



Country Fact Sheet

Guinea

2019



Credit: IOM / Alioune Ndiaye 2018

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I. Checklist for Voluntary Return



Credit: IOM / Lucas Chandellier 2017

Before the Return

The returnee should

- ✓ Make sure that they have a valid travel document
- ✓ Contact the Embassy/ Consulate of Guinea for the issuance of a Laissez Passer
- ✓ Make sure that all necessary arrangements regarding permanent or temporary accommodation upon return are established
- ✓ Acquire all the necessary information concerning arrival details and onward transportation to the destination
- ✓ Make sure to collect all relevant documents (diplomas, birth certificates, residence / work permits, medical reports, etc.) from authorities in the host country

After the Return

The returnee should

- ✓ Upon arrival the passport is stamped by the border authority indicating the date of entry. The validity of the passport or other travel documents must be a minimum of three months
- ✓ If the returnee does not have a valid ID document, they need to apply in person for the issuance of a new ID card, immediately upon return. The central Police stations (Commissariat centraux de Police) are in charge of delivering the Guinean National ID (Carte d'Identité Nationale)
- ✓ Apply for health insurance
- ✓ Register at the Employment Agency (Agence Guinéenne pour la Promotion de l'Emploi "AGUIPE") as an active job-seeker and request information about the program offered by the Agency, for example possibly receiving additional education or training
- ✓ If applicable, the returnee could join the returnees' economic interest group managed by IOM Guinea

II. Health Care

I. General information

There are two different options for the patient to access healthcare: self-payment or via the health insurance fund (HIF).

Self-payment for the treatment is a common practice in Guinea. Most of the Guineans pay the treatment by themselves. According to their financial capacities, they report to the public or private health centers / hospitals. To be insured via the Health insurance fund (HIF) is only available for employees of certain companies or organizations. Through a health insurance fund (HIF) coverage, general physicians are the first to be contacted in need. At this point, access to these services is free of charge. After primary examination, the General Physician refers the patient to higher levels of care, if necessary, specifying the type of treatment and the health care institution at which the treatment should be obtained. If additional examinations are needed, specialists can refer the patient further. Tertiary care depends on previous treatments and referral at the secondary level at general or other specialized hospitals. The role of the General Physician is central in the therapy management of the patient.

Costs:

The insured persons and their family members have the obligation to participate to the costs of the health services provided on their own, but not more than 20% of the total cost of the treatment.

2. Medical treatment and medication

Medical facilities and doctors:

Primary ambulatory care is provided mainly by public / private primary care providers and by outpatient specialist-consultative providers in the various public Health Centers and some private providers.

Alongside the wide network of primary care providers, the system was designed to provide specialist services on an outpatient basis with wider outreach. The ambulatory specialist services are provided mainly through health care providers in the public domain.

At tertiary level, services are provided by university hospitals and health centers in Conakry. The two university hospitals (Donka and Ignace Deen) and the seven regional state hospitals are the first pillar of tertiary care in the country. Hospitals can be general (with at least internal medicine, general surgery, gynecology and obstetrics, and pediatric wards), specialized or clinical.

Immunization:

The Malaria immunization in the yellow card is required for anybody entering Guinea from a malaria infected countries.

III. Labour Market and Employment

I. General information

Guinea has a primarily industry and service-oriented economy but is traditionally based on agriculture. In 2017, 75% of the employees in Guinea were working in the agricultural sector, 25% in the industrial and 10% in the service sectors. (These figures are estimations due to the data insufficiency in the country.)

The unemployment rate is notably high and was at 30% in 2017. Nevertheless, youth unemployment at 46% and long-term unemployment at 60% remain the highest. In 2017, employment grew by 2.4%, while the employment rate has constantly been improving, but still remains low at 44%.

2. Ways/ assistance to find employment

The Employment Agencies of the Republic of Guinea deal with all questions related to employment. There is the state agency, as well as private agencies.

State employment agency: Agence Guinéenne pour la promotion de l'Emploi (AGUIPE). The state employment agency (AGUIPE) is based in Conakry and has its branches in seven administrative regional headquarters.

Private employment agencies: The private employment agencies are mostly based in Conakry and have their branches in main employment zones.

3. Unemployment assistance

The Employment Agency provides the following services for unemployed persons:

- Registering the unemployed person in the registry
- After the unemployed person is registered in the registry, they are directed to the Employment Agency database, when relevant information is gathered

4. Further education and training

Additional services offered by the Employment Agency include:

- Professional orientation
- Facilitation of employment in the country
- Development of individual employment plans

Unemployment Assistance: Access for Returnees

Eligibility and requirements:

The returnee should get registered at the Employment Agency database.

Required documents:

CV, existing diploma and certificate, Valid ID and residence certificate.

IV. Housing

I. General information

Social housing is a sensitive question in Guinea. The state housing service manages a very small portfolio which is strictly reserved to a handful civil servants.

The overwhelming majority of Guineans resort to the private estate agencies (formal or informal) to solve the housing issue.

Generally, the landlords require the payment of the rental in advance six months to twelve months before getting access to the premises.

2. Ways/ assistance to find accommodation

The main way to find accommodation in Guinea is to resort to the private estate agencies. They are divided into formal and informal estate agencies.

Formal estate agencies: These are registered companies to which the people resort for accommodation issue. They mediate between landlords and future tenants. At the end of the housing process, they require the payment of their commissions on the transactions.

Informal estate agencies: These are unregistered individuals called “Demarcheurs” that do the negotiation between the landlords and the future tenants. They require the payment of their transportation fees before visiting the house / apartment to be rented. At the end of the housing process, they require the payment of the equivalent of one-month rental as the commission from the future tenant.

3. Social grants for housing

The current procedures in Guinea do not allow the people to benefit from social grants for housing.



Credit: IOM / Amanda Nero 2017

V. Social Welfare

I. General Information

Only formal employees can profit from the existing welfare system in Guinea. The informal workers, which is the majority of the population is not covered.

Costs:

According to the Guinean Labor Code, the workers' participation to the National Social Security is 23% of the salary; divided as the employer pays 18% and the employee 5%.

Benefits:

The employees can benefit if a professional illness occurs, and with the old age pension.

2. Pension system

Eligibility and requirements:

At the following age, Guinean citizens are eligible for Old age pension benefits:

- Civil servant Hierarchy A workers: 30 years of service or 65 years old and 15 years contribution
- Civil servant Hierarchy B, C, D workers: 30 years of service or 62 years old and 15 years contribution
- Certain companies and organizations' workers: 30 years of service or 65 years old for educated workers; 30 years of service or 55 years old for laborers

Registration procedure:

The procedure is initiated:

- At the request of the beneficiary for exercising the right to old age pension.
- At the request of a family member of the deceased beneficiary or pension beneficiary for exercising the right to family pension.
- At the request of the beneficiary or on a proposal from a medical doctor treating the beneficiary, or by a medical commission for exercising the right to disability pension (disability pension, injury-based financial benefit).

Registration documents:

Application for the pension and disability insurance is submitted by filling in the relevant form and submit it to the Service of the Pension and Disability, to the National Insurance Fund (Caisse Nationale de Sécurité Sociale "CNSS").

3. Vulnerable Groups

The assistance to vulnerable persons and groups falls within the scope of the Ministry of Social Action, Women Promotion and Childhood.

Together with partners and other public institutions, they implement numerous programs dedicated to especially vulnerable groups, such as: elderly persons, persons with disabilities, victims of trafficking (including children), children on the streets, victims of GBV, single parents, etc.

The access procedure to the numerous programs is equivalent to the procedure for applying for social welfare. The person can report directly to the institutions with a valid ID document, or passport. The main unit to be contacted is:

Direction Nationale de l'Action Sociale
Mr. Alseny SOUMAH
Tel.: 00224 624 63 40 94

It is mandatory to be registered to the Registre Social Unifié (Social Unified register) in order to benefit from State assistance.

In addition to the programs offered by the state, there is a wide range of NGOs who provide support to vulnerable persons and groups, including temporary shelter for VOTs, basic direct assistance, psycho-social counselling, basic free-of-charge medical service, etc.

The contact details of most important NGOs are included in the contact list.

VI. Educational System (1/2)

I. General Information

The education system of the Republic of Guinea consists of pre-school, primary and secondary school, technical training and higher education.

Primary education: Primary education is mandatory and free for all students in public schools. There is a primary school in almost every urban or rural area in Guinea.

Education for children with special needs (deaf, mute and blind) is only available in the capital city, Conakry. Those schools are state property and free of charge.

Free education is offered in the state schools from primary school to higher education. It is important to be aware of the medium level of the education in state run schools.

Secondary school: Secondary school is from seven (7) grade to thirteen (13) grade, divided into two sections: Junior secondary school (Collège “7 to 10”) and high school (Lycée “11 to 13”). Students who complete the junior secondary school should pass the examination called “Brevet” before going to high school. The completion of the high school should be done after passing Baccalaureate examination.

Technical training/ vocational school: Guinea technical training/ vocational school is based on two levels of qualification called Type A and Type B.

Technical training Type A:

These centers/schools enroll students who passed the junior school final examination, called “Brevet” and not yet complete high school. The training duration is generally three-years. The delivered diploma is “CAP or BEP” (Brevet d’Etudes Professionnel).

Technical training Type B:

These institutes/schools enroll students who completed high school, baccalaureate winners or not. The training duration is from two years to three-years. The delivered diploma is “BTS” (Brevet de Technicien Supérieur).

Higher education: Higher education is realized at three levels: undergraduate, master and doctoral studies.

There are 6 state universities functioning in the country and more than 6 private universities and additional faculties.

Education language: The education system is organized around two languages in the primary schools (French and Arabic) and three languages in secondary schools (French, Arabic and English). About 29% of primary schools and 34% of secondary schools are bilingual/trilingual. The bulk of them are schools with the French language.

Literacy schools: There are the Centers for Adult Education, which are established since 1990s in the country. They are divided into two: State literacy centers are called “Centre NAFA”, they are 225 throughout the country but only 109 of them are functional. Their students are children under 18 years old.

In Conakry, there are some private centers like: Ange gardien at Kaloum; AJCAD at Gbessia Marché and Terre d’Espoir at Hamdallaye. Their students are both children and adults.

Educational Level	Age
Child care / nursery school	0,8 – 3
Kindergarten	3 – 6
Primary Level	
Elementary School	7 – 12
Secondary Level	
Collège	13 – 16
Lycée	17 – 19
Higher Education	
Colleges, University, Professional School etc.	From 19

VI. Educational System (2/2)

Admission procedure:

The enrolment in primary education takes place in September and October and the school year begins in October. The following documents should be submitted to the primary school for the enrolment:

- Birth Certificate
- Vaccination certificate

Children with foreign citizenship or without citizenship residing in Guinea are entitled to primary education under the same conditions as the children with Guinean citizenship.

The candidates that completed thze elementary education abroad can enroll in the secondary education upon the recognition of the elementary education certificate.

Enrolment documents needed for secondary education:

- Application form (available at the secondary school)
- Original primary education certificates for VI grade completion
- Birth Certificate

For the enrollment at higher education institutions, only students who have passed the state exam (Baccalaureate) are eligible to apply. The Universities are free to define their individual admission procedure. The documents required to enroll for higher education are as follows:

- Application form (available at the universities)
- Baccalaureate certificate
- Birth certificate
- Citizenship
- Confirmation for payment of administrative fees

2. Cost, loans and stipends

Private primary and secondary schools are based on the principle of self-financing. The average fees for one school year are from EUR 400 to EUR 2500.

Private universities need to be financed by oneself, the approximate fee for one academic year is from EUR 500 to EUR 2000.

3. Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Guinean citizens who have completed their primary or secondary education abroad can request to have their certificates recognized and accredited in Guinea. The institutions responsible for the recognition and accreditation of foreign certificate is the National Service for education examination (Service National d'examen et de concours scolaire) at the Ministry of Education and Literacy.

The procedure for the application is identical for primary and secondary education. In addition to the request for recognition, the applicant has to submit the original certificate issued by the accredited foreign primary or secondary school and a translation of the certificate in three samples.

The translation must be provided by an authorized translator. Additional documents may be required by the relevant ministry.

For the recognition of the university degree, in addition to the necessary documents, the applicant should also submit a signed statement that the documents are valid. The Information Centre verifies the validity of the original documents and examines the background of the institution that issued the degree. The recognition is done by an Expert Commission established by the Educational Council of the relevant university. If it turns out during the recognition procedure that the educational plan and program are significantly different from the educational plan and program of the relevant university, the applicant will have to pass additional exams.

VII. Concrete Support for Returnees

The United Nations Agency for Migrations (IOM) and partners assist migrants upon arrival in Guinea as part of Voluntary Return Assistance and Reintegration programs (AVRR). Its aim is to ensure security, guarantee the dignity and rights of migrants in order to facilitate their reintegration in their country of origin (CoO). Beyond the arrival assistance, the reintegration assistance may be granted but is not systematic. It depends on many criteria, namely resources and the identified needs. It is very important to note that the reintegration is a tailoring process and gives priority to the most vulnerable persons.

I. Reintegration assistance programs

Concerning the reintegration assistance, IOM Guinea can support migrants with granting reintegration assistance in the months following the return based on these steps.

- Resume the studies
- Start an individual business
- Launch a collective business
- Professional training in general
- Create a contact between migrant and service or a socio-professional reintegration program available in the zone of installation

Reintegration allowance assistance may be given to the returnee in 2 ways:

First step: IOM should verify if the migrant receives a travel allowance assistance from the departure country

Second step: If not, IOM should give post arrival assistance to the migrant for a secondary transportation through the instruction given by the country of departure.

With that, IOM will contact the returnee to explain the process of a possible reintegration project assistance. According to the returnee's vulnerability, motivation and commitment, IOM will direct the returnee to appropriate services and will be able to offer the migrant to participate in a series of activities aimed at facilitating the reintegration.

Medical and psychosocial assistance is also provided for more vulnerable cases.

Here are some activities that returnees selected for their reintegration assistance as an individual project (Individual).

All depends on the migrants' reintegration strategy, on the departure country's policy, the amount of the reintegration assistance and what the returnee choses.

Project ideas	Implementation locations
Sale of Foodstuffs	
Restoration	
Cafeteria	
Sale of building materials	
Sale of sanitary materials	Conakry and hinterland
Computer literacy center management	Conakry and hinterland
Barbing shop	
Tailor shop	Conakry and hinterland
Grain dehuller business management	Hinterland
Gardening	Conakry and hinterland
Agriculture	Hinterland
Bakery	Hinterland
Rolling machine washing space for (bikes and vehicles	Conakry and hinterland
Motorcycle taxi management	Conakry and hinterland
Sale of phones and accessories	Conakry and hinterland
Sale of spare parts for cars and motorcycles	Conakry and hinterland
Sale of clothes and sundries	Conakry and hinterland
Sale of Cosmetics	Conakry and hinterland
Sale of tires	Conakry and hinterland
Breeding of cattle, sheep, goats or chickens	Conakry and hinterland
Hotel management	Conakry and hinterland
Agricultural products processing unit: Potato and fruit.	Conakry and hinterland
Motorcycle taxi with bodywork	Hinterland

VII. Concrete Support for Returnees

Collective project: Sustainable and profitable activities

- Agriculture
- Breeding
- Restauration
- Cars wash
- Bakery
- Fishponds
- Tourisms and hotels
- Audio visual

Information:

Reintegration project processing procedure (supporting documents) before sending an approval.

- Financial plan (Singed by Unit supervisor and Focal Point)
- Proforma invoice (Selected supplier/Returnee's involvement)
- Grant notification (Country of departure)
- Business plan sent by the country of departure
- ABN (Advanced booking notification/Departure notification)
- Passport or LP/Any other documents.

To justify:

Voucher and Photos (Photo/Returnee Consent)
After implementation, monitoring will take place in order to assess the returnees' business sustainability.

2.Virtual Counselling

Talk to an IOM friend!

The pilot project Virtual Counselling offers migrants living in Germany voluntary return and reintegration counselling, virtually via online communications tools, for nine countries of origin. Counselling takes place in the migrant's native language through Whatsapp. A counselling session can take place during specified counselling hours or upon appointment.

Virtual counselling is always anonymous, individual, and unbiased.

Migrants interested in returning to Guinea can directly contact Sekou in Conakry via Whatsapp to receive individual information about country specific reintegration opportunities.



Credit: IOM Guinea

Talk to an IOM friend in Guinea

Are you thinking about returning to Guinea?
You can contact Sekou at IOM Conakry about your options.

 Whatsapp: +224 625209202

anonymous • unbiased • individual

VIII. Contact Information and Useful Links

International, Non-Governmental, Humanitarian Organizations

IOM Country office

Conakry, Donka, Bloc de Professeurs, rue DI-252, next to Tribunal Ière Instance de Dixinn

Tel. (1): +224 625 258 839

Tel. (2): +224 623 238 088

IOM Boké

Coordination DPS, quartier Yomboya, in front to Ecole: Hadja M'mah CAMARA

Tel. : +224 626 260 907

IOM Mamou

Quartier Petel Balia, next to the market.

Tel. : +224 625 259 995

IOM Labé

Bureau PAM, quartier Djoulou

Tel. : +224 626 263 771

IOM Kankan

Quartier Briqueterie, on street from Soundiata KEITA Barrack second gate to the Prefects former residence, at the corner on the right.

Tel. : +224 625 250 776

IOM N'zérékoré

Quartier Ossud

Tel. : + 224 626 263 770

OCPH Guinea

Quartier Koulewondy, C/Kaloum, Conakry.

National Red Cross Association

Quartier Kobaya, C/Ratoma, Conakry.

For further information, please visit the information portal on voluntary return and reintegration *ReturningfromGermany*:

<https://www.returningfromgermany.de/en/countries/guinea>