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Germany**Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, *Leipzig***Germany
Case study**Association for Social and Labour Market Integration, *Merseburg*
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Saxony-Anhalt, *Magdeburg*
*Görlitz Region, Harz Region***Austria**ZSI - Centre for Social Innovation, *Vienna***Czech Republic
Case study**International Organization for Migration, *Prague*
Requalification and Information Centre, *Most*
*Ústí Region***Hungary
Case study**Mid-Pannon Regional Development Company, *Székesfehérvár*
USZ - University of Szeged, *Szeged*
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Case study**National Union of Mountain Municipalities, Communities
and Authorities - Piedmont Delegation, *Torino*
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Case study**Lodz Region, *Lodz*
Swietokrzyskie Region, *Kielce*
*Lodz Region, Swietokrzyskie Region***Slovenia
Case study**University of Maribor, *Maribor*
Podravska Region

Project message

“Re-Turn perceives returning migrants as a key factor for innovative regional development and therefore it creates new services and tools in order to facilitate their new start in regions of origin.”

Where to find further information and assistance?

www.re-migrants.eu

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New skills for old regions



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Regions benefitting from returning migrants

After 1989 the Central Europe has come through important political, economic and social changes which conclusion was entry of many CE countries to the European Union during first decade of 21st century. Joining European space accelerated economic growth of these countries and opened working migration flows through Europe, mainly Central Europe.

Economically motivated migration of in particular young and well educated people from the New Member States to high-income countries is currently dominating international migration flows in Europe thanks to the free right to work in any other EU Member State. This is intensifying a brain drain process for many regions in Central Europe and certainly for the Re-Turn case study regions.

As an example it is significant to notice how between 2003 and 2007, about 2.2 million people moved from the New Member States towards the countries of the Old Member States of EU. This phenomenon affected but not only Eastern Europeans but also other citizens. In fact, in 2006, e.g. 20.000 Germans moved towards Switzerland and 12.500 to Austria - most people due to better work options than in their home countries.



On the other hand statistics show willingness of people to come back to their countries, however this process is often associated with significant problems of reintegration and regions' neglecting of returning migrants to support regional economic development of their countries. It is estimated, that about 50 % of these out-migrants should return to their home countries within 10 years - a huge potential for regional development as these people gained new social, cultural and professional competences while being abroad.

Re-Turn's main activities are linked to development and implementation of services needed to support migrants in their wish to return, promoting of returning migrants as a source of innovative enterprise development, creating framework conditions for retaining human capital. The project sets to develop, test and implement joint strategies, new support policies, tools and services in participating regions to achieve this in a sustainable way.

The project Re-Turn aims at pushing the topic of return migration on the political agenda, providing an account of the extent of the return migration, competences and needs of returning migrants as well as concrete measures to promote remigration as a source to foster knowledge development.

Activities are focused on:

1. developing, sharing, testing and implementing new support policies, tools and services in participating regions to promote return migration to the benefit of regional knowledge development in a sustainable way
2. getting educated migrants back to their home region and thus compensating for losses of human capital in earlier periods
3. capitalising of returning migrants competencies such as intercultural competence, improved flexibility, and language competence

Main outputs:

1. CE remigration online visualisation platform,
2. Toolkit with methods and instruments of success stories,
3. Handbook with Transnational joint planning and management tools,
4. Tools and services to re-attract emigrants,
5. Transnational Strategy for attracting and reintegrating migrants

Target groups

1. decision takers, senior officers from regional authorities and labour market organisations
2. training and qualification organisations
3. business associations and economic development organisations
4. social groups representing migrants
5. returning migrants

