



Regional mixed migration summary for April 2012 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Country (alphabetically)	Events /trends/ data / analysis
<p>Djibouti</p>	<p>New information:</p> <p>In April 2012 an estimated 6,884 people left Djibouti for Yemen, departing from Obock and different coastal departure points 30-40 km west of Obock. This represents approximately 229 people per day, a 9% decrease of the total percentage of (daily) new arrivals from last month. 85% were non Somalis (mostly Ethiopians).</p> <p>New arrivals in Yemen state that they paid smugglers \$150 - \$200 for the journey from Hargesia to Yemen (including sea crossing) while those travelling from Djibouti reportedly paid \$145 - \$ 450 for the journey from Obock to Yemen.</p> <p>The Djiboutian authorities have resumed prima facie registration of Somalis at the Loya Ade Border point. The new arrivals cite a lack of resources resulting from the peak drought period of summer 2011 which has made it too expensive to support journeys of whole families as a cause of the change in profile of new arrivals (mainly young men). However, there were some Somali new arrivals in Yemen who stated that they were arrested for 'illegal' entry into Djibouti and were released upon payment of a \$20 'fine'.</p> <p>In April ONARS (the National Eligibility Office) began registering asylum seekers in Obock, operating out of UNHCR's premises. However, they still lack vital technical equipment. 17 Eritrean families (64 individuals) expressed a desire to seek asylum. In Djibouti-ville 20 cases out of the backlog of approximately 200 cases have been adjudicated for refugee status (mainly Ethiopians and 3 Southern Sudanese families). UNHCR transferred 3 Somali families from Obock to the Ali Adeh refugee camp in Djibouti.</p> <p>Four Eritreans were detained in Obock by local police for two weeks and registered by ONARS. They reportedly did not enter Djibouti in the usual way (surrendering as deserters to border guards at Molhole) and were therefore transferred to a police station in Djibouti-ville rather than to the Gendarmerie. With UNHCR intervention they were released and brought to Loya Ade on 29/04/2012 where they were transferred to the camp, <i>exceptionally</i>, as asylum seekers pending Refugee Status Determination.</p> <p>ICRC is to launch an initiative in Obock to provide a free call centre available to migrants and refugees expressing a sincere interest in returning to their countries of origin.</p> <p>A <u>report</u> commissioned and funded by the Oromia Support Group and Oromo Relief Association documents the alleged human rights abuses, <i>refoulement</i> and insecurity faced by Ethiopian migrants/ and refugees mostly of Oromo ethnicity as they seek asylum in Djibouti. The report allegedly argues that a majority of Ethiopians of Oromo ethnicity flee out of a genuine fear of persecution by the Ethiopian Government (EPRDF) which has branded the Oromo Liberation Front a 'terrorist' organization.</p>
<p>Eritrea/ Sudan/ South Sudan</p>	<p>New information:</p> <p>UNHCR held a meeting in Nairobi to develop an action plan in response to the well-documented cases of <u>kidnapping and extortion of refugees and asylum seekers</u> (mainly Eritrean) in the Sinai, Egypt (some 'snatched' in eastern Sudan). The perpetrators, who are mainly the Bedouin tribes including the Rashaida in Sudan, subject these asylum seekers, refugees and irregular migrants to physical and sexual abuse in order to extort a ransom.</p> <p>Eritrea & Southern Sudan: Following the <u>announcement</u> that all South Sudanese asylum seekers had to repatriate by the end of March 2012, Israel declared that it is constructing a '<u>holding complex</u>' that will accommodate 11,000</p>

	<p>asylum seekers and migrants when complete. This complex is located near the Israel-Egypt border through which mainly Southern Sudanese, Eritrean and Somali migrants cross over into Israel and its aim is to deter economic migration. This complex will be the largest of its kind when completed. Israel passed a controversial bill categorizing anyone attempting to enter the country through its southern border as an "infiltrator" who can be detained for three years – longer if they are from a "hostile state" such as Sudan. Of the 13,683 people who entered Israel illegally in 2010, 62% were Eritreans and 33% were Sudanese.</p> <p>The fighting between South Sudan and Sudan continued in April, resulting in thousands becoming displaced.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>An estimated 7,449 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in April 2012. Last April (2011) 5,459 Ethiopians crossed to Yemen suggesting a 36% rise. Although this is lowest figure in 2012, it is the highest for the month of April since 2006, indicative of the trend over the years that the number of Ethiopians migrating to Yemen is on the increase.</p> <p>Origination of new arrivals: Over the reporting months, the Oromos have almost always formed the majority of the new arrivals. In April they accounted for 44% of the new arrivals and those from the Tigray ethnicity constituted 31%. In a new trend observed, those from the Tigray ethnicity continued to rise, this month by 5% as compared to March 2012.</p> <p>Dollo Ado: In total, Ethiopia hosts approximately 194,597 Somali refugees as at the end of April. An estimated 150,906 are hosted at the Dollo Ado camps and transit centre, accounting for 77.5% which is consistent with last month. The Ethiopian refugee authorities (ARRA) and UNHCR estimate that currently there an average of 80 Somalis cross into Ethiopia every day claiming asylum.</p> <p>At the end of the reporting period, Ethiopia also hosted some 60,311 Sudanese refugees which accounted for 18.96% of their total refugee population. Some 3,000 Sudanese refugees were newly registered in Beneshangul Gumuz region in April, an increase of 3.5 times over registrations in March. New arrivals were reported from Sudan's Blue Nile State, and individuals previously staying with host communities in border areas also continued to request refugee status and transfer to the camps (OCHA).</p> <p>There were 59,412 Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia at the end of the reporting period which accounts for a significant 18.67% of the total refugee population in Ethiopia.</p> <p>AVR: To date IOM has helped over 7,000 Ethiopian migrants to return home from Haradh in north Yemen, less than 10 percent of the estimated 82,000 migrants who entered Yemen over the past 18 months.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>According to UNHCR, as of end April there are an estimated 523,856 Somali registered refugees hosted in Kenya. This is an increase of 0.34 % from last month but a 0.66% decrease as compared to March 2012. Most of this increase in Somalis registered (in April) took place in Nairobi or Kakuma refugee camp.</p> <p>Kakuma: Some 3,708 individuals have arrived in Kakuma in April. At the end of March the total camp population was an estimated 94,848 of which South Sudanese and Sudanese continue to comprise one third and Somalis half the total.</p> <p>Dadaab: As previously reported, registration in Dadaab is still on hold. However, there have been reports of new arrival Somalis who have been sustained by the already existing registered Somali refugee population.</p> <p>The Kenyan media continues to carry reports of high ranking government officials including the president who are calling for the repatriation of Somalis to areas in South-Central Somalis that have been "liberated by the TGF/AMISOM/ KDF troops", claiming that Kenya cannot deal with the refugee burden. However, an article based on a study commissioned by the Kenyan, Danish and Norwegian government (2010) on Dadaab suggests that the the annual turnover of refugee-run, camp-based businesses in Dadaab is around \$25m and should the camp complex be counted as a city, it would rank as the third largest in Kenya. Hence, according to the report Kenya</p>

	<p>should view Dadaab as an asset instead of a burden.</p> <p>Human Rights Watch released a <u>report</u> alleging that the Kenyan security forces have committed human rights abuses against the Somali refugees and Kenyan citizens of Somali ethnicity in the north-eastern region of Kenya. The report claims that this was in response to the attacks that have been carried out in the Kenya allegedly by the Al-Shabaab who protest the Kenyan military intervention in S-C Somalia to in attempt to oust the militia group. To date no action has been taken by the Kenyan government to investigate or prosecute members of the security forces.</p> <p>Trafficking: As previously reported, <u>the Kenyan media published several reports</u> and accounts of Kenyans being (effectively) trafficked to Gulf States with the promise of well-paying jobs (mostly domestic). However, once they arrive, they are subjected to cruel and degrading treatment, long working hours and a salary much less than promised.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen: In the reporting period, 2,318 new arrivals landed on the Arabian Sea coast as compared to the 959 in the same month of 2010.4% of all Somali new arrivals in Yemen in April crossed into Yemen from Puntland.</p> <p>Somali new arrivals in Yemen continued to report that the Puntland authority was still detaining and interrogate migrants from S-C Somalia on suspicion of Al-Shabaab links in April.</p> <p>Trafficking: 2 cases of 8 children and 9 children (all Somali) were identified. One individual has been arrested in connection to this. In both cases the children were returned to their families and care givers in S-C Somalia. Further IOM provided AVR to 3 Ethiopians in April.</p> <p>Reports of the Puntland authorities detaining and deporting undocumented Ethiopian migrants continued during April. Justifying its decision to deport, the authorities have reportedly indicated that they do not have the facilities to detain these migrants indefinitely. IOM is to develop Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs), to guide in such situations and create a referral mechanism.</p> <p>IDPs: There are 142,600 IDPs in Puntland according to UNHCR.</p>
<p>Somalia (S-C)</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>In April 2012, 2,318 Somali migrants arrived on Yemen's shores. They represented 23% of the total new arrivals in April. However, as compared to April 2011, this figure represent a 48% increase in those who made the crossing. 84% of Somali new arrivals in Yemen in April were from S-C Somalia.</p> <p>The majority of Somali new arrivals in March originated from South – Central Somalia and as in the past months cited insecurity (17%) and forced recruitment by the Al-Shabaab as their reason for flight. 36% cited economic reasons stating that due to the tight checkpoints maintained by both the government and Al-Shabaab, movement has been restricted and has impacted on livelihoods. However, this percentage citing economic reason is a 6% drop as compared to last month.</p> <p>Many from S-C Somalia, in particular the youth, stated that they are still stopped and interrogated at checkpoints mounted in Mogadishu, Afgoye, Middle Shabelle and Hiraan on suspicion of having Al-Shabaab links. Other travelling through Al-shabaab held territory had to provide justifications for their travel. Failure to do so resulted in detention.</p> <p>IDPs: There are an estimated 1,129,000 IDPs in S-C Somalia according to UNHCR.33,000 people were displaced in April which is an 11% drop from March 2012. Approximately 14,000 of these moved from Afgoye to Mogadishu as a result of the on-going fighting between the Al-Shabaab and the AMISOM/TGF troops, a 16% increase from March 2012.5,300 IDPs returned to their homes in April, almost double than last month.</p>

	<p>Kenyan forces in Somalia/AMISOM: The combined Kenyan forces/AMISOM and TGF troops continued to pursue the Al-Shabaab in the Afgoye region which led to mass displacement from the area (see above).</p> <p><i>This document does not seek to extensively detail conditions and event in Somalia (including displacements) as the subject is dealt with in great detail by various dedicated agencies.</i></p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>New Arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland: New arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland constituted 12% of all Somali new arrivals in April. This represents a 9% rise as compared to March 2012. Some of new arrivals (in Yemen) originated from Burco, Borama and Hargeisa regions of Somaliland.</p> <p>New arrivals from Somaliland mainly cited lack of livelihood opportunities as their reason for flight to Yemen as opposed to insecurity which more frequently cited in the past two months and mainly attributed to the conflict between the authorities and clans loyal to the Khatumo state in the Togdheer region.</p> <p>Ministry of Interior and UNHCR verification/registration: So far 967 families consisting of 3,288 individuals have been registered in Hargesia. In last weeks of April, the number of asylum seekers reporting for registration dropped. This has been attributed to the fact that most live and work in the outskirts of Hargesia and this may be affecting their ability to show up for scheduled appointments.</p> <p>Trafficking: In the last week of April, 2 Ethiopian adults and 9 Ethiopian children (aged between 1 -6 yrs) were apprehended by the Somaliland authorities in Berbera. It is suspected that this is a case of child trafficking and the authorities as well as local and international agencies (through the Somaliland Mixed Migration Task Force) are investigating the matter. Initial questioning revealed that the names of the children and adults had been misrepresented and the adults confessed to not being the biological parents of the children in contradiction to the earlier statements. The adults are being held in custody and the children have been temporarily housed at the Hargesia orphanage centre.</p> <p>A <u>report</u> commissioned and funded by the Oromia Support Group and Oromo Relief Association, details the alleged human rights abuses that Ethiopians (mostly of Oromo ethnicity) face both in Ethiopia and Hargesia, Somaliland. The report argues that the factors propelling Ethiopians to leave their country are complex and hence should not be limited to the simplistic labeling of the majority of refugees as economic migrants.</p> <p>Previously reported/context: In early September 2011 <u>the government of Somaliland announced that the '80,000' unregistered foreigners in Somaliland had one month to leave.</u> In October a further statement was made by a government minister increasing the hostile and unwelcome environment for Ethiopians in Somaliland. Aid agencies estimate the real number affected may be closer to 20,000.</p>
<p>Yemen</p> <p>New data from the Yemen MMTF</p>	<p>New Information:</p> <p>New arrivals: The total number of new arrivals recorded from the MMTF Yemen in April was 9,767 individuals.. 6,884 of April's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 2,883 crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). In April 2011 the estimated arrivals was 7,030 indicating a 39 % rise against the total new arrivals of the same month last year.</p> <p>Proportions: 76% of the new arrivals were non-Somalis and just 23% were Somalis. In the same reporting month one year earlier (April 2011) the proportion of Somalis was 22%.</p> <p>Red Sea Arrivals: The total number of new arrivals recorded at the Red Sea coast during the month of April was 6,884., This is 53 %higher than the figure in April 2011. During the reporting period, non Somalis (mostly Ethiopians) constituted 85 % while Somalis constituted 15%.</p> <p>Registration: Of the total arrivals in the month of April 2012, 98% of Somalis and 26% of non Somalis registered as refugees or as asylum seekers.</p> <p>Main Drivers/push factors: Lack of economic opportunities continues to be sighted as the one of the main reason</p>

for flight by Somali new arrivals. Insecurity remained constant at 17% as another main reason for movement. The majority of those citing insecurity were fleeing from S-C Somalia. Non-Somalis citing lack of economic opportunities rose from 46% (March 2012) to 63% in the reporting period. Insecurity rose 3% within the same group as compared to last month and were mainly of Oromo and Ogadeni ethnicity.

Origination: As seen in March 2012, although the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals who registered (and therefore interviewed) were Oromo, the percentage of those of Tigray ethnicity continued to increase by 5% from last month.

Insecurity in Yemen: Fighting and insecurity in Yemen continued unabated during April, particularly in the north between the Al-Houthi and Salafist supporters. While in the south fighting between the Ansar Al-Shari'a and government troops continued. The fighting between factions loyal to the former regime and the current regime has led to incidents where road blocks have been set up particularly on the road leading to Sana'a. This continues to result has resulted in the significant internal displacement (see below), limited humanitarian access and prevented return of IDPs.

As previously reported, a Swiss woman working with a local school who was kidnapped in Hudaydah is still being held captive. The total number of kidnapped expatriates/internationals still stands at 12 in 2012. The implication of the increased insecurity and specific kidnapping and IED threat targeting foreigners is having a direct impact of the activities and movement of those involved in working with migrants.

Boats & passengers: Over the reporting period the total number of boats arriving on the coast with migrants was 141 vessels; 41 crossing the Arabian sea and 100 crossing the Red Sea. This is a slight drop from the previous three months. The average number of passengers on each boat was 69 people per trip (not including smugglers/crew).

Protection risks faced by new arrivals over the reporting period: Reports of hostage taking and forced smuggling/trafficking, kidnapping and extortion continued, particularly of Ethiopians new arrivals. Female new arrivals report of being sexually harassed and assaulted by Djiboutian brokers in Djibouti and on the 4-7 hour boat journey from Obock to Yemen (21 incidents reported). One Ethiopian was shot while resisting to be forcefully taken by smugglers. His condition is unknown. On the 5th of April, smugglers stopped their boat and forced 3 Somalis who could not afford to pay for their onward journey to Saudi Arabia to disembark on an island in Yemeni territorial waters. They were picked up by the smugglers on their return journey and taken back to Djibouti where they engaged another smuggler to bring them to Yemen.

Deaths at Sea: There were no reported deaths at sea with respect to the sea crossing to Yemen in April.

Somalis in Yemen: 10 dead bodies of Somali youths were found in Abyan, South Yemen (the cause is not known). There are also reports that another number of young Somalis are being held in local tribal prisons allegedly on grounds that they are affiliated to Al-Qaeda. Such incidents have not been reported before. Another report indicates a return of former Mogadishu civilians from Yemen but the numbers or reasons are not known.

Trafficking: As previously reported, in February 2012 the Yemeni authorities raided a smuggling/trafficking ring and rescued some 70 migrants, mainly Ethiopians and some Somalis who had been tortured and held in cruel and degrading conditions. IOM conducted an awareness campaign with local journalist in Yemen on smuggling/trafficking of migrants and have also been involved in advocacy to encourage the government to take action against kidnapping / extortion gangs in Haradh.

IDPs: The previously reported joint DRC, UNHCR and WFP exercise to ascertain an accurate number of IDPs is still on-going and at the current time no figure is available. However, according to UNHCR, approximately 52,000 people have been displaced between January – March 2012, while 1,800 have been displaced in the first two weeks of March in the Abyan governorate in the south. UNHCR estimated in March 2012 that approximately 500,000 individuals are IDPs in Yemen. The counting of IDPs in Yemen has come under some political pressure due to the associated interests of different groups in presenting high or low numbers.

Detained Ethiopians: As previously reported, the international community has still not given access to the Ethiopians who were detained by the Dubab governorate security authorities upon arrival in Yemen on the 11th of February. Nor is it known if they have been transferred to the Taiz prison as earlier stated by the authorities who arrested the Ethiopians on grounds that they were illegal migrants.

Ethiopians stranded in North Yemen: As previously reported there are some thousands of Ethiopian migrants

remain stranded in North Yemen around the city of Haradh– close to the border with Saudi Arabia. IOM stated that the number of stranded migrants in dire conditions and in and around the town could be in excess of 12,000. IOM last repatriated approximately 277 in March. In April 1,687 of these migrants registered with IOM for AVR but none were repatriated due to lack of funding. The IOM Migrant Response Centre, which was set up in 2010 to house 150 vulnerable migrants, now houses over 300 of these stranded migrants.

DRC/RMMS joint research project in Yemen on Ethiopian migrants: The consultant has been deployed to Yemen and a team of 6 local team members mobilized and trained. This is a risk and protection analysis of Ethiopians in Yemen. Over 230,000 Ethiopians are known to have entered Yemen in the last 6 years but little is known of their movement and activities after arrival. The report should be available in July 2012.

Extension of coastal monitoring network along the Red sea: As previously reported, DRC and UNHCR are discussing a new initiative to extend coastal monitoring network so that more of the Red Sea coast is covered and more comprehensive data can be captured. No developments reported. The current security issue make expansion of new programmes problematic.

Caveat: *Despite the network of local partners collecting data along parts of the Arabian and Red Sea coasts it cannot be assumed that this data captures all new arrivals. Particularly, there may be those that arrive along the northern stretches of the Red Sea coast, beyond the data networks. Consequently the actual numbers of new arrivals in Yemen may be higher. Yemen Red Crescent and the Danish Refugee Council are planning to extend the patrol area further north along the Red Sea coast.*

This information sheet is distributed to over 520 agencies, academic institutions, donors, embassies, journalists, government officials / departments, international and multi-national organisations and related non-government organisations.