

“Building a Return Network in Latin-America for a Comprehensive, Effective and Sustainable Return Program Including Reintegration” – RN LATAM

Project leader:

ACCEN – Spain, www.accem.es

Project partners:

Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati (CIR) – Rome, Italy, www.cir-onlus.org

Soleterre, Strategie di Pace – Milano, Italy, www.soleterre.org

Opere Riunite Buon Pastore – Venezia, Italy, www.buonpastore.org

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Duration: 12 months

Starting date: 1st September 2008

Objectives of the project:

- The objective of the project is *to establish an assistance umbrella network regarding voluntary return and reintegration*, concerning three Latin-American countries (*Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador*), involving *project partners in Europe and leading agencies in Latin-America*. The aim of the network shall be to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of return as a whole, and create a return assistance process ruled by the principle of protecting human dignity. As a part of this, a Case Chain Management Procedure shall be created, starting in the host country and continued in the country of return, until the returnee is sustainably settled.
- In the course of the project, the *needs of returnees shall be addressed* regarding social and legal *return advice, orientation and information* on country of origin, *employment training*, furthermore, *social, educational and economic reintegration*. Special attention shall be paid to vulnerable groups, such as minors, disabled persons and women.
- The project is also aimed at the capacity building of the project partners and the leading agencies in the countries of return. All actions will be carried out through *coordinated actions* of all the stakeholders involved in the return process, *taking advantage of their own existing capacities* in order to ensure the impact and sustainability of the project.

Beneficiaries of the project:

- *Argentinean, Colombian or Ecuador nationals* who do not or no longer fulfil the conditions for entry and/or stay in a European Union Member State, subject to a final return decision and/or removal order, stating or declaring the illegality of stay of a third country national, and who have been imposed an obligation of return; and within 6 months maximum after their return.



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Main activities of the project:

1. Activities addressing returnees directly

- Legal, social and psychological counselling and mediation upon arrival to the country of return
Returnees will receive information and initial orientation once the migratory procedure has been concluded.
- Assignment of allowances: identification of allowances for accommodation, food, urgent health care and other basic needs
Temporary assistance will be provided to returnees, taking into account their personal needs, such as help regarding basic needs, family contacts, internal transport, psychological orientation and rehabilitation in specialized centres, medical assistance, medicine and adequate treatment.
- Organizing employment training sessions
Personalized information and help will be provided to returnees, taking into account their professional skills, qualifications, and their working experiences in the European host country, in order to enhance their chances to succeed in the labour market of their country of origin.
- Conducting seminars on the role of returnees in their country of origin
Seminars will be organized for returnees in order to make them concerned about the role they can play in the socio-economic development of their country of origin, taking into account the experience they have gained in the European host country, such as work experience, professional qualification and many other habits.
- Compiling case files concerning returnees per person
The leading agencies in the countries of return will be in charge of compiling personalized files on returnees, the help provided to them by the assistance umbrella network, and the achievements reached concerning the social, educational and economic reintegration of the returnee.

2. Activities concerning the cooperation of project partners and leading agencies in the countries of origin

- Conducting Capacity Building trainings in the countries of return with the project partners and leading agencies, submitting existing programs, service methods and tools related to the process of return to the leading agencies
- Implementing the Employment Training Sessions by the leading agencies for returnees with the support of the project partners
- Conducting a Regional Networking Seminar at the end of the project in order to share the experiences during the project implementation

3. Dissemination, publishing, reporting to the European Commission

- Publication of the project experience through a Project Final Report produced by the project partners and the leading agencies.
- Production of two project reports for the European Commission, containing the activities of the project and financial information.



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