



*Garante Nazionale
dei diritti delle persone private della libertà personale*

Summary of the project "Implementation of a monitoring system of forced returns"

The project worth €943,350.00 is financed to the National Guarantor of the rights of persons deprived of liberty as part of the accompanying measures provided by the Asylum Migration Integration Fund 2014/2020 of the Ministry of the Interior (FAMI). It supports activities related to the monitoring of forced returns of foreigners illegally staying on the territory in accordance with European Directive 115 of 2008.

The project "Implementation of a forced returns monitoring system" has as its overall objective to consolidate and strengthen the national forced returns monitoring system entrusted to the National Guarantor. This objective will be pursued through the implementation of the main actions carried out under the previous FAMI project "Implementation of a forced return monitoring system":

- a) consolidation of territorial cooperation with regional/sub-regional Guarantors within the national pool of monitoring of forced returns of the National Guarantor;
- b) strengthening the cooperation with the State Police for the refinement of the already tested model of mutual training;
- c) expansion of the international dimension of the project both in terms of the exchange of experiences with institutions homologous to the Guarantor, and of cooperation with institutions of third countries of return for a more effective protection of fundamental rights in return operations with regard to the post-return phase. The objective of the project and the Guarantor is to ensure the pursuit of the FAMI national indicator about the target number set by the program in terms of repatriation operations monitored, while ensuring the quality of monitoring in line with national and international standards on the protection of fundamental rights.

The specific objectives of the project proposal are the following:

1. To boost on the protection of human rights of persons subjected to forced repatriation procedures.
2. To ensure the monitoring of a sufficiently representative sample of the forced return operations actually carried out in all phases or in some of them.
3. To ensure transparency of forced return operations and monitoring outcomes, as well as the independence and reliability of the monitoring system, with respect to relevant institutions, stakeholders and the public.
4. To strengthen the technical and specialized expertise of those involved in monitoring (monitor) forced return operations.
5. To cooperate with relevant institutions, including in the international context, in order to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the monitoring system, as well as full adherence to the principles of international and humanitarian law of forced return operations.
6. To update and consolidate standards about the protection of fundamental rights in forced return operations in order to provide concrete tools useful to the work of monitors, responsible Authorities and escort officers.

The project proposal, in line with the objectives described above, will include the following activities:

1. Access to detention places prior to forced return operations by the national pool of monitors and collection, even remotely and ex post, of information and supporting documentation, of a general nature and pertaining to individual positions, in order to verify compliance with the guarantees provided for the protection of the foreign national subjected to a measure of forced repatriation.
2. Participation of a national pool of monitors - as monitors - in forced return operations, by air, sea or land. The pool will consist of the members of the National Guarantor's Board and the National Guarantor's staff, as well as the regional/sub-regional Guarantors and their respective staff members, including experts or territorial Guarantors who in agreement with the National Guarantor will be involved in the monitoring pool. In addition, the specific involvement at this stage of a group of experts in the various themes pertaining to forced returns is also envisaged within the framework of this project.



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3. Strengthening of the data collection system through the implementation of the IT platform already implemented under the previous project for the registration, management, collection and analysis of information related to forced return operations. The system as a whole is also necessary to meet the requests for data collection that come from European institutions and bodies as part of the ordinary checks and balances on the application of the aforementioned Directive 2008/115/EC.
4. Organization and delivery of training courses - specialized and language teaching – addressed to the pool of monitors, but also to others involved in the management of operations, such as police forces, and aimed at the acquirement of specialized knowledge and skills in the various areas that characterize forced returns.
5. Information activities aimed at the institutional bodies in charge of carrying out forced returns and the main stakeholders, through the organization of thematic seminars for in-depth analysis. In addition, in order to broaden knowledge on the topic and the initiatives that will be addressed to the public, communication initiatives will be implemented (organization of national and international events, production of information and multimedia materials, as well as other tools on the protection of fundamental rights in return operations).
6. Networking activities, organization of meetings and training events to exchange experiences, with foreign bodies in charge of forced-return monitoring, or otherwise of human rights protection, homologous to the National Guarantor.
7. Participation in meetings and events organized on the topic of monitoring forced returns in Italy and abroad.
8. Updating the project first edition outcomes “Guidelines on monitoring forced returns” and the leaflet “The Protection of Fundamental Rights in Return Operations”.
9. Updating of the video tutorial “Fundamental Rights and Forced Returns.”

The CUP assigned to the project is I89D20000220006; the project officially started on 07/10/2020 and will end on 30/09/2022, unless extended.

Rome, 1 February 2021