

MMC East Africa & Yemen

JUNE 2018



The following trends analysis is put together on the basis of available secondary data at the time of publication. It is representative of the available information and therefore indicative of mixed migratory trends in East Africa & Yemen.

Previously known as the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS), the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) is a leading source for independent and high quality data, information, research and analysis on mixed migration. The MMC was established in February 2018. It

brings together various existing regional initiatives – hosted or led by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) – engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration issues into a new global network of mixed migration expertise.1

The Mixed Migration Centre - East Africa & Yemen, provides quality mixed migration-related information for policy, programming and advocacy from a regional perspective. Our core countries of focus are Yemen, Eritrea, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Somalia.

For more information visit: mixedmigration.org

1 This includes RMMS Middle East, RMMS West Africa, the Mixed Migration Platform (MMP) in the Middle East, the Global Mixed Migration Secretariat (GMMS) in Geneva and different programmes of the Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi).

Cover photo: A woman walks with her child on her back through an IDP camp near the Somali town of Dollow on 26 March 2017.

DRC Photo / Tobin Jones

SUPPORTED BY:











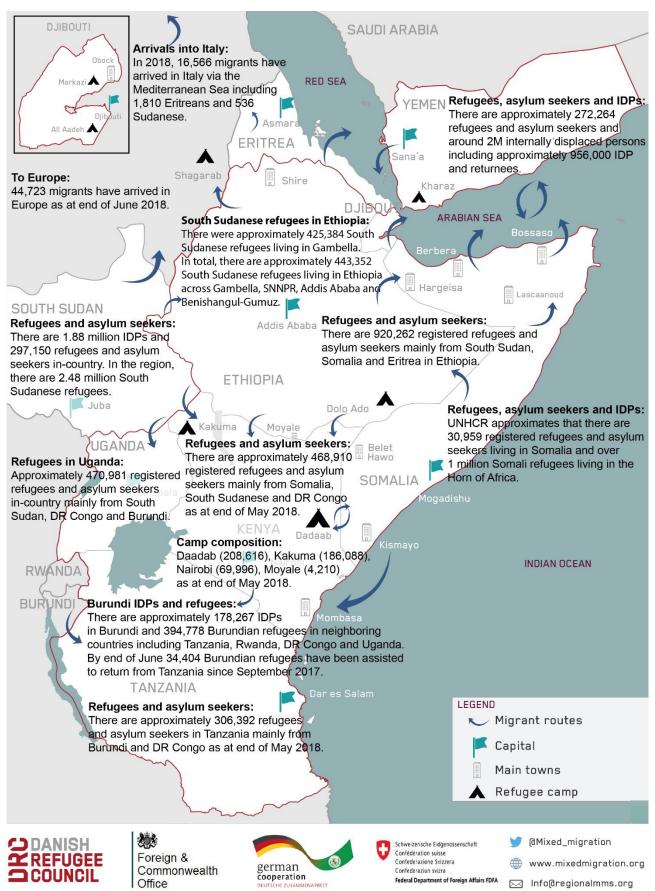
Displacement Snapshot¹

Country	Refugees and asylum seekers	Internally displaced people (IDP)	In need of humanitarian assistance / food aid
Djibouti	27,366	-	-
Ethiopia	920,262	1.6m	7.88m
Eritrea	2, 149 (Somali)	- -	· -
Kenya	468,910	· -	- -
Somalia	30,959	2.6m	5.4m
South Sudan	299,357	1.88m	7m
Sudan	906,000	-	5.5m
Yemen	279,264	2m	22.2m
Uganda	1,470,981	- -	2.3m
Democratic Republic of Congo ²	538,667	4.49m	13.1m

 $^{^{\}mbox{\scriptsize 1}}$ The sources of data for this map are as follows: OCHA, IOM, UNHCR, Government sources

² Democratic Republic of Congo is a new country of coverage for the Danish Refugee Council's Regional Office

Flows within the Horn of Africa and Yemen¹









Refugees and Asylum seekers

27,366 total refugees and asylum seekers in Djibouti (according to <u>UNHCR March</u> 2018). These include refugees from

Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia.

<u>27, 366</u> refugees and asylum seekers from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Yemen.

Male: 51% | Female: 49%

Main countries of origin (March 2018)

12,403 Somalia | 9,835 Ethiopia <u>4,157</u> Yemen | 911 Eritrea 60 Others

Where are they?

All Addeh – 14,757 Djibouti – 5,382 Holl Holl – 5,387 Obock – 1,840 Djibouti is a <u>major transit</u> point for migrants and refugees to the Arabian Peninsula, via Yemen, through the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

At least 38,000 people passed through the country in 2017 (largely from Ethiopia) and continue via this route despite the on-going conflict in Yemen.

Policy dialogue: The second steering committee meeting of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) took place in May and was co-chaired by UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior. During this meeting, the ToR for the Steering Committee was endorsed. Similarly, a meeting between Djibouti's Chamber of Commerce and USAID along with other private sector representatives took place in May to discuss ways of including refugees in the local workforce.







Refugees and Asylum seekers in-country and in the region

920,262 refugees from Eritrea, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen among others. (UNHCR May 2018).

920, 262 registered refugees and asylum seekers as of May 2018. This includes 29,211 new arrivals between January and May 2018. In May alone there were 4,436 new South Sudanese and Eritrean arrivals. Similarly, there are approximately 15,088 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt by the end of June 2018. In Kakuma and Kalobeyi, there are approximately 10,278 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers by the end of June 2018.

Main countries of origin

443,352 (48.2%) South Sudan 255,943 (27.8%) Somalia 169,252 (18.4%) Eritrea 43,952 (4.8%) Sudan 1,844 (0.2%) Yemen 5,919 (0.6%) 'Others' (31st May 2018)

Male 49.8% | Female 50.2%

Where are they?

Gambela - 423,888 Somali - 254,834 Other - 73,078 Benishangul-Gumuz -60,641 Tigray - 40,656 Afar- 38,208 Addis Ababa - 22,246 Oromia - 3,924 SNNPR - 2,787 Internal displacement: According to UNOCHA, renewed violence between the Borana and Garre communities living in Moyale in May 2018 has resulted in approximately 15,645 households being displaced including 3,702 IDP children. Another 700,000 people are reported to have been displaced since fighting began in April 2018 between the Oromia and SNNP communities. Policy Dialogue: the CRRF was officially launched in various regions to disseminate information on pledges made by the Ethiopian government towards enhancing the lives of host communities and refugees who were also in attendance of the launches. Similarly the revised Refugee Proclamation has been endorsed by the Council of Ministers which will contribute to increasing integration of refugees within Ethiopia.

Returns from Saudi Arabia: According to IOM, 134,797 Ethiopian returnees have been registered in Addis from November 2017 until late June 2018. However, estimated returns from Saudi Arabia are closer to 180,000 (IOM Post arrival emergency lifesaving updates). IOM further reports that 81% of these arrivals were returned involuntarily and reported living in inhumane conditions

Ethiopian Migrant Deaths: In June 2018, IOM reported that approximately 49 Ethiopian migrants had drowned and others reported missing when a vessel from Bosasso, Somalia capsized near the Gulf of Aden. This boat was reported to carry at least 100 migrants. This follows recent efforts by IOM to provide assistance to approximately 100 Ethiopian migrants leave Yemen through the Hudaydah port, 84 of whom were women and children.

Eritrea



Population



Refugees & Asylum seekers in the region

There are approximately 45 Eritrean refugees living in Kakuma camp in Kenya as at end of June 2018 according to UNHCR. Thirty four of these are between the ages of 18 and 59.

By the end of May, there were approximately 2,149 Somali refugees and asylum seekers living in Eritrea, and approximately 90 Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in Somalia. In Egypt, there were approximately 13,942 Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers by the end of June

Main countries of origin

2,149 Somalia (31 May 2018)

Male 64% | Female 36%

Political relations with Ethiopia: In early June 2018, the Ethiopian government under the leadership of new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced that it would fully accept the terms of a 2000 peace agreement with Eritrea. Thereafter a high level Eritrean delegation including Eritrean Foreign Minister Osman Saleh visited Ethiopia to "gauge current developments and to chat...a plan for continuous future action".

Migrants in Libya: <u>UNHCR</u> reports that approximately 200 individuals from Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia escaped captivity by smugglers in Bani Walid and who had been subjected to torture and other human rights abuses. Similarly, approximately 1,756 individuals including Eritreans, Ivorians and Malians were disembarked in Libya.

Arrivals into Italy: IOM reports that approximately 1,810 Eritreans arrived into Italy from January 2018 to the end of June 2018. Eritreans are the second highest number of migrant arrivals into Italy after Nigeria and the highest from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt &

Uganda: At the end of May 2018, UNHCR reports that there were approximately 228,941 refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt. Of these were 10,277 Eritrean asylum seekers and 3,388 refugees living in Egypt. In Uganda on the other hand, there were approximately 14,596 Eritrean refugees by end of May 2018.





Refugees, Asylum seekers and IDPs



468,910 registered refugees and asylum seekers as of 31st May 2018.

468,910 refugees from Somalia, South Sudan, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Sudan, Burundi, Uganda, Rwanda, Eritrea, amongst others. (UNHCR May 2018).

Main countries of origin

255,527 Somalia

114,689 South Sudan

38,029 DR Congo

31,233 Ethiopia

10,144 Sudan

13,082 Burundi

2,476 Uganda

1,669 Rwanda

1,431 Eritrea

630 Other

(31 May 2018)

Male 51% | Female 49%

Where are they?*

Dadaab - 208, 616

Kakuma - 186,088

Nairobi – 69,996

Moyale – 4,210

Policy Dialogue: The fifth round of intergovernmental negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration took place between 4th and 8th June 2018 and thereafter the third draft of the compact was developed and shared on 29th June. This can be found here. Similarly, the final draft of the Global Compact on Refugees was finalized on 26th June and focuses on issues such as safety and security and registration and documentation of refugees.

Workshop on Human Trafficking: At the end of May 2018, IOM together with the Counter Trafficking in Person's Secretariat organized a 2 day workshop that brought together government, police and civil society representatives to discuss about the National Referral Mechanism for assisting victims of human trafficking. This meeting took place in Turkana county where participants were taken through what the referral mechanism entails and how it can further be contextualized to become a country based referral mechanism

Nation reported that two Somali women were arrested on human trafficking allegations. These women were reported to be trafficking a minor aged 10. Another articles reported how Kenya had become a top destination for beggars from other African countries such as Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, DR Congo, South Sudan and Eritrea. Majority of the beggars reported having been duped into coming to Kenya as they find out that the cartels allocate handlers that help these beggars move around and then take collections back to bosses at the end of the day.

^{*}These figures are as at end of May 2018.







Refugees, Asylum seekers and IDPs

30,959 refugees & asylum seekers from Yemen, Ethiopia, Syria, Eritrea, Tanzania, amongst others.

Refugees/ Asylum seekers by country of origin

Refugees:

11,437 Yemen

3,703 Ethiopia

190 Syria

50 Eritrea

46 Other

(30 June 2018)

Asylum- seekers:

15,268 Ethiopia

54 Yemen

98 Tanzania

40 Eritrea

73 Other

(30 June 2018)

Male: 54.2% | Female: 46.8%

Where are they?

Woqooyi Galbeed - 17,516

Bari - 7,806

Benadir - 3,079

Nugaal – 1,223

Mudug - 533

Togdheer - 387

Awdal - 195

Lower Shabelle - 114

Sanaag - 69

Middle Shabelle - 13

Sool - 8

Others -16

1,090,851 refugees from Somalia in the Horn of Africa. 30,959 registered refugees and asylum seekers (15,426 refugees and 15,533 asylum seekers) as of 30th June 2018. Seventy-four percent of refugees are from Yemen while 98% of asylum seekers are from Ethiopia. Similarly, there are approximately 2.64 million internally displaced persons in Somalia with approximately 274,000 newly displaced following recent floods. In total however, UNHCR reports that there have been 600,000 displaced people in 2018 due to floods, conflict, and drought.

Protection Abuses: The UNOCHA- published humanitarian bulletin for Somalia shows the growing numbers of children fleeing their homes due to <u>fear of recruitment</u> into Al Shabaab. This is reported to be commonplace in Galmudug and South West States where other violations such as sexual violence, child recruitment and killing, abductions, and attacks in schools have been reported.

Security landscape: Following a three day security conference in Baidoa, leaders agreed to build the capacity of security forces to restore peace in the country. Members present also passed the <u>Transitional Plan</u> that will facilitate transfer of security forces from the African Union to Somalia forces

Somalia-Gulf relations: In 2017, tensions rose among Gulf countries following what was termed as Qatar's 'ambitious' foreign policy that saw the country support Islamist groups and foster relations with Iran. This resulted in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Yemen, Libya and Maldives to cut ties with Qatar. In Somalia, these tensions have also played out. A recent report by International Crisis Group shows Somalia being in the middle of the UAE-Qatar competition with both countries and their allies supporting different factions among federal states.

Somali Returnees: UNHCR reports that it has assisted 83,669 refugees to return to Somalia from nine countries of Somalia since December 2014. In June 2018 specifically however, 825 Somali refugees returned from Kenya, Yemen, Tunisia and Ukraine. This brings the cumulative 2018 total returns to 8,378. Majority of the returnees returned from Kenya (79%) while the rest returned from Yemen (17%) and Libya (3%). UNHCR also reports that it evacuate 128 vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers from Libya who include men, women and children from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea.





Refugees in Sudan

UNOCHA estimates that there are approximately 906,000 refugees currently living in Sudan. A majority of these are said to be living out of camps.

Male: 47% | Female: 53%

Refugees in Sudan (Host) by State

Khartoum - 285,705 White Nile - 174,825 East Darfur - 99,737 West Kordofan - 57,668 South Darfur - 39,389 South Kordofan-36,149 North Darfur - 15,065 Gedaref - 12,450 Red Sea - 10,000 North Kordofan - 8,563 Blue Nile - 7.660 Kassala - 7,600 Al Gezira - 2,500 Nile - 2,500 Northern - 2,500 Sennar - 2,500 Central Darfur - 1,435

West Darfur - 385

Refugees from South Sudan in Sudan

By mid-June 2018, Sudan was hosting approximately 766,064 South Sudanese refugees since the beginning of the refugee crisis. However in June specifically, there were 838 new South Sudanese refugee arrivals with 53% being women and girls.

Returns from Saudi Arabia: Since the beginning of the deportations from Saudi Arabia, IOM estimates that a total of 48,147 individuals have returned as at end of May 2018. Seventy percent of these registered returnees were male and 30% female with 65% being between the ages of 18-59, 20% aged 5-17, 10% below 5 years and 4% above 60 years. Fifty-eight percent of the returns also reported having lived in Saudi Arabia for more than 3 years with 36% having worked as laborers.

Sudanese migrants in Egypt: According to UNHCR, there were approximately 37,416 refugees and asylum seekers living in Egypt towards the end of May 2018.

Sudan-South Sudan relations: Talks between opposing factions in Sudan and South Sudan began in June 2018 with both parties expected to sign a framework agreement that would end the conflict between the two countries. This framework agreement outlined three main points: 1) that both countries would take charge of repairing oil wells in South Sudan, 2) that there would be comprehensive ceasefire and the deployment of AU and IGAD monitors and that 3) there would be three capital cities in the country during the transitional period. These cities would be Juba, Malakal and Wau. However, soon after, South Sudanese rebels <u>expressed concern</u> over the three points outlined in the framework agreement arguing that South Sudan was one country and therefore did not need three capital cities.

Sudanese Returnees & Displacement trends: According to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, approximately 20,979 Sudanese were reported having crossed back/returned to Sudan through Port Sudan between January and May 2018. Similarly, there have been a reported 48,147 Sudanese returning back from Saudi Arabia since July 2017 with 96% of these tracked and registered at Khartoum International Airport. In North Darfur, it is estimated that approximately 12,623 Sudanese crossed back since the beginning of 2018 with some returning from Chad and the rest from within Darfur. In South Kordofan, IOM reports that there was a total of 1,617 IDPs living in the state with approximately 332 individuals having been tracked in May 2018.

South Sudan 🥌



Refugees, Asylum seekers and IDPs



297,150 refugee population in South Sudan. Main countries of origin includes; Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, amongst others. (30 June 2018).

297,150 Refugees, 2,207 asylum seekers and 1.88 million IDPs. In 2018 alone, there were 81,059 new refugee arrivals in South Sudan. (30 June 2018)

99% (293, 595) Living in camps and settlements.

82% Are Women and Children

1% (3,555) Living in urban areas

Male: 46% | Female: 54%

Main countries of origin

275, 752 Sudan 15,236 DR Congo

1,890 Central African Republic

4,121 Ethiopia

91 Other countries

(30 June 2018)

States hosting refugees

Upper Nile – 48.5% Unity - 42.6% Central Equitoria – 5% Western Equitoria - 3% Jonglei - 1%

Humanitarian Situation:

According to UNOCHA, fighting and clashes reported so far has resulted in massive displacement of populations in South Sudan as well as hindered humanitarian access by aid agencies especially in the Greater Equatoria regions. Similarly, hunger and malnutrition continue to rise following the destruction of livelihoods for local populations. Further, UNOCHA reports that local populations are at the risk of contracting malaria and in the upcoming rainy season and the destruction of health facilities has meant that treatment and immunization programs have stopped.

In addition there are approximately 2.48 million South Sudanese refugees in the region. Forty two percent of these are currently in Uganda, 30% in Sudan, 18% in Ethiopia, 5% in Kenya, 3.7% in DR Congo and 0.1% in the Central Africa Republic.







Refugees, Asylum seekers and IDPs

According to UNOCHA, there are 279,264 refugees and asylum seekers living in Yemen-a majority of whom are from Somalia and Ethiopia. In addition there are 2M internally displaced people with approximately 956,000 being IDP returnees

Yemeni Refugees in South Korea: Recent reports have shown around 552 Yemeni refugees having arrived on Jeju island off the southern coast of South Korea in the first 5 months of the year. There have been several reasons cited for this, including the supposed visa regulations of South Korea which allow foreigners to stay in the country for up to 30 days without a visa. However, this was received negatively by locals of Jeju island who began protesting and which resulted in government plans to tighten laws governing these refugee arrivals. According to South Korea's government, there is concern that the Yemeni refugees could be seeking economic opportunities rather than internationally protection and which could lead to a rise in crime and other social problems. A reported 540,000 South Koreans have signed an online petition asking the government to abolish or amend the 'no-visa' regulation and the granting of refugees status for Yemeni arrivals. As such, the government has promised to increase the number of officers reviewing the applications for refugee status and has also excluded Yemen as one of the countries whose nationals are allowed to stay in South Korea for 30 days without a visa.

Yemen-Saudi Arabia relations: In early June 2018, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates launched an assault on Hudayda with <u>airstrikes</u> targeting Houthi rebels on the ground. This move is in attempts to liberate the port town which has been under the control of the Houthis and which will now increase maritime security off the port and increase control on imports into the country, including food aid and weapons. The UN has now <u>intervened</u> to try and resolve the crisis. This includes <u>handing over the port</u> to the UN for supervision as conflict in the port town could affect much needed food aid and humanitarian assistance to local populations.

Migrants in Yemen: IOM reports that approximately 4,310 migrants were registered in June, 88% of whom were boys and men. These registered migrants reported facing abduction, torture and extortion in their migrant journeys. Other protection concerns reported by the migrants include deception, verbal abuse, psychological abuse, robbery and threats. The migrants also reported using smugglers on their journeys and paying an average of US \$491.

Humanitarian Situation: Ongoing clashes and insecurity in Yemen have led to further deterioration in the humanitarian situation. According to UNICEF, the security situation in Al Hudaydah has worsened and resulted in the displacement of more than 121,000 people. However, the biggest casualties of the ongoing strife in the country are children with over 3 million children affected. This includes the dead of over 2,000 children and over 6,000 children maimed and recruited by armed forces and groups according to the UN Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting. Disease outbreaks continue to be reported with over 90,000 cases reported since January 2018.

Uganda 💩





Refugees, Asylum seekers and IDPs

1,470,981 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda as at end of June 2018.

1,470,981 refugees/asylum seekers from South Sudan, DRC, Burundi, Somalia, Rwanda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, amongst others¹. (UNHCR & Government of Uganda 30th June 2018).

Main countries of origin

Refugees:

1,065,094 South Sudan | 288,766 DRC 42,656 Burundi | 37,193 Somalia 15,517 Rwanda | S21,755 Others (30th June 2018)

Refugees by district

Arua- 271,655 Adjumani- 240,905 Moyo- 156,992 Kampala- 103,694 Nakivale- 106,592 Rwamanja-78,102 Kyangwali- 63,170 Kiryandongo- 57,639 Kyaka II- 55,913

Yumbe - 286, 859

According to UNHCR, between 27 May and 7 June 2018, there were 285,398 Congolese refugees living in Uganda with 84,369 having arrived into the country in 2018 alone. Of these, 60% were children under the age of 18. By end of May 2018, Rwamwanja, Kyangwali, Kyaka II, Nakivale and Kampala were the largest Congolese refugee hosting settlements in Uganda. It is estimated that approximately 38% of all Congolese refugees live in Uganda.



Children under 18 years: 60%



Elderly: 3%



Women and girls: 51%



43% of all South Sudan refugees are in Uganda.



8,729

South Sudan, DRC and Burundi new arrivals in country (June 2018)



Daily average of new arrivals during June 2018.

 $^{^{1}}$ This includes refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and other countries of origin.

Democratic Republic of Congo





Refugees, Asylum seekers

535,730 Refugees in DRC and 781,697 DRC refugees in Africa. (UNHCR June 2018).

535,730 refugees, 2,937 asylum – seekers and 4.49M internally displaced people in DRC as at end of June 2018 according to UNHCR. Approximately 74% of the total refugee population are living out of camps while the remaining 25.6% live in camps and urban areas.

Humanitarian situation: According to UNICEF, over <u>7 million</u> <u>children</u> are in need of humanitarian assistance. In fact, it is estimated that the entire Congolese refugee population by the end of 2018 will be 941,000. Disease outbreak still remains an issue with over 9,000 cholera cases reported since January 2018.

Population of concern in host countries

218,480 Rwanda

176,319 Central African Republic

93,087 South Sudan

46,500 Burundi

658 Republic of Congo

490 Angola

146 Sudan

21 Syria, Jordan, Eritrea, Chad, Liberia, Sierra Leone

15 Uganda

14 Somalia

DRC Refugees and asylum-seekers by country of asylum

Uganda- 288,766

Southern Africa- 103,361

Tanzania-84,470

Rwanda- 82,358

Burundi- 71,255

South, Sudan, Kenya, CAR, Chad-58,721

Zambia- 41,407

Angola- 35,822

Republic of Congo- 15,537





Female: 52%



Women: **52%**



Men:

48%



Children: 63%



Adults: 35%



Elderly: 2%

Other News

The Libya Situation

UNHCR reports that there are approximately 179,400 Libyans <u>internally displaced</u> with 372,022 having returned and registered since 2016. The number of registered refugees and asylum seekers in the country as at end of June 2018 stood at 53,285 with 1,525 asylum seekers and refugees having been released from detention so far in 2018. Still within Libya, the UN has imposed <u>sanctions</u> on 6 individuals believed to be human traffickers. The sanction includes an asset freeze and a global travel ban for the traffickers.

EU Migrant Centers

In June 2018, Spain said it would take in a rescue ship that was stranded in the Mediterranean Sea after Italy and Malta refused to let the ships dock. On board were 629 people had disembarked from Libya and whom included young unaccompanied minors from Eritrea, Sudan, Ghana and Nigeria. On 28th June 2018 following deliberations within the European council, there was a conclusion that those migrants saved on EU territory "should be taken charge of on the basis of a shared effort, through the transfer in controlled centers set up in Member States, only on a voluntary basis, where rapid and secure processing would allow, with full EU support, to distinguish between irregular migrants, who will be returned, and those in need of international protection, for whom the principle of solidarity will apply". However, there was no agreement on which European countries would set up these centers.

Global Compact for Migration

The fifth round of negotiations on GCM took place the week of 4 June 2018 in New York. This is in preparation to the intergovernmental conference scheduled for December 2018 in Morocco. During the June meeting, stakeholders reviewed the revised second draft of the compact, putting emphasis on the additional objective that focuses on strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships. The Mixed Migration Center took part in of the GCM side events, including on a panel that focused on migrant vulnerabilities hosted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OCHCR).

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

Countries in the Horn of Africa region have made progress on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. In Djibouti for example UNHCR has undertaken the profiling of around 450 refugees with the aim of matching these profiles with employment opportunities in the country Factors such as level of education, trainings and skills were identified during the exercise. In Ethiopia, the Chinese embassy has pledged support to enhancing refugees' selfreliance through employment opportunities while in Kenya, the UN Development Assistance Framework now includes refugees. This was later followed by a meeting between the European Union, UNHCR, academia, Refugee Affairs Secretariat, the International Finance Cooperation and other stakeholders to discuss refugee inclusion as a toll for protection and more sustainable solutions to issues faced by this vulnerable group. In Somalia, a USD 3 million extension for a peacebuilding project for voluntary returns was extended in June by the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF). This project is aimed at enhancing the prospects of peace, economic revitalization and community reconciliation for Somali returnees.

Arrivals in Europe

According to IOM, there were 44,723 arrivals by Sea in Europe in 2018 as at end of June. This is a significant decrease from the 172,152 recorded in 2017. In Italy, there have been 16,566 total arrivals in 2018 with Eritreans comprising the second highest number of migrant arrivals in 2018 at 1,810 so far. There were also 536 Sudanese arrivals in Italy in 2018. In Greece, there have been 13,157 arrivals in 2018 and 14,593 in Spain as at end of June 2018.

Migration discussions in Europe

On 24 June, an informal working meeting took place in Europe to discuss legal and practical feasibilities on various disembarkation plans particularly for migrants crossing the sea. This was presented as three options: migrants having access to asylum procedures when in EU territory and EU increasing the reception/detention capacity at border points; disembarkation in centers in third countries where migrants still have access to asylum procedures with possible resettlement to the EU or with assisted return and reintegration to countries of origin; and establishment of external processing centers which would mean that all irregular migrants would be sent directly to the territory of a third country without any form of processing within the EU and which constitutes refoulement which is not permitted in international law. However, this plan has been heavily criticized for not prioritizing human rights and human safety.

For more information visit: mixedmigration.org

