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- It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathroom, telephone, free access to internet and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;

- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;
- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- medical service.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of a stimulating international environment.

### For more information on course content please contact:

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Design Luca Fiore – Printed by the International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin, Italy

Made of paper awarded the European Union Eco-label,  reg.nr FR/011/002, supplied by International Paper.

## Fostering the social and professional reintegration of return migrants



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28 October - 1 November 2013  
Turin, Italy



[www.itcilo.org](http://www.itcilo.org)

# Fostering the social and professional reintegration of return labour migrants



## Background and context

Return migration continues to be one of the least considered aspects in migration policy, despite its crucial socio-economic significance not only for countries of origin, but also for all countries of migration. Moreover, owing to the resilient impact of the **financial crisis** on labour markets, return continues to be viewed by policy-makers as the end of the migration cycle; it is even mixed with expulsion or removal. Paying growing attention to ways of facilitating the temporary or permanent return of migrants is needed in order to adequately address the phenomenon in a comprehensive way.

It is a well-known fact that return often constitutes a stage in the migration cycle. Accordingly, it requires relevant mechanisms and supportive measures that can be tackled at various levels: this is why a holistic and multidisciplinary approach locating return policies within a broader rights-based approach is promoted by the ILO. Policies addressed to returnees have to take into account the pre- and post-return conditions faced by migrant workers. They also need to address the reasons for emigration in the first place and for return afterwards, the duration of stay abroad and all those elements that can affect the capacity of reintegration in the home country. They should consider the employment and investment opportunities for the return migrants, with concern for the relations with the local population, especially in sensitive areas such as post-conflict regions. They should service both migrants who return temporarily and permanently, with a development-oriented approach that places migrants' skills, rights, aspirations and know-how at the centre of the discussion. Therefore, the ILO in its Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration recommends "wherever possible to facilitate migrant workers' return by providing information, training, and assistance prior to their departure and on arrival in their home country concerning the return process, the journey and reintegration"<sup>1</sup>

Moreover, bilateral and multilateral cooperation is crucial to address return, especially through strong partnerships among countries of origin, transit and destination, at regional and interregional levels, and with the involvement of relevant non-governmental actors as well as workers' and employers' organizations. The legal right to return in one's own country is defended, inter alia, in Article 13(2) of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 12(2) of the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and all countries should promote this fundamental right in their legislations with due attention to return migrants' aspirations.

The strategies to implement effective policies as applied to return migration and reintegration are diverse and regard both host and home countries.

In the framework of the CRIS project led by the European University Institute and co-funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC, Bern), ITC-ILO proposes a training course aimed at exploring the linkage between return migration and development while explaining why some return migrants succeed in reintegrating back home whereas others do not. Moreover, this training course will foster a multi-level reflection among participants from various regions of the world, involving international experts, on the possibility of developing a favourable framework aimed at understanding the preconditions for sustaining the social and professional reintegration of returnees.



## Objectives

The 5-day training course at ITC-ILO will:

- address the social and professional reintegration as well as their realities
- set out to gather innovative and comparative data on returnees' conditions back home, with reference to field surveys carried out in various countries of return
- combine a top-down with a bottom-up approach to return migration and reintegration
- aim to raise awareness of the need to develop adequate mechanisms sustaining the reintegration of returnees while redefining current policy priorities as applied to return

Finally, it will contribute to:

- understanding further the factors, public policies as well as the pre- and post-return conditions shaping migrants' manifold patterns of reintegration in their country of origin
- explaining why return may or may not have a positive impact on the development of migrants' country of origin
- providing analytical tools and instruments (e.g., indicators) allowing adequate policies to be adopted with a view to supporting migrants' reintegration
- further integrating return migration issues in national and regional development strategies



## Course content

The course will tackle the following topics, drawing upon the principles and guidelines of the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration:

- Measuring return flows and stocks
- Heterogeneity of returnees' profiles and patterns of reintegration
- Factors shaping returnees' patterns of reintegration back home. Why do some returnees contribute to development whereas others do not?
- Returnees' investment and skills portability in the labour

markets of countries of origin

- The link between integration in host countries and reintegration in home countries
- Impact of vocational training on the returnees' propensity to reintegrate professionally back home

Also, activities within the course will be organised to:

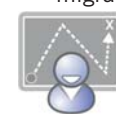
- Address the need to support returnees' reintegration process, whether return is temporary or permanent
- Provide added-value to temporary labour migration schemes and mobility packages by laying emphasis on the need to better consider the factors shaping the reintegration patterns of migrants who temporarily return to their own country
- Capitalise on the returnees' know-how and human and financial capital acquired abroad with a view to retaining competencies and countering the brain drain
- Generate lasting and self-sustaining channels of discussion between migration stakeholders, at national and international levels, during and after the timeframe of the training course



## Participation

The course is addressed to:

- Officials from various public institutions and ministries dealing with labour migration and development
- Representatives from workers and employers' organizations
- Representatives of NGOs dealing with the protection of migrants' rights and the linkages between migration and development, migrants' associations and representatives of Diasporas
- Officials from International development agencies, regional economic communities
- Researchers from Universities and research institutes
- The course is interregional. It offers the unique opportunity for participants from any region of the world to share their own experiences and knowledge as applied to return migrants' reintegration processes.



## Methodology

The ITC promotes a three phase approach in its learning activities:

- Phase I - Pre-course information on the Internet-based learning platform: three weeks before the course
- Phase II - Face-to-Face workshop: one week course in Turin
- Phase III - Post-Training on the Internet-based learning platform: following the face to face course

During the course:

- An action-oriented, highly participative approach will be used, with particular attention to sharing international experience with a view to adaptation and practical application
- Training methods will combine lectures and discussions, case studies, open space discussions and group work



## Language

In order to foster interregional experience-sharing the course will be offered in French and in English with simultaneous interpretation.

## Venue and date

ITC-ILO – Turin (Italy) 26 – 30 November 2012



## Applications

The cost of participation, excluding international air travel, is EUR 2,000 (course fees EUR 1,400, participant subsistence EUR 600) payable in advance by the participant or his or her sponsoring organization. This covers tuition fees, the use of training facilities and support services, training materials and books, accommodation and full board at the Centre's campus and emergency medical care and insurance.

Application must be supported by a nomination letter from the sponsoring institution indicating how the participant will be financed and should be addressed **not later than Monday 16 September 2013** to:

Mrs Miriam Boudraa by email: [migration@itcilo.org](mailto:migration@itcilo.org) or by fax: + 39 011 693 6548

Please note that if a Schengen visa for Italy is needed, the average time required is at least three weeks.

1. "The ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration: Non-binding principles and guidelines for a rights-based approach to labour migration" – ChapVII, p.23