



## The Mixed Migration Centre in 2023

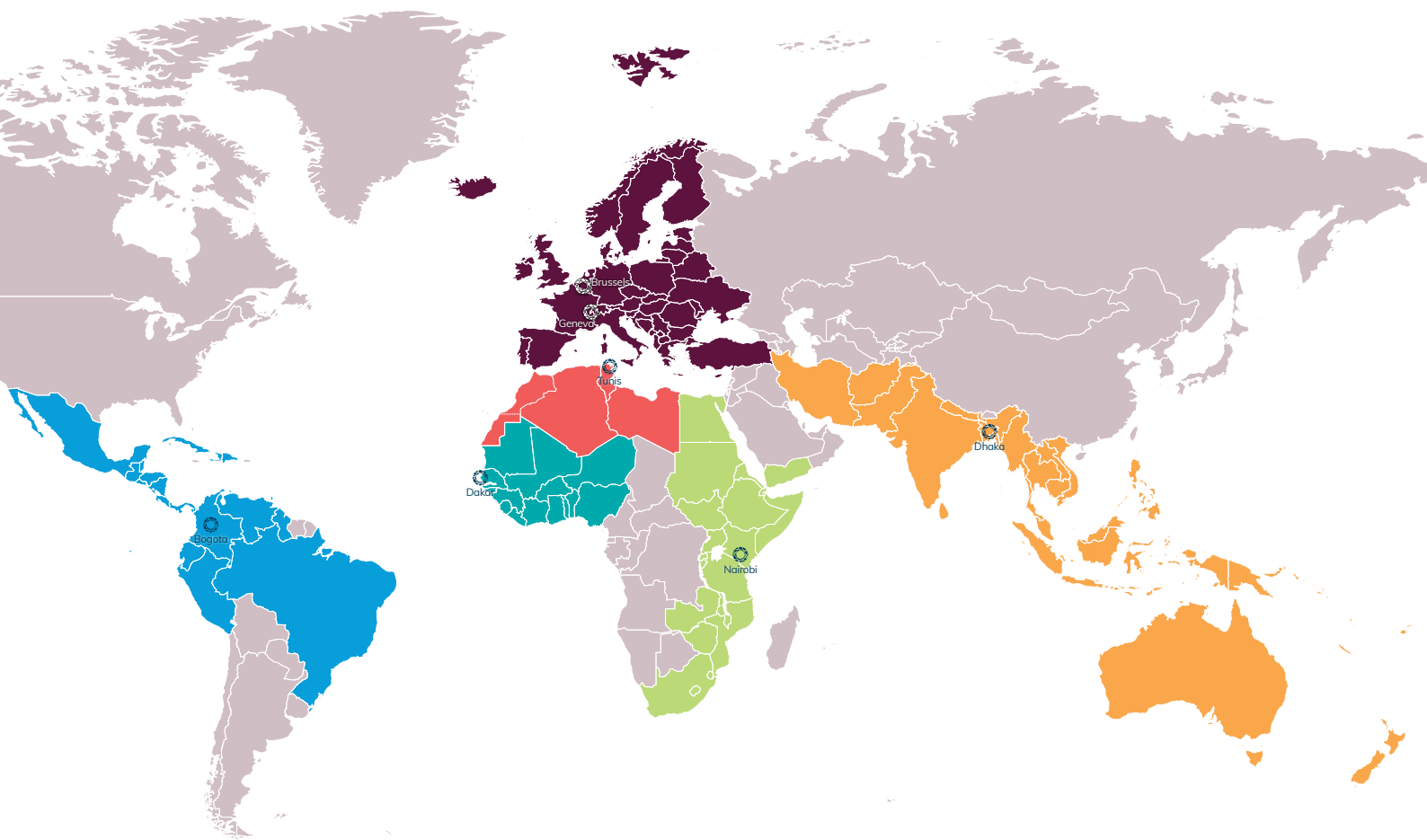
Annual catalogue of research  
& publications

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MMC's work in 2023 was made possible through the generous support and close cooperation with various partners, including: Columbia University, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, German Humanitarian Assistance, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Horizon Europe, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Maghreb Action on Displacement and Rights (MADAR), Meta, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), Robert Bosch Stiftung, Save the Children, Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the University of Edinburgh, United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the World Bank.





For a detailed introduction to the work of MMC, including our mission, vision, objectives, key achievements, partner testimonials and much more, refer to our brochure '[Evidence and Insights on Mixed Migration](#)' and to our [Strategy 2025](#). For a detailed introduction to our 4Mi data collection programme, [click here](#).

**This annual catalogue offers a compilation of publications and contributions to media articles by the Mixed Migration Centre in 2023.**

MMC is a global network engaged in data collection, research, analysis, and policy and programmatic development on mixed migration, with regional hubs in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Latin America, and a global team based across Copenhagen, Geneva and Brussels.

MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, research, analysis and expertise. MMC aims to increase understanding of mixed migration, to positively impact global and regional migration policies, to inform

evidence-based mixed migration responses for people on the move and to stimulate forward thinking in public and policy debates on mixed migration. MMC's overarching focus is on human rights and protection for all people on the move.

MMC is part of the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). While its institutional link to DRC ensures MMC's work is grounded in operational reality, it acts as an independent source of data, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration for policy makers, practitioners, journalists, and the broader humanitarian sector.

**For more information visit:** [www.mixedmigration.org](http://www.mixedmigration.org) and follow us at [@Mixed\\_Migration](https://twitter.com/Mixed_Migration)



# Foreword

The Mixed Migration Centre started 2023 by marking its 5-year anniversary, and the publication of a [snapshot](#) listing key achievements and highlights and testimonials reflecting on our work by some of our partners. While proud of our achievements and convinced of our modest, yet important, contribution to improving migration policies and responses for migrants around the world, it was a cautious celebration. The unacceptable violence so many migrants continue to face on mixed migration routes globally, the severe protection gaps, the hardening public debate on migration, the rise of outright anti-migration and anti-foreigner movements on the political scene in many countries and the lack of progress towards a more comprehensive, rational and humane governance of migration, means there is no time, nor reason, for celebration. There is instead a continued urgent need for high-quality and balanced evidence to inform better migration knowledge, policy and programming, as well as a need to double-down on our efforts to ensure uptake of evidence in policy circles.

In 2023, new conflicts have erupted, such as in [Sudan](#) and Gaza, inequalities have deepened and the need for migrant labour has increased in many Western countries, all affecting local, regional and global migration and displacement dynamics. The [military coup in Niger](#), the increasing [departures from Tunisia](#), the limited uptake of actual evidence in the EU's persistent narrative and approach on [migrant smuggling](#), to name just a few examples, all signal a persistent lack of progress, or sometimes simply failures, in addressing the challenges of mixed migration. All over the world, we continue to witness [ever-more extreme actions and policies](#) towards migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, such as secret deportations on ferries, deliberately delayed rescue at sea leading to loss of life, and illegal pushbacks.

In one particularly grim and extreme case, migrants did not die as an indirect result of state policy, but were deliberately killed by the state. In July, MMC launched the most [shocking research](#) the organisation ever worked on, highlighting the deliberate and targeted killing – through mortar attacks and snipers – of almost 1,000 Ethiopian migrants in 2022 and 2023 at the Saudi Arabia–Yemen border by security officials operating under Saudi Arabian state authority. For years now, through the annual 'Normalising the Extreme' section of our Mixed Migration Review, MMC has been warning of the ever-more extreme approaches to stop migrants, but never before did we have to include such a case of widespread, state-led lethal and direct violence against migrants. Has Saudi Arabia now reached an all-time low in what looks like a shameful global race to the bottom? Where do we go from here?

We, therefore, strongly believe that our mission remains as relevant as ever. In the past year this has been reflected by our growth. In 2023, with over 40 full-time employees, we have had more staff than ever before. MMC's growing influence has also been reflected by more than doubling our media engagement compared to previous years, in addition to countless articles citing MMC's research.

In 2023, we [published](#) 24 reports and papers, 23 snapshots, 16 website articles and 18 Quarterly Mixed Migration Updates. Our flagship data collection programme [4Mi](#) remains the world's largest globally comparable data collection system on migration: in 2023, we interviewed 18,000 refugees and migrants on the move, bringing the total up to over 120,000 since we started, with new operations in countries as diverse as Burundi, Honduras, India, Poland, Senegal, South Sudan, and Thailand. But beyond the numbers, more importantly, we continue to invest in new methodologies and focus areas within our data collection and research, to ensure a deeper and more granular understanding of mixed migration dynamics on the ground. For example, through new survey modules on decision-making and onward movement, on livelihoods, on use of social media, with people who identify as LGBTQI+, and by further developing and implementing our 4Mi longitudinal methodology through which we conduct remote follow-up interviews with migrants while they are on the move. This past year, we also invested in further behind-the-scenes organisational development, through an external formative review of MMC, the development of a new Theory of Change, and the development of a new global monitoring, evaluation and learning framework, to better define and track MMC's influence on policy and programming.

MMC's experts have continued to present and, importantly, explain, the latest migration trends and dynamics and share our thinking and ideas through a wide range of global and regional events, ranging from larger conferences to small, closed-door discussions with policy makers. Through our engagement in migration dialogues such as the Khartoum and Rabat Processes, our role as penholder for the Global Forum on Migration and Development [background paper](#) on rights and migration, and [public interviews](#) addressing [migration myths](#) and migration [policy solutions](#), we indeed, as mentioned above, double-down in our efforts to ensure that actual evidence makes it into policy development.



As every year, the publication of our annual flagship report the [Mixed Migration Review \(MMR\)](#), has been a highlight. Most migration takes place within rather than between countries and regions, and certainly not from the Majority World to the Minority World, despite common misconceptions among part of the general public and in some media coverage. Accordingly, the 2023 MMR, while, as always, global in its coverage, offers a deliberately regional focus. We strongly believe this is crucial to avoid the disproportionate focus on south-north (irregular) migration in political and media debates, and to ensure our analysis reflects actual migration dynamics on the ground.

This is also why MMC continues to have its teams based within various regions and to focus on a wide range of regional mixed migration dynamics. In the **Americas**, MMC developed a new alliance with UNICEF in Honduras, focusing on [children on the move](#). We also conducted an in-depth exploration of the role of [social media](#) in information access and decision-making for migrating populations, to contribute to better communication strategies around safer migration for refugees and migrants, closely working with partners in the region.

In **Asia**, movements of [Afghans and the changing dynamics](#) after the Taliban take-over in 2021 continue to be an important focus area – not least through 4Mi interviews with Afghans in Türkiye, Pakistan and India. At the same time, more than in previous years our focus has been on movements within South East Asia. In 2023, in collaboration with the UNODC Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants, we interviewed nearly 4,000 migrants and refugees in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand to gain a better understanding of smuggling dynamics in the region. We also continued to collect data and research on Rohingya refugee movements under the 'Protecting Refugees in Asia' (PRiA) project to address the protection risks and needs of refugees in Asia, with a particular focus on India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

In **North Africa**, a new line of work was developed in Tunisia on social cohesion and the linkages with both immigration and emigration, using a unique participatory approach, while in **West Africa** we continued to focus strongly on smuggling dynamics in the Sahel, through [rapid analysis](#) on the anti-smuggling law in Niger (which was repealed by the military leadership that took control of the country after the coup), cooperation with OHCHR on [human rights in the context of smuggling](#) and cooperation with UNODC's [Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment \(TOCTA\)](#), including MMC's unique data from interviews with smugglers themselves.

MMC's footprint in **Europe** has been growing rapidly, contributing to a better understanding of mixed migration trends and dynamics within Europe, for example through two studies on migration dynamics in the [Western Balkans](#) and in [France and Belgium](#) and ongoing cooperation with UNODC on vulnerability to trafficking and exploitation of Ukrainian refugees. At the end of 2023, MMC Europe has ongoing research and data collection activities in five European countries (Poland, Switzerland, Germany, Italy and Spain) and will soon be starting up in two more (France and Belgium), with a team of six full-time staff.

Ending the tour of regions, in **Eastern and Southern Africa**, we developed and implemented new [qualitative research](#) in Ethiopia and Somalia to research the impacts of climate change and environmental factors on short-term internal movements, following the prolonged drought which ended earlier in 2023, and linking these to longer cross-border migration. Meanwhile, we continued to monitor and analyse the wider mixed migration consequences of the ongoing conflict in Sudan with 2 published articles (see [Round 1](#) and [Round 2](#)) and maintained and expanded our 4Mi data collection in Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya (along the Eastern Route), Sudan (along the Central Mediterranean or 'Northern' Route), and Ethiopia and Kenya (covering multiple routes). Particular focus areas in 2023 were returns (including data collection in Burundi), and children and youth on the move. The latter has been an expanding area of work, with MMC providing evidence to programmatic responses to children on the move as part of consortia in East, West and North Africa, a close collaboration in UNHCR in North Africa, a cooperation with UNICEF in Honduras, our membership of the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move and the development of new methodologies to reach children, which all formed the basis for the publication of a paper with [key messages on children and youth in mixed migration](#).

Looking ahead to 2024, we will publish a joint report with UNHCR and IOM on migration routes through Africa heading north, utilizing the full 4Mi data set from the previous years, as a new iteration of a [2020 joint UNCHR-MMC report](#). We will continue to expand our work on [climate mobility](#), through new projects in the Middle East and West Africa and will further develop our work on cities, on migrant smuggling – a phenomenon that remains so central to mixed migration – and other thematic areas such as returns – following up on new projects in 2023 on return and reintegration in Ethiopia, Burundi and Senegal.

Most of all, we are as committed as ever to continue to provide credible evidence on mixed migration, to provide new ideas to address migration challenges and make the most of the opportunities and contribute to improved migration policies and programming, while always placing human rights and the voices of people on the move at the centre.

On behalf of the entire MMC team,



**Bram Frouws**

Director of the Mixed Migration  
Centre

# Mixed Migration Review 2022



## **Mixed Migration Review 2023**

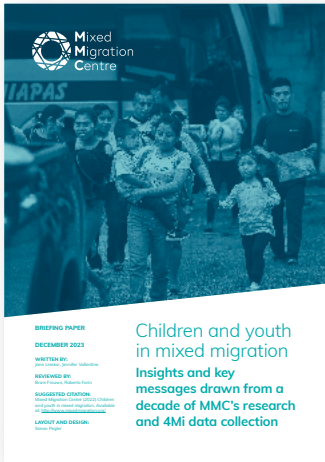
While presenting a wide-ranging global review keeping track of all mixed migration events and policy developments over the year, this Mixed Migration Review 2023 offers a deliberately regional focus, mainly through interviews with critical regional thinkers and practitioners in the sector, essays and snapshots spotlighting regional questions and in-depth and personal migrant stories.

Essays are offering a space for different voices and opinions as the only way to advance migration debates and policy. This year's essays dive deep into regional concerns of refugee reception and integration in South America; prospects for a continent-wide freedom to move in Africa; the impact of new immigration laws in the United States; Bangladesh' mixed migration landscape; Lebanon's crisis within a crisis and the mixed migration of Syrian refugees and an increasing number of Lebanese leaving the country, as well as examining whether the case of the Ukrainian refugee response offers a model for success or also reveals failures of the broader international refugee regime. Elsewhere the role of migration in North Africa's foreign policy and

diplomatic relationship with the EU is explored, and the extent to which Nordic countries are breaking with their past and becoming less welcoming to refugees and migrants. As always, the report also documents the best and worst behaviour by authorities in relation to mixed migration in the annual "Resisting and Normalising the Extreme" features.

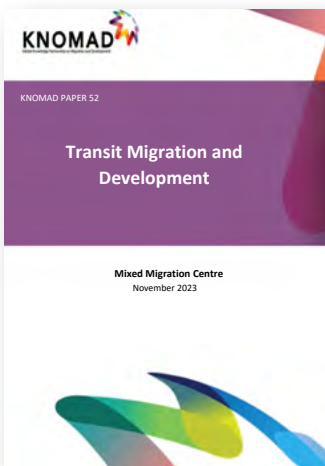
Throughout this review, selected themes, writers and interviewees speak from their regional perspectives and as voices from the majority world – including refugee and migrant countries of origins. As always this includes the five young writers who won this year's essay competition.

# Research reports and papers



## **Children and youth in mixed migration - Insights and key messages drawn from a decade of MMC's research and 4Mi data collection**

This paper on “children and youth in mixed migration” summarizes MMC’s key messages on the topic, with an aim to provoke thoughts on how to address information gaps and take into account the specific dynamics, needs and vulnerabilities of children and youth travelling on mixed migration routes.



## **Transit Migration and Development**

Transit migration tends to be risky and usually involves an irregular and unsafe route for at least part of the migrant's journey. Despite many challenges, transit migration can also generate positive spillover effects on the local economy, creating jobs and income opportunities. This paper analyses the political, economic and social impacts, as well as pressures faced by these municipalities and communities and provides policy recommendations to help national and local governments address the development challenges associated with transit migration. The paper was produced and funded by [KNOMAD's](#) Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Special Issues.



## **Digital lifelines - The use of social media networks among Venezuelan refugees and migrants heading north**

This paper explores the use of social media by Venezuelans as they head north through the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region. It details survey respondents' profiles, their preferred social media and messaging platforms, the reasons they communicate through these networks, and the connectivity challenges they face in accessing them. It also explores respondents' most trusted sources of information, the persistence of information gaps and the risks associated with the presence of smugglers in digital spaces.

Available in Spanish [here](#).



## **Migration experiences of children on the move through Honduras**

This paper explores the migration experiences of children and caregivers on the move in Honduras. The research project was developed by MMC, the [Centro de Desarrollo Humano](#) (CDH), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) [Honduras](#) to gather evidence regarding children on the move throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The study contains an analysis and findings on children’s and caregivers’ travel conditions and impacts, perceived and experienced security risks during the journey, and humanitarian needs identified by caregivers surveyed in Honduras through the 4Mi project.

Available in Spanish [here](#).



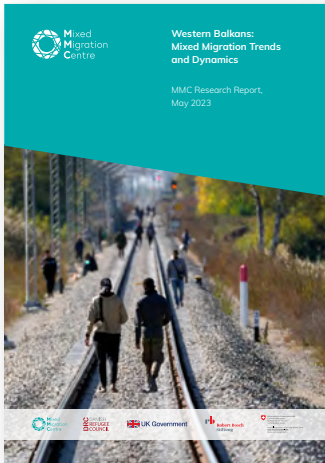
## **“We left after losing everything” The impact of drought on climate-related displacement in Ethiopia and Somalia**

This research report focuses on the experiences of drought-affected Ethiopians and Somalis who have moved internally within the borders of their country of origin. It examines their profiles, drivers and triggers of movement, access to assistance and considerations around return or onward movement. This report aims to contribute to Strategic Objective 4 of the [Migrant Response Plan \(MRP\) for the Horn of Africa](#) 2021-2024: building evidence, partnerships, and coordination to enhance the humanitarian response and migration management throughout the migration route.



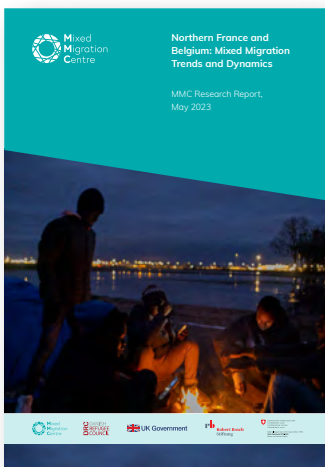
## **Türkiye-Syria earthquake’s impact - on Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi and Somali migrants and refugees in Türkiye**

On 6 February 2023, two earthquakes hit Türkiye, displacing 3.3 million people from the southern and central regions. While Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Gaziantep and Malatya provinces were most severely affected, and Adana, Diyarbakir, Elazığ, Kilis, Osmaniye, and Sanliurfa were also directly impacted, the effects reached across the country. This paper explores its effects on the needs and migration decision-making of Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi and Somali migrants and refugees interviewed by MMC through the 4Mi programme in Türkiye.



## Western Balkans – Mixed Migration Trends and Dynamics

This study examines the irregular movement of refugees and migrants on the Western Balkan route towards the European Union, with a focus on nationals from Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan. It provides detailed insights into intra-Western Balkans migration trends, the latest developments in smuggling dynamics, and the serious risks that vulnerable groups continue to face.



## Northern France and Belgium – Mixed Migration Trends and Dynamics

This report presents the findings of a study into mixed migration dynamics in northern France and Belgium, including considerations regarding onward movement to the UK. Through a literature review and interviews in four locations in Belgium and northern France, it provides detailed insights into the interactions between policy and route dynamics and decision-making, current conditions in Belgium and northern France, and the serious risks faced by refugees and migrants in the region.



## Use of social media among Nigerian refugees and migrants - on mixed migration routes: risk or protection factor?

This paper set out to explore experiences of abuse or exploitation among Nigerians during their migration journey, and how use of social media relates to a sense of increased risk or protection. In doing so it examines factors of gender, preferred destination and particularly smuggler use.





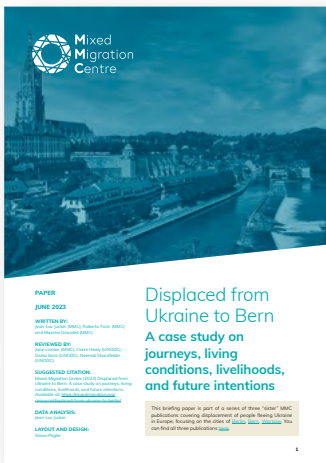
## **Mind the information gap Access to information and assistance of Ethiopian returnees throughout their migration journey**

This study seeks to understand Ethiopian returnees' access to information during the different phases of their migration and return journeys: before their migration abroad, before their return journey to Ethiopia, and after their return. Studies have shown the extreme risks and abuses that Ethiopian migrants face while on outward migration journeys, which contribute to the traumas and challenges Ethiopians face upon return. The study examines how their access to information connects with their migration and return expectations and their access to assistance, as well as how information and assistance access may vary depending on returnees' profiles and migration experience.



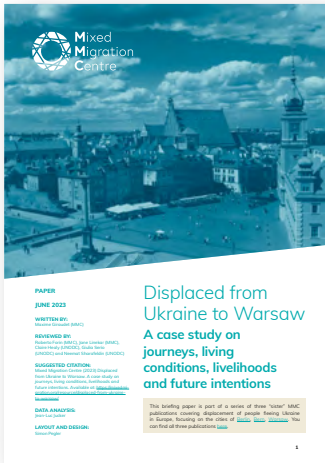
## **Promoting Regional Responses to Rohingya Displacement in Southeast Asia**

This discussion paper examines how humanitarian actors can strategically promote regional responses via global fora and regional institutions—namely the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Process)—and in new or under-developed initiatives. It draws on the expertise of humanitarian actors, advocates and researchers to distil lessons from past efforts to promote regional responses and to suggest recommendations for actions that could be taken both within existing frameworks and towards new policy initiatives.



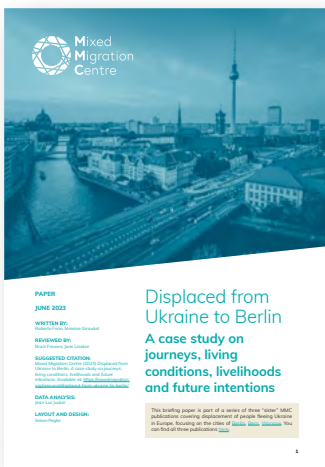
## **Displaced from Ukraine to Bern - A case study on journeys, living conditions, livelihoods and future intentions**

This paper explores new data collected by MMC on the profiles of people from Ukraine currently in Bern, their journey from Ukraine, drivers and aspirations, potential discrimination in the city, assistance and needs, livelihoods and income, and long-term migration intentions.



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## **Rohingya in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand - Refugee protection, human smuggling and trafficking**

This paper highlights the key findings from the Research Report, "[Refugee Protection, Human Smuggling, and Trafficking in Bangladesh and Southeast Asia](#)". The research aims to assess the risks and needs of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and Southeast Asia across three thematic domains, with a particular focus on the national contexts of Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.





## **Understanding the current and potential contribution of Rohingya refugees to the Malaysian economy**

This report is the outcome of participatory research conducted through collaboration between Rohingya-led community-based organisations (CBOs) and partners of the [Protecting Rohingya Refugees in Asia \(PRRiA\)](#) project. This study seeks to contribute to a better understanding of Rohingya refugees' existing livelihood strategies and challenges in Malaysia. The research focuses on relevant employment profiles and challenges Rohingya refugees face, as well as their potential to contribute to the Malaysian economy to an even greater extent should their legal status and access to the labour market be formalised.

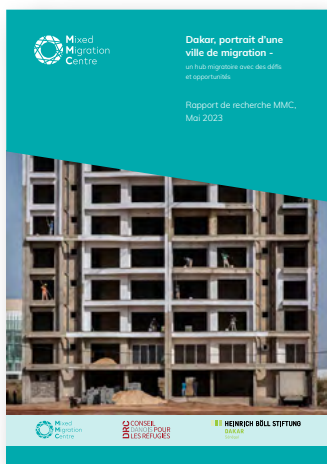
Available in Malay [here](#).



## **Impact of Prolonged Immigration Detention on Rohingya Families and Communities in Malaysia**

This research focuses on how Rohingya families and communities have been impacted in the immediate and longer term by Malaysia's harsh and indefinite immigration detention policies. It also provides strategic and relevant recommendations for increasing access to protection and services for Rohingya refugees in Malaysia, not least the need for Alternatives To Detention (ATD) and a refugee-survivor-centred approach in policies and responses at both national and regional levels, in line with international protection and human rights standards.

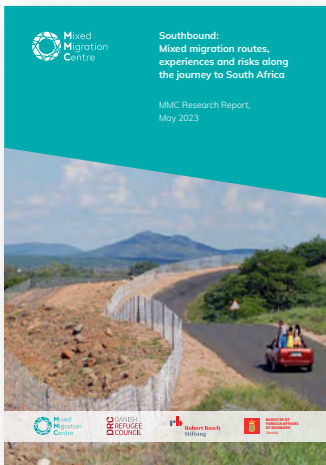
Available in Malay [here](#).



## **Dakar, portrait d'une ville de migration un hub migratoire avec des défis et opportunités**

The Mixed Migration Centre and the [Heinrich Böll Foundation](#) have partnered to develop a portrait of Dakar as a city of migration. The study aims to provide a qualitative understanding of the experiences of migrants residing in Dakar. Four themes in particular emerged: drivers of migration to Dakar, needs and access to services, risks and vulnerabilities, and assistance and support found. The findings are intended to inform the activities of policy makers and civil society in support of migrants and refugees in Dakar.

Please note that the report is only available in French.



## **Southbound - Mixed migration routes, experiences and risks along the journey to South Africa**

This report examines the key drivers and intentions, routes, and vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants travelling along the Southern Route, from East and the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes, and Southern Africa to South Africa. The study aims to increase the evidence base on the experiences of refugees and migrants travelling along the Southern Route for policy actors and those providing protection and assistance to people on the move.



## **Human rights in the context of smuggling - Perceptions and experiences of migrants in Mali and Niger**

The Central Sahel countries of Mali and Niger are migration crossroads, both in terms of intra-regional migration and for journeys to North Africa or towards Europe on the Western and Central Mediterranean Routes. This study - based on 4Mi data collected with migrants in Mali and Niger in 2021 - aimed at promoting a human rights-based response to smuggling of migrants and examines respondents' perceptions of their smuggler(s) and rationale for using them. It also looks at abuses and perpetrators cited by those who have used a smuggler; assistance and information needed en route; and perceived risks to children.



## **The Changing Dynamics of Afghan Migration after August 2021**

MMC Asia and the Pacific and the DRC Diaspora Programme commissioned this research to understand Afghan migration post-August 2021, identify demographics, risks, gaps in knowledge, regional responses, and concerns voiced by affected communities, and provide concrete and targeted recommendations for policy and program responses.

This report outlines factors that have shaped the motivations of Afghans to chart journeys out of Afghanistan, with a particular focus on the timeframe following the Taliban takeover in August 2021. The report also highlights risks that Afghans continue to face as they seek international protection or greater security.



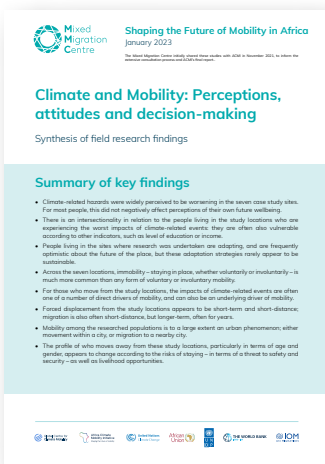
## Smuggling of migrants in the Sahel - Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment

This report is part of a [Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment \(TOCTA\)](#) on the Sahel, focusing on Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, with information on Chad and Mauritania also incorporated. It explores the smuggling of migrants in the Sahel by examining the supply and demand for smuggling services, the main routes and market dynamics, the roles and responsibilities of smugglers, and the enablers, including corruption, of migrant smuggling in the Sahel. The report concludes with several policy implications.



## Captive commodities: “This route is like a fire” - Commodification, exploitation and missingness of Ethiopian irregular migrants on the Eastern Route to Yemen and Saudi Arabia

This study focuses on the experiences of Ethiopian nationals, travelling east out of Ethiopia towards Saudi Arabia for labour employment. This so-called Eastern Route has been the major mixed migration route for Ethiopian irregular labour emigration for well over a decade.



## Climate and mobility case studies - Perceptions, attitudes and decision-making

The 2020 Africa Migration Report highlighted the need for “a new paradigm on African migration” and raising awareness of the link between climate change and forced mobility. The synthesis report and the individual case studies presented here - conducted in Nigeria, Angola, Uganda, Egypt, Malawi, Mozambique, and Senegal, under the Africa Climate Mobility Initiative, ACMI - aim to contribute to these ambitions and provide knowledge to support the Africa Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals, the priorities outlined by the Secretary-General for the 2019 Climate Action Summit and the proposed activities linked to climate change and migration by the African Union as part of the three-year implementation plan of action for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa.

# 4Mi snapshots

## Asia and the Pacific

**MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – December 2023**  
**Journeys of Pakistani migrants and refugees to Thailand**

This snapshot explores the journeys of Pakistani migrants and refugees to Thailand, focusing on the reasons for leaving Pakistan, the routes taken to arrive in Thailand, their use of smuggling services and exposure to protection incidents en route. The snapshot also explores respondents' access to assistance and needs upon arrival in Thailand.

**Key findings**

- While 70% respondents reported locations within Pakistan to be dangerous, very few protection incidents were reported en route to Thailand.
- Both women and men identified cash and access to resettlement among their top three needs in Thailand. Women also identified safe spaces for women and children, and other services en route.

**Profiles**

This snapshot draws on data from 182 data surveys collected between January and June 2023 among Pakistani migrants and refugees in Thailand, predominantly in Bangkok (52%). A majority of respondents were male (82%). In total, 20% were aged 18-24, 35% were aged 25-34, 28% were aged 35-44, 15% were aged 45-54, and 20% were aged 55 and over. 42% of respondents had completed secondary or high school prior to their journey to Thailand. More than half of respondents (52%) reported not having any income for a year prior to leaving Pakistan. In terms of employment status, a majority of respondents had sought employment protection in Thailand (40% were asylum seekers, 18% were refugees, and 12% had temporary protection status, while 12% had no protection status, and 14% had other forms of temporary residence.

**MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – September 2023**  
**Understanding information sources and gaps among Afghan, Chin and Rohingya refugees in Malaysia**

This snapshot examines access to information about routes, destinations, costs, and risks among Afghan, Chin, and Rohingya refugees in Malaysia. It presents insights on the sources of information and the means used to obtain information both before and during the journey to Malaysia, information gaps and the implications these gaps have on decision-making.

**Key findings**

- Approximately 52% of respondents obtained information about routes, destinations, costs, and risks prior to their journey, while only 10% obtained information during their journey.
- Personal social networks were the primary source of information before the journey, but this usage decreased during the journey.
- The role of smugglers as a source of information grew as destinations during the journey, with 10% of respondents relying on them for information compared to 21% prior to the journey. Transformation of smugglers to a reliable source of information suggested different emerging dynamics between groups.
- Informal networks were the most preferred means to obtain information before (62%) and during the journey (65%).
- Only 1% of respondents reported that they had accessed the necessary information, highlighting a **serious lack of access to information** among respondents.

**Profiles**

This snapshot is based on data collected from 1,413 surveys conducted between December 2022 and June 2023 among Rohingya (66%), Chin (12%), and Afghan (22%) respondents in Malaysia. The distribution of age and gender respondents was balanced overall but varied between groups (see Figure 1). Around two-thirds of respondents (66%) had a tertiary or higher education, with a majority aged 25 years for

**Figure 1. Profile of respondents**

	Rohingya	Chin	Afghan
Age			
18-24	15%	10%	10%
25-34	35%	20%	20%
35-44	32%	32%	28%
45-54	15%	15%	15%
55+	5%	18%	27%
Gender	62%	60%	60%
Male	79%	64%	61%
Female	21%	36%	39%
Education			
Did not complete any schooling	9%	1%	1%
Primary school	14%	14%	14%
Secondary or high school	36%	32%	32%
University degree	7%	27%	20%
Postgraduate training	3%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

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## Understanding information sources and gaps among Afghan, Chin and Rohingya refugees in Malaysia

This snapshot examines access to information about routes, destinations, costs, and risks among Afghan, Chin and Rohingya refugees in Malaysia. It presents insights into the sources of information and the means used to obtain information both before and during the journey to Malaysia, information gaps and the implications these gaps have on decision-making.

**MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – November 2023**  
**Use of smugglers on the journey to Thailand among Cambodians and Laotians**

This snapshot examines the use of smugglers among Cambodians and Laotians on their journey to Thailand to access employment opportunities, access to education, access to smuggling services, and protection incidents experienced en route, as well as the involvement of state officials in smuggling between Cambodia-Thailand and Lao PDR-Thailand.

**Key findings**

- Almost all Cambodian respondents (96%) and most Laotian respondents (84%) used smugglers to facilitate their journey to Thailand.
- Laotian respondents primarily migrated in pursuit of economic opportunities (89%). Economic reasons were also prominent among Cambodian respondents (72%) in addition to other factors such as lack of rights and freedoms (33%) and a culture of corruption (24%).
- Smuggling practices vary significantly between Cambodia and Laos respondents. Cambodians primarily used smugglers due to a lack of knowledge of alternatives (79%), while most Laotians were motivated by the perception that using smugglers would be easier (62%).
- Laotian respondents' journeys with smugglers were more regulated and indicated active involvement of employees in Thailand managing the smuggling/transportation of Laotian employees.
- Cambodian respondents more often reported the involvement of state officials in smuggling (27%) than Laotian respondents (20%).
- Protection incidents were commonly experienced among Cambodian respondents (particularly women), while few Laotian respondents (2%) reported any dangers.

**Profiles**

This snapshot draws on data from 694 data surveys collected across Thailand between January and June 2023 among migrants and refugees from Cambodia (70%) and Lao PDR (30%). The survey covered various regions in Thailand. Laotian respondents were distributed across various regions (82% Bangkok, 12% Udon, 12% Sakon Nakhon, 10% other regions (9%), while Cambodian respondents were in Bangkok (82%), Pathum Thani (12%), Sakon Nakhon (8%), Chonburi (8%), Nakhon Phanom (8%), and other regions (8%). Involvement of respondents with state officials through activities by organisations or friends (23%), commonly makes (20%) or through other means (20%). The main reason for recruitment was independent (54% of arrivals in Thailand – with all respondents being arrived within the last three years). Approximately half of Cambodian respondents were male (50%) with a majority (73%) aged between 20 and 45 (see Figure 1). 27% of Cambodian respondents were unaccompanied, while 13% were in partnership or had applied for parental visa, 13% were on asylum seekers and 17% were refugees. Among Laotian respondents, 60% of respondents were male and most majority of respondents (52%) were aged 18-24, almost all Laotian respondents (96%) were unaccompanied.

**MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – August 2023**  
**Protection risks among Afghan, Bangladeshi, Indonesian, Chin and Rohingya people in Malaysia**

This snapshot highlights abuse or rights violations experienced and witnessed by Afghan, Bangladeshi, Indonesian, and Myanmar Chin and Rohingya migrants and refugees in Malaysia, especially relating to their use of migrant smugglers. It examines the motivations for using smugglers, the perception of risks and incidents experienced en route, as well as the role of public officials and smugglers in their journeys.

**Key findings**

- The majority of respondents (87%) used smugglers during their journey to Malaysia, Indonesian respondents were the only group where a minority used smugglers (72%).
- Half of Bangladeshi (52%) and a majority of Myanmar Rohingya (85%) respondents reported experiencing physical violence on the journey, and 20% of Afghan and Chin respondents reported injury or ill health caused by health conditions. Indonesian respondents did not report experiencing any incidents of abuse or violence.
- Public officials' involvement in smuggling of migrants was higher among Indonesian (89%), Afghan (85%), and Rohingya (85%) respondents who used a smuggler in Malaysia, Bangladesh (72%) and Myanmar Chin (70%) respondents.

**Profiles**

This snapshot draws on data from 1,662 data surveys conducted between December 2022 and May 2023 among Afghan (9%), Bangladeshi (17%), Indonesian (20%), Myanmar Chin (1%), and Rohingya (53%) migrants and refugees across Malaysia, including in Johor, Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Pahang, Penang, Selangor, Seremban, and Terengganu. All Chin and Rohingya respondents had left from Myanmar. Respondents were mainly recruited via routes through intermediaries by community leaders (84%) and referred by acquaintances or friends (26%). The main reason for recruitment was respondents' date of arrival in Malaysia – all respondents had arrived within the previous three years. A majority of respondents (85%) were aged 18-25 years, although 10% were aged 26-35 years, and 5% were aged 36 years and above. Most out of Rohingya respondents were women (57%), while a majority of respondents from the other four groups were men (see Figure 1). Most Afghan (96%), Bangladeshi (96%), and Myanmar Chin (92%) respondents had completed secondary or high school, while primary school was the highest level of education completed by a majority of Indonesian (82%) and Rohingya respondents (83%).

## Use of smugglers on the journey to Thailand among Cambodians and Laotians

This snapshot examines the use of smuggling among Cambodians and Laotians on their journey to Thailand. It examines respondents' reasons for leaving their country of origin, access to smuggling services, and protection incidents experienced en route, as well as the involvement of state officials in smuggling between Cambodia-Thailand and Lao PDR-Thailand.

## Protection risks in Malaysia among Afghan, Bangladeshi, Indonesian, Chin and Rohingya people

This snapshot highlights abuse or rights violations experienced and witnessed by Afghan, Bangladeshi, Indonesian, and Myanmar Chin and Rohingya refugees and migrants in Malaysia, especially relating to their use of migrant smugglers. It examines the motivations for using smugglers, the perception of risks and incidents experienced en route, as well as the role of public officials and smugglers in their journeys.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – July 2023  
**Access to information and decision-making among refugees and migrants in Türkiye**

This snapshot focuses on access to information and decision-making among Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi, and Somali refugees and migrants in Türkiye. It presents a comparison of information sources and respondents' views of obtaining information before and during the journey to Türkiye, and considers how information affects respondents' decision-making on migration.

**Key findings**

- Most respondents (79%) used **obtaining information about economic, destination, visa, and risks before the journey** and just over half (50%) obtained information during the journey.
- Social networks** were the main source of information, but so was **online sources**. Friends or family in another country were the primary source of information, both before (76%) and during (58%) the journey, followed by an online community or network (23%) before the journey and 50% during the journey.
- Related to family in another country** (25%) and in a country of departure (14%), and **online community or network** (23%) were the **most reliable sources** of information.
- Access to a phone is important: most respondents relied on **phone calls and social media or messaging apps** to obtain information, with WhatsApp being the most widely used social media platform.
- The **most common information gaps reported** were information on official requirements to enter destination country (59%), information on life in destination (52%), and rights and access to justice while on the move (54%).
- Almost all respondents (95%) reported that they would change their **intended destination** under certain circumstances. 42% of people changed minds to favor chances of entering their intended destination.

**Profiles**

This report draws from 481 survey respondents between January and April 2023 in Türkiye with 1,057 respondents from Afghanistan (50%), Iran (23%), Iraq (22%), and Somalia (3%). Somali (50%) respondents were most likely to identify themselves (see Figure 1). A majority of respondents (75%) were under 25 years old. Almost all respondents (94%) had at least completed primary school, with Afghan respondents being the exception – 14% did not complete any schooling.

**Figure 1. Profile of respondents**

	Afghan	Iranian	Iraqi	Somali
Age group				
18-25	45%	45%	38%	45%
26-35	23%	23%	27%	23%
36-45	15%	15%	20%	15%
46-55	4%	5%	12%	4%
56+	1%	1%	3%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Gender				
Female	27%	27%	27%	28%
Male	73%	73%	73%	72%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Education level				
Did not complete any schooling	14%	1%	1%	1%
Primary school	23%	1%	1%	1%
Secondary or high school	43%	65%	63%	72%
University degree	20%	52%	37%	50%
Vocational training	2%	2%	5%	1%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Access to information and decision-making among refugees and migrants in Türkiye

This snapshot focuses on access to information and decision-making among Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi, and Somali refugees and migrants in Türkiye. It presents a comparison of information sources and respondents' means of obtaining information before and during the journey to Türkiye and considers how information affects respondents' decision-making on migration.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – May 2023  
**Rohingya refugees in Thailand: Profiles, drivers of migration and access to assistance**

This report explores the drivers and profiles of Rohingya refugees migrating to Thailand, as well as the assistance Rohingya require once they arrive there. Building on ongoing data collection activities in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, this report also compares assistance received by Rohingya refugees in the different countries.

**Key findings**

- Loss of rights and freedom (70%), violence, instability, and conflict (70%) were the most common reasons for migration.
- 62% of respondents reported that they decided to migrate of their own accord, while 27% of respondents reported that their decision to migrate was influenced by other people (family, friends, smugglers, etc.), which was across gender.
- Almost all respondents (95%) completed their journey to Thailand from Myanmar. 1% set off to Bangladesh.
- Over half of respondents (60%) travelled to Thailand because it was the only route available to them.
- 90% of respondents reported that they required help to meet basic needs in Thailand, with food, cash, and water as the three most widespread forms of assistance.

**Profiles**

This report draws on data collected between January 2023 and April 2023 from 507 Rohingya refugees in Thailand: 41 women and 46 men. Respondents were surveyed in three provinces in Thailand: Pattani, Phang Nga, and Songkhla. The average age of respondents was 36 years old, with the majority between the ages of 26 and 35. Almost half of respondents (48%) travelled with children. Over one-third of respondents completed primary school (34%), 20% completed secondary or high school, and 7% completed university degree. 23% reported that they did not complete any schooling. Almost all respondents (95%) listed legal documents as residence in Thailand.

**Figure 1. Age group distribution by gender**

## Rohingya refugees in Thailand: Profiles, drivers of migration and access to assistance

This snapshot explores the drivers and profiles of Rohingya refugees migrating to Thailand, as well as the assistance Rohingya require once they arrive there. Building on ongoing 4Mi data collection activities in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, this snapshot also compares assistance received by Rohingya refugees in the different countries.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – July 2023  
**Use of smugglers on the journey to Indonesia among Rohingya, Afghan and Somali refugees**

Indonesia is a destination country for refugees, and a key transit country for refugees en route to other countries. This snapshot explores the use of smugglers on the journey to Indonesia among Rohingya, Afghan and Somali refugees. It examines the routes taken by respondents, interactions with smugglers, and perceptions of smugglers' roles in their migratory journey.

**Key findings**

- 90% of respondents used a smuggler to facilitate their entry journey to Indonesia, while Somali used smugglers to use smugglers for only part of the journey.
- Most respondents (79%) used an smuggler to facilitate their entry journey to Indonesia, while Somali used smugglers to use smugglers for only part of the journey.
- Most respondents (79%) used an smuggler to facilitate their entry journey to Indonesia, while Somali used smugglers to use smugglers for only part of the journey.

**Profiles**

This report draws on data collected between January and March 2023 in Indonesia among Rohingya, Afghan and Somali respondents. Across all three groups, the majority of respondents were male (70% overall, ranging between 68% among Somali to 71% among Afghan). The majority of respondents were aged 25-35 (52%), ranging from 20% of Rohingya to 62% of Somali. In terms of education, a little under half of the respondents (42%) had completed secondary or high school before their current migration, although this varied between profiles.

## Use of smugglers on the journey to Indonesia among Rohingya, Afghan and Somali refugees

This snapshot finds that Afghan, Somali and Rohingya 4Mi respondents engage with smugglers in very different ways to reach Indonesia. It examines the routes taken by respondents, interactions with smugglers, and perceptions of smugglers' roles in their migratory journey.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Asia and the Pacific 4Mi Snapshot – February 2023  
**Detention as a protection risk en route to Türkiye**

Detention endangers the physical safety and psychological wellbeing of people on the move. This snapshot explores the risk of detention en route to Türkiye, including in land and maritime en route to Türkiye, for Rohingya, Afghan and Somali respondents. It examines the risk of detention en route to Türkiye, and how this exposure to perceived detention risk changes depending on the route of migration.

**Key findings**

- The majority of respondents (52%) report detention as a risk en route to Türkiye. Respondents most commonly reported a risk of detention in the city of Larnaca (83%) in the north of Cyprus, and in the city of Izmir (70%).
- Over half of male respondents (52%) identified detention as a risk, compared to fewer than half of female respondents (43%).
- The risk of detention was more often reported among respondents aged 18-25 (62%), compared to 54% of those aged 26-35.
- The reported risk of detention was highest for respondents who made journeys over land (62%), followed by those who travelled by sea and air (56%).
- The reported risk of detention was higher among respondents who did not use a smuggler (70%) than among those who used a smuggler (56%). In other words, for at least part of the Afghan on the route to and through Türkiye, using a smuggler is perceived to help keep them out of detention.

**Table 1. Locations of interview**

Location (City)	Number of surveys collected
Cyprus	1,037
Afghanistan	583
Kenya	435
Indonesia	285
Myanmar	222
Thailand	172
Malaysia	128
Other locations	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,164</b>

## Detention as a protection risk en route to Türkiye

This snapshot provides information on where Afghans are reporting the risk of detention en route to Türkiye, and how the exposure to perceived detention risk changes depending on the use of smugglers.

# Eastern and Southern Africa

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Eastern and Southern Africa Snapshot – September 2023  
**Reintegration experiences of Burundi returnees**

Since 2017, UNHCR has facilitated the voluntary repatriation of more than 210,000 Burundians from Tanzania (about 142,000), Rwanda (about 20,000), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (about 14,000) and other countries.<sup>1</sup> However, Burundi remains one of the least developed countries in the world despite the political changes that improved the social system and economic growth. Against the backdrop of socio-economic difficulties and humanitarian funding challenges, the reintegration attempts to shed light on the reintegration experiences of Burundian returnees, focusing on the main challenges upon return, economic and social integration, assistance needs and intentions for the future.

**Key findings**

- Upon return, returnees most often faced challenges surrounding housing (74%) and accessing health care services (69%).
- Returnees felt particularly safe and secure in Burundi (85%), but economically insecure (65%). Economic vulnerabilities (especially regarding access to services) were a concern.
- Returnees in Madagascar have access to income-generating activities (85%), while those in Tanzania (70%) and Congo (58%) do not. However, all are unable to cover all their household needs.
- Priority needs among returnees remain basic necessities (food, water, clothing) and housing (73%), access to health care (69%) and other services (65%).
- Returnees are less planning to migrate away from their current locations in Burundi in the next 12 months (52%).

**Data and profiles**

This report draws on 243 self-administered surveys conducted in April 2022 with Burundian returnees who had returned to Burundi between 6 months and 2 years from the date of interview.<sup>2</sup> 78% of respondents that represent their years abroad, 23% had spent between two and five years and 17% had spent more than five years abroad. The majority of respondents had returned from Tanzania (77%), followed by Uganda (24%), Rwanda (2%) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (10%) (Figure 1). Just over half (51%) were women and aged 25 or older (53%) (Figure 2). Education attainment levels were low, on that had completed any schooling (54%) and 6% had completed any primary school.

**Figure 1: Sex and age of respondents**

## Reintegration experiences of Burundi returnees

Against the backdrop of socio-economic difficulties and humanitarian funding challenges, this snapshot attempts to shed light on the reintegration experiences of Burundian returnees, focusing on the main challenges upon return, economic and social integration, assistance needs and intentions for the future.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Eastern and Southern Africa Snapshot – August 2023  
**Refugee and migrant youth in Sudan - Profiles, access to income, protection risks and assistance needs**

Sudan is at the centre of inward movement from East and the Horn of Africa towards North Africa and Europe, serving as a host, transit, and origin country for refugees and migrants. An estimated 1,220,000<sup>1</sup> total movement 1.1 million (refugees and migrants) were in Sudan, whereas the proportion of youth (under 18 years) is unknown.<sup>2</sup> Based on 861 survey data, this snapshot sheds light on the profiles, income-generating activities, perceived protection risks and assistance needs of young refugees and migrants aged 18-24 in Sudan. This snapshot is produced as part of a research partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) focusing on children and youth on the move along the Central Mediterranean Route.

**Key findings**

- 12% of interviewed youth reported having some form of income in Sudan, most notably through work, either casual work (24%) or regular paid job (24%), while most were not receiving money from family or relatives (30%).
- The most common protection risk that respondents reported for female and male youth in Sudan was verbal abuse/physical violence (42%), citing this for both female and male youth. Sexual violence was the second most reported protection risk for female youth (27%). Perceived risks of physical violence (27% for female youth, 29% for male youth) (including 26% of 20% and discrimination (26% of 27%) followed.
- Respondents considered domestic work to carry the highest risk of labour exploitation for both young men and women.<sup>3</sup>
- All interviewed youth reported needing assistance, mostly in the form of resettlement, access to work and medical assistance.

**Data and profiles**

This report draws on 172 self-administered surveys with refugees and migrants aged 18-24 years in Sudan in 2022, who had been in the country for less than one year.<sup>4</sup> This group was purposively sampled based on their age. Respondents were interviewed in Khartoum (75%) and elsewhere (25%) (8% in Sudan) in total. The majority of respondents had arrived in Sudan less than 6 months before the interview.

**Note:** Data collection for this snapshot took place prior to the conflict that began in Sudan on 15 April 2023. As fighting continues, it can be expected that increasing numbers of refugees and migrants who are in Sudan will not only be able to do so with their address, seeking a safer place within Sudan, returning to their home country or voluntarily displacement to another country. Owing to their existing vulnerabilities, many of our most refugees and migrants caught up in the conflict will be trapped and unable to flee. As data for this snapshot were collected prior to these events, the findings presented here on the needs of young refugees and migrants in Sudan have likely shifted and increased due to active security threats and other humanitarian situations. UNHCR has recently published an article on the [impact of the Sudanese conflict on the Central Mediterranean Route](#).

## Refugee and migrant youth in Sudan - Profiles, access to income, protection risks and assistance needs

This snapshot sheds light on the profiles, income-generating activities, perceived protection risks and assistance needs of young refugees and migrants aged 18-24 in Sudan. This snapshot is produced as part of a research partnership with UNHCR focusing on children and youth on the move along the Central Mediterranean Route.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Eastern and Southern Africa Snapshot – August 2023  
**Understanding the role of family reunification within mixed movements in Sudan**

Refugees and migrants engaged in mixed movement are rarely able to move with their entire families, as conflicts in origin countries can lead families to become separated or the movement of single family members may be of a family's strategy to avoid risk in the home of origin. Reunification with family members, therefore, becomes an option of migration when the former options, when needed, are exhausted or opportunities or external events in the host of migrant movement. Between March and November 2022, MMC conducted 181 self-surveys with respondents with family reunification experience. This snapshot sheds light on the role of family reunification in the movement decision-making of refugees and migrants in Sudan, the variety of family reunification processes and how decisions to reunification. This snapshot is produced as part of a research partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) focusing on children and youth on the move.

**Note:** Data collection for this snapshot took place prior to the conflict that began in Sudan on 15 April 2023. As fighting continues, it can be expected that increasing numbers of refugees and migrants who are in Sudan and are able to do so with their address, seeking a safer place within Sudan, returning to their home country or voluntarily displacement to another country. Owing to their existing vulnerabilities, many of our most refugees and migrants caught up in the conflict will be trapped and unable to flee. As data for this snapshot were collected prior to these events, the findings presented here on the needs of young refugees and migrants in Sudan have likely shifted and increased due to active security threats and other humanitarian situations. UNHCR has recently published an article on the [impact of the Sudanese conflict on the Central Mediterranean Route](#).

**Key findings**

- 17% of respondents who expressed a family reunification experience reported to be one of the reasons for leaving their country of origin, while 30% of respondents cited it as a factor determining their intended destination.
- 51% of respondents said their intended destination was Canada, 15% cited China, 10% Australia, 1% the USA, 1% the South Africa and 6% other countries.
- Respondents were seeking to reunite with their brother/sister (50%), uncle/aunt (22%), spouse/partner (17%) and child/children (22%).
- Women most often cite reuniting with a spouse/partner (25%) compared to men (16%).
- 62% of respondents were aware of formal family reunification processes and, among them, 79% are using these processes.
- Respondents engaged in formal family reunification processes most often reported they were being unaccompanied through CH2 (42%) and CH4 (23%).
- Most respondents (62%) had been engaged in a formal family reunification process for less than 6 months.
- 50% of respondents based difficulties in the family reunification process, most frequently cited as accessing the required documentation (23%).

**Data and profiles**

This report draws on 181 self-administered surveys with adult refugees and migrants in Sudan in 2022, who were purposively sampled based on family reunification being either a driver in their choice to move or a factor in their choice of intended destination.<sup>1</sup> The majority of respondents were interviewed in Greater Khartoum (82%).

## Understanding the role of family reunification within mixed movements in Sudan

This snapshot sheds light on the role of family reunification in the movement decision-making of refugees and migrants in Sudan, the variety of family reunification processes and key obstacles to reunification. This snapshot is produced as part of a research partnership with the [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#) focusing on children and youth on the move.

**Mixed Migration Centre**  
MMC Eastern and Southern Africa Snapshot – June 2023  
**Refugee and migrant youth in Ethiopia - access to income, protection risks and assistance needs**

20% of the recorded refugees and migrant population in Ethiopia are adolescents and youth (aged 12-24 years) around 280,000 people, and this does not include those with irregular status. Ethiopia is on the specific protection route of youth to Europe, however, reports. This snapshot is produced in partnership with Save the Children's East African Migration Routes program, sheds light on the profiles of young refugees and migrants aged 18-24 in Ethiopia, their access to income-generating activities in the country, the main protection risks they perceive and their assistance needs.

**Key findings**

- Respondents perceived different protection risks in Ethiopia, with young women considered to be mainly facing the risks of verbal abuse, sexual violence and physical violence, while young men more often face risks of physical violence, detention and extortion.
- The majority of respondents who perceived detention as a risk for young men (27 out of 70) and women (25 out of 12) had an irregular migration status at the time of the interview.
- Close to half (47%) of interviewed youth did not have a source of income in Ethiopia, the majority because they are not able to find jobs.
- The majority of respondents (73%) said they need assistance and many reported multiple needs. The most common forms of assistance identified were access to work, cash and shelter.
- Social networks within Ethiopia were quite strong in an emergency, the majority of respondents would reach out to family and support being in their current location (70%), or neighbours (44%).

**Data and profiles**

This report draws on 100 self-administered surveys with refugees and migrants aged 18-24 years in Ethiopia in December 2022. Respondents were interviewed in Addis Ababa (70%) and other major regional centres (30%). All respondents had arrived in Ethiopia less than one year prior to the interview, and 17% had stayed their journey on the move.

The sample is composed of 63% men and 37% women. The largest nationality group is Eritrean (52%), followed by Kenyan (27%), South Sudanese (14%), Sudanese (14%), Yemeni (5%) and Gambian (2%). The majority (42%) of respondents stated they had not reached the end of their journey - all Kenyan respondents had completed their journey. Preferred destinations were Canada (46%), Europe (29%) and the United States of America (22%). Almost half (48%) had completed primary school education while 20% had finished secondary education. A notable proportion (36%) had received vocational or university education while 17% had not obtained any form of education.

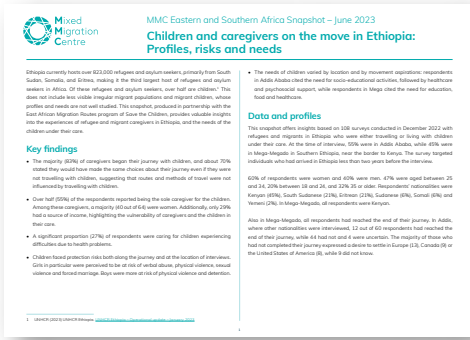
**Sexual exploitation and abuse are key risks for young women, in addition to physical violence and verbal abuse for all youth**

Perceived risks in Ethiopia were perceived as higher for young women than for young men. Young women are perceived to be most exposed to verbal abuse (74%) and sexual violence (26%), as compared to young men in other incidents. Respondents considered that young men most often faced physical violence in Ethiopia (27%), followed by verbal abuse (27%), detention (25%) and extortion (21%). A quarter of respondents did not report any perceived risks for young refugees or migrants (Figure 1).

## Refugee and migrant youth in Ethiopia - access to income, protection risks and assistance needs

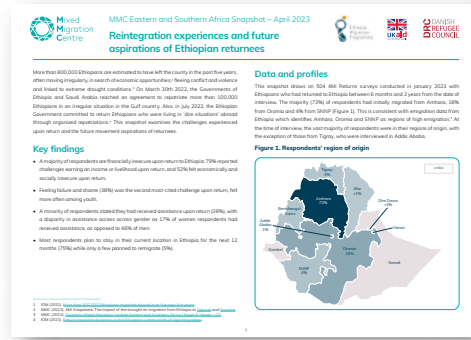
This snapshot, produced in partnership with [Save the Children's East African Migration Routes](#) program, sheds light on the profiles of young refugees and migrants aged 18-24 in Ethiopia, their access to income-generating activities in the country, the main protection risks they perceive and their assistance needs.





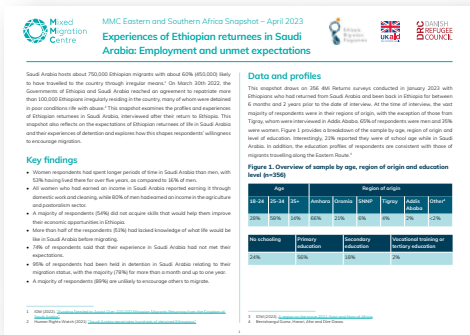
## Children and caregivers on the move in Ethiopia: Profiles, risks and needs

Ethiopia currently hosts over 823,000 refugees and asylum seekers with over half of them being children. This snapshot, produced in partnership with the East African Migration Routes program of [Save the Children](#), provides valuable insights into the experiences of refugee and migrant caregivers in Ethiopia, and the needs of the children under their care.



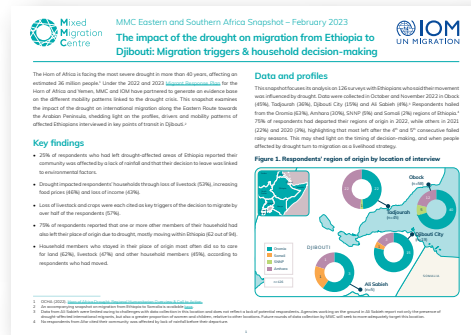
## Reintegration experiences and future aspirations of Ethiopian returnees

On March 30th, 2022, the Governments of Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia reached an agreement to repatriate more than 100,000 Ethiopians in an irregular situation in the Gulf country. Also, in July 2022, the Ethiopian Government committed to [return Ethiopians](#) who were living in 'dire situations' abroad through organized repatriations. This snapshot examines the reintegration experiences of Ethiopian returnees and their future movement aspirations.



## Experiences of Ethiopian returnees in Saudi Arabia: Employment and unmet expectations

This snapshot examines the profiles and experiences of Ethiopian returnees from Saudi Arabia, interviewed after their return to Ethiopia. This snapshot also reflects on the expectations of Ethiopian returnees of life in Saudi Arabia and their experiences of detention and explores how this shapes respondents' willingness to encourage migration.



## The impact of the drought on migration from Ethiopia to Djibouti: Migration triggers and household decision-making

The Horn of Africa is facing the most severe drought in more than 40 years, affecting an estimated 36 million people. This snapshot – produced together with IOM – examines the impact of the drought on international migration along the Eastern Route towards the Arabian Peninsula, shedding light on the profiles, drivers and mobility patterns of affected Ethiopians interviewed in key points of transit in Djibouti.

**Mixed Migration Centre** MMC Eastern and Southern Africa Snapshot – February 2023  
**The impact of the drought on migration from Ethiopia to Somalia: Migration triggers & household decision-making**

The onset of Africa's longest and most severe drought in over 40 years, affecting an estimated 36 million people under the 2022 and 2023 [UNEP drought alerts](#), led to the loss of lives and livelihoods. MMC and IOM have partnered to generate an evidence base on the different mobility patterns triggered by the drought crisis. This snapshot examines the impact of the drought on international migration along the Eastern Route towards the Arabian Peninsula, shedding light on the profiles, drivers and mobility patterns of affected Ethiopians interviewed in key points of transit in Somalia.

**Data and profiles**

This snapshot focuses on 208 surveys with Ethiopians who had their movement restricted by drought. Data was collected in November and December 2022 in Bosaso (85%) and Hargeisa (15%). Respondents were originally from the Somali (62%), Central (16%), Western (10%) and South (12%) regions of Ethiopia. 104 respondents had departed their region of origin in 2022, with others in 2021 (17%) and 2020 (7%), highlighting the impact of the drought on international mobility patterns. This snapshot highlights the timing of decision-making, and when people affected by drought turn to migration as a livelihood strategy.

**Key findings**

- 52% of respondents who had left drought-affected areas of Ethiopia reported their country of origin as the main reason for their decision to leave and head to international borders.
- Drought-impacted respondents' households throughout the drought (50%), crop failure (85%), loss of livestock (92%), food scarcity (92%), crop disease (95%) and high food prices (94%).
- Loss of crops (27%), loss of livestock (87%) and increase in food prices (27%) were cited as key triggers of the decision to migrate.
- 50% of respondents' households did not move from their location of origin mainly because they did not have enough money for air to move (65%) or to care for their household members (95%).
- Among those with at least one family member who had also moved from their place of origin, the majority specified they had received internally, near their place of origin in Ethiopia (85%).

**Figure 1. Respondents' region of origin, by location of interview in Bosaso and Hargeisa**

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# The impact of the drought on migration from Ethiopia to Somalia: Migration triggers and household decision-making

This snapshot – produced together with IOM - examines the impact of the drought on international migration along the Eastern Route towards the Arabian Peninsula, shedding light on the profiles, drivers and mobility patterns of affected Ethiopians interviewed in key points of transit in Somalia.

## Europe

**Mixed Migration Centre** MMC Europe 4MI Snapshot – July 2023  
**Access to information and decision-making among migrants and refugees who took the Western Balkan route**

**Introduction**

Italy is both a country of destination and a key transit country for people on the move heading to reach other European countries. This snapshot focuses on the migration experiences of migrants and refugees from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh interviewed in Northern Italy after crossing the Aegean Sea route. It examines respondents' access to migration-related information before and during the migration journey, their other gaps that they faced and the role of information in their decision-making around the journey.

**Key findings**

- A majority of respondents obtained information about the journey: 70% of respondents obtained information about routes, destinations, costs, risks prior to migrating, and obtained information during the migration journey.
- The most frequent sources of information were informal, and social: Online content (the journey, the conditions of the route, the transit country (28% migrants (24%), the online community (25%) and friends or family in country of departure (24%)). During the journey, other migrants were by far the most cited source (72%), but friends and family in another country and caregivers also emerged among the most frequently mentioned sources. In second (29%) and third (24%) place respectively, more formal sources were reported.
- The most reliable sources of information were other migrants (55%), followed by friends and family in another country (29%), the online community (27%) and caregivers (27%).
- The most common information gaps related to legal processes regarding migration and asylum (67% of respondents reporting hearing this information and not having its utility and availability during the journey (29%) and conditions of journey (28%).
- New information does not appear to impact on major migration decisions: most respondents would not have undertaken the migration journey knowing what they know now (57%), while only a small minority said that the information they received during the journey changed their migration plans (26%).

**Profiles**

Findings presented in this snapshot are based on 452 4MI survey collect between February and May 2023 in Northern Italy, among all ages and migrants from Pakistan (n=229), Afghanistan (n=142) and Bangladesh (n=20). See Figure 1. Considering the small sample among Bangladeshis, the majority of this group took the irregular route. All respondents were male. The majority of respondents were either aged 18-24 (65% overall), ranging from 40% among Pakistanis to 52% among Afghans, or aged 25-34 (25% overall) (see Figure 2).

**Figure 1. Age and nationality**

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# Access to information and decision-making among migrants and refugees who took the Western Balkan route

This snapshot focuses on the migration experience of refugees and migrants from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh interviewed in Northern Italy after crossing the Western Balkan route. It examines respondents' access to migration-related information before and during the migration journey, the information gaps that they faced and the role of information in their decision-making around the journey.

# Latin America and the Caribbean

**Mixed Migration Centre** 4MI INFOGRAPHIC  
**Migration experiences and security risks of children on the move through Honduras**

The infographic presents caregivers' reporting on the experiences and security risks faced by children and adolescents on the move through Honduras. The infographic was developed by the Mixed Migration Centre, in collaboration with UNICEF, UNHCR and the Centre for Democratic Transition (CDT) in Honduras.

**METHODOLOGY**

**Survey date:** 10-15 February 2023  
**Survey location:** Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
**Survey population:** Caregivers (predominantly women) accompanying unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents (UAC) through Honduras.  
**Survey period:** 10-15 February 2023  
**Survey sample size:** 100 caregivers (50 women and 50 men) and 100 UAC (50 women and 50 men).  
**Survey methodology:** A series of focus group discussions (FGDs) and individual interviews (IIs) were conducted with caregivers and UAC. The survey was conducted in Spanish and English.

**Background**

In February 2023, the number of irregular arrivals of migrants and refugees to Honduras has risen to nearly 4000 arrivals per month. The number of irregular arrivals has risen to nearly 4000 arrivals per month. The number of irregular arrivals has risen to nearly 4000 arrivals per month. The number of irregular arrivals has risen to nearly 4000 arrivals per month.

**Respondents' profiles**

**Sex distributions of respondents:** Women 50%, Men 50%.  
**Age distributions of respondents:** 18-24 (65%), 25-34 (25%).

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# Children on the move through Honduras - Migration experiences and security risks

This infographic presents caregivers' reporting on the experiences and security risks faced by children and adolescents on the move through Honduras.





# Articles



## **Migrating regionally – migrant stories**

On the occasion of International Migrants Day, MMC presented a collection of migrant stories originally compiled for the Mixed Migration Review 2023. Most migrants in the world migrate within their own countries or regions, not between regions or continents. This year's personal stories, based on in-depth interviews, are therefore dedicated to migrants deliberately migrating within their regions in Africa, the Americas, and Asia.



## **Evidence and migrants' voices: missing links in EU Global Alliance to Counter Migrant Smuggling**

In the 2023 State of the Union Address, the President of the European Commission announced an International Conference on fighting people smuggling. This International Conference on a Global Alliance to Counter Migrant Smuggling took place on November 27th in Brussels. Now that the conference is over, the Mixed Migration Centre revisits its key messages on migrant smuggling to see if, and how, they have been considered during the conference.



## **The criminalization of mobility in Niger: the case of Law 2015-36**

The MMC recently published a [blog post](#) for the ASILE project shedding light on Niger's controversial anti-smuggling Law. It explores the consequences of criminalised mobility and impeded movement since its enforcement in 2016. Just 3 days after our post was published, the President of Niger's National Council for the Safeguard of the Homeland issued Ordonnance No. 2023-16 abrogating the law and reversing convictions of smugglers. This article provides an update on the situation in Agadez since then.



## **COP28 – climate mobility: the goal is sustainable adaptation – either in place or on the move**

As COP28 puts climate change front and centre in the media, the Mixed Migration Centre revisits our seven key messages on climate-related mobility published in 2022, and elaborates how these key messages should be used to inform negotiation and action at COP28 and beyond.



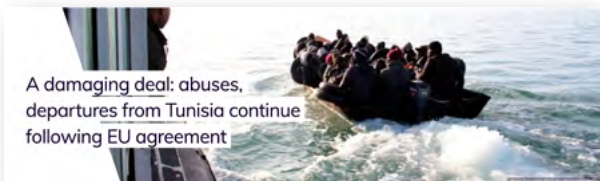
## **How to break the business model of smugglers - The temporary protection directive: the biggest anti-smuggling operation ever?**

The fight against human smuggling has today, more than ever, become the cornerstone of nation-states' and multilateral organizations' strategies against irregular migration and a primary concern for policy makers all over Europe. The key question that all seem to be urgently trying to answer is: how can we break the business model of smugglers? This article explores the Ukrainian crisis, showing how it is quite a unique case study to better understand the link between legal pathways and human smuggling.



## **Journeys of Ethiopian Returnees – Migrant Stories**

Recent [research](#) by Ravenstone Consult and the Mixed Migration Centre indicates that horrific human rights violations are taking place all along the Eastern Route from the Horn of Africa, via Yemen to Saudi Arabia. To gather further information, we conducted additional interviews with Ethiopian respondents who indicated that they had experienced or witnessed violations along the Saudi-Yemen border. This article includes the personal stories of three Ethiopian migrants describing their journeys through Yemen into Saudi Arabia, and eventually back to Ethiopia.



## **A damaging deal: abuses, departures from Tunisia continue following EU agreement**

In mid-July, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Tunisia and the European Union (EU) during the visit of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte. This article dives into the outcomes and damaging consequences of such a deal.



## **Niger coup: increasing instability, forced displacement & irregular migration across the Sahel, amidst billions of EU Trust Fund for Stability investments**

Amidst the recent military coup in Niger, part of a concerning trend in the Sahel, questions arise about the effectiveness of the European Union's (EU) Trust Fund for Stability, which invested billions in the region. Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, major recipients of EU funds, have experienced political instability and rising insecurity despite substantial investments. The latest coup in Niger has prompted the EU and France to suspend aid, but the broader issue is the failure of the "root causes" approach to migration, as instability, forced displacement and irregular migration persist.



## **Pakistani Nationals on the Move to Europe: New Pressures, Risks, Opportunities**

The tragic shipwreck off the Greek coast highlighted the continued risks associated with migration and prompted discussions on responsibility. The vessel, carrying mostly Pakistani nationals, underscores the overlooked trend of increased migration from Pakistan to Europe. While blaming human smugglers is warranted, the surge in Pakistani migration is influenced by factors like violence, insecurity, economic hardship, and post-flood displacement. The tragedy highlights the absence of legal migration pathways, leaving smuggling as the only option.



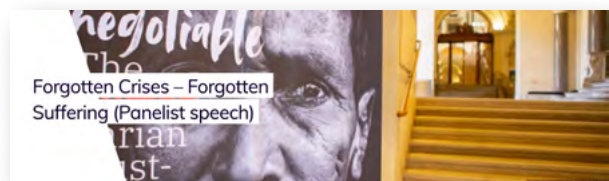
## **Mixed migration consequences of Sudan's conflict – Round 2 (June 2023)**

Sudan's conflict, which began on April 15th, has led to massive displacement. The conflict has escalated ethnic tensions in Darfur, leading to predictions of prolonged instability and potential ethnic cleansing. Increasing numbers of Sudanese are facing involuntary immobility, internal displacement, cross-border movements, and onward migration, creating a complex humanitarian crisis that requires urgent international attention and action.



## **Murderous border controls: the mass killings of Ethiopian migrants along the Saudi Arabian – Yemen border**

Ethiopian migrants face systematic and deliberate killings on the Yemen-Saudi border, with Saudi security forces targeting them, leading to hundreds of deaths and injuries. The killings involve snipers, mortars, and excessive use of force, and survivors report torture and sexual violence. Despite a UN communication and corroborating evidence, there is limited international attention and outrage. The situation calls for urgent investigations, accountability, humanitarian support, and diplomatic pressure on Saudi Arabia to end these outrageous practices.



## **Forgotten Crises – Forgotten Suffering (Panelist speech)**

Bram Frouws, Director of the Mixed Migration Centre, was a panellist on the panel “Forgotten Crises – Forgotten Suffering” at the [6th Humanitarian Congress Vienna](#) on 16 June 2023. In his speech, he discusses the notion of forgotten crises in relation to migration and puts forth several points for reflection. Notably, his key observation centres on the idea that, when it comes to migration, whether it gets a lot of attention, or might be forgotten, really depends on where it's happening or where it's going to.





## **Mixed migration consequences of Sudan's conflict**

This article attempts to synthesize data and existing knowledge of mixed migration dynamics in Sudan, to take a slightly longer-term and broader view of what mixed migration consequences we can expect and anticipate their implications. Sadly, with neither side of the conflict likely capable of a decisive victory, given Sudan's size and fractured political landscape, a likely scenario is a long multisided civil war and humanitarian disaster, like ones seen in Somalia, Syria or Yemen, with possible further destabilization of the region.



## **Afghan Women and Migration in the Era of Restrictions**

This article underscores the escalating challenges for Afghan women since the Taliban's takeover in 2021. The Taliban's restrictions on women's rights, including education and employment, have left them facing increased poverty and food insecurity. It details the long-term repercussions of these restrictions and highlights the heightened risks, including gender-based violence, that Afghan women face during migration. It emphasizes the urgent need for safe and affordable pathways for Afghan women to leave the country.



## **Missing Ethiopian migrants – the tip of an iceberg of commodification and brutality**

The report, titled "Captive Commodities: Commodification, Exploitation, and Missingness of Ethiopian Irregular Migrants on the Eastern Route to Yemen and Saudi Arabia," by Ravenstone Consult sheds light on the significant challenges faced by Ethiopian migrants along this route. It reveals extraordinary levels of abuse, exploitation, and deaths.



## **Migrant Stories – Afghans en route to Türkiye**

This article brings together in-depth interviews MMC conducted in January 2023 with Afghans on the move, capturing three very different journeys from Afghanistan to Iran, Pakistan, and Türkiye. These stories detail the struggles of an Afghan family attempting to exit Afghanistan post-August 2021, an Afghan woman crossing over from Iran into Türkiye with the hope of travelling onwards to Germany with two children, and an unaccompanied young Afghan man who arrived in Türkiye to seek work.

# Quarterly Mixed Migration Updates<sup>1</sup>

The QMMUs offer a quarterly update on new trends and dynamics related to mixed migration and relevant policy developments in the regions. These updates are based on a compilation of a wide range of secondary (data) sources, brought together within a regional framework and applying a mixed migration analytical lens.



## Asia and the Pacific

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)



## Latin America and the Caribbean

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)



## Eastern and Southern Africa

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)

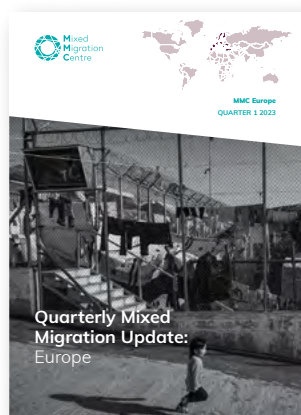


## West Africa

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)

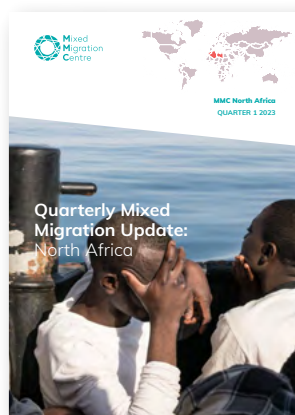


## Europe

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)



## North Africa

[Quarterly Update – Q1](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q2](#)

[Quarterly Update – Q3](#)

1 The Quarterly Updates Q4 2023 are published early February 2024, and as such are not included in this annual catalogue.

# MMC in the Media in 2023

A selection of media articles for which MMC experts were interviewed

[Q&A: 2023 migration and forced displacement, in review](#) (The New Humanitarian, December 2023)

[“People want to see that leaders have things under control.”](#) (Robert Bosch Stiftung, December 2023)

[Frontex acusada de enviar coordinadas de barcos de migrantes para milicia líbia conocida pelos métodos de tortura](#) (Expresso, December 2023, on findings revealing Frontex’s support to a Libyan militia)

[Malta welcomes foreign workers to fill labour shortage, but repels refugees](#) (Al Jazeera, December 2023)

[6 Myths on migration: we have checked them](#) (Robert Bosch Stiftung, November 2023)

[»Grænsevagterne fik os til at tage tøjet af og beordre os til at voldtage pigerne. De var 15 år gamle«](#) (Politiken, November 2023, on the killings of migrants by Saudi border guards)

[From Ethiopia to South Africa: The human cost of a neglected migration route](#) (The New Humanitarian, November 2023)

[Marrëveshja Itali-Shqipëri për emigrantët, Forin: Jo i papritur, ka pikëpyetje për zbatimin](#) (Voice of America, November 2023, on the recent agreement between Italy and Albania)

[„Die Worte passen oft nicht zur Realität“: Löst eine härtere Migrationspolitik wirklich Europas Probleme?](#) (Tagesspiegel, November 2023, on migration policy within the European Union)

[Lampedusa: ‘Operational emergency’, not ‘migration crisis’](#) (Deutsche Welle, September 2023)

[De levensgevaarlijke oversteek naar Saudi-Arabië](#) (NOS, August 2023, on the killings of migrants at the Saudi-Yemen border)

[Saudi border guards accused of killing Ethiopians](#) (CNN, August 2023)

[‘Dodelijkste migratieroute ter wereld blijft onder de radar’](#) (NRC, August 2023, on the killings of migrants at the Saudi-Yemen border)

[More than 60 Senegalese migrants feared dead](#) (Deutsche Welle, August 2023)

[Maand op zee kost vermoedelijk het leven aan tientallen migranten bij Kaapverdië](#) (NOS, August 2023, on the Atlantic route from West Africa to the Canary Islands)

[Kunnen deze mensen terug naar hun land van herkomst? En andere vragen over de opvang en terugkeer van ‘derdelanders’ uit Oekraïne beantwoord](#) (EenVandaag, August 2023, on the reception and return of ‘third country nationals’ from Ukraine who are currently in the Netherlands)

[„Migratie valt zeker te beheersen: de manier waarop is een politieke keus”](#) (Reformatorisch Dagblad, July 2023)

[‘We’ll die of hunger here anyway’: Boy’s tragic journey exposes impossible choice faced by millions](#) (CNN, July 2023)

[Levensgevaarlijk, toch stapte Mohammed al Masri \(31\) in het bootje naar Europa. ‘Ik gokte, welbewust, met mijn leven’](#) (Trouw, July 2023, on the increasing dangerousness of migration routes)

[Report finds ‘deliberate mass killings’ of Ethiopians along Saudi-Yemen border](#) (Middle East Eye, July 2023)

[Onduidelijkheid over lot migranten op weg naar EU ‘verschrikkelijk voor families’](#) (NOS, June 2023, on the uncertainty faced by migrant’s families)

[Migration: Alle Richting Europa?](#) (Salzburger Nachrichten, June 2023)

[Radio-interview on migration route to the Canary Islands](#) (NPO Radio 1, April 2023)

[Tunisia: 24 die at sea as drownings spike amid immigration crackdown](#) (Middle East Eye, April 2023)

[EU giving up search and rescue duties in Mediterranean](#) (Anadolu Agency, February 2023)

[UK Court of Appeal to reconsider Rwanda asylum plan](#) (Deutsche Welle, January 2023)

[Het migratiedebat: waarom de expat meer welkom is dan de asielzoeker](#) (NRC, January 2023)





MMC is a global network engaged in data collection, research, analysis, and policy and programmatic development on mixed migration, with regional hubs in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Latin America, and a global team based across Copenhagen, Geneva and Brussels.

MMC is a leading source for independent and high-quality data, research, analysis and expertise. MMC aims to increase understanding of mixed migration, to positively impact global and regional migration policies, to inform evidence-based mixed migration responses for people on the move and to stimulate forward thinking in public and policy debates on mixed migration. MMC's overarching focus is on human rights and protection for all people on the move.

MMC is part of the Danish Refugee Council (DRC).

**Photo credit:**  
Jean-Baptiste Joire

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