



IOM International Organization for Migration

## TANZANIA

# VOLUNTARY RETURN ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN TANZANIA

The rising importance of *mixed migratory flows* in Tanzania has been recognized as one of the top priorities on the country's migration agenda. Addressing the needs of stranded migrants in the country and improving the institutional framework are long-term goals for the Government.

Two groups of migrants require urgent attention: irregular migrants in the border region of North-Western Tanzania and the migrants from the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia and Somalia), many of whom

are currently stranded in Tanzania regions. Over the last years, the southern itinerary from Somalia and Ethiopia has become a constant route for many migrants searching for a better life outside their own country.

Many of these migrants (including women, children and unaccompanied minors) end up in Tanzanian prisons for long periods of time once they are apprehended. The physical and psychological strain these migrants are subjected to in order to attempt to get to

their destination renders them highly vulnerable to sickness and abuse.

Through this project, IOM wishes to focus on the needs of the most vulnerable stranded migrants in Tanzania, targeting at a minimum 800 individuals, of which at least 300 will be women and children, and providing them with the opportunity of going back home in a safe and humane way.

The project consists of three separate, yet complementary and linked components:

### 1) DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Assist the most vulnerable stranded migrants in Tanzania to return to their countries of origin and to address immediate as well as longer-term protection and vulnerability concerns. IOM will assist a minimum of 800 (300 of whom are women and children) migrants to return to their countries of origin and receive return assistance (transport, onwards assistance, medical support). Up to 50% of the caseload, the most vulnerable migrants returning to Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda or to Ethiopia and Somalia, will be provided with return assistance as well as initial integration support.

### EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE PROJECT:

Decrease in the numbers of stranded and destitute migrants, increased capacity on the side of the government to document and manage return migration. A more peaceful and stable environment in the affected communities.

- MIXED MIGRATORY FLOWS are complex population movements including refugees, asylum-seekers, economic migrants, smuggled migrants, unaccompanied minors and other migrants

- Mixed flows comprise diverse groups of migrants who may be particularly vulnerable, such as pregnant women, children and the elderly, unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking and migrants detained in transit or upon arrival. These migrants can be easily subject to violence, psychological distress and trauma during the migration process.

## 2) CAPACITY BUILDING

IOM will build the capacities of immigration officials and border police to improve their skills in return management. This will be carried out in close cooperation with the Tanzanian Regional Immigration Training Academy in Moshi to promote the project's sustainability. Specifically, IOM will build the capacity of the Government by delivering a series of three training events, resulting in 80 officials being familiar with best practices in return management and fully equipped to apply principles of international human rights and protection to their day-to-day management of migratory flows.

## 3) REGIONAL DIALOGUE

Following the 2010 Regional *IOM-UNHCR Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration* involving the East and the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region to Southern Africa (which took place in Dar es Salaam), IOM

will organize a follow-up workshop with Government officials and experts in order to take stock of the work achievements made since this adoption of the conference action plan in 2010, review this action plan based on new migratory trends and events in the region and promote comprehensive approaches to these movements affecting Tanzania.

In order to implement the project, IOM will be working with a number of key stakeholders including: Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Immigration and Refugees), UNHCR, the University of Dar es Salaam, relevant authorities in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

The intervention is incorporated within a programmatic approach sanctioned by the Government and supported by the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom in the area of registration and return specifically for Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda.



**IOM's assisted return activities have become an indispensable part of ensuring the integrity of regular migration. They are part of a comprehensive approach to migration management, which includes timely asylum adjudication, effective removals of irregular migrants, regular migration options and accurate public information on those options.**

## WE ASSIST:

- Irregular migrants
- Stranded Migrants
- Voluntary Returnees



## MIGRATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

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