

Highlights Q2/2017

1,035 voluntary returns under AVRR

76 families among those returning

55% of returnees (573 individuals) are between the age 18—26

54% of returnees (564 individuals) were assisted with tailored reintegration packages

86% of those assisted (486 individuals) opted for self-employment/small business projects

Herat and Balkh received the highest number of returns under AVRR (122 respectively 94 individuals)



1.1 Overall Return from Europe to Afghanistan

In the second quarter of the year 2017, a total of 1035 voluntary returnees including 76 families (85% male and 15% female) arrived under the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (AVRR) to Afghanistan. Compared with the second quarter of 2016, where a total of 2,734 voluntary returnees including 323 families (76% male and 24% female) arrived, there is a significant decrease in both the overall number of returns as well as the number of returning families. The highest returns continue to be recorded from Germany (42%) followed by Turkey (28%). The table below indicates the number of returns by sending country, comparing the second quarter of 2017 to the previous year.

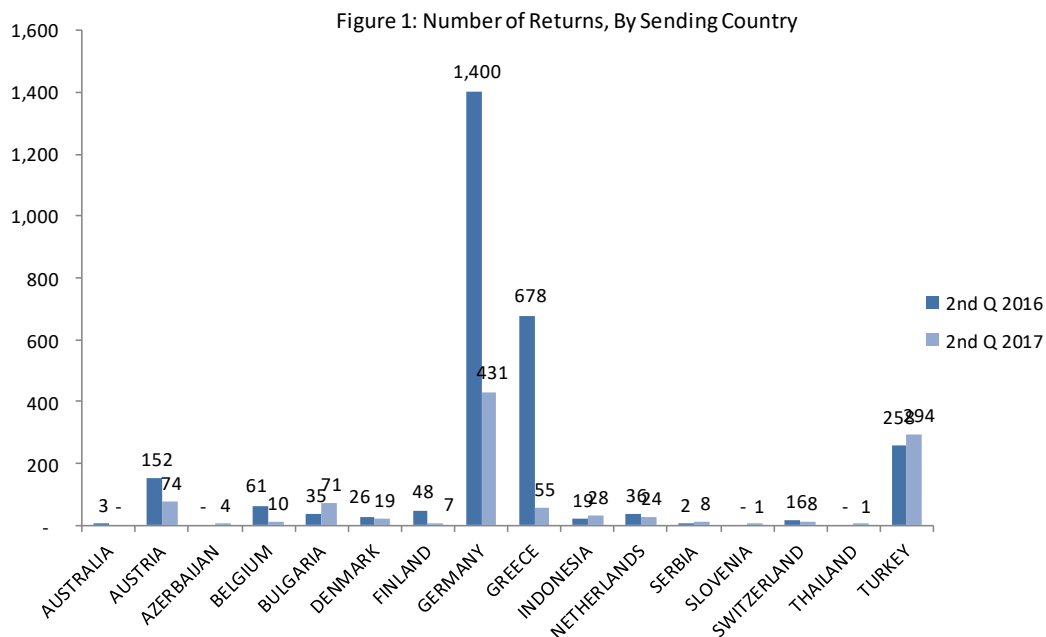
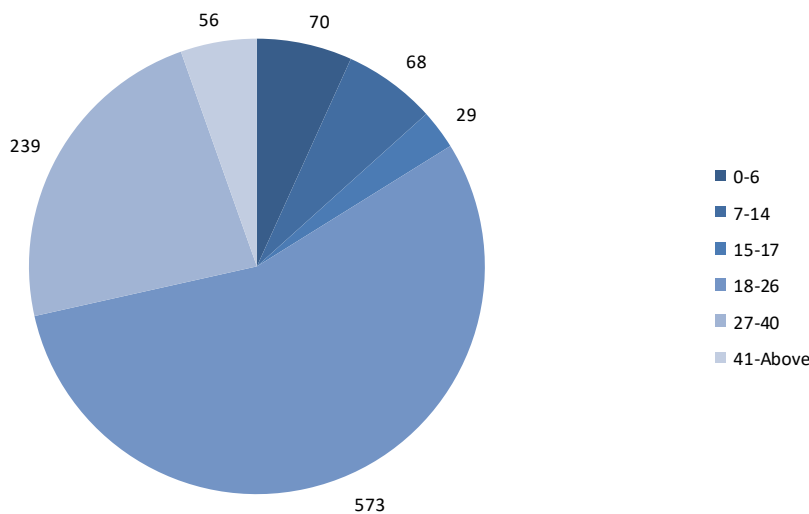


Figure 2: AVRR assisted returnees, by age group

1.2 Age breakdown:

The majority of the returnees are in the age group of 18-26 (55%) followed by 27-40 (23%). It is important to highlight that the age groups below 18 are not unaccompanied minors but children within returning families.

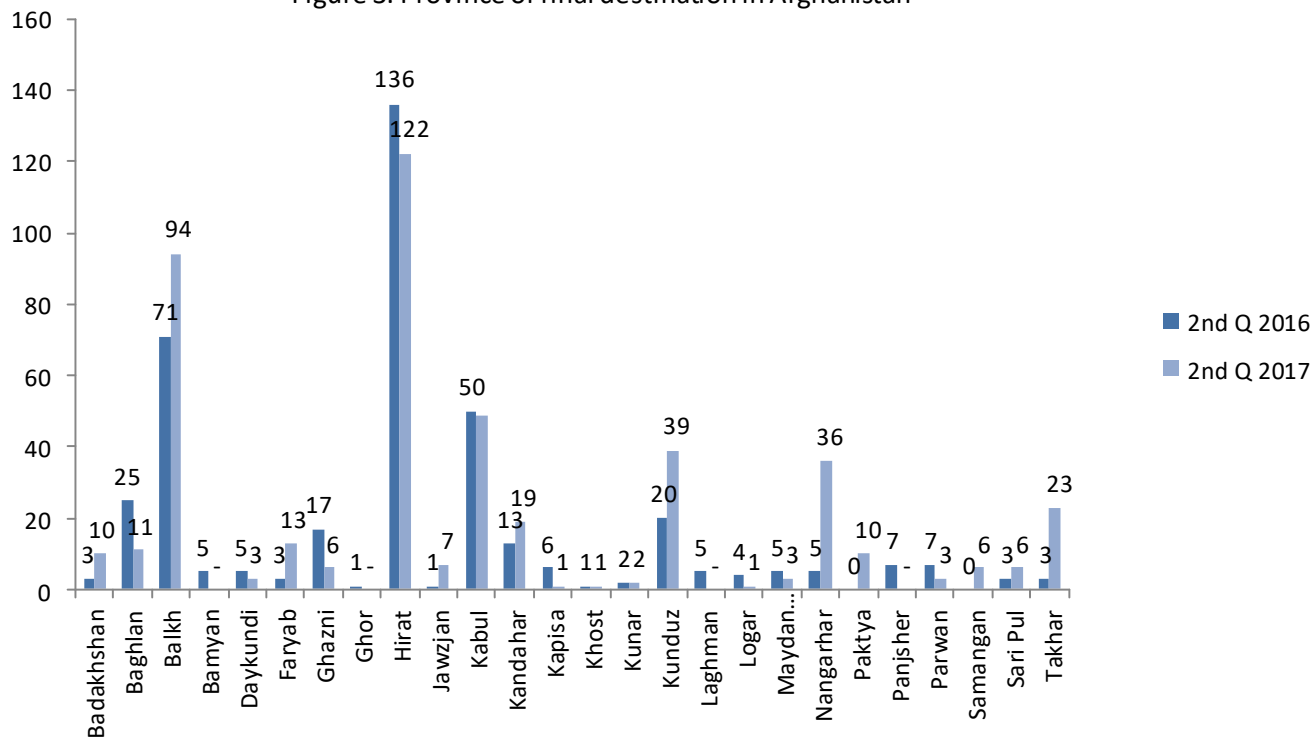


1.3 Provinces of Return

465 returnees requested and received onward transportation. Herat received the highest number of returns (122) followed by Balkh (94).

It is important to highlight that the data below is based on the final destination where IOM has facilitated onward transportation. The chart below (Figure 3) indicates the final destination of returnees in the second quarters of the years 2016 and 2017.

Figure 3: Province of final destination in Afghanistan

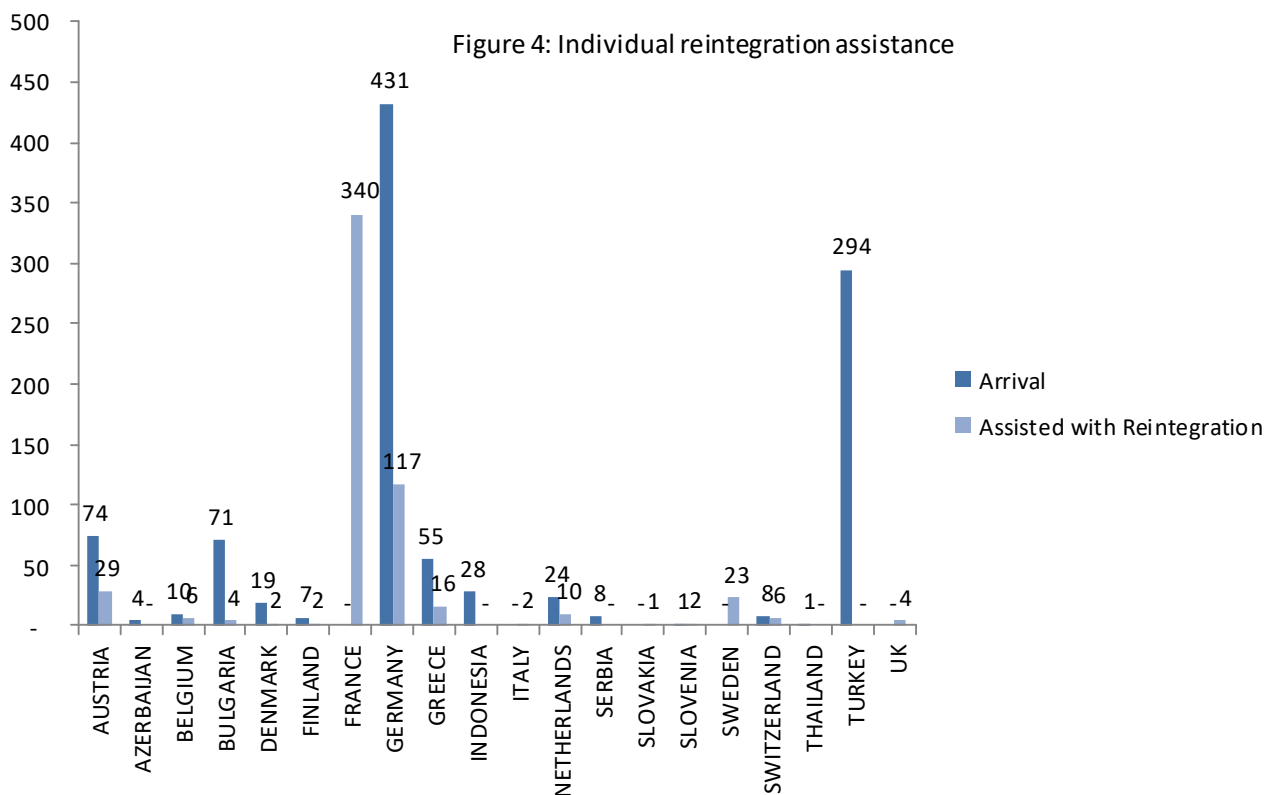


1.4 Temporary Accommodation:

17 returnees requested and received temporary accommodation at the Ministry of Refugee and Repatriation reception center upon arrival during the second quarter of 2017.

1.5 Individual Reintegration Assistance:

During the second quarter of 2017, IOM provided 564 returnees with tailored reintegration assistance. IOM reintegration assistance is aimed at helping returnees achieve sustainable reintegration into their home society. These packages may include: self-employment/small business projects; educational/vocational training; job placement; and on-the-job training depending on each project’s scope of assistance. Reintegration assistance is limited and is not available for all returnees.



Note: The above chart indicates the number of returns by country in the second quarter of 2017 and the number of individual reintegration projects established by IOM during the same period. As reintegration assistance is provided to eligible returnees within a set timeframe, it does not indicate the reintegration assistance provision rate for returnees arriving in the period.

1.6 Type of Reintegration Projects:

Most of the returnees opted for self-employment/small business projects (86%) during the second quarter of 2017, and the remaining returnees selected purchasing household items and support for housing rent.

Figure 5: Type of Reintegration Assistance

