



REFUGEES DEPARTING INDONESIA FOR THEIR NEW HOMES © IOM 2017

RESETTLEMENT, ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Indonesia provides resettlement assistance to third countries for those who have claimed asylum and been granted refugee status by UNHCR. Through its assisted voluntary return and reintegration activities, IOM also assists migrants, including refugees and Indonesian migrants, who wish to return to their countries of origin.

Indonesia is currently hosting approximately 13,800 refugees. While it has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, the country continues to allow refugees to enter and seek asylum. The Presidential Regulation No. 125 Year 2016 on the Treatment of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Indonesia provides access and temporary protection to refugees until they are resettled to a third country or are voluntarily returned to their country of origin, with no provision for local integration.

For some migrants, including refugees, the need to go back home is felt at a certain point, triggered by the desire to reunite with family, limited resettlement opportunities, changed conditions in host countries or countries of origin, or the lack of legal status and work opportunities. This was evident during the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in many migrants being stranded as they lost their jobs while at the same time finding themselves unable to return home due to travel restrictions or insufficient financial resources.

The safe and dignified return, reintegration and resettlement of migrants, including refugees, requires a comprehensive, humane and protection-oriented approach – one that recognizes the interdependencies of travel, health and integration as integral components of the process.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

8,325 refugees resettled to third countries since 2011.

6,573 refugees assisted to voluntarily return and reintegrate since 2011.

1,859 Indonesian nationals returned with IOM assisted voluntary return and reintegration since 2011.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





IOM'S RESETTLEMENT AND ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMME FOCUS AREAS

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

IOM provides comprehensive resettlement activities that broadly fall under four areas: health assessments and related assistance, movement management and operations, and addressing pre-departure and post-arrival integration. IOM works closely with governments on the design and implementation of their programmes, UNHCR, nongovernmental organizations and other partners such as airlines and transport providers to enable solutions for refugees. Logistical support provided varies from domestic transportation to accommodating refugees, providing interpreters, assisting with document verification and composition, managing schedules to attend necessary appointments, such as interviews, biometric collection and cultural orientations, as well as arranging and informing refugees of their travel itineraries.

COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

While refugee resettlement remains both a vital protection tool and a durable solution, there is a widening gap between the gravely inadequate number of resettlement places available and the growing number of refugees and other vulnerable persons of concern in desperate need of a third-country solution. Therefore, complementary pathways serve to increase the range of safe and legal means to achieve a third-country solution for those in need of international protection. IOM in collaboration with UNHCR, work with States to expand complementary pathways through humanitarian admission programmes, humanitarian visas, community-based private sponsorship, academic scholarship and labour mobility schemes.

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (AVRR)

Beneficiaries include stranded migrants both irregular and regular, asylum seekers who decide not to pursue their claims or who are found not to be in need of international protection, and migrants in vulnerable situations, such as victims of trafficking, unaccompanied and separated minors, or migrants with health-related needs. IOM provides safe and dignified movement assistance to beneficiaries at various stages of the process often including internal transfers before crossing international borders, support to gain travel documents, a range of health activities, movement assistance to their countries of origin, and reintegration support. AVRR supports a dignified return of migrants to countries of origin as it avoids coercion. When migrants travel with IOM, they travel as a regular passenger in a more safe and humane manner, without the stigma of deportation. IOM tailors assistance to identified vulnerable persons, ensuring that their specific needs are recognized and taken into account. All migrants who benefit from voluntary return have been individually counselled and assisted to ensure that the decision to return is informed and reflects their desires and specific needs.



GCM Objective 21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration



GCR Objective 3. Expand access to third-country solutions

GCR Objective 4. Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity

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