

## *What is IRRINI*

It is **I**nformation, **R**eturn and **R**eintegration of **I**raqi **N**ationals to **I**raq programme for Iraqi asylum seekers or those with refugee status/permanent residence permit, who wish to return from Norway to Iraq voluntarily. The Programme provides a **comprehensive return option, which is organized, humane, safe and dignified.**

## **Background**

IOM has assisted over 11 800 Iraqi nationals from Europe, Australia and neighbouring countries in their voluntary return to Iraq. Many among these were eligible for assistance delivered through IOM Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) programme frameworks established by IOM in partnership with authorities in the sending countries. Since the inception of IOM Oslo's Voluntary Assisted Return Programme (VARP) in May 2002 until now over 400 Iraqi nationals have been assisted to voluntarily return to Iraq. Significant numbers of Iraqi migrants continue to express their willingness to return to their home country, which justifies the facilitation of measured return operations.

Under the framework of IOM Oslo's voluntary assisted return programme (VARP) for unsuccessful asylum seekers in Norway, beneficiaries are not offered any reintegration assistance on arrival in their countries of origin, but Iraqi nationals (asylum seekers and those with either refugee status or permanent residence permit) returning from Norway from 01 March, 2008 will be assisted with a range of reintegration services on arrival in Iraq, which will ease their reinsertion into their original society.

## *Who is eligible*

You are an Iraqi national in Norway in the following status:

- Asylum seeker (still within the process but wishes to return home)
- Unsuccessful asylum seeker (you have received your final negative, i.e. no possibility for appealing against the final decision)
- Iraqi national with either refugee or protection status.

Note that, if you receive a negative decision on your asylum application by the local authorities you will be given a limited time to leave from Norway. If you want to return home with IOM you should apply shortly after receiving your asylum decision. IOM can not provide you with legal aid, if it can refer your case to the Norwegian Organization for Asylum Seekers (NOAS), if you so wish.

## *Services offered under IRRINI*

### **In Norway**

- Provision of return and reintegration information and counselling to target group and other stake holders;
- Assistance in acquisition of valid travel document, if necessary;
- Provision of transport within Norway, flights to the home country and domestic transport to final destination;
- Assistance at the airport on departure, in transit and on arrival.

## **In Iraq**

- You are received at the airport by an IOM staff, who will assist you with border and customs clearance;
- You are given medical assistance, if needed;
- You are given counselling and other information, about available reintegration services offered by IOM Iraq;
- You will be provided with onward transportation assistance to your final destination
- If needed, you will be provided with transit accommodation if unable to reach your home town on the day of arrival in Iraq;
- You will receive relevant information about security and other state of affairs;
- You will receive reintegration advice and counselling for your own business, if that option is desired, by IOM reintegration staff in coordination and technical cooperation with Business Innovation Programs (BIP);
- You will be provided with information about Government, international and local NGOs including BIPs, and UN agencies programmes being implemented in your final destination;

## **Under the reintegration package;**

- You will receive the USD equivalent of NOK **10 000** if you are an asylum seeker (will be paid on arrival by IOM Iraq in one instalment) and NOK **15 000** if you have a residence/protection permit (will be paid in Norway by UDI).
- You will receive a maximum amount of NOK **25 000** as a non-cash reintegration assistance which can be invested towards:
  - The development and establishment of a small business.
  - Skills development through educational and on-the-job training
  - Education
  - Job placement through referrals (The reintegration package can give financial support in the form of monthly allowance, fees for on-the-job training and skills training centres).

You will be consistently followed up to monitor your progress. The duration of monitoring will not be less than 6 months from date of return, if needed, till the end of the project duration.

## ***Benefits of returning with IOM***

- You do not pay for the services provided by IOM. They are free!!!!!!!
- You will know in advance exactly when you will be travelling. This makes it easier for you to plan your

return, personally arrange for any items you will wish to take with you, inform friends and/or relatives to meet you at your final destination, if you wish

- Your travel is organised to your final destination
- You travel as a regular passenger
- You are not handed over to the local authorities in your home country
- You get IOM's assistance at departure, in transit and on arrival points
- You will be assisted to acquire a travel document from your Embassy if needed
- You are not indebted to the Norwegian government

### ***Which authorities are involved***

IOM is responsible for the overall implementation of the Programme. IOM provides information to its clients; assists in acquiring travel documents and makes the practical travel arrangements in Norway. IOM Iraq is responsible for services provided in Iraq. UDI is the programme donor. It UDI acts as a communication link between IOM and the Reception Centres.

### ***No travel documents; what to do***

Everyone travelling under the IOM Programme needs to have a valid passport or other travel document issued and recognized by your national authorities. If you do not have a valid international passport or other travel document you should apply for one from your Embassy / Consulate. For more information on how to acquire a travel document and how IOM can assist you in getting one, click here or click on <http://www.embassyworld.com>

If you have already been accepted on VARP, which qualifies you for IRRINI, but you lack valid Iraqi travel document, IOM will automatically request you to apply for one and give instructions how to do it. You also have the option to independently contact your Embassy or Consulate and apply for a travel document without the help of IOM.

Note: IOM covers the expenses of acquiring the travel document only for those VARP applicants who apply for it through IOM and those who need to contact personally their Embassy / Consulate, where IOM has not yet established co-operation with that particular Embassy.

### ***How to apply***

In order to participate in IRRINI you must first be eligible for VARP and you need to fill in a VARP application form. The application form can be downloaded from here or contact any of the below:

- Mission in Norway  
Storgata 10A, 2nd floor  
P. O. Box 8927 Youngstorget  
NO-0028 Oslo  
Norway

Tel: +47 23 10 53 20/22 Fax: +47 23 10 53 23

E-mail: [oslo-irradi@iom.int](mailto:oslo-irradi@iom.int)

Internet: <http://www.iom.no>

- **UDI and its Regional Offices**
- Tel: 23351500

- Email: [udi@udi.no](mailto:udi@udi.no) Internet: [www.udi.no](http://www.udi.no)
- UDI Regional Office West (Tel: 5530 0999/fax: 5530 0988)
- UDI Regional Office South (Tel: 3810 6060/fax: 3802 0480)
- UDI Regional Office Oslo (Tel: 2335 1500/fax: 2335 1580)
- UDI Regional Office East (Tel: 6114 6500/fax: 6117 0895)
- UDI Regional Office Mid-Norway (Tel: 7389 2400/fax: 7389 2401)
- UDI Regional Office North Norway (Tel: 7696 5810/fax: 7696 5839)

### How to fill in an application form

- The application form must be written in English;
- One family can apply using the same application form. The head of the family fills page one with his / her information. Information of other family members travelling with the head of the family is asked on page 2 of the application form. Please note that children who are 18 years or older must fill in their own application form;
- IOM needs as many declarations of the voluntary return as there are returnees per family (see page 3 of the application). Each returnee must personally sign the declaration;
- In case of children under 18 years old, both parents must sign the declaration on behalf of each under-aged child. In case of a single parent, only one counter signature of the concerned parent is required;
- If you are unable to write you can sign the declaration form by making a mark or thumb print;
- Referral agency / Reception Centre: Indicate in this point in which reception centre you are staying at. If you don't live in a Reception Centre indicate here which UDI Regional Office is your referral agency;
- Passport / travel document: Indicate what kind of travel document you had when you applied for asylum. It is important to include information on the number of the travel document you possess and its validity, if you have that information with you at the time of filling in the forms;

### Where to return the application forms?

Application forms should be returned to IOM to the following address:

Mission in Norway  
 Storgata 10A, 2nd floor  
 P. O. Box 8927 Youngstorget  
 NO-0028 Oslo  
 Norway

Tel: +47 23 10 53 20/22  
 Fax: +47 23 10 53 23  
 E-mail: [oslo-irriini@iom.int](mailto:oslo-irriini@iom.int)  
 Internet: <http://www.iom.no>

### *Contact and useful links*

## **IOM International Organization for Migration**

*Visiting address:*

**Storgt 10A ♦ 2nd floor ♦ Oslo**

*Mailing address:*

**Post Office Box 8927 Youngstorget ♦ NO-0028 Oslo**

**Tel: 2310 5320/2310 5322 ♦ Fax: 2310 5322**

**Email: [oslo-irriini@iom.int](mailto:oslo-irriini@iom.int)**

IOM International Organization for Migration in Norway ([www.iom.no](http://www.iom.no))

IOM International Organization for Migration Headquarters ([www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int))

IOM International Organization for Migration in Iraq ([www.iom-iraq.net](http://www.iom-iraq.net))

UDI Norwegian Directorate of Immigration ([www.udi.no](http://www.udi.no))

BIP Business Innovation Programs ([www.bips.no](http://www.bips.no))