



**Annual conference | Perspectives After Return
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RRF's approach on return counselling

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- What is the RFF?
- Main components / work areas
- Our approach on return counselling
- Tools and training materials produced during 2024-2025



Return and Reintegration Facility – What is?

- DG HOME funded - ICMPD implemented
- Platform (facility) for project development and implementation on return and reintegration
- It provides operational and financial support to MS to facilitate the development of solutions and activities with an EU-added value in the area of R&R, whilst bridging gaps between existing initiatives. It supports the implementation of the strategy on voluntary R&R.
- June 2022 to May 2026 (48 months) – RRF2 proposal under development



The RRF components

- 1. Capacity Development for MS** → **Specialised return counselling** support and **direct services** (Medra +, Cashless)
- 2. Referral and Local Ownership** → Foster cooperation on **reintegration** and increase local ownership on reintegration
- 3. ReIntegration Assistance Tool (RIAT)** → Development, Implementation and maintenance support (FX, MS, Reintegration Partners)

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Our approach on return counselling – No “one-size-fits-all”

- Original, custom-made, quality-assured learning products that effectively address our stakeholders' needs.
- Quick response to the identified needs or assessed via a Learning Needs Assessment procedure
- The developed material can be delivered by the RRF team and by authorized trainers, either face-to-face, online or in a blended format.



Capacity Building on Return Counselling

1. Capacity development activities on **return counselling**, that **complement the work being done by FRONTEX** (trainings for civil society organisations and for stakeholders which do not fall under the mandate of FRONTEX, like NGO's or Non-Schengen countries)
2. **Counselling lab – specialised counselling topics** are being developed, and training materials are being produced.

Capacity Building – Support of Frontline Workers

Exchanges & knowledge sharing:

- ✓ Building on the successful outcomes of the RUM project
- ✓ Designed to strengthen the capacity of those working directly with migrants in precarious or irregular situations through study visits and peer knowledge sharing

If your organisation is interested to participate in the network,

please contact us at rrf@icmpd.org



MS capacity development – RRF Action Plan for Ireland

Main components of the Action Plan:

- The RRF delivered a 3-day training on return counselling to the newly appointed staff of the Department of Justice in Ireland after having performed a Learning Needs Assessment analysis
- Workshop on vulnerability identification and on handling cases of vulnerable returnees (9/2025)
- Study visits in European countries to observe their return systems and learn through peer exchanges (5/2025 onwards)
- Support to Ireland's reintegration programme (RIAT)



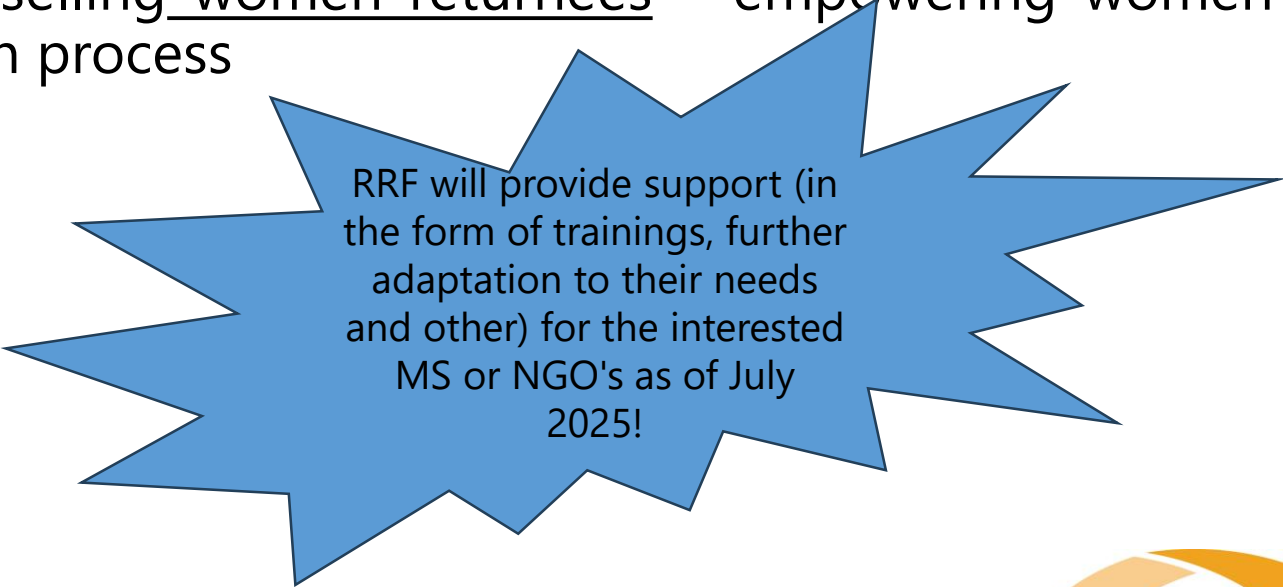
Return Counselling curriculum

Updated training material based on the CADRE manuals, aligned with FX RRC and the EU approach:

- What is RC, where and when it is provided
- The role and tasks/responsibilities of return counsellors
- Communication in return counselling (techniques, tools, motivational interviewing)
- EU legislation on return and reintegration
- Counselling vulnerable persons
- Understanding the Decision-Making Process in return
- Sustainable reintegration / the EURP and other reintegration assistance programs
- Developing an individual reintegration plan

Counselling Lab – modular approach, themes available:

- Counselling migrants facing mental health challenges
- Counselling families with children
- Counselling women returnees – empowering women in the return process



RRF will provide support (in the form of trainings, further adaptation to their needs and other) for the interested MS or NGO's as of July 2025!

Outreach and Counselling for undocumented migrants facing mental health and substance misuse disorders

- Development of **guidelines** in the framework of the **RUM** project
- **Training material** which is **available** to the interested MS and NGOs
 - What is mental health and mental illness?
 - Migration and mental health
 - The Adversity Grid as an operational framework that supports counselling
 - Basic outreach strategies
 - Dealing with challenging situations
 - Self-care and burnout prevention

Return Counselling for NGO's

- Updated return counselling training manual for NGO's
- Currently incorporating the feedback from our Advisory Group (DRC, CARITAS INT., MICADO, STOCKHOM STAADSMISSION, DIAKONIE AUGSBURG)



Learning material will be soon available to interested NGOs, which can be complementary to their own or other efforts!



ICMPD's Reintegration Training Curriculum (3- 5 days)

- What is reintegration?
- Sustainable reintegration
- A development-oriented approach to reintegration
- Reintegration at the individual level
 - Case management,
 - Assessments & vulnerability assessment
 - Counselling
 - Developing a reintegration plan
 - Follow up and case closure
- Reintegration at the community level
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)
- How to design a sustainable reintegration programme?

If you have a training request,
please contact our colleague Anna, at :
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Thank you very much for your attention!

