



**Service social international – Suisse  
Internationaler Sozialdienst – Schweiz  
Servizio Sociale Internazionale – Svizzera  
International Social Service – Switzerland**

# **Who is the International social service**

**Michèle Demierre, Program Officer  
Program « Reintegration in the country or origin »**

# Reintegration in the country of origin

## Aim of the program

Support and encourage migrants who must or wish to return to their country of origin to actively prepare their future through a professional or training project who do not get support from the Swiss government (or co-financing in specific situations)

## Target groups

Vulnerable migrants who go back to their country, whatever is their status in Switzerland (asylum seekers, « sans-papiers », people in detention, people with a legal status who want to return to their country of origin)



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# Reintegration in the country of origin

## Support provided :

- Small capital to start a professional or training project in the country of origin
- Support from our local partner (ISS network) to implement the project



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# Reintegration in the country of origin

## Key numbers

- Program created 14 years ago
- 1150 requests received
- 480 projects implemented in 75 countries
- More than 1000 people supported



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# Reintegration in the country of origin

## Cooperation with prisons

- Initially with Red Cross through their program «Detention»
- Directly with swiss prisons as of 2011
- Pilot project «**RESTART**» : cooperation between
  - Geneva Cantonal Office of detention
  - Red Cross Geneva
  - ISS Switzerland

# Pilot project RESTART

## How do we proceed ?

1. Pre selection of potential beneficiaries by social service
2. Prisoners submit a request
3. Study of feasibility of the project by the local ISS partner + medical issue by Red Cross
4. Definition of the project funding
5. Upon return, implementation of the project with ISS partner (constant follow up by ISS Switzerland)
6. One year visit of the project
7. Field visit



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**QUESTIONS ?**



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# Reintegration in the country of origin

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**



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