## MIGRATION ALONG THE EASTERN CORRIDOR

Report 28 | as of 30 June 2022



RDH IOM Regional Data Hub East and Horn of Africa

IOM Regional Office for the East and Horn of Africa

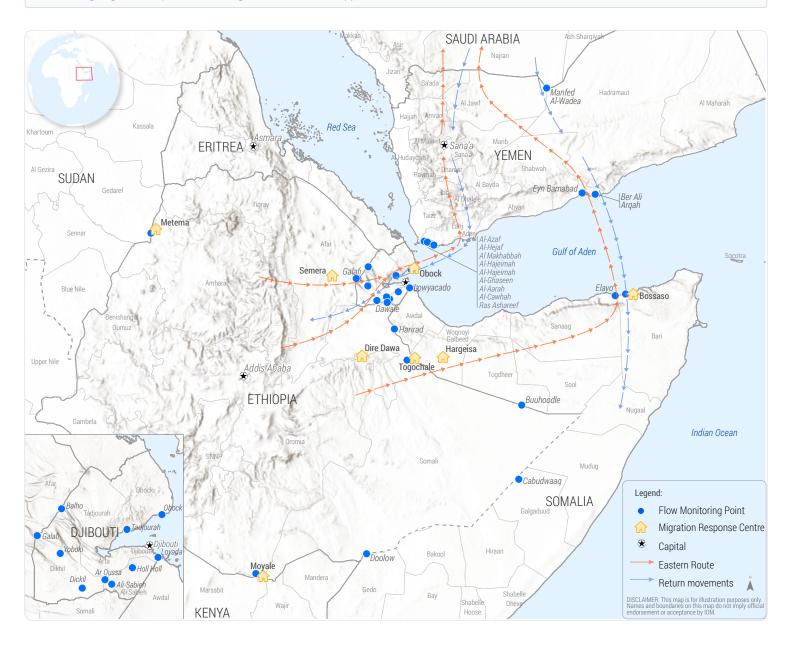
Publication: 28 July 2022

## About the report

The Horn of Africa and Yemen is one of the busiest and riskiest migration corridors in the world travelled by hundreds of thousands of migrants, the majority of whom travel in an irregular manner, often relying on smugglers to facilitate movement along the Eastern Route. This regional report provides monthly updates on the complex migratory dynamics through <u>Djibouti</u>, <u>Somalia</u>, <u>Yemen</u> and <u>Ethiopia</u> based on diverse data sources and consultations with key informants in the four countries. Moreover, it provides information on the main protection concerns for migrants along the journey, information on <u>the spillover effects of the conflict in Northern Ethiopia</u> observed at the border between Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan, <u>a specific focus on children</u> and information on the <u>returns from Saudi Arabia</u> to Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen.

#### Data sources:

- <u>Displacement Tracking Matrix</u> data collected at Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs), which includes Flow Monitoring Registry (group level) and Flow Monitoring Survey (individual level) data
- Registration data for migrants seeking assistance at Migration Response Centres (MRCs) in Obock (Djibouti), Bossaso, Hargeisa (Somalia), Dire Dawa, Metema, Moyale, Semera and Togochale (Ethiopia), including information on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
- Voluntary Humanitarian Return from Yemen
- Returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Missing Migrants Project data on migrant deaths and disappearances

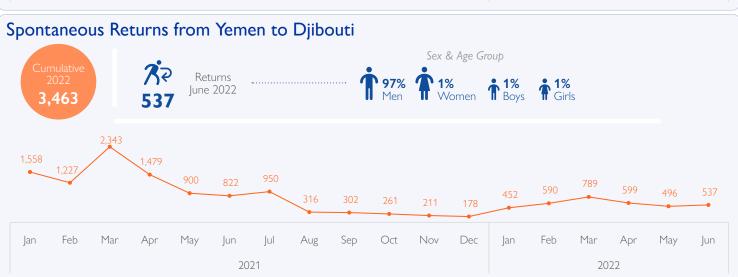


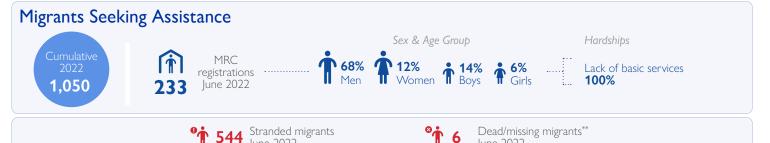
# Migration Through Djibouti

### **Observations**

The month of June in Djibouti saw extremely hot conditions, with temperatures ranging between 29 and 45 degrees Celsius. Nevertheless, migration flows into Djibouti increased, albeit only by 10 per cent. Migrants from the Amhara region, mostly from North Wello, were the most numerous, while over a quarter of all entries came from the Oromia region, particularly from Arsi. Most migrants from the Tigray region came from unspecified areas, with a few reporting to be coming from Southern and Eastern Tigray. Since the beginning of 2022, almost 64,000 migrants have entered Djibouti, which represents a 48 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2021. Migration has remained economically driven, but conflict and environmental causes are increasingly reported. This is not surprising, as North Wello and Arsi are areas that have been heavily hit by conflict in Ethiopia, as well as by the drought in the case of Arsi. Spontaneous returns from Yemen to Obock increased by 8 per cent from the month of May. The number of migrants who registered for assistance increased by 63 per cent compared to the previous month with all migrants seeking access to basic services. The number of stranded migrants decreased by almost 20 per cent, as IOM Djibouti facilitated the voluntary return of 186 migrants to Ethiopia through its AVRR programme. Voluntary returns of migrants from the Tigray region, however, remained suspended.







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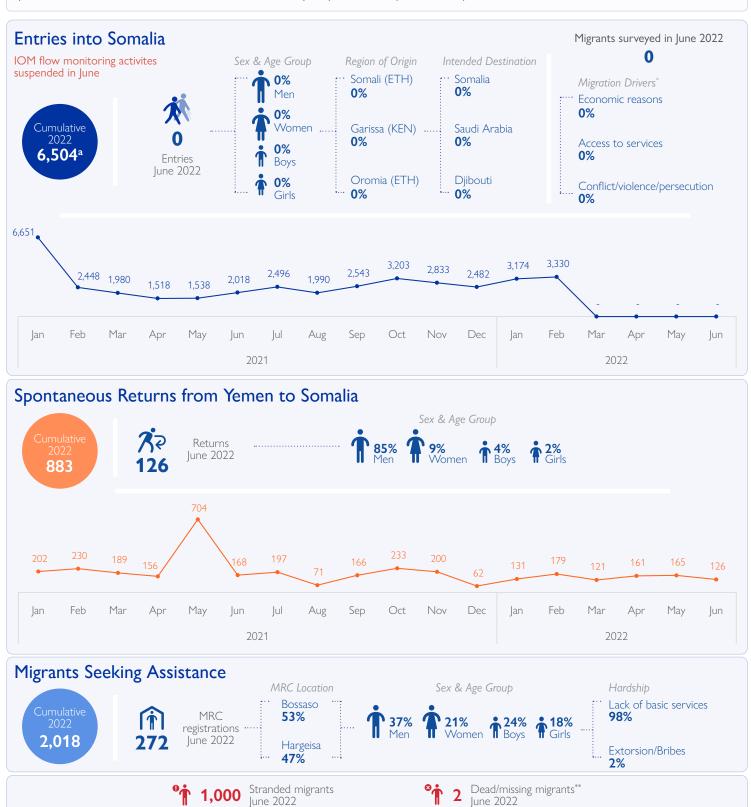
Multiple answer question.

<sup>\*</sup>Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verfied

## Migration Through Somalia

## **Observations**

Migration dynamics remained difficult to monitor due to the continued suspension of flow monitoring activities through the month of June as IOM Somalia engages with the Federal Government of Somalia to reinstate operations. According to informal reports from IOM staff and partners, during the month of June, the flow of migrants entering Somalia continued to mostly originate from conflict-affected areas in Oromia and Tigray, and migrants journeyed in search of economic opportunities. Pastoralist movements from northeastern Kenya were observed entering Somalia through the Lower Juba region toward the Kismayo district in search of pasture for their livestock. Outgoing movements of Somali migrants in search of humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia were noted throughout the Doolow area. Field teams observed that the drought is impacting local communities' resilience and capacity to assist migrants, as host communities themselves reportedly sought humanitarian assistance at IDP camps. Spontaneous returns from Yemen to Somalia decreased by 23 per cent compared to the previous month.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> As of February 2022.

<sup>\*</sup> Multiple answer question.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verfied.

## Migration Through Yemen

#### **Observations**

In June 2022, migrant arrivals from the Horn of Africa to Yemen remained similar in volume to those observed in May (2% decrease). There was, however, a significant increase (66%) in the number of migrants arriving from Bossaso along the Shabwah coast in Yemen. The increase is likely attributed to good sea conditions and a push by smugglers to facilitate passages before the July to September windy season commences. At the same time, an observed 45 per cent decrease in arrivals from Djibouti is attributed to tight Coast Guard patrols, which have pushed smugglers to use smaller boats. Migrant Response Points in both Aden and Ma'rib have recorded an increase in the number of migrants requesting assistance. Interviews conducted with migrants suggest that the increase is mainly due to the hardship migrants continue to face during their movements, which has left them stranded and in greater need of support. IOM estimates that in June, roughly 43,000 migrants were stranded. Protection monitoring reports indicate that smuggling networks continue to dictate migrant movement across Yemen. This is particularly notable in Ma'rib where smugglers have a strong and sizeable presence and considerable influence over movements in and out of the governorate, onwards to the north of Yemen and towards the border with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The first voluntary humanitarian return flight from Ma'rib departed on 9 June, assisting the return of over 120 extremely vulnerable migrants, many of whom had been stranded for over one year, including unaccompanied children, survivors of gender-based violence and a number of persons with chronic and acute medical conditions. Due to the suspension of such returns by the Government of Ethiopia shortly after the first flight, IOM was able to shelter, at an undisclosed location in Yemen, those most at risk until a special repatriation flight was organized. Returns from Saudi Arabia through the Al Wadea'ah land border slightly increased (8%), likely due to the Eid Al Adha holiday. In Sana'a, reports of survivors of human rights violations, including shootings, mortar attacks and artillery, largely continued, and most violations reportedly took place at the border with Saudi Arabia.

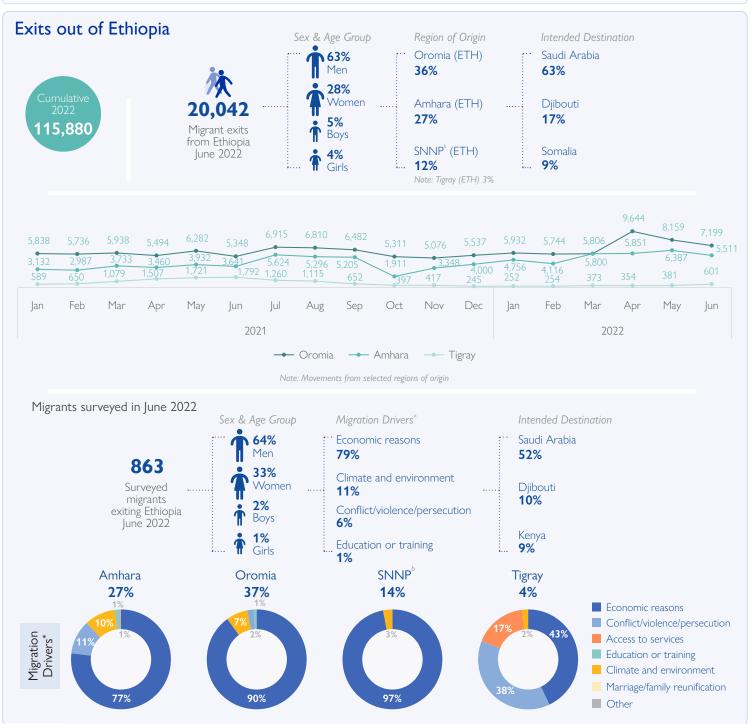


<sup>\*</sup>Reporting is based on IOM Yemen information and is being verified according to Missing Migrants Project criteria

## Migration Through Ethiopia

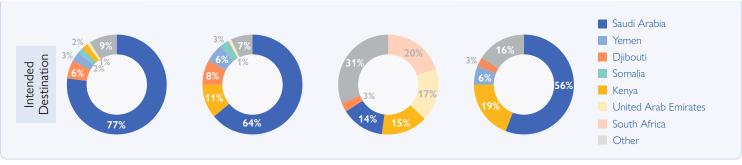
### **Observations**

Migrants observed exiting Ethiopia in June remained similar (11% decrease) in volume, population profile and areas of origin to those reported in May. Overall, as of midyear 2022, 115,880 migrants were observed leaving Ethiopia, mainly for economic reasons. This is corroborated by the over 860 migrants surveyed, the majority of whom continued to report economic reasons for their migration decision, though the share of migrants reporting other reasons slightly increased, including those reporting climate change and environmental factors (11%), conflict (6%) and search for services as a push factor. Among respondents from the Tigray region, conflict was reported by 38 per cent of respondents and access to services by 17 per cent. A spike in conflict-induced movements was observed at the Moyale FMP for exits from Ethiopia into Kenya. Migrants seeking assistance overwhelmingly reported lack of access to basic services among their hardships, and nearly 30 per cent reported experiencing imprisonment or detention.

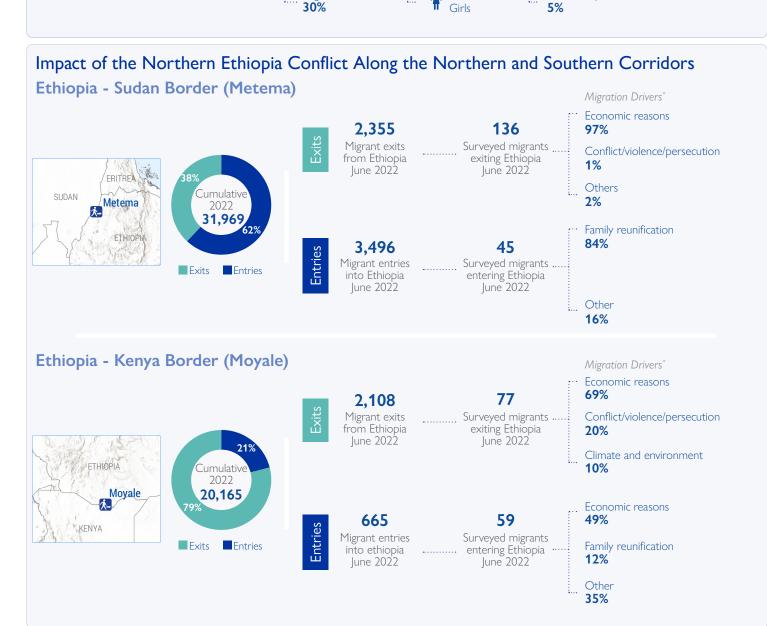


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.

Multiple answer guestion.



#### Migrants Seeking Assistance MRC Location Sex & Age Group Top 3 Hardships Dire Dawa Lack of basic services 66% 21% 62% Men Metema 20% **17**% Women Imprisonment/detention Moyale 27% 11% 4.513 MRC 32% Boys registrations June 2022 Togochale 3% Witholding of identification documents



<sup>\*</sup> Multiple answer question.

#### Migrant Children Along the Eastern Corridor In Djibouti Into Djibouti 68% 18% **67**% 60% Boys Into Somalia 24% In Ethiopia No data 33% 39% Unaccompanied 40% available Migrant children Migrant Girls Girls entries children seeking June 2022 Into Yemen assistance In Somalia June 2022 32% 43% My spouse/partner **59%** Travelling with children 264 13% Grandparents or extended family Migrants 36% Having children in the country of intended destination surveyed Caretakers of who are caring migrant children My older children (18 and over) for children not travelling 3% (20% of all with the migrant Who left children behind in the country of origin respondents) parent ... 87% June 2022 Other 2%



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.