Since 2005, the AVRR programme in Morocco offered a safe and voluntary return to 13,271 migrants, out of which more than 569 were vulnerable migrants.

Between January and March 2020, 414 people returned voluntarily through the AVRR programme to 23 countries of origin.

The 10 main countries of origin below account for 77% of total returns.

- Côte d’Ivoire: 82
- Guinea: 74
- Senegal: 70
- Cameroon: 43
- Mali: 29
- Congo: 21
- Gambia: 19
- Nigeria: 19
- DRC: 11
- Ghana: 10

The average age of the returnees over this period was 28.

Migrants who return to countries covered by the « EU-IOM Joint initiative for migrant protection and reintegration » programme receive a reintegration assistance under this initiative in their respective countries. Therefore, only 37 migrants who returned to countries of origin not covered by this initiative or where the reintegration support was not available received a reintegration assistance coordinated by the IOM Mission in Morocco.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Reintegration Assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

One migrant with health needs returned to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with a medical escort.
Since the beginning in 2005 of the AVRR program in Morocco, 1,746 Moroccan returnees were assisted, out of which more than 300 were vulnerable.

From January to March 2020, 58 Moroccan returnees were assisted.

G. decided to leave Morocco to support his family. He sold the motorbike that he used to transport his merchandise and bought a one way ticket to Turkey. Once he arrived to Istanbul, he became friends with a group of young Moroccans with whom he decided to cross the borders over to Greece in the hopes of reaching countries like France or Spain. After several failed attempts G. decided to head back home. G was able to get back to Morocco with the support of the “Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration programme”. Once he arrived to Morocco he was able to work on a reintegration plan and buy a motorcycle with the support of the “EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in North Africa” financed by the European Union.

The unforeseen coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, now a global pandemic, is also hitting the Kingdom of Morocco. National authorities set forth different measures to mitigate the spread of the disease and allow for an adequate response. Along those lines, IOM took necessary measures to ensure the continuity of its services while abiding with the applicable national rules. Thus, since mid-March:

- IOM staff is requested to work from home. Beneficiaries are encouraged to reach out to IOM Staff by phone or using instant messaging applications to receive information, guidance or referral as appropriate;
- IOM remains in close contact with its implementing partners;
- IOM is also liaising with civil society organizations and governmental authorities to identify ways to support the response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak.

IOM continuously monitors the situation in close cooperation with competent authorities to guarantee that operations return to normal.