

## ANNEX II

### Multi-Annual Programme

<b>Member State:</b>	<b>Ireland</b>
<b>Fund:</b>	<b>European Return Fund</b>
<b>Responsible Authority:</b>	<b>Repatriation Unit Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform 13-14 Burgh Quay Dublin 2</b>
<b>Period covered:</b>	<b>2008 – 2013</b>

#### 1. SITUATION IN THE MEMBER STATE

##### 1.1. The national situation and the migratory flows affecting it

Immigration is a relatively recent development in Ireland, having changed from a country of net emigration in the late 1980s to one of net immigration from the mid-1990s onwards. Similarly, in the 1990s, the number of asylum applications increased considerably from some 39 applications in 1992 to a high of 11,634 in 2002. Since 2002 there has been a significant turnaround in this trend with the number of applications for asylum received decreasing annually. The number of applications received in 2007 (3,985) was the lowest annual total since 1997 and is a decrease of 66% on the 2002 figure. It is also the first time since 1997 that asylum application numbers have been below 4,000.

The top five source countries for asylum applications in 2007 were Nigeria, Iraq, China, Pakistan and Georgia.

New arrangements for the speedier processing of prioritised applications were implemented with effect from 25 January, 2005. These arrangements apply in the main to nationals of Nigeria, Croatia and South Africa. 27% of all applications in 2007 were from nationals of countries covered by the prioritised caseload provisions. This can be compared with 38% since January, 2005. Nigerian nationals account for 1,028 of the 1,072 prioritised cases (96%) in 2007.

Some 135 deportation orders to non-EU countries were effected in 2007 and, in addition, 225 transfer orders to other European States under the Dublin II Regulation were carried out. An additional 417 persons who would otherwise have been removed from the State opted to be assisted to return home voluntarily in 2007. This was a substantial increase from 2006 when 238 persons opted to be assisted to return home voluntarily.

In 2007, for the first time, European citizens were removed in accordance with Regulation 20(1)(a) of the European Communities (Free Movement of Persons), (No 2), Regulation 2006.

When voluntary returns, deportations, Dublin II transfers and removal of EU citizens are taken into account, a total of 781 persons were either assisted to return home voluntarily or were removed during 2007 while the corresponding total in 2006 was 834 persons.

Ireland endeavours to promote positive co-operation with third countries in whose citizens we have a shared interest. In the context of returns to other 'third countries', we work hard to promote positive relationships with the relevant Embassies/Consulates in Ireland as well as through Ireland's Embassies/Consulates in the relevant third countries so that, when appropriate, it is possible to effect returns of illegally staying third country nationals to such countries of origin.

Ireland also works closely with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in promoting and facilitating the voluntary return of persons to their countries of origin. To this end, persons who are illegally present in the State (but not subject of a Deportation Order) can be assisted financially to return to their countries of origin. Such assistance is generally in the form of paying for the returnees' air-fare and assisting the returnees to access training or employment opportunities in their countries of origin upon their return. The IOM's activities in this area are funded by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The State's 'return policy' is enshrined in the Immigration Act, 1999 (as amended). Under this Act, any third country (non-EU) national illegally present in the State can be issued with a notice of intention to deport, provided for under Section 3 (4) of the Act, which affords any such person the opportunity to avail of any one of three specified options at that point in time. These three options are a) to leave the State voluntarily, b) to consent to the making of a Deportation Order, c) to make representations in writing within 15 working days setting out reasons as to why a Deportation Order should not be made and why temporary Leave to Remain in the State be granted instead. In the case of refused asylum applicants a fourth option is available d) to apply for Subsidiary Protection.

In the great majority of cases, options (c) and (d) are availed of.

Applications for Subsidiary Protection are made on foot of the European Union Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 to which the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform gave effect in Irish Law on 10 October 2006 by way of Statutory Instrument No. 518 of 2006 - European Communities (Eligibility for Protection) Regulations, 2006. Applications for Subsidiary Protection are considered on their individual facts, merits and circumstances and in accordance with the criteria set out in the Regulations.

In any event, each case is individually considered having regard for the eleven factors specified under Section 3 (6) of this Act (e.g. the length of time the person has been in the State, family and domestic circumstances of the person concerned, employment record and employability, humanitarian considerations (if any) etc.) and Section 5 of the Refugee Act, 1996 (as amended) on the prohibition of refoulement.

Because of the nature of illegal migration it is not possible to estimate the number of persons illegally present in the State at any point in time. However, once a person who is not entitled to be in the State comes to the attention of the authorities he/she is issued with a notice of intention to deport. Notices are issued in respect of failed asylum applicants, people who have overstayed their permission to be in the State, and those without permission to be in the State. Details of notices of intention to deport, deportation orders issued and deportation orders effected for the period 2006 and 2007 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Notices of intention to deport issued</b>	<b>Deportation Orders signed</b>	<b>Deportation Orders effected</b>
<b>2006</b>	2,783	1,585	302
<b>2007</b>	3,595	478	138

Where a Deportation Order is issued, the person concerned is legally obliged to comply with that Order which essentially means that they must leave the State and thereafter remain out of the State. However, as regularly occurs, where persons served with such an Order fail to comply with the Order, they are liable to arrest and detention pending their removal from the State. The enforcement of such an Order is an operational matter for the Garda National Immigration Bureau.

## **1.2. The measures undertaken by the Member State so far**

*The Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS)* was established in 2005 to provide a “one stop shop” in relation to all immigration matters. INIS is responsible for administering the administrative functions of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform in relation to asylum, immigration (including Visas) and citizenship matters. INIS facilitates a whole of government approach to immigration and asylum issues which enables a more efficient service to be provided in these areas. The Service is structured around a number of key areas – asylum, visa immigration and citizenship processing, asylum and immigration policy, repatriation, and reception and integration. Repatriation Unit is the Unit within INIS which is responsible for considering the cases of failed asylum seekers and illegal immigrants under Section 3(6) of the Immigration Act, 1999 for Leave to Remain in the State or repatriation to their countries of origin. It is also responsible for actively encouraging voluntary repatriation to the country of origin. There is ongoing liaison between Repatriation Unit and the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) (the Irish Police authority) in the effecting of Deportation Orders made by the Minister.

**Deportations:** Almost 15,000 deportation orders have been signed in respect of failed asylum seekers and those found to be illegally present in the State since the commencement of the Immigration Act 1999. Of these, an average of 20% have been effected. While the low enforcement rate is largely attributable to a high evasion rate, the fact that a significant number of deportation orders become the subject of court challenges also has an impact on the rate of enforcement. At any one point in time, between 300 and 400 deportations are in the course of being challenged by way of judicial review and the enforcement of orders in these cases is generally suspended pending the outcome of such proceedings.

The table below shows the number of deportation orders signed/effected in 2006 and 2007.

Year	Deportation Orders signed	Deportation Orders effected
2006	1,585	302
2007	478	138

The principal countries of return were:

2006		2007	
Romania	94	China	42
Nigeria	80	Nigeria	33
China	37	Brazil	19
Republic of Moldova	19	Republic of Moldova	11
South Africa	10	Croatia	8

**Charter flights:** Ireland's policy in respect of charter flights is strongly based on the principal of participation in joint charters whenever possible, and participation through FRONTEX operations in particular. Indeed, Ireland has been the lead partner in a number of such operations. Joint charters offer an efficient and cost effective alternative to scheduled flights and meet the EU's commitment to greater use of joint repatriation flights as a means of demonstrating solidarity among Member States, increasing the rate of returns and making more effective use of resources.

In recent years Ireland has been arranging an increasing number of charter flights for removing large numbers of illegal immigrants, or for removals to destinations where Ireland does not have direct air links. The use of chartered aircraft is also occasionally necessary where the disruptive behaviour of deportees makes it impossible to remove them using commercial scheduled flights, or places at risk the safety of other passengers on these flights, even when police escorts are present.

It is important for the maintenance of the integrity of the asylum and immigration systems that where a deportation order is made in accordance with the statutory requirements, it should be enforced.

As Ireland does not have direct air links with the main countries of return, the alternative to chartering is transiting through hub European airports involving longer transfer times, more inconvenience to persons being removed and the attendant risk of persons that are being removed absconding in transit.

Between 2006 and 2007 Ireland removed a total of 189 persons through nine charter operations at a total cost of €1,388,284. Four of the nine charter flights were to Nigeria.

**Voluntary Returns:** Since 2001 the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in conjunction with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) have been running a voluntary assisted return programme for asylum seekers and irregular migrants in Ireland. **The Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP)** is the main vehicle for the return of asylum seekers and irregular migrants from non-EU countries.

The programme is open to asylum seekers and irregular migrants from non-EU countries who wish to return home voluntarily but do not have the means, including the necessary documentation, to do so.

IOM programmes provide assistance in obtaining valid travel documents, covers travel costs and includes access to reintegration assistance. Funding for reintegration assistance is normally directed towards the setting up of small businesses, vocational training, education etc.

In addition, the Department provides direct advice and assistance to those who wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin and have the financial resources to meet their own travel costs.

Individuals can also return to their country of origin without recourse to either the Department or to IOM i.e. where they have their own travel documents and can meet their travel costs. However as there are no exit checks on departure from the State these types of return cannot be quantified.

Ireland, in common with Member States across Europe, now sees assisted voluntary return as the preferred return option, proving to be more cost effective, humane, and conducive to good relations among all players.

Details of voluntary returns in 2006 and 2007 are as follows:

Year	Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform assisted	International Organisation for Migration assisted	Total
2006	63	175	238
2007	162	255	417

The principal countries of return for IOM assisted voluntary returns were:

2006		2007	
Nigeria	44	Brazil	105
South Africa	16	Nigeria	22
Brazil	16	Republic of Moldova	17
Croatia	13	Israel	16
Republic of Moldova	8	Mauritius	14

### 1.3. The total national resources allocated

The cost to the State for both forced removals and voluntary returns during the period 2006 – 2007 was €3,696,337. However, the costs associated with forced removals are calculated on the basis of airfares only and do not take account of ancillary costs, e.g. police escorts.

Year	Voluntary Return €	Forced Return €	Total €
2006	609,974	1,499,744	2,109,718
2007	800,175	786,444	1,586,619

## 2. ANALYSIS OF REQUIREMENTS IN THE MEMBER STATE

### 2.1. The requirements in the Member State in relation to the baseline situation

*Assisted Voluntary Return:* Assisted voluntary return is seen as an orderly, humane and cost-effective means by which those who wish to, can return to their countries of origin. It is a policy of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform (D/JELR) to actively encourage those who are no longer legally present in the State to return voluntarily to their home country, at an early stage. The principal scheme available in Ireland to asylum seekers and irregular migrants from non-EEA countries who wish to return to their home country is the Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP). D/JELR in conjunction with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) has been running this Programme since 2001. Assistance to applicants can include assistance in obtaining valid travel documents, travel costs and access to reintegration assistance. Reintegration assistance (normally up to €600 per person or €1,200 per family) is generally directed towards the setting up of small business, vocational training, education etc.

The Programme also provides for applicants to be informed about conditions in their home country.

In order to successfully promote the assisted voluntary return option to an increasing number of applicants a greater understanding of the factors affecting return is required. This includes recognising the push and pull factors in both the country of origin and in Ireland as the host country. For example, where economic reasons are seen as being a hindrance to sustainable return, then it may be necessary to examine the benefits of enhanced return assistance in individual cases. Similarly where political issues in the home country are identified as a deterrent to return, it may be possible to allay those fears by providing the applicant with accurate and timely information on a changing political situation in their home country.

Examples such as these highlight the need for additional AVR programmes which are complementary to the VARRP and which address a wider range of issues, including the possibility of programmes in the countries of return. Before any decision to return can be taken by an applicant they will need to overcome the reasons for leaving their home country in the first instance.

In addition, there is scope to develop research programmes which are focussed on Ireland's main countries of targeted return (e.g. China, Nigeria and Brazil) to include an element dealing with exchange of information on best practice in other Member States.

The development of a range of intensive, targeted and timely promotional campaigns highlighting the benefits of AVR, and in particular, the incentives available and information on conditions in the home country, will provide applicants with the information needed in order to make the decision to return.

***Closer cooperation with third countries:*** One of the main obstacles to an effective removals regime is the non-availability of travel documentation in respect of those who have a Deportation Order issued against them. Closer operational cooperation with countries of return is of vital importance to enable relationships to be developed with consular officials who are in a position to identify their own nationals and provide travel documents for those who are found to be illegally residing in the State. As many of Ireland's countries of return do not have diplomatic missions present in Ireland it can be particularly difficult to foster relations with consular services from third countries who are normally based in the UK. Enhanced networking and exchanges of information between the Member States who have a common interest in returns to particular countries or regions, can strengthen individual Member States' negotiating position with the relevant third country consular services.

***Charter flights/joint flights:*** As outlined previously, Ireland's policy in respect of charter flights is strongly based on the principle of participation in joint charters whenever possible, and participation through FRONTEX operations in particular. Ireland will continue to place a strong emphasis on

cooperation between Member States in order to effect removals by joint charter flights where this is deemed to be the most efficient and cost effective means of removal. Again, enhanced cooperation between those Member States who have a common interest in particular third countries, will ensure that successful charter operations become the norm and the integrity of the EU removals procedures are maintained.

***Training in return management:*** In Ireland forced return operations are carried out by the Irish Police authority, namely the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB). There is an ongoing requirement for GNIB officers to be trained in the best practices and procedures across the EU in planning and organising removal operations. Joint training for escort staff is a particular requirement in light of the increasing level of joint charter operations involving a significant number of Member States. This will ensure that officials from the various Member States adopt a uniformly professional approach during removal operations.

International Organisations, in such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) or NGOs, may also have specific training requirements in relation to return management in voluntary returns.

***Exchange of information (best practice) – both voluntary and forced return:*** As previously referred to in this document the exchange of information between Member States on best practice in return procedures is a vital component of successful return management. It is necessary to foster and maintain appropriate networking structures within which meaningful exchanges can take place.

## **2.2. The operational objectives of the Member State designed to meet its requirements**

Taking account of the requirements outlined in the previous paragraphs, Ireland has identified its operational objectives for the programming period 2008-13 in accordance with national policies in return measures and in line with the strategic guidelines for the European Return Fund. These operational objectives will focus on the provision of assisted voluntary return programmes as an alternative to forced removal, and where voluntary return is not availed of, the capacity to effect forced removals of all third country nationals who do not have permission to be present in the State.

***Objective 1:*** *Promotion of the voluntary return option which provides a humane and cost effective approach to return*

- *Additional AVR programmes, and complementary activities in preparation for return*
- *Programmes targeted at specific countries/regions of return*

- *Research programmes for particular groups/countries of return*
- *Information and awareness raising activities promoting a sustainable return process*

*Objective 2: Maximising the number of forced returns where the voluntary return option has not been availed of.*

*Objective 3: Closer cooperation with consular authorities of third countries resulting in improved procedures for identification of third country nationals and document procurement.*

*Objective 4: Increasing number of joint/charter flights resulting from improved cooperation with other Member States, in conjunction with FRONTEX.*

*Objective 5: Training programmes for removals personnel, in accordance with best practices and procedures across the EU.*

*Objective 6: Closer cooperation with other Member States, through enhanced networking and exchanges of information on best practices.*

### 3. STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

Over the programming period (2008-2013) Ireland intends to target Priority 1, Priority 2 and Priority 3. No actions are foreseen under Priority 4.

For 2008, the first year of the implementation of the multi-annual programme, no actions under Priority 1 or Priority 3 are envisaged. It is intended to focus available resources on operational objectives 4 and 6 and therefore only Priority 2 will be targeted.

In 2009, it is intended that actions will continue to be promoted under Priority 2 and in addition Priority 1 be targeted.

Priority 2 will be targeted throughout the entire programming period while actions under Priority 1 will be promoted for the programming years 2009 – 2013.

Under Priority 3 there will be a strong emphasis on actions that will lead to the efficient and systematic procurement of travel documents. Therefore Priority 3 Objective 1 (operational objective 2) will also be targeted for the programming period 2009 – 2013. Priority 3 Objective 2 (operational objective 5) will focus on training for officials working in the field of both voluntary and forced return, with a specific emphasis on counselling, and will be targeted for the programming years 2010 – 2013.

#### 3.1. Priority 1: Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by Member States

<p><b>Objective 1:</b></p> <p><i>Targeting Operational Objective 1</i></p>	<p><b>Promotion of the Voluntary Return option which provides a humane and cost effective approach to return</b></p> <p>Ireland, in conjunction with the International Organisation for Migration, has been running the voluntary return programmes since 2001.</p> <p>Under this objective, Ireland, in collaboration with other entities (such as international organisations or NGO's), intends to increase the range of voluntary return programmes available and promote the voluntary return option as an alternative to forced removal. There will be a strong emphasis on programmes focused on Nigeria, China and Brazil. The promotion of voluntary return through publicity and information campaigns will be an important aspect of future actions.</p>
<p><b>Key actions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional assisted voluntary return programmes, and complementary activities in preparation for return</li> <li>- The development of a range of intensive, targeted and timely promotional campaigns highlighting the benefits</li> </ul>

	<p>of voluntary return</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information and awareness raising activities promoting a sustainable return process</li> <li>- Assisted voluntary return programmes targeting, in particular, Nigeria, China and Brazil</li> <li>- Research programmes for specific groups/countries, (Nigeria, China, Brazil)</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greater range of assisted voluntary programmes available</li> <li>- Greater participation in assisted voluntary return programmes</li> <li>- Information readily available in respect of targeted countries of return</li> <li>- Improved take-up of voluntary return option by Nigerians, Chinese and Brazilians</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual increases in the numbers availing of the option to voluntary return to their countries of origin</li> <li>- Increase in numbers availing of voluntary return option to targeted countries</li> </ul>

<p><b>Objective 2:</b></p> <p><i>Targeting Operational Objective 2</i></p>	<p><b>Maximising the number of forced returns effected where the voluntary return option has not been availed of.</b></p> <p>It is important for the maintenance of the integrity of the asylum and immigration systems that where a deportation order is made in accordance with the statutory requirements, it should be enforced. Under this objective Ireland intends to address a number of obstacles that have been identified as having a negative impact on the removals process</p>
<b>Key actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Successful removal of those found to be illegally present in the State</li> <li>- National charter return operations</li> <li>- Effective systems in place for the procurement of travel documents</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	Increases in the rate of effected removals
<b>Indicators</b>	Greater number of forced returns

<p><b>Objective 3:</b></p> <p><i>Targeting Operational Objective 3</i></p>	<p><b>Closer cooperation with consular authorities of third countries</b></p> <p>One of the main obstacles preventing removal of those who are found to be illegally residing in Ireland is the non-availability of travel documents. Closer operational cooperation with third countries of return is of vital</p>
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	importance to enable relationships to be developed with consular officials who are in a position to identify their own nationals and provide travel documents. Under this objective Ireland intends to put additional measures in place so that travel documents can be procured efficiently and systematically..
<b>Key actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of relationships with consular officials of third countries, in particular, Nigeria, China and Brazil</li> <li>- Regular meetings and contacts with regard to identification and document procurement</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased number of travel documents obtained</li> <li>- Formal procedures for document procurement in place with target countries</li> <li>- Higher level of effected returns</li> <li>- More efficient removals process</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased number of returns implemented in cooperation with third country authorities</li> <li>- Easier procurement of travel documents</li> <li>- Improved relationships with consular officials of third countries, and the targeted third countries in particular</li> </ul>

### 3.2. Priority 2: Support for the cooperation between Member States in return management

<b>Objective 1:</b> <i>Targeting Operational Objective 4</i>	<p><b>Increasing the number of joint charter operations with FRONTEX through improved cooperation with other Member States</b></p> <p>Ireland has taken a lead role in a number of joint charter operations organised through FRONTEX. Under this objective increased participation in such operations is anticipated. As Ireland does not have direct air links with many of its main countries of return, joint operations with a number of other Member States are of particular importance</p>
<b>Key actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased participation in joint removal operations with other Member States.</li> <li>- Detailed consideration of the feasibility of Ireland's participation in each joint operation organised through FRONTEX</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maximise the opportunities for joint operations</li> <li>- Increased opportunity for removals to countries that have proven to be particularly difficult in the past</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Successful return operations to a range of third countries</li> <li>- Increase in the number of returnees via joint charter operations</li> </ul>

<b>Objective 2:</b>  <i>Targeting Operational Objective 6</i>	<b>Closer cooperation with other Member States, through enhanced networking and exchanges of information on best practice</b>  Exchanges of information between Member States on best practice in return procedures is a vital component of successful return management. Under this objective Ireland intends to foster enhanced networking structures to facilitate the sharing of information on common interests.
<b>Key actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintain networks with other Member States</li> <li>- Regular exchange of information</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pooling of information on best practice in Member States</li> <li>- Organisation of Seminars/Conferences on return management</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conferences/Seminars concluded</li> <li>- Greater awareness of best practices in return management in other Member States</li> </ul>

### 3.3. Priority 3: Support for specific innovative (inter)national tools for return management

<b>Objective 1:</b>  <i>Targeting Operational Objective 5</i>	<b>Training programmes for removals personnel, in accordance with best practices and procedures across the EU, including training of counsellors</b>  Under this objective Ireland intends to ensure that removals personnel receive training in return management. This will be achieved through attendance at EU training courses and participation in study visits focusing on best practices for effective removal operations, counselling of potential returnees, providing information on country of return etc.
<b>Key actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training and seminars for officials working in the field of forced and voluntary return, with a strong emphasis on counselling and the provision of return information</li> <li>- Exchanges of information with other Member States on best practices in return management</li> <li>- Research studies in Member States with common interests, i.e. similar profile of illegals, difficulty in return etc</li> </ul>
<b>Targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Officials in competent authorities</li> <li>- NGOs</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training in best practices delivered to officials working in the field of both voluntary and forced return</li> <li>- Potential returnees counselled, and provided with relevant return information</li> </ul>

#### 4. STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

Ireland, in collaboration with the International Organisation for Migration, has a track record of participation in Community return measures. An examination of each of the projects in which Ireland is/has been a participant has been undertaken and we are satisfied that the actions planned under this programme for the period 2008 – 2013 do not conflict with, or duplicate, actions under these earlier projects. It is intended that actions under the Return Fund will build further on measures already implemented in the field of return. In addition to return projects supported under the European Refugee Fund, a number of further projects have been supported under the Return Preparatory Actions.

Actions planned under this Programme are deemed to be compatible with the following return projects which have been supported under European Refugee Fund.

*VARRP for Unaccompanied Minors*: the aim of this project was to assist in the voluntary return of unaccompanied minors living in Ireland who wished to be reunited with their families or key carers in their country of origin.

*DORAS (Directory of Return for Asylum Seekers)*: this research project provides basic information through the compilation and distribution of information sheets addressing the most frequently return related concerns of voluntary return applicants (housing, benefits, etc).

Ireland participated in the following projects which were developed under Return Preparatory Actions initiatives, are also deemed to be compatible with the actions planned under this Programme.

*Information on Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin (IRRICO)*: a project whose purpose was to create a mechanism through a web based database to allow for the provision of adequate, neutral and timely information in support of voluntary return and reintegration possibilities in countries of return. IOM Dublin took on the coordinating role in respect of Nigeria. (2005 Return Preparatory Actions).

*Brazilian project - Assessment of Brazilian Migration Patterns and Assisted Voluntary Return Programme for Selected European member States to Brazil*: this project targeted assisted voluntary return of irregular Brazilians from Ireland, Belgium and Portugal. The project also included a research component which aimed to profile the irregular Brazilian migrant community in the three countries with a view to improving and appropriately aiming outreach campaigns and information needs. (2006 Return Preparatory Actions).

*VARRP for Illegal Vulnerable Nigerian Nationals in Ireland and the Netherlands (VINN)*: the aim of the project was to facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of vulnerable Nigerian nationals living in Ireland and the Netherlands in an irregular situation. (2006 Return Preparatory Actions).

*Nigerian Immigration Services (NIS) project:* the purpose of this project was to strengthening the capacity of the Nigerian Immigration Service to detect and investigate travel document fraud and deter irregular migration to the UK, Ireland and Europe.

As part of the regular review on compatibility with other instruments, the Responsible Authority will ensure that there is no double financing regarding the selected projects, taking into account information from / consultations with the relevant national institutions implementing similar actions.

## **5. FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY**

### **5.1 The publication of the programme**

Following its approval by the Commission, the multi-annual programme will be published on the official website of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform ([www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie)).

### **5.2 The approach chosen to implement the principle of partnership**

The Responsible Authority has identified the potential partner organisations who are involved in the return of those illegally present in the state as:

- Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) in respect of both forced and voluntary returns, and
- International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in respect of voluntary returns.

Discussions took place between officials of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, and GNIB in advance of the drafting of the Multi-Annual Programme to ensure that the objectives identified would be in accordance with our national priorities in the field of return. IOM were also consulted in respect of the voluntary return objectives to be targeted under the RF.

Exchange of information between the appropriate partners and the national competent bodies is taking place throughout the implementation of the programme.

## 6 INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN

### 6.1 Community Contribution

#### 6.1.1. Financial Table (Community Contribution)

<b>Multiannual Programme – Draft Financial Plan</b>							
<b>Table 1: Community Contribution</b>							
<b>Member State: Ireland</b>							
<b>Fund: European Return Fund</b>							
<i>(in 000' euros – current prices)</i>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Total</b>
Priority 1: Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by Member States		280 000,00	300 000,00	400 000,00	500 000,00	600 000,00	2 080 000,00
Priority 2: Support for the cooperation between Member States in return management	619 855,13	280 000,00	300 000,00	400 000,00	500 000,00	600 000,00	2 656 466,00
Priority 3: Support for innovative (inter)national tools for return management		93 000,00	114 240,00	131 200,00	238 400,00	227 520,00	767 950,00
Priority 4: Support for Community Standards and best practices on return management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Assistance	0	10 000,00	53 760,00	38 800,00	51 600,00	59 480,00	293 439,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>619 855,13</b>	<b>663 000,00</b>	<b>768 000,00</b>	<b>970 000,00</b>	<b>1 290 000,00</b>	<b>1 487 000,00</b>	<b>5 797 855,00</b>

#### 6.1.2. Comments on the figures/trends

None.

## 6.2 Community Contribution

### 6.2.1. Financial Table (Overall Financing Plan)

<b>Multiannual Programme – Draft Financial Plan</b>							
<b>Table 1: Overall Financing Plan</b>							
<b>Member State: Ireland</b>							
<b>Fund: European Return Fund</b>							
<i>(in 000' euros – current prices)</i>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Contribution	619 855,15	663 000,00	768 000,00	970 000,00	1 290 000,00	1 487 000,00	5 797 855,00
Public co-financing	619 855,15	663 000,00	768 000,00	970 000,00	1 290 000,00	1 487 000,00	5 797 855,00
Private co-financing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	1 239 710,30	1 326 000,00	1 536 000,00	1 940 000,00	2 580 000,00	2 974 000,00	11 595 710,00
% Community Contribution	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

### 6.2.2. Comments on the figures/trends

None

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Responsible Authority  
Signature of the Responsible Person