

For more information please contact:

[IOM Mission for Afghanistan:](#)

House No. 1093, Ansari Wat (behind UNICA Guest House)
Shar-e-Naw
Tel (local): 22 01 104
Sat phone: 00 873 762 869 855
iomkابل@iomkابل.net

[IOM Sub-Office Bamyan:](#)

Sari Asyab
Satphone Number: 00 88 21 689 800 579
E-mail: iom.bamyan@eikmail.com

[IOM Sub-Office Herat:](#)

Welayat Street, House No. 129
District No. 1
Satphone and Fax Number: 00 871 762 881 852
Landline: 009 344 000 73
E-mail: iomherat@herat.iomkابل.net

[IOM Sub-Office Kandahar:](#)

Dand District, Shar-e-Naw,
Next to Mirwais Hospital
Satphone Number: 00 873 760 466 80
E-mail: hsokandahar@eikmail.com

[IOM Sub-Office Kunduz:](#)

Pahlawan Ghafoor House, Court Street (in front of Darul Malimin)
Satphone Number: 00 871 762 904 660
Thuraya: 00 882 165 4200 187
E-mail: iomkunduz@eikmail.com

[IOM Sub-Office Maimana:](#)

Kohikhana, Gulmurad Malam House
Satphone Number: 00 873 763 057 490
Thuraya: 00 882 165 4200 479
E-mail: iom.faryab@eikmail.com

[IOM Sub-Office Mazar-e-Sharif:](#)

House No. 8, Street No. 2
Darwazi Balkh
Satphone Number: 00 873 763 057 485
Thuraya: 00 882 165 420 0188
E-mail: iommazar@mazar.iomkابل.net

[IOM Sub-Office Gardez:](#)

De Shafakhani Sarak
Satphone Number: 00 873 763 090 430
Thuraya Phone Number 008 821 689 800 576
E-mail: iomgardez@eikmail.com



IOM International Organization for Migration



IOM International Organization for Migration

IOM in Afghanistan



An Information Sheet

December 2003



With more than 11 years' presence in Afghanistan, IOM has solid experience and effective operational structures in place throughout the country. IOM is increasingly focusing on technical cooperation and capacity building of the Islamic Transitional Administration of Afghanistan (ITAA) counterparts throughout all programme areas. The IOM Mission in Afghanistan, with some 35 international and 380 national staff, has its headquarters in Kabul with suboffices in Herat, Mazar-e Sharif, Bamyan, Kandahar, Kunduz, Gardez and Maimana. IOM's overall strategy remains to facilitate return to and within Afghanistan, and to stabilize communities for sustainable and productive reintegration within the context of a long period of mass population displacement. Equally, IOM will contribute to the reconstruction and strengthening of Afghanistan government institutions that deal with migration issues.

IDP Return and Reintegration (IRRAP)

In close cooperation with the Ministry for Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) and UNHCR, IOM continues to utilize its transport capacity for the return of displaced persons. From operational hubs in the Northern, Western and Central regions, IOM has ensured the safe, dignified and orderly return of over 420,000 IDP's and refugees to home communities across all regions of Afghanistan in the last two years. In addition to transport, IOM provides registration, medical screening, the provision of food and shelter at a network of seven overnight Transit Centres, and the provision of reintegration packages to contribute to the sustainable return of displaced persons and refugees in their homes.

Afghanistan Transition Initiative (ATI)

Since March 2002, IOM has implemented the Afghanistan Transition Initiative, a USAID-funded small grants program focusing on community level infrastructure such as schools, clinics, potable and irrigation water, and secondary and tertiary roads. Working closely with the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Rural Development (MRRD), IOM has implemented over 370 projects worth more than \$21 million in 31 of Afghanistan's 32 provinces. The majority of these projects have been implemented through local construction contractors selected through competitive open tender and closely monitored by IOM's staff of Afghan and international engineers.

Return of Qualified Afghans (RQA)

The Return of Qualified Afghans from the EU Programme (RQA-EU) aims to boost rehabilitation efforts in post-conflict Afghanistan through the progressive transfer of know-how of Afghan expatriate professionals residing in the EU. RQA-EU builds on previous IOM RQA that began in 2000. In cooperation with the Ministry of Afghan Diaspora and Experts (MADE), IOM has placed over 500 highly qualified expatriate Afghan nationals from 24 different countries in key positions within 22 Ministries, 18 Governmental Institutions and 42 other organizations. Some 20% of programme beneficiaries are female. All experts were selected from the RQA Afghan Skills Roster containing over 4,200 names.

Research on Trafficking in Migrants

Building on its global expertise in combating trafficking in migrants, IOM, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA), conducted a research project to study and assess the current situation regarding trafficking of Afghans,

particularly women and children, within and from Afghanistan, and of third country nationals to Afghanistan. The study defined trafficking within the Afghan context, outlined trends, used available information to draw up recommendations for the ITAA, and produced a report on trafficking.

Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR)

Working with the ITAA and host governments around the world, IOM assists the voluntary return of Afghans through its global network of offices, its respective airline agreements (including Ariana Afghan Airline) and its Airport Coordination Cell (ACC) at Kabul International Airport. Pre-departure return information and counselling, transportation, transit arrangements and reception assistance are provided to ensure return in safety and dignity. To date over 1,400 migrants have been assisted to return from several European, Pacific and Asian countries.

Information Counselling and Referral Service (ICRS)

Closely linked to AVR, the Information Counselling and Referral Service (ICRS) aims to achieve gainful income and sustainable employment and assist returnees upon their arrival back in Afghanistan by providing them with information and referrals to employment opportunities, vocational & management training, micro & small enterprise start-up, and on the job trainings relevant to their reintegration needs. Upon return to Afghanistan, IOM counselors utilize database resources to address the individual needs of returnees and provide referrals to available services and opportunities in a range of areas. Provision is made to provide training for one local Afghan for every returnee who takes up this opportunity.

Gender Programming

In March 2003, IOM received USAID funding to construct, equip and support programmes in 14 provincial women's centres which are to function as representation offices for the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA) and offer space for various training and awareness raising initiatives to benefit Afghan women. Small grants have been funded offering legal awareness raising workshops, independent media support, income generation courses, literacy and accelerated learning in thirteen provinces directly benefiting over 300,000 women.

Other Migration Management Initiatives

IOM cooperates with the ITAA in the area of Capacity building in Migration Management. This includes facilitating Afghanistan's participation in a series of technical workshops held by IOM for Central Asian countries, and establishing opportunities for informal policy dialogue between the Central Asian countries and countries of Western Europe. IOM also continues to facilitate Afghanistan's participation in the Bali Conference and its Expert Groups on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and related Transnational Crime, for which IOM performs a secretariat function.