

Presentation by the Armenian Migration Service

- Reintegration of Armenian citizens returning home was not a consolidated policy in Armenia until 2019, when the Armenian Migration Service (AMS) established a unit to deal with all the commitments following from Readmission Agreements. Other reintegration projects with international organisation and NGOs were in place at that time; in 2017-18 the AMS started to engage with them and coordinate their work.
- When the AMS established its own reintegration coordination in 2019, it was noticed that the main gap in the field was support and reintegration in case of forced returns. Therefore, a governmental decree was approved to fill the gap and provide assistance to forced returnees, but also in general to all returnees.
- According to AMS data, returnees' primary needs are related to health, integration of vulnerable groups, economic activities and children's education.
- What is needed from the AMS side is further institutionalisation and strengthening the capacity. The AMS is now further involving psychologist and working on a handbook about counselling and referral mechanisms. Moreover, the service is trying to better coordinate with international organisations, NGOs and other partners present on the ground.
- The AMS also needs sustainability in order to sustain what has been gained so far, to strengthen the monitoring component and improve its innovation and digitalisation.
- In Armenia, migration trends have gradually changed and return is gaining increasing importance in the country's migration policies.
- AMS praised the role and involvement of ERRIN in supporting capacity building on the Armenian side. With the end of ERRIN in site, continued cooperation will be needed and appreciated, adding to excellent cooperation between the EU and its MS and Armenia.

Q&As:

- [REDACTED]
- COM welcomed the results achieved and the development in the areas of reintegration in Armenia, which could be taken as an example to replicate in other third countries.
- [REDACTED]
- ARM stressed the importance of the Gov2Gov project because it helped in raising awareness and in creating the policy in the country.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Brussels, 25 November 2021