



## DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Since the start of quarantine measures, IOM missions in Central Asia haven't stopped working to provide assistance to vulnerable migrants and victims of trafficking.

During the reporting period IOM organized the return of more than 600 Tajik migrants who had been stranded at the Zhibek-Zholy border point between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

The direct assistance provided to repatriates is made possible thanks to the joint efforts of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Embassies and Migration Service in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan.



COVID-19 in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan): 253,059 registered cases, 3,682 deaths.

IOM missions in Central Asia  
have assisted  
**4,017** victims of trafficking and  
vulnerable migrants.

## HOMECOMING

[Click here](#) to read the story of Elvira, a human trafficking survivor, who had to endure all the hardships of being an irregular labor migrant in Russia. This story is about one woman, but it shows how women are generally more vulnerable in migration compared to men.



The *Homecoming* series illustrates how the [USAID Dignity and Rights Project](#) is giving survivors of human trafficking a chance to rebuild their lives at home and never again emigrate to support their family.



## PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

IOM in cooperation with national partners from Central Asia and the Russian Federation launched a regional initiative "Mitigating Socio-Economic Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Migrants and Communities in Central Asia and The Russian Federation". The initiative is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The aim of the initiative is to mitigate the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities and help governments of the Central Asian states and the Russian Federation address the operational challenges of migration management in the current global health crisis situation.



3-5 September 2020, IOM Uzbekistan together with the Republican Rehabilitation Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons, conducted a training seminar: "Identification and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons".

The purpose of the training seminar was to raise awareness of representatives of government bodies and NGOs on the national referral mechanism (NRM), identification and protection of victims of trafficking in persons and vulnerable migrants, as well as discussion the provisions of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On

combating trafficking in persons" in the new edition.

## ADVOCATING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS

As per the Presidential Decree № 415 of 15 September 2020 IOM had been included as a member to the Commission on Human Rights under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. This achievement will boost IOM's activities in protection of migrants' rights, promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, as well as migration health and the gender dimension of migration.





# IOM CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL RESPONSE REPORT, ISSUE 6, 02/10/2020 ● ● ●



From 22 to 25 September, online trainings of trainers were conducted for employees of 40 vocational schools on the development of new information competencies and skills on safe migration and human rights for the purpose of prevention and reduction of number of victims of human trafficking. The training agenda included such topics as introduction to the concepts of migration, safe migration, the risks of

migration processes, where and how to find reliable information about working abroad, how to check the recruitment agency and many other issues faced by migrants.

IOM Tajikistan has started delivery of five-day online training on “Humanitarian Border Management” for 20 Tajik and Afghan border police officers. This training is financially supported by the US Government and will be followed with two more rounds of similar trainings.



**Kazakhstan’s (11616) and Kyrgyzstan’s national hotline (1899) as well as emergency cell number in Tajikistan +992900800800 continue to receive calls.**

Contact IOM missions in Central Asia:

KAZAKHSTAN  
[iomastana@iom.int](mailto:iomastana@iom.int)/[iomalmaty@iom.int](mailto:iomalmaty@iom.int)  
KYRGYZSTAN: [iomkyrgyzstan@iom.int](mailto:iomkyrgyzstan@iom.int)

TAJIKISTAN: [dushanbe@iom.int](mailto:dushanbe@iom.int)  
TURKMENISTAN [iomashgabat@iom.int](mailto:iomashgabat@iom.int)  
UZBEKISTAN: [iomuz@iom.int](mailto:iomuz@iom.int)

FOLLOW US ON [FACEBOOK](#)