

# RAPID ASSESSMENTS OF THE IMPACT OF THE DROUGHT IN THE 5 REGIONS OF DJIBOUTI

*DJIBOUTI – SEPTEMBER 2022*



# CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

## CONTEXT

The Horn of Africa is experiencing one of the worst droughts in decades. Over the past few years, repeated cycles of reduced rainfalls have led to a significant deterioration in terms of food security and to increasing numbers of internal and cross-border displacements. **On 13th February 2022, the Government of Djibouti issued a drought alert in the country**, citing critically low groundwater levels and deteriorated vegetation and pasture due to lack of rain and record high temperatures. The recurrent and severe droughts have led to a significant deterioration in food security, a scarcity of natural resources and a depletion of assets due to lack of sustainable livelihoods. The population's diminished coping mechanisms are leading to **increasing cross-border movements, internal displacement from one region to another, as well as from rural to urban areas.**

In order to inform the humanitarian response, IOM, in collaboration with the National Statistics Institute (INSTAD) and local authorities, **conducted rapid assessments in the regions of Ali-Sabieh, Tadjourah, Dikhil, Arta and Obock.**

The first rapid assessment was conducted between the 27<sup>th</sup> of July and 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2022 and covered 62 localities in Ali-Sabieh and 66 localities in Dikhil. The second assessment was conducted between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 and covered 245 localities in Tadjourah, 186 localities in Obock and 64 localities in Arta.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSESSMENTS

These assessments were conducted in order to **provide a better understanding of the situation and the priority needs of drought-affected populations. Data was collected on areas of origin, areas of displacement, numbers and needs of drought-affected populations.** The assessment specifically targeted the following two population groups: Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and migrants.

## TARGETED POPULATION GROUPS



**Internally Displaced Person (IDP):** persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, violations of human rights or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border. *In the framework of this assessment, only IDPs who have fled as a result of the impact of the recent drought (since the beginning of 2022) have been taken into account.*



**Migrant:** a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. *In the framework of this assessment, only migrants transiting through Djibouti have been taken into account.*

## METHODOLOGY

The DTM assessments were conducted in collaboration with local authorities and INSTAD. **In total, 27 enumerators were trained and deployed to the 5 different regions of the country.** The assessments were conducted at the lowest administrative levels, meaning at the locality level, through:

- Surveys with key informants (at least 3 per locality)
- Direct observations

## LIMITS

The **geographical coverage of these assessments is partial** and therefore does not include all localities of the country.

The collected data first and foremost **illustrates the trends and provides an overview of the situation.**

# KEY RESULTS

During the assessments conducted in a total of 623 localities in the 5 regions of the country, **6,086 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and 1,506 migrants were tracked**. The map highlights the concentration of affected populations (IDPs and migrants) in the different regions of the country.



## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)

**6,086**  
Individuals

**1,214**  
Households

**618**  
Localities

The majority of IDPs were tracked in **Tadjourah (35%), followed by Dikhil (29%), Ali-Sabieh and Obock (both 13%)**

### Priority needs

- Water for livestock / livelihoods
- Drinking water
- Food



## MIGRANTS

**1,506**  
Individuals

**374**  
Households

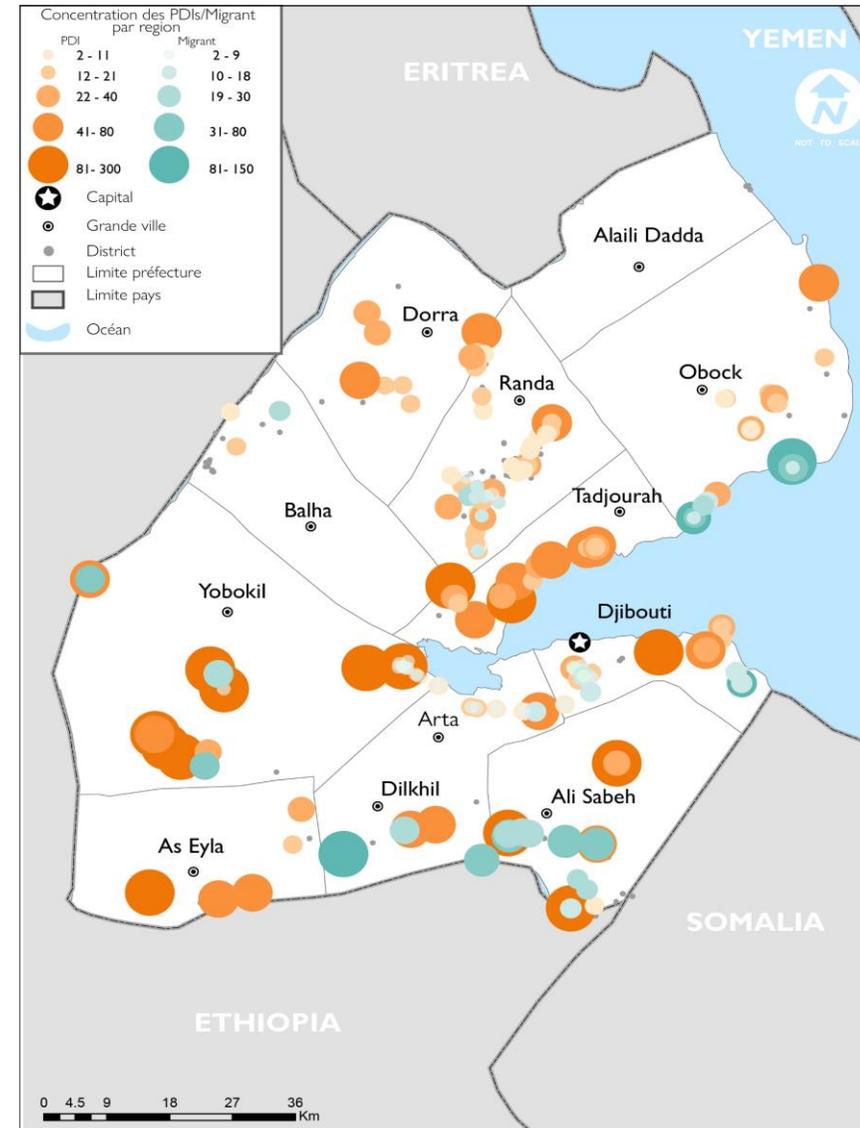
**82**  
Localities

The majority of migrants were tracked in **Obock (32%), followed by Ali-Sabieh (24%) and Dikhil (21%)**

### Priority needs

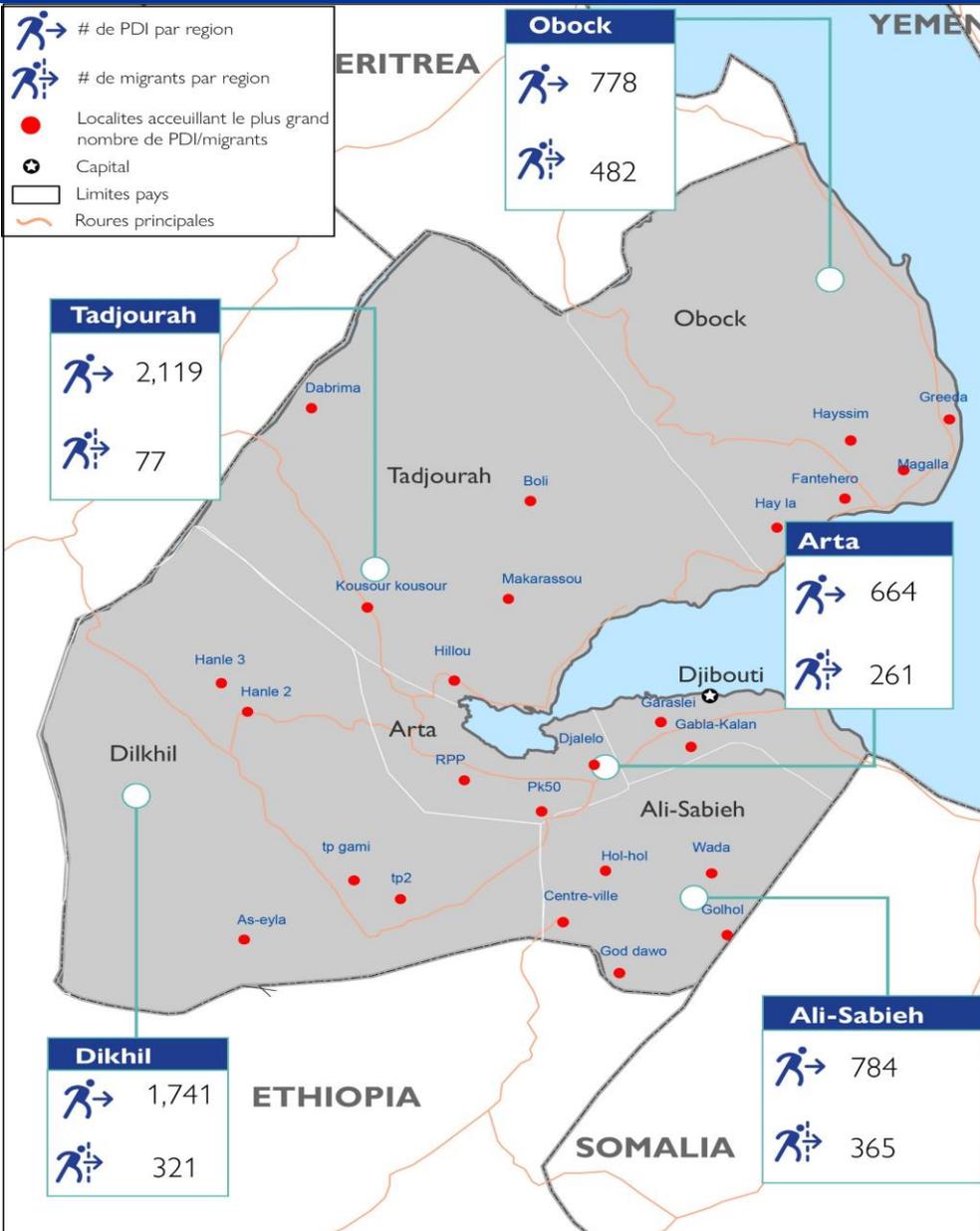
- Drinking water
- Food
- Financial support

## CONCENTRATION OF AFFECTED POPULATIONS ACROSS THE REGIONS



The map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

# KEY RESULTS



## DISTRIBUTION OF DROUGHT-AFFECTED POPULATIONS ACROSS THE REGIONS



PDI

Region	Number of IDPs	Number of households
Ali-Sabieh	784	151
Dikhil	1,741	357
Arta	664	155
Tadjourah	2,119	380
Obock	778	171
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,086</b>	<b>1,214</b>



MIGRANTS

Region	Number of migrants	Number of households
Ali-Sabieh	365	98
Dikhil	321	80
Arta	261	91
Tadjourah	77	22
Obock	482	83
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,506</b>	<b>374</b>

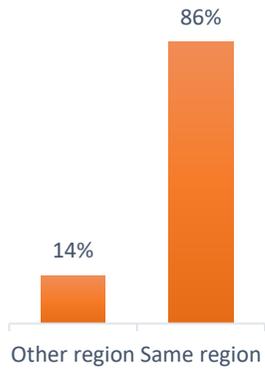


Localities indicated in red on the map are currently hosting the most important number of IDPs and/or migrants living in makeshift shelters

The map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

# PLACES OF ORIGIN, DISPLACEMENT PERIODS AND INTENTIONS OF IDPs

## PLACES OF ORIGIN

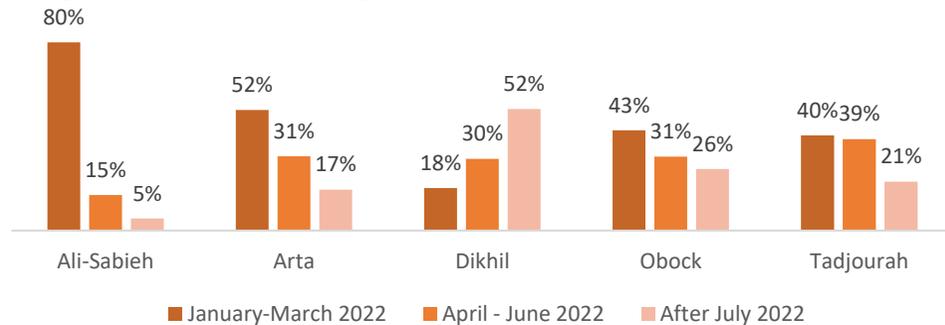


The majority of IDPs (86%) fled within the same region. In fact, in the localities assessed in the Obock, Tadjourah and Dikhil regions, more than 90% of the IDPs were displaced within the same region.

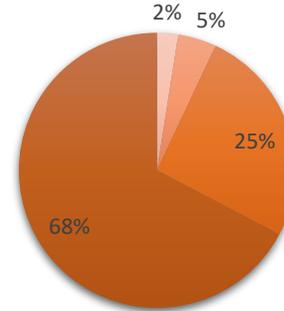
On the contrary, 41% of the IDPs tracked in the Arta region fled from another region and 30% of the IDPs tracked in the Ali-Sabieh region were also displaced from another region of the country.

## DISPLACEMENT PERIODS

The biggest proportion of IDPs (36%) were displaced **between January and March 2022**, followed by the period between April and July 2022 (33%). The smallest proportion of IDPs (31%) were displaced after July 2022. Nevertheless, these percentages vary significantly across the different regions. In the localities assessed in the Ali-Sabieh region for example, **80% of IDPs were displaced between January and March 2022**. In the Dikhil region, more than 53% of IDPs were displaced after July 2022, which demonstrates that the drought is continuing to have a negative impact on the local populations. **The Dikhil region (33%) also accounts for the biggest proportion of individuals who have fled their villages and who have not yet come back.**



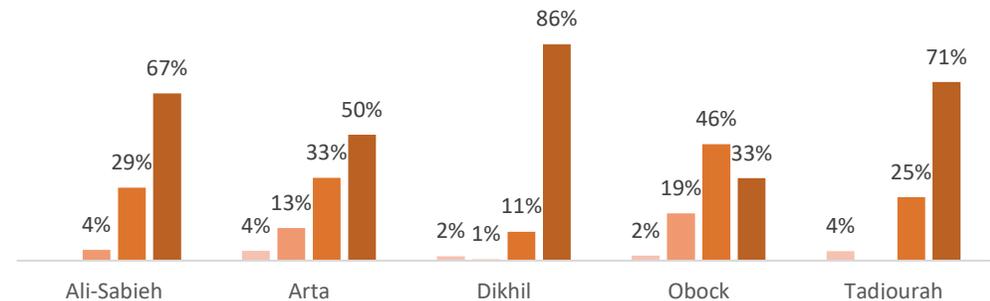
## INTENTIONS



In almost 70% of the assessed localities, IDPs have expressed their wish to return to their areas of origin as soon as the situation improves. In a smaller proportion of localities (25%), IDPs have expressed their wish to stay in the area of displacement. Finally, in 7% of the assessed localities, IDPs would like to either go to another country (2%) or move to another area within Djibouti (5%).

- Go to another country
- Go to another area within the country
- Stay in the area of displacement
- Return to the area of origin as soon as the situation improves

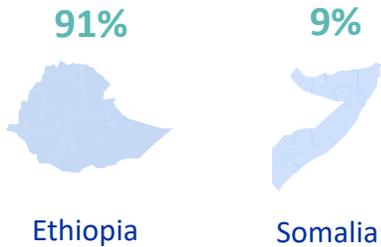
**In more than 85% of the assessed localities in the Dikhil region, IDPs have expressed their wish to return to their areas of origin as soon as the situation allows them to.** However, in 46% of the assessed localities in the Obock region, IDPs have expressed their wish to stay in the displacement area. In almost 30% of the assessed localities of the Ali-Sabieh region, IDPs would like to move to another area within the country.



# NATIONALITIES, DISPLACEMENT PERIODS AND INTENTIONS OF MIGRANTS

## NATIONALITIES

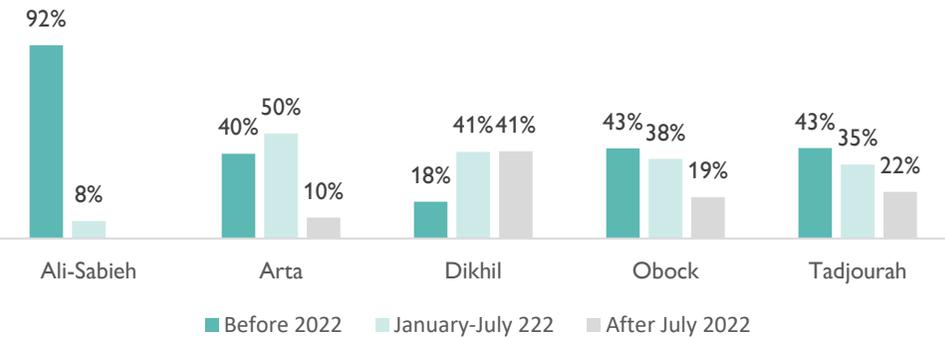
The majority of migrants tracked in the assessed localities are **Ethiopian (91%)**. In the Ali-Sabieh region, which is located at the border with Somalia, more than 30% of migrants are from Somalia.



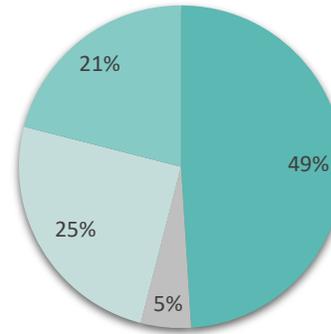
## DISPLACEMENT PERIODS

More than 50% of migrants were stranded prior to 2022, 33% of migrants were stranded between January and July 2022 and the rest (18%) were stranded after July 2022.

However, these percentages vary significantly across the different regions. In the assessed localities in the Ali-Sabieh region for example, **more than 90% of migrants were stranded prior to 2022. Qualitative surveys have highlighted that the majority of migrants are stranded in the different localities due to a lack of resources to continue their journey.**



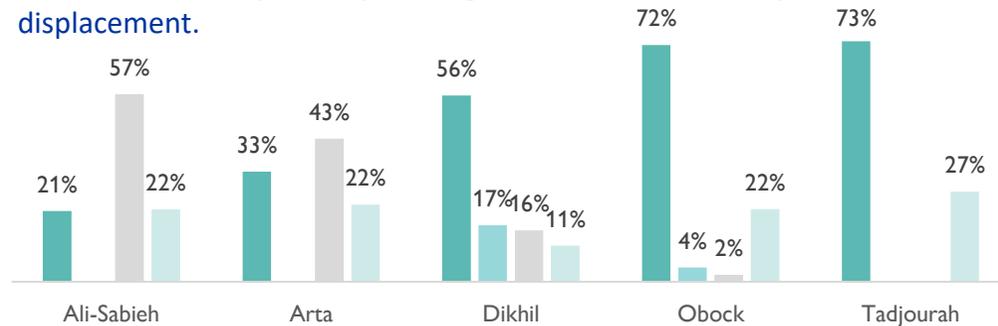
## INTENTIONS



In the assessed localities, **more than 50% of migrants have expressed their wish to go to another country. A smaller proportion (25%) have expressed their wish to stay in the area of displacement. A little more than 20% of migrants would like to return to their areas of origin once the situation improves. Only a small proportion (5%) wish to travel to another region in the country.**

- Go to another country
- Go to another area within the country
- Stay in the area of displacement
- Return to the area of origin as soon as the situation improves

Taking into consideration the fact that the Northern regions of the country (and in particular Obock) are the main areas of departure for migrants wishing to cross the Bab-El-Mandeb straight to get to Yemen, in more than 70% of the assessed localities (70% in Obock and 73% in Tadjourah), migrants have indeed expressed their wish to travel to another country. In the assessed localities of the Ali-Sabieh region, significant proportions (57% and 43% respectively) of migrants would like to stay in the area of displacement.

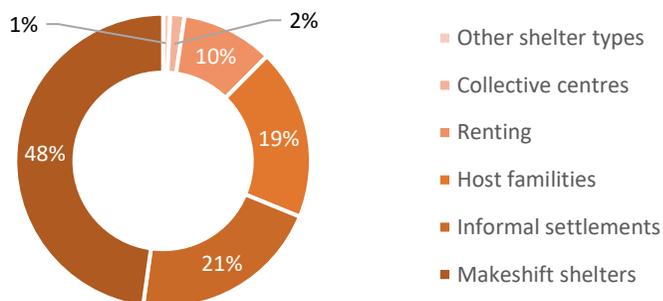


# SHELTER TYPES

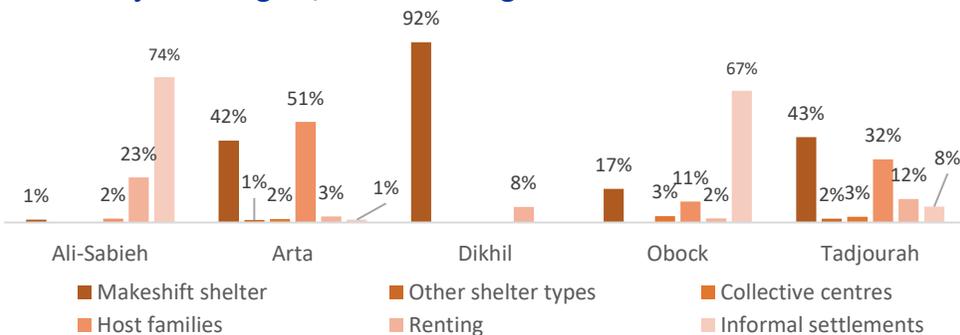


## SHELTER TYPES FOR IDPs

In almost half of the assessed localities, IDPs live in makeshift shelters (48%). A smaller proportion of IDPs live in informal settlements (21%), with host families (19%) or are renting a house (10%).

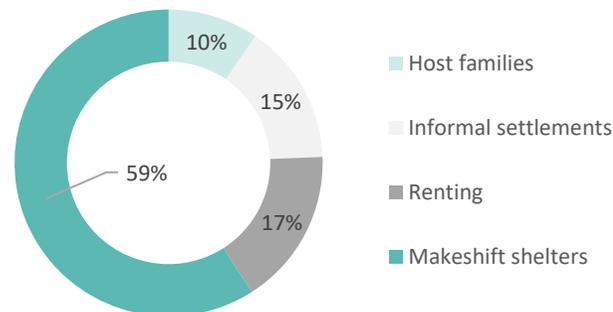


In more than 90% of the assessed localities in the Dikhil region (which currently hosts more than 30% of the IDPs), the affected population is living in makeshift shelters. The percentage of individuals living in these types of shelters is lower in Arta (42%) and Tadjourah (43%). In 74% of the assessed localities in the Obock region and 67% of those in the Ali-Sabieh region, IDPs are living in informal settlements. In 51% of the assessed localities in the Arta region and 32% of the assessed localities in the Tadjourah region, IDPs are living with host families.

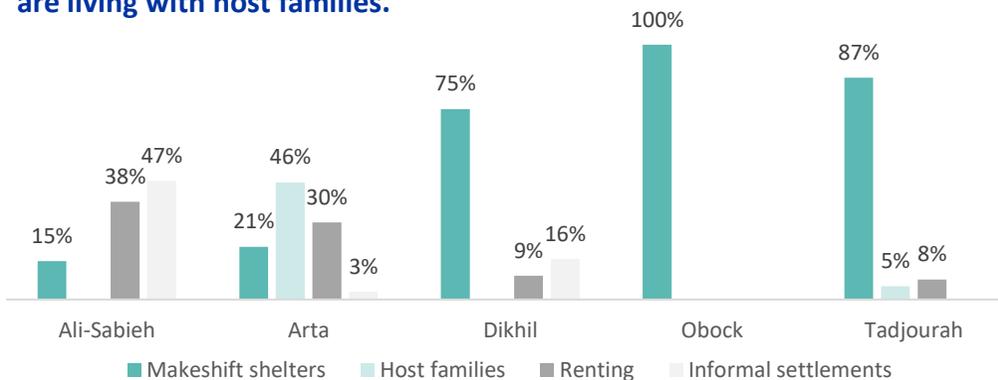


## SHELTER TYPES FOR MIGRANTS

In close to 60% of the assessed localities, migrants are living in makeshift shelters. A smaller proportion of migrants are currently renting houses (in 17% of the assessed localities), are living in collective centres (15%) or are living with host families (10%).



In all of the assessed localities of the Obock region, migrants are living in makeshift shelters. The percentage of localities where migrants are living in makeshift shelters and in very precarious conditions is also significant in the Tadjourah (87%) and Dikhil (75%) regions. In the Tadjourah (87%) and Dikhil (75%) regions. In the Ali-Sabieh region, a significant proportion of migrants are living in informal settlements. However, in 46% of the assessed localities in the Arta region, migrants are living with host families.



# PRIORITY NEEDS OF MIGRANTS AND IDPs



## PRIORITY NEEDS OF IDPs

**Access to food** has been cited as one of the top humanitarian needs in all 5 regions of the country. In contrast to the priority needs of migrants, access to financial support has not been cited as a key priority amongst the IDPs.

**Access to drinking water** has been cited as a key humanitarian need in the Ali-Sabieh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah regions. In addition, **access to water for livestock or livelihoods** has also been cited as being a priority need in the Arta, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah regions.



In addition to the humanitarian needs highlighted above, in 87% of the assessed localities, IDPs have fled with their livestock (mainly goats and a smaller proportion of camels and goats). However, **in 93% of these localities, IDPs have lost their livestock due to the impacts of the drought.**



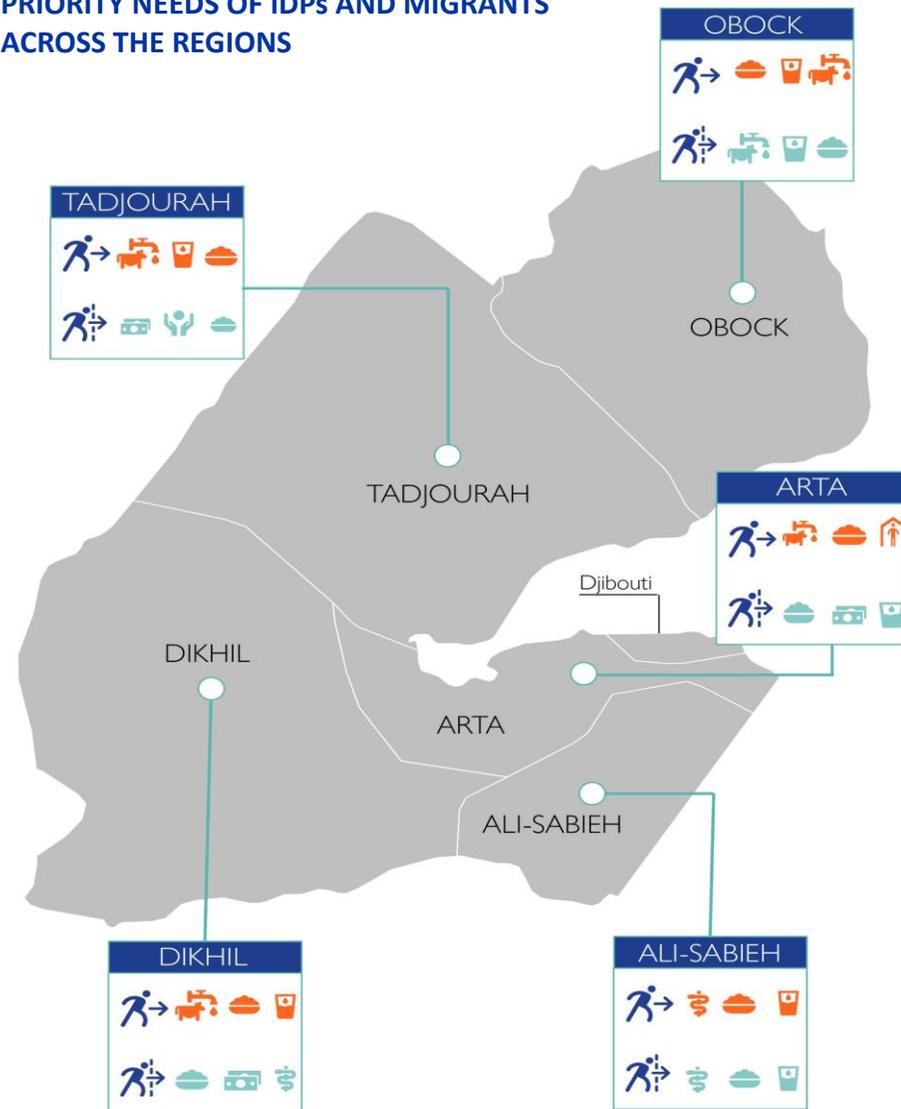
## PRIORITY NEEDS OF MIGRANTS

**Access to food has been cited** as one of the top humanitarian needs in all 5 regions of the country.

In the Dikhil region, which is bordering with Ethiopia and is hosting an important number of migrants, **access to financial support** has also been cited by migrants as being one of the most significant needs. In the Obock, Ali-Sabieh and Arta regions, **access to drinking water** is a priority humanitarian need.

In the Tadjourah region, **access to protection services** has been cited as a priority need. **As such, more in-depth qualitative assessments need to be conducted in order to identify the specific protection needs and vulnerabilities.**

## PRIORITY NEEDS OF IDPs AND MIGRANTS ACROSS THE REGIONS



*The map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.*



Contact: [DTMDjibouti@iom.int](mailto:DTMDjibouti@iom.int) - +253 21 32 04 50 - website: <https://dtm.iom.int/djibouti>