



IOM International Organization for Migration

# IOM

in the UK

newsletter

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No. 19, November 2008

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## IOM helps Afghan & Iraqi Returnees rebuild or repair their family homes

"How will I rebuild my home when I return?"...is a concern many people have when they are considering an assisted voluntary return to Afghanistan or Iraq.

To meet this need and help returnees to re-start their lives back home, IOM launched 'Return and Rebuild', an extra component to its Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP) on 1 September 2008.

Under the new initiative, asylum seekers who voluntarily return to Afghanistan or Iraq between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009 will receive up to £2,000-worth of support for building materials to assist in the reconstruction or repair of their family home.

"Asylum seekers who voluntarily return to Afghanistan and Iraq will receive both individually tailored Reintegration Assistance – which can include a flight ticket, baggage allowance, relocation grant, small business set up, education, job placements, and vocational training – plus the new 'Return and Rebuild' support," said Ana Fonseca, Acting Chief of Mission, IOM UK.

"Most of the beneficiaries of our programmes return to their original homes. But in Afghanistan and Iraq particularly, the condition of the property may have deteriorated during their absence. 'Return and Rebuild' will not only give help to individuals when they need it most, but also contribute to the wider community through the use of locally-sourced materials and the promotion of a more stable environment," she added.

'Return and Rebuild' is co-ordinated by IOM UK - where Afghan and Iraqi caseworkers are able to offer advice in the respective languages – and is implemented through IOM's extensive network of offices in Afghanistan and Iraq.



**RETURN AND REBUILD**

**Extra support for those returning to Afghanistan and Iraq to help with the reconstruction of homes**

- For asylum seekers who voluntarily return with the assistance of **IOM** between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009
- Up to **£2000**-worth of support for building materials per family home
- This assistance is **additional** to all the help available under the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP)

**0800 783 2332**

**IOM London:**  
21 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row,  
London SW1P 1RR **Tel.** 020 7233 0001

Since 1999, IOM UK has helped around **30,000** individuals to return to **130** countries



# IOM Conferences

in **Glasgow** on **8 October 2008** from **9.00 am** to **1.00 pm**

Teacher Building, 14 St Enoch Square, Glasgow G1 4DB

Please register by phone: 0141 548 8114 or email: [jhampsey@iom.int](mailto:jhampsey@iom.int)

in **Manchester** on **13 October 2008** from **12.30 pm** to **5.00 pm**

Hilton Manchester Deansgate, 303 Deansgate, Manchester M3 4LQ

Please register by phone: 0161 212 1463 or email: [jcunliffe@iom.int](mailto:jcunliffe@iom.int)

in **London** on **20 October 2008** from **9.00 am** to **1.00 pm**

The Royal Horseguards Hotel, One Whitehall Place, 2 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EJ

Please register by phone: 020 7808 1094/1090 or email: [ljeffels@iom.int](mailto:ljeffels@iom.int) or [gboeing@iom.int](mailto:gboeing@iom.int)

in **Leeds** on **22 October 2008** from **9.00 am** to **1.00 pm**

Hilton Hotel, City Centre, Neville Street, Leeds LS1 4BX

Please register by phone: 0113 346 6010 or email: [iscott@iom.int](mailto:iscott@iom.int)

in **Birmingham** on **29 October 2008** from **9.00 am** to **1.00 pm**

eOffice, Ground Floor, Norfolk House, Smallbrook Queensway, Birmingham B5 4LJ

Please register by phone: 0121 633 5074 or email: [imellanen@iom.int](mailto:imellanen@iom.int)

in **Bristol** on **5 November 2008** from **9.00 am** to **1.00 pm**

Marriott Hotel, City Centre, 2 Lower Castle Street, Old Market, Bristol BS1 3AD

Please register by phone: 0117 907 4777 or email: [emushayanyama@iom.int](mailto:emushayanyama@iom.int)

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

**0800 783 2332**



*Above left:* Returnees recounting their daily life experiences back in Iraq via a live video link from Erbil (Northern Iraq)  
*Above right:* Marek Effendowicz, IOM UK's Head of Communications and Julia Hartlieb, IOM UK's Reintegration Assistance Manager, handling questions from the floor (London)



## Publications: 2 new summaries

The two new additions to IOM UK's publications include a summary of Reintegration Assistance and its impact on returnees in their home countries and a summary of the number of Mapping Reports (of diaspora community groups in the UK) which have been completed so far.