p> <p>(f) (Potential) victims of trafficking, recognised as such by Comensha and/or Dutch police, and Unaccompanied Minors, regardless of their nationality or country of destination.</p> <p>The main categories of AVR services provided by IOM to REAN beneficiaries are:</p> <p>(a) Information and counselling about voluntary return (or resettlement) and reintegration.</p> <p>(b) Assisted departure to a country of origin or resettlement, including, but not limited to:</p> <p>a) Travel documents and supporting documents.</p> <p>b) Travel within the Netherlands.</p> <p>c) Airline tickets.</p> <p>d) Assistance upon departure, in transit and upon arrival.</p> <p>e) Assessment and subsequent assistance to migrants with health concerns.</p> <p>f) Additional measures due to the COVID 19 pandemic.</p> <p>g) Other services and assistance related to departure which IOM deems necessary for a responsible return.</p> <p>(c) Financial support to cover incidental expenses during travel and after arrival in the country of destination.</p> <p>(d) Specific provisions for vulnerable migrants.</p> <p>The financial support to cover incidental expenses during travel and after arrival in the country of destination is 200 Euro per adult or unaccompanied minor and 40 Euro per accompanied minor. For migrants with the nationality of Algeria, Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Kosovo, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Ukraine, Russia, Serbia, Tunisia and Turkey, the financial support is 100 Euro per adult or unaccompanied minor and 40 Euro per accompanied minor. For migrants with the nationality of Moldova the financial support is 40 Euro per adult and 40 Euro per minor.</p>
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		<p>Reintegration support</p> <p>The main target group that is eligible for Reintegration support consists of: Third country nationals who are eligible for AVR support under the REAN programme, who are subject to a visa requirement for the purpose of traveling to the Netherlands and who hold the nationality of and return or resettle to an Official Development Aid Recipient Country. Migrants with the nationality of Algeria, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Russia, Tunisia and Turkey are not eligible for reintegration support. The reintegration support in the country of destination has a maximum value of 1,800 Euro per adult and 2,800 Euro per (unaccompanied) minor. Of that amount, maximum 300 Euro may be awarded in cash, the remainder will be given in kind. If deemed necessary, exceptions to the rules are possible and as said before, the reintegration support can also be offered by several NGOs in the Netherlands, as well as the ERRIN programme. The following specific provisions are applicable for the organisation of the return of migrants who return with medical assistance via IOM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The preparations for the return include, but are not limited to, the assessment of the medical condition of the migrant in the Netherlands, assessment of the fitness to fly, assessment of availability of medication and care in the country of destination, availability of accommodation and care in country of destination, presence of family and willingness to take care of the returnee and translation of documents necessary for the realisation of the return. (b) If necessary, the migrant can be accompanied during their journey to the country of destination by (medical) escorts. <p>The average medical in kind grant for migrants with a medical (both physical as well as mental) condition or disease is 1,000 Euro. The total amount of the grant will be defined according to the actual needs and related invoices.</p> <p>Counselling</p> <p>Pre-departure counselling enables migrants to make an informed decision on their particular situation and, once they have decided in favour of return, to manage their expectations and adequately prepare for it. Contact with migrants is established through active outreach, visits to relevant locations and through key figures in migrant communities. IOM is present at central reception facilities, in immigration detention centres and other locations. IOM works with a combination of fixed and flexible consultation hours. To ensure fluent and accurate communication with the migrants, the project will use interpreting services to supplement IOM's existing language capacity. IOM also maintains a network of partner organizations working with migrants through regular information, exchanges and communication, meetings and events. OZV NGOs take a similar approach to outreach, but generally focus more on becoming ingrained within migrant societies. Through frequent and close contact, these NGOs lower the threshold of talking about a possible return without the</p>
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			<p>pressure from a government organisation. Through this, NGOs develop a level of trust with migrants who would otherwise be less inclined to return with a different return organisation.</p> <p>For forced returns, returnees are informed about their options under the ERRIN programme by return counsellors from the R&DS. Although no pre-departure incentives are offered, it does provide returnees with perspective on what steps they are able to take upon return, rather than starting over completely anew without any guidance.</p> <p>Reintegration assistance</p> <p>Migrants eligible for reintegration assistance will be assisted by their return counsellor in the Netherlands to prepare the reintegration process. This counsellor can be part of any of the AVRR programmes the Netherlands provides. Through individual reintegration plans, counsellors help plan for sustainable reintegration goals for the returnees. As part of this, migrants are encouraged to contact partner organisations or missions of ERSO, ERRIN/Frontex and IOM prior to departure. In 2021 IOM started with a virtual counselling pilot for 10 countries of origin, whereby IOM staff in these countries is available for migrant counselling via phone and/or social media. Migrants in the Netherlands can contact the virtual counsellors directly at their own convenience prior to return, to discuss the implementation of reintegration assistance and other issues concerning the return. In addition to the IOM counselling in the Netherlands, this is expected to improve and add to pre-return preparation of the reintegration process to allow for returnees' ownership of their individual reintegration plan, empowerment and increased self-reliance.</p> <p>Next to the promotion of (socio)economic self-sufficiency through the use of the reintegration grant for income generating activities, most partner organisations in the CoO are able to collect information on and partner with different organisations in order to broaden assistance to returnees. In particular the migrants in a vulnerable situation will benefit from referrals to more specialized assistance available and psychosocial support.</p> <p>The returnees are requested to contact the partner organisation after their return for the implementation of the reintegration grant. All partners in the CoO will ensure adequate follow-up during the first 12 months following return to accompany beneficiaries in their reintegration process.</p> <p>Similar processes apply to AVRR via other NGOs who run AVRR programmes in the Netherlands.</p> <p>Under the EU-programme European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN) the pre-departure counselling is primarily conducted by return counselors in the hosting (European) countries. Though return counselors and/ or migrants are encouraged to reach out to the ERRIN service providers to obtain real-time information which will benefit the decision-making. Not only can the service providers provide up-to-date information, they can also support return counsellors from the Repatriation and Departure Service with bridging the language gap. The Talk2Connect project under ERRIN connects the ERRIN service providers in countries of origin/ destination with the return counsellors in the participating ERRIN countries. On the one hand ERRIN service providers share useful information on how to 'break the ice' when talking to the</p>
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		<p>migrants and learn how to pay attention to e.g. cultural and social aspects which can be key in a discussion. On the other hand return counsellors can share their daily practice including challenges with other return counsellors and service providers. The Member States' participants find these sessions very useful and informative (source: Repatriation and Departure Service).</p> <p>2. See answer to question 1.</p> <p>3. In principal there are no special incentives for specific countries or geographical regions, but as mentioned above certain nationalities are eligible for reintegration support and others are not. As also mentioned above there are always exceptions possible to the rules and tailor-made assistance when it comes to how to spend the in kind reintegration assistance is key; what someone needs or which job/business opportunities are available in a certain country are always taken into account.</p> <p>Also, if deemed necessary, the AVRR policy in the Netherlands gives room for tailored AVRR projects based on trends, wishes from our return officers, a certain influx or a certain group which could need something else than the standard. Last year the Netherlands had three of those pilot projects for Moroccan migrants in detention.</p> <p>4. Several studies[1] show that the impact of return and reintegration assistance to influence the return decision is very limited. According to these studies the return decision is much more impacted by the (perceived) safety, changes for livelihood in both host countries as countries of origin. Also whether or not the asylum procedure is considered as thorough which will impact the acceptance of this decision helps in deciding whether or not to return. Once the migrant has made his decision to return the return and reintegration assistance can help taking the final step.</p> <p>Another measure that is noted as highly impactful is the fact that the Netherlands has a dedicated return organisation, the Repatriation and Departure Service (R&DS), which was created 15 years ago and has close contact with Dutch immigration authorities. R&DS focusses on return counselling, talking to migrants about their future and helping migrants to think about return and connecting them to IOM/NGO's. Also, if necessary, the R&DS itself can help organise voluntary returns, also for medical cases, but also regular cases where for example IOM or NGOs cannot offer this in certain countries.</p> <p>[1] Reaching out to the Unknown, International Organization for Migration, Wijk, J. van, 2008, Kiezen tussen twee kwaden, Wetenschappelijk Onderzoeks- en Documentatie Centrum, Leerkes, A., 2010</p>
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		<p>5. We have no data or information on this.</p> <p>6. All migrants that receive a return decision are informed about the option to return voluntary with IOM, ERRIN or NGO's. IOM uses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leaflets in various languages 2. Posters in various languages 3. social media, 4. Website, 5. Helpline 6. In person counselling 7. Information sessions upon location 8. Migrant events in municipalities or upon reception centers 9. Referrals mechanisms with partner organizations are in place 10. Native counselling approach 11. Virtual counselling with IOM staff in Countries of return 12. Information multipliers, including diaspora and key figures in migrant communities. <p>7. Although it has not been researched, according to IOM NL the following activities have a positive impact on the decision to depart voluntarily.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In person counselling 2. Native counselling approach 3. Referrals by other migrants (who made use of the return support before) <p>8. No, the Dutch government does not collect such data. IOM has tried to collect such motives in various stages of the return process, but so far the results are not really useful.</p> <p>9. Not the Dutch government, but IOM does. The following criteria can be distilled to deny the migrant the make use of the REAN program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Migrant did not have the intention to settle in the Netherlands for a longer period 2. Migrant has the nationality or is in the possession of a valid visa or residence permit of a country excluded from REAN 3. Migrant or guarantor for the stay in the Netherlands or in a resettlement country has sufficient resources to depart
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			<p>independently to their country of origin or resettle in a third country</p> <p>4. Objection Dutch Government to voluntary return</p> <p>5. Migrant has returned in the past 5 years with IOM NL or has been deported by the Dutch Government to the country of origin.</p> <p>6. Migrant did not provide the necessary information or did not follow instructions to prepare voluntary departure.</p> <p>7. Migrant did not contact IOM anymore.</p> <p>8. Migrant refuses to sign for the termination of legal residence procedures or withdrawal of residence permit upon departure.</p> <p>9. The application for return is based on false pretenses.</p> <p>10. The departure and/or arrival in the country of destination cannot be arranged or not in a safe manner in line with IOM guidelines and procedures.</p> <p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A, we do not have data on this. We would like to refer to the IOM report 'Family Matters' which provides insight into the decision-making process of migrant families which shows that families in family-locations postpone their return because of their hope for an amnesty provision which applies to them</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Poland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Foreigners who have qualified for the voluntary return programme may receive assistance including accommodation until return to their country of origin is organised food and medical care.</p> <p>2. Foreigners qualified for the voluntary return programme are entitled to receive a cash allowance of PLN 300 or 800. In addition foreigners may receive reintegration assistance in kind for PLN 7500, which is offered for business or educational purposes. At the same time, persons in a particularly difficult situation (e.g. a single parent, elderly persons without income in their country of origin, victims of trafficking in human beings, persons with health problems, etc.) may receive an in-kind grant of the same amount, which can be used for housing assistance, medical assistance, etc.</p> <p>3. The initiatives are not tailored to specific countries or regions. They are dedicated to all foreigners qualified for the voluntary return programme.</p>


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		<p>4. It depends on the individual situation of the foreigner. For some foreigners, an incentive to return will be a cost-free return in the form of covering the costs of a ticket to the country of origin, while for others it will be granting reintegration assistance. Everything depends on the situation in which the foreigner is placed, e.g. whether they have a family to support, whether they can take up employment after returning to their country of origin, how long they stayed outside their country of origin, as well as the country they are returning to and how they will have real opportunities after returning to their country. The Foreigners Department of the Border Guard Headquarters together with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) organise within the framework of available projects, monitoring visits to the countries of origin of foreigners who have been granted reintegration assistance. During the monitoring visits, representatives of the Foreigners Department BG and IOM have the opportunity to meet with programme beneficiaries who voluntarily returned to their country of origin and received reintegration assistance, e.g. for starting a business, taking up vocational courses or education, which increases the chance of a permanent return. The observations made allow concluding that assistance.</p> <p>The observations made allow for the conclusion that assistance in voluntary return gives foreigners a sense of security, appreciation, and their social status improves significantly, which does not rise the risk of return migration to the European Union and foreigners returning to their countries of origin are not burdened with the stigma of deportation.</p> <p>5. Due to the entry into force of the so-called Special Act, which introduced special legal solutions for foreigners for the duration of an epidemic emergency or a state of epidemics, some foreigners are not eligible for the voluntary return programme due to their conditionally legal stay on the territory, which means that some foreigners do not qualify for the voluntary return programme, even though they want to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland. Moreover, reintegration assistance may be provided based on available projects run by the IOM and not based on the Agreement concluded between the Minister of the Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on cooperation in the field of voluntary return of foreigners leaving the territory of the Republic of Poland on 12 July 2005, which means that it is not available to all foreigners applying for the programme and is dependent on whether IOM is currently running a given project with EU funds.</p> <p>6. Foreigners who are subject to administrative proceedings related to the issuance of a decision on the obligation to return with a voluntary return date are informed by Border Guard officers of the possibility to benefit from the voluntary return programme implemented by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) under the Agreement concluded of 12 July 2005 between the Minister of the Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland. In addition, several</p>
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			<p>information campaigns for foreigners on the voluntary return programme were conducted on the territory of Poland in the form of leaflets, posters and information available on the websites of IOM Poland and the Border Guard. Interested persons may obtain detailed information by phone, e-mail or through on-site counselling on the premises of the IOM office. Visits to centres for foreigners are also organised for information purposes. In addition, non-governmental organisations and other services are informed about the voluntary return programme, and when dealing with foreigners, they also provide them with information about the voluntary return programme.</p> <p>7. The most important feature of information activities is to reach as many foreigners as possible who could voluntarily return to their country of origin. The information activities must be tailored to a specific group of foreigners and conducted in a language they understand. A large group of foreigners learn about the voluntary return programme from the officers who carry out administrative activities with them aimed at issuing a return decision with a deadline for voluntary return and are interested in the possibility of a voluntary return.</p> <p>8. No information is collected in Poland on the motives for voluntary return.</p> <p>9. No information is collected in Poland why the voluntary departure is refused.</p> <p>10. N/a</p> <p>11. N/a</p> <p>12. N/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovakia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. In the Slovak Republic, within the framework of voluntary returns, we know two forms of return in practice, namely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - imposition of a period for departure in the decision for administrative expulsion, when the foreigner him/herself leaves the territory of the Slovak Republic within this time period - assisted voluntary return of a third-country national. <p>Within the imposition of departure period for voluntary return, pre-return activities aimed at motivating third-country nationals (TCN) for voluntary return are not carried out prior to the commencement of the administrative expulsion proceedings. However, as part of the administrative expulsion proceedings, each TCN is informed that he/she has the</p>

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		<p>right to request a period for departure. At the same time, the police department instructs the foreigner that he/she has the possibility to use the assisted voluntary return programme.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic prefers voluntary return to forced return.</p> <p>The AVRR program in the Slovak Republic is implemented by IOM. IOM does not “motivate” migrants to return nor second provision of “incentives” . It rather advocates for informed decision reached upon unbiased return counselling as well as provision of sustainable reintegration assistance tailored to individual circumstances.</p> <p>Within the AVRR programme the following in kind services are offered to migrants registered in the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodation in case of emergency (for two weeks max.), • food (for two weeks max.), • essential clothing, • basic healthcare essential for safe return, • substitute travel document, • flight or travel tickets (train, bus), • return counselling. <p>In cash assistance is also offered in the form of EUR 100 pocket money (provided on the day of your return).</p> <p>2. In the context of the AVRR programme following in kind post-arrival assistance is offered to migrants registered in the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • onward transportation to the final destination, • reintegration assistance. <p>No cash assistance is provided.</p> <p>3. No. The AVRR programme applies to all countries and geographic regions, where return/reintegration is possible.</p> <p>4. There was no research conducted on this matter in the SR.</p>
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		<p>5. Following the experiences of IOM from implementing the AVRR programme, citizens of those countries which are geographically close to the Slovak Republic found it easier to return using their own means and not registering to the programme.</p> <p>6. In the context of voluntary return as such we can talk about return counseling. The Slovak Republic considers return information to be adequate provision of relevant information at all stages of the return procedure to third-country nationals, in order to ensure their rights and obligations and to provide information on their possibilities and facts that are or will be implemented during the return procedure. The aim of return counseling is to provide the foreigner with all necessary information about his/her situation, so that he/she can make an informed decision and, if necessary, freely decide on assisted voluntary return. The police department is obliged to inform the foreigner about his/her rights and obligations arising from this procedure immediately after the beginning of the administrative expulsion. When issuing the decision itself, the TCNs are always informed of the reasons for administrative expulsion, the reasons for the entry ban (if imposed), the obligation to leave, the entry ban period and instructions on the possibility of appeal the decision in a language they understand or can be expected, that the foreigner understands, etc. At the same time, they are instructed on the possibility of applying for legal aid, on the possibility of applying for asylum, on return assistance, etc. Every irregular migrant receives written information about the AVRR possibility in a language he/she understands. In case he/she wishes to discuss the return to country of origin, IOM is informed by police officers. Depending on the situation, IOM provides individual or group counseling, always according to the individual situation (see below). The information provided shall be in a language the foreigner understands. At the same time, each TCN in administrative expulsion proceedings is informed about the right to request a period for departure.</p> <p>Within AVRR programme the following information channels are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return counselling/face-to-face counselling (e.g. in IOM premises, in facilities of the Ministry of Interior including detention and asylum facilities, if needed there is also the possibly of counselling in the country of return, e.g. through videoconferencing); • Leaflets/brochures (on 1. Returns and for 2. Reintegration available in Slovak, English, Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese) / or Posters; • One-pager Info-sheets on AVRR programme distributed by the Foreigner Police to every migrant ordered to leave as a part of the Order to Leave dossier;
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional Website (avr.iom.sk); in Slovak, English, Serbian and Russian language which includes section on 1. Stories of returnees who benefitted from reintegration assistance (text + picture) and also section on 2. Videos of returnees who benefitted from reintegration assistance; • Posts on IOM Slovakia Facebook (including sponsored adds) and LinkedIn; • IOM Slovakia Youtube channel where videos of returnees who benefitted from reintegration assistance are published; • Helplines/info lines (low rate hotline, e-mail and mobile phone communication apps – Signal, Telegram); • Information Campaigns (TV sets with powerpoint presentations loop displaying info on AVRR programme at Foreigner Police departments located in two largest cities in Slovakia); • Information multipliers (e.g. migrant stakeholders, cultural mediators, NGOs, institutions and professionals working with migrants); • Pro-active visits to consulates and embassies. <p>IOM does not “motivate” migrants to return nor second provision of “incentives”. It rather advocates for informed decision reached upon unbiased return counselling as well as provision of sustainable reintegration assistance tailored to individual circumstances.</p> <p>7. In 2020, information on sources of referral on AVRR programme was collected from all 82 migrants who registered into AVRR programme in 2020. According to this survey, most frequently used sources of referral were as follows:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Nr.Source of referral</th> <th style="text-align: right;">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Former returnees</td> <td style="text-align: right;">51.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Foreigner police officers working in the local departments of Foreigner Police. As a part of every order to leave dossier migrants receive an AVRR info-sheet with information about AVRR programme.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. AVRR website</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Foreigner police officers working at detention centers (closed facilities of MoI)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Employees of asylum centers operated by Migration office of MoI</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Other sources of referral such as family, NGOs, etc.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">< 3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>8. No.</p>	Nr.Source of referral	%	1. Former returnees	51.2%	2. Foreigner police officers working in the local departments of Foreigner Police. As a part of every order to leave dossier migrants receive an AVRR info-sheet with information about AVRR programme.	15.9%	3. AVRR website	13.4%	4. Foreigner police officers working at detention centers (closed facilities of MoI)	8.5%	5. Employees of asylum centers operated by Migration office of MoI	3.7%	6. Other sources of referral such as family, NGOs, etc.	< 3%
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			<p>9. No.</p> <p>10. NA</p> <p>11. NA</p> <p>12. NA</p>
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. Until the end of 2020, Slovenia had contract with IOM for general Assistance Voluntary Return Reintegration (AVRR) program, which included in-kind and in-cash assistance. In June 2021, Slovenia joined ERRIN (European Reintegration Return Network). From April 1. 2022 JRS (Joint Return Service) will come into force, which is managed by Frontex.</p> <p>2. Slovenia will fully implement the provisions and offers of JRS.</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. In-cash assistance (returnees preferred rather in-cash assistance than in-kind).</p> <p>5. One of the main challenges was that the offered package was not attractive enough to outweigh the perceived benefits to stay.</p> <p>6. Return counselling, since this is the most efficient tool for introducing the programs.</p> <p>7. Combination of different factors (e.g. failed migration experience, no access to labor market, entry ban, personal domestic/family reasons, etc.).</p> <p>8. No.</p> <p>9. No.</p>


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			<p>10. N/A</p> <p>11. N/A</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Spain	Yes	<p>1. There are not specific incentives for these individuals, only incentives of general application for beneficiaries of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airline ticket. • Deliverance of travel documents, Visa expenses. • Cash allowance: pocket money during trip (flat rate), 50€/person/ per day up to 400€ per household. • Financial support: a flat rate of 400€/person up to 1.600€ per household, as reintegration support upon first arrival. • Exceptional Aid: unforeseen cost of medications; payment of the cost of necessary accompaniment of the applicant 's return due to age, disease, disability or other exceptional circumstances; temporary accommodation and maintenance during the previous return days; a flat rate of 100€/person up to 600€ per household to buy a transportation ticket to travel to their final destination in their country of origin. <p>2. There are not specific incentives for these individuals, only incentives of general application for beneficiaries of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual return plan to respond to the different needs of the returnee, with the aim of making the return and reintegration process a success. • Monitoring post-return in order to guarantee sustainable reintegration. <p>3. No</p> <p>4. Incentives described in the Q1. Besides, in the case of Productive Return Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance for entrepreneurship of business projects. Guidance in setting up micro-business activities. • Professional training and support on how to design and draw a business plan. • Financial support for the business Project in country of origin: 1.000 € up to 6.000 €.

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			<p>5. The information about Programs of Voluntary Return are available in the web of the Ministry, this programmes are aimed to migrants in vulnerability situation so in many cases they do not have access to internet.</p> <p>6. The unit of Voluntary Return send the directory of entities who manage the returns in order to migrants can contact them.</p> <p>7. Described in q5.b and q1</p> <p>8. SI. This information is available by the entities who manage the returns so we can know it through them.</p> <p>9. SI. This information is available by the entities who manage the returns so we can know it through them.</p> <p>10.</p> <p>11.</p> <p>12.</p>
	EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	<p>1. No pre-departure incentives are currently provided in Sweden.</p> <p>2. Third-country nationals returning to countries where reintegration is considered difficult due to the situation in the country, can apply for in cash assistance. In the majority of countries, the assistance is paid through IOM in the country of origin. In Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Yemen or Palestine the Swedish Migration Agency makes payment by bank transfer to the returnee's bank account in their home country after return. The amount is SEK 30 000 for third-country nationals aged 18 and over and SEK 15 000 for children. Families can receive a maximum of SEK 75 000 in cash assistance.</p> <p>In kind assistance is provided within the European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN). Reintegration assistance mainly include the following: airport pick-up and assistance, transportation to final destination, temporary housing, schooling, support for vocational training and job placement, assistance setting up small business, counselling, legal advice and medical care.</p>

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		<p>3. In cash assistance is currently available for third-country nationals returning to the following countries: Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Iraq (Kurdistan, central and southern), Yemen, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Palestine, Sudan, South Sudan and Ethiopia. In kind assistance is available for third-country nationals returning to the following countries: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Morocco, Nigeria and Pakistan.</p> <p>4. The incentives implemented by the Swedish Migration Agency are mainly the two mentioned above, in cash and in kind assistance. The different evaluations that will be referred, all conclude that the decision to return voluntarily was not affected by the possibility to receive assistance. The assistance available is however considered to facilitate the return, but not decisive for the decision to return voluntarily. The findings are based on statistics and interviews with returnees to Afghanistan and Iraq as in cash and in kind assistance are available for both these countries. The Swedish Migration Agency was tasked in the appropriation directives for 2020 to analyse and report factors that contribute to voluntary return. The statistics presented show that few did apply for support before returning to Iraq and Afghanistan in 2018, however more Iraqis applied for in cash assistance compared to Afghans.^[1] The perspective of being forcefully removed is instead raised as a motive for voluntary departure in the report as well as the possibility of issuing an entry ban, in particular for returnees returning to countries with geographical proximity to the Schengen area. Another example is the study carried out by the Migration Studies Delegation (Delmi) in 2020.^[2] Delmi is exploring to what extent the support provided contribute to a sustainable reintegration but also the reasons behind voluntary return. The authors emphasize the number of different reasons that are at play when deciding to return. The in cash and in kind support play a role but a less important one. One motive that is highlighted is to return voluntary only to facilitate an orderly migration back to Sweden. The last example is taken from IOM, monitoring the payment of reintegration support in 2020. The findings are based on interviews with returnees who voluntary returned from Sweden, 33 returnees to Afghanistan and 100 to Iraq. The majority, in particular in the case of Afghanistan, 96 % Afghans and 66 % Iraqis, said that the decision to return voluntarily was not affected by the possibility to receive in cash support.^[3] ^[1] The Swedish Migration Agency, A written communication on voluntary return, Redovisning av uppdrag 3.6 i Migrationsverkets regleringsbrev – Självmant återvändande, registration ref. no. 1.1.1.2-2020-14709 (18 May 2020). ^[2] Constanza Vera Larrucea, Henrik Malm Lindberg & André Asplund, Those who were sent back: Return and reintegration of rejected asylum seekers to Afghanistan and Iraq, Delmi Report 2021:10, available at: Those who were sent back - Delmi (last accessed 14 March 2022).</p>
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		<p>[3] The International Organization for Migration (IOM), Monitoring of beneficiaries under the project “Payment of reintegration support to voluntary returnees from Sweden” (June 2021).</p> <p>5. The impact on the decision to depart voluntarily is as mentioned above very limited when looking at the incentives in place in Sweden. The information available on the support and the problems experienced by other returnees can however influence the decision to return. The following are some of the problems returnees experienced after their arrival in Iraq and Afghanistan, highlighted in the Delmi study referred above:[1]</p> <p>a) Reintegration programmes in place do not address all the needs of the returnees, too much focus on economic needs and not enough on psychological support and on social networks.</p> <p>b) Returnees were criticising the delays to get access to both in cash and in kind support. The long waiting times were considered a problem.</p> <p>d) Returnees complained about tricky procedures and conditions that were hard to fulfil which hindered them from getting the support and in time. Differences were however identified when comparing the possibilities to reintegrate in Iraq and in Afghanistan. The security situation differs but also the access to housing, education and to the labour market, which affects the reintegration process and subsequently the effectiveness and how the returnees perceived the support. Other factors or challenges that are considered to have a major impact on the decision to return voluntary are the conditions in the country of reception such as access to education and housing and job opportunities in Sweden. Third-country nationals with a return decision who despite the decision, consider the situation in Sweden better compared to the one in the home country, are less likely to return voluntarily. This was highlighted in both the written communication from the Swedish Migration Agency[2] and the Delmi study referred above.</p> <p>[1] Constanza Vera Larrucea, Henrik Malm Lindberg & André Asplund, Those who were sent back: Return and reintegration of rejected asylum seekers to Afghanistan and Iraq, Delmi Report 2021:10, available at: Those who were sent back - Delmi (last accessed 14 March 2022).</p> <p>[2] The Swedish Migration Agency, A written communication on voluntary return, Redovisning av uppdrag 3.6 i Migrationsverkets regleringsbrev – Självmant återvändande, registration ref. no. 1.1.1.2-2020-14709 (18 May 2020).</p> <p>6. The Swedish Migration Agency provides applicants with information on voluntary return opportunities throughout the asylum procedure. The first information and introduction takes place within 14 days after an asylum application has been lodged. This information on the asylum procedure and the Swedish society also covers what will happen if the asylum application is rejected. It is provided mainly in group sessions and orally but information on return is also available as leaflets and on the website of the Swedish Migration Agency. In the case of a refusal of the asylum</p>
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		<p>application, the Swedish Migration Agency books an appointment to inform about the return decision, but also to inform about voluntary return opportunities with the support of an interpreter. In case of an appeal, the Swedish Migration Agency continues to have contact with rejected asylum seekers. Depending on the circumstances of the case, some of them are called to return counselling, to talk about their situation, the support available and consequences if the return decision is not followed. When the return decision enters into force, the Swedish Migration Agency books an appointment to finally plan and organize the return together with the returnee. The number of meetings that takes place during the return procedure depend on the individual circumstances and the choices that are made by the person concerned. Returnees can also get support and return counselling by organisations such as the Swedish Red Cross and Stockholm City Mission and those who are eligible for reintegration support can contact the partner organizations in place in the destination country. IOM provides a helpline for those eligible for reintegration support which covers both information and return counselling. Support is also provided by local municipalities in the case the returnee is an unaccompanied minor.</p> <p>7. To our knowledge, no evaluation has been carried out on information activities. There is however an ongoing ERRIN project that is managed by the Swedish Migration Agency, Multiparty approach on voluntary return and reintegration (MAVRRI), with the aim to facilitate for returnees to find information on return and reintegration via information platforms. The Swedish Migration Agency is also working actively to involve external partners in providing information on voluntary return opportunities such as the Swedish Red Cross. This was identified as an area of improvement in the written communication that was referred above.[1] Timing is also considered important and that is why information on voluntary return is provided early in the asylum procedure which is mentioned above, see Q6. The Swedish Migration Agency is also taking part in the ERRIN initiative Capacity Development and Training for Return Counsellors (CADRE) to improve the quality of the counselling that is to give better support to returnees. [1] The Swedish Migration Agency, A written communication on voluntary return, Redovisning av uppdrag 3.6 i Migrationsverkets regleringsbrev – Självmant återvändande, registration ref. no. 1.1.1.2-2020-14709 (18 May 2020).</p> <p>8. No, not on a regular basis but studies have been carried out as voluntary return is a political priority, see the Delmi study referred above.</p> <p>9. See above Q8.</p> <p>10. N/A</p>
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			<p>11. N/A</p> <p>12. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Norway	Yes	<p>1. We do not offer pre- departure incentives either in cash or in -kind before departure.</p> <p>2. In Norway, cash is offered as a post arrival incentive to motivate third- country nationals that are irregular or still are in process with the application for protection. In Norway, In - kind is offered as a post arrival incentives to motivate third- country nationals for a few national groups. For 2022 the national groups are IRQ, MOR and SOM. In addition, in -kind can be offered to returnees considered as vulnerable upon return.</p> <p>3. There are no incentives listed in Q1 as we don't have pre-departure incentives, only post-departure incentives.</p> <p>4. When we started up to offer cash support as post return incentive in July 2010, we registered a significant increase in applications (and departure) from Russian citizens. We registered a slight increase in application (and number of departures) for AVRR from Ethiopians when post- return in-kind support was introduced as in - kind program in 2013.</p> <p>5. Time to receive promised /available support has been a common complain. This can be influenced by factors with the returnee as well as factors caused by the SP. If the returnee lives in very rural area this can be a challenge, transport and long travel can obstacle the follow up and contact between the returnee and the SP. That the follow up takes time, will be communicated back to the target group in Norway, and can have negative effect on applications for uptake to the program, and by that obstacles information and motivational work towards the target group. That the offered package in not attractive enough to outweigh the perceived benefit to stay is a repeatedly argument. Argumentation that the in-kind support isn't sufficient for a restart back home in CoO, comes from "all" national groups. This is also an argument repeatedly communicated by Service providers as advice to how to strengthen the IN- kind programmes.</p>

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		<p>6. Third- country nationals are targeted with information about AVR and support related to return. Both through Reception center staff as well as IOM, and a few other organizations working towards the group living outside the RCs. Third- country nationals with a negative decision are offered counselling to be explained the negative decision on their application for protection by gov. agency staff, via videoconferencing. Return counselling are offered in all RCs, and RCs staff are obligated to offer two return counselling sessions towards each individual. IOM Country of Origin visits RCs in Norway to meet target group to inform and offer counselling directly in RC. This has been done during COVID via videoconferencing but didn't work out well. We develop leaflets and or brochures, either by the gov. agency or by the SP (IOM, DRC). We promote information on the program, service and support on institutional websites as well as SP cooperation partners.</p> <p>7. Very hard to say and measure. In general, trust to the sender of the information is one factor to influence if the information will be received and considered as relevant. The target group are generally speaking, critical towards GOV. Agency as GOV Agency is the source to the negative decision (a decision the migrant argue against). It is also a factor that the information is available where the target groups are, and through channels the target groups use or are familiar with. A multi approach seems to be relevant to consider, a combination of platforms and or cooperation partners.</p> <p>8. Collect information on the motives for voluntary depatures? Not really and not lately. This has previously been a factor considered in evaluations of reintegration programs.</p> <p>9. See Q8</p> <p>10. Motives for departing voluntarily. Factors we might have identified that influence the decision;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in relevant conditions in the CoO (security, economy, family issues) • Changes in the conditions in the host country (conditions for living here (support), considering regarding the future here, change in how application for protection are handled) • Alternatives in other countries • Return and reintegration assistance
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			<p>11. Top motives for refusing to depart voluntarily (incentives to stay);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes in relevant conditions in CoO (security, economy..)• Expectations or hope for changes in how applications for protection is considered for my group (long stayers hopes for changes that they can benefit from, eg. Given temporary work permit or temporary permits).• Medical conditions. <p>12. Cash support as a post return incentive. The cash support is reduced if the application for AVR are after the date of the duty to leave the country. Higher support before the duty to leave is considered to motivate the returnee to apply faster after the negative decision.</p>
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