

June 2010, Issue # 2



Welcome to the second issue of the IOM Dublin E-Newsletter!

International Organisation for Migration

IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.





With 127 member states, a further 17 states holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries.

IOM Dublin



Since opening in 2001, the IOM Dublin office has been engaged in a number of thematic areas which all seek to contribute to positive and humane migration. IOM Dublin is active in the following areas: Voluntary Return and Reintegration Project; Family Reunification; Counter Trafficking Activities; Research. Ireland has been an IOM Member State since 2002.

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New Assisted Voluntary Return Video Now Available

IOM Dublin Video on the Return and Reintegration Programme

IOM Dublin is pleased to announce the launch of a new information video on the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme in Ireland.

The purpose of the video is to provide information on the entire return and reintegration process in a simple, interesting, and engaging manner. The video follows a Moldovan family; Ghenadie, Lilia and David, who participated in the return programme with IOM Dublin and details the entire return process from the application stage through to arriving home. In this way, **the return procedure is highlighted step by step** while also sharing the family's personal experiences of life in Ireland in a documentary style.



The video begins with a brief overview of family life in the accommodation centre where the family were living and discusses their reasons for applying for the programme. Scenes show their trip to Dublin to meet with IOM staff to discuss the application, travel arrangements and the reintegration support options available upon return. Interviews with the family, as well as IOM staff in Ireland and Moldova are shown throughout the video to show both the technical and personal aspects of the return process. The final scene shows the family leaving Dublin airport and being met by IOM staff in Chisinau. The second section of the video shows how those returning made use of the IOM Dublin reintegration grant, which is an integral part of the IOM Dublin assistance.

The video is intended to provide a **clear and concise overview of the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme** offered in Ireland and will be a useful resource for organisations involved in information provision to asylum seekers and irregular migrants.

The video is in English, with subtitles available in Russian, Arabic, Urdu and English. Video running time is 17 minutes.

The video will be distributed to all relevant organisations and to RIA accommodation centres around Ireland as well as being used throughout IOM Dublin outreach activities. It will also be posted on the IOM Dublin website and other relevant sites. A copy can be ordered by contacting our Dublin office on 01 878 7900 or email iomdublin@iom.int.

Counter Trafficking Training for Trainers

In April 2010, IOM Dublin delivered the third in a series of Counter-Trafficking Training sessions for staff of a broad range of statutory agencies and departments. The training, in collaboration with the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit, forms part of the [National Action Plan](#) to prevent and combat trafficking of human beings in Ireland. Trainings took place in November and December 2009 and again in April 2010.

The aim of the training was to ensure that a diverse range of relevant stakeholders from organisations in Ireland received targeted and appropriate information on the fundamental issues relating to counter-trafficking and how this may relate to the work carried out by staff in a variety of departments and sectors. The course was delivered by Penny McRedmond an independent consultant trainer and expert in the field of counter-trafficking, who together with IOM, developed dedicated course materials, including a participants' manual, reflecting both the international and the local Irish context. (image of manual here)

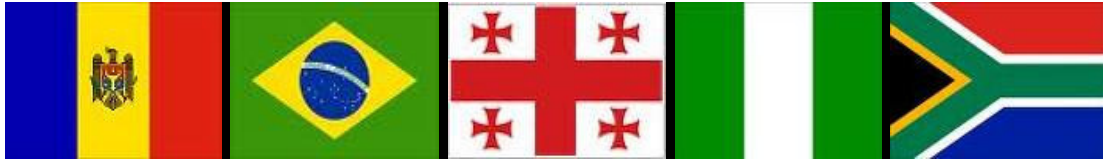
A broad range of Irish organisations, both statutory and non governmental, such as the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB), Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU), Women Health Project (WHP), Immigrant Council of Ireland (ICI) and the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (MRCI) provided input in to the programme, adding a diverse range of perspectives to the training. The information shared from the wide variety of speakers enabled participants to get a broad understanding of the cross-cutting sectors involved.



A support network, including a group newsletter, has been created to ensure the sustainability of the project and that trainers continue to benefit from the contacts created throughout the training process.

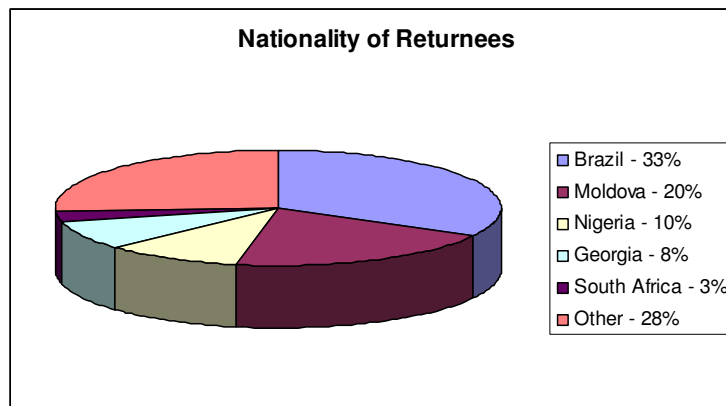
Feedback gathered from an evaluation form distributed among the participants shows that the training has been very positively received, and has been of considerable benefit to those who took part.

🚩 Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Statistics



🚩 AVR in 2009: The year in Review

In 2009, IOM Dublin provided 405 individuals with assistance to return home to 42 different countries. One third of returnees in 2009 were Brazilian nationals while Moldova saw a notable increase of individuals choosing to return home with 81 participants on the programme last year.



The majority of participants returning home under the programme chose to avail of the reintegration assistance and a wide variety of activities were undertaken. The most popular activities in 2009 were expanding small businesses or purchasing tools to engage in a trade, while others opted for education and vocational training. Some of the more unusual reintegration activities carried out by returnees in 2009 include a chicken grilling business in Sudan, a photo gallery in Russia, a mail order catalogue business in Brazil and a wedding event planner in Uganda!

These activities reflect the diversity of skills, interests and backgrounds of the returnees as well as the differing local contexts.

The next issue of the IOM Dublin E-Newsletter will include stories of returnees under the VARRP programme and will give you a better idea of the ways in which people have chosen to use this assistance.

Moldova Monitoring Trip

In June, two IOM Dublin staff members will travel to Moldova to meet with past participants of the Voluntary Return and Reintegration programme. This trip will be organised jointly with local IOM Chisinau staff who have been working closely with returnees from Ireland in arranging the reintegration grant provided as part of the return programme.



Reintegration assistance is an integral aspect of the programme and requires regular monitoring and evaluation in order to ensure its effectiveness. This trip will provide IOM Dublin staff the opportunity to see first hand the ways in which this post-return support is administered and utilised by participants.

Of particular interest will be meeting with the Moldovan family featured on our newly launched information video. The video shares the family's story of life in Ireland and documents the return process from start to finish, ending with the family being reunited with their family.

We will share the details of the Moldova trip, with updates on how Ghenadie, Lilia and David are getting on, and other reintegration cases in the next issue of the E-newsletter.

[IOM World Wide](#)

🚩 **World Cup Trafficking Campaign**

An international campaign intended to raise awareness on the trafficking of persons has recently been launched in advance of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

This widespread and innovative campaign is an initiative of Talitha Kum, a network of religious organisations from around the world, and is strongly supported by the International Organisation for Migration and the International Union of the Superior's General.



The eye-catching posters designed for this year's campaign have been distributed in high visibility areas, with a particular focus on attracting the attention of potential victims: children living in areas of extreme poverty. In addition, regular announcements will be broadcast on radio and television channels, all of which detail the IOM helpline telephone number.

TBWA, the advertising agency recruited to design the campaign, took a creative approach to highlighting trafficking by erecting fake walls and tunnels in at-risk areas that when entered, create the illusion of disappearing. This highly visual outdoor campaign effectively forces people to imagine what it would be like to simply vanish as a victim of trafficking.

[Check out the video here to see how the campaign looks in action!](#)

Update: Emergency Relief in Haiti

IOM is responsible for leading the global humanitarian effort in emergency situations regarding camp coordination and management in areas affected by natural disasters. IOM Haiti is continuing to support the emergency relief work in the region and has recently established coordination mechanisms with local authorities and humanitarian agencies working in camp management.



An interesting development in Haiti is the IOM cash for work initiative, which employs vulnerable and earthquake-affected persons to work on projects such as rubble removal, rehabilitation of irrigation systems and the construction of schools. At present, the programme employs approximately 8,000 Haitians each day and provides them with much needed income in this difficult time. Many of the projects work on a two week rotation system, giving more members of the community the opportunity to take part in the work scheme.

[Click here for video footage of IOM emergency response work in Haiti.](#)

Youth Video Festival 2010

Following the success of last years Plural+ youth video festival, organised by the UN Alliance of Civilisations and the International Organisation for Migration, we are pleased to invite the submission of videos concerned with migration, diversity and social inclusion from persons around the country aged 9 to 25 years.

This is a great opportunity for individuals and groups to creatively communicate their ideas on these important issues and to be in with a chance of winning some excellent prizes! Last years winners were flown to New York for the award ceremony and their videos were presented at film festivals around the world.

Short videos, up to 5 minutes in length, expressing participants' thoughts, experiences or suggestions on migration related issues are to be submitted by 30 June 2010.

Further details, poster and entry form can be found at www.unaoc.org/pluralplus. Posters for the competition are also available for download in pdf format on the [IOM Dublin website](#).

🚧 Update from the Office

- Just a quick update from the office here in Dublin to welcome a new member of staff, Aideen Roche. Aideen has recently joined the information and outreach department and has come to us from a background in minority rights and human rights law. Aideen can be contacted at dubinfooutreach@iom.int.
- Another development in the office is the new children's play area in the main reception, which features a variety of toys in the kid's corner. This welcome addition has been well received by visitors so far and we hope it is enjoyed by all.