MIGRATION ALONG THE EASTERN CORRIDOR

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IOM Regional Office for the East and Horn of Africa

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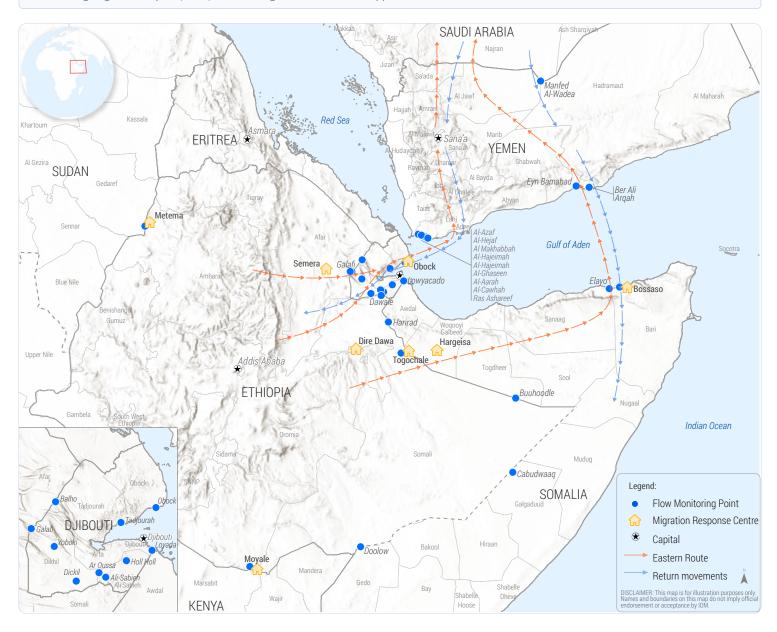


About the report

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 (DTM)</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), which includes information on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR)
- Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) from Yemen
- Returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Missing Migrants Project (MMP) data on migrant deaths and disappearances

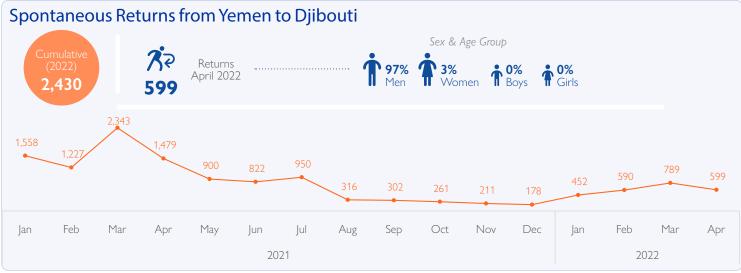


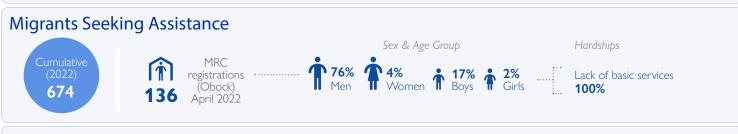
Migration Through Djibouti

Observations

A small reduction (9%) in the flows of migrants entering Djibouti was observed. The Oromia region continues to be the main region of origin (48%), followed by Amhara and Tigray. Arsi, in the Oromia region, continues to be the main area of departure for one in four Oromo migrants, and while the conflict has ceased, the area has been heavily destroyed. Also conflict affected is North Wello in the Amhara region, origin to one in five Amhara migrants. Migrants were almost evenly split between those intending to remain in Djibouti and those seeking to cross over to Yemen, while only one in five reported to be travelling to Saudi Arabia. It is likely that some of the migrants who reported wanting to stay in Djibouti might, in reality, aim to continue. Recent focus group discussions with migrants in Djibouti revealed that many would stay where they are able to find employment along the way, including in Djibouti and in Yemen. Migration though Djibouti remains largely economic-, followed by conflict-induced, which was reported as the main driver by over 60 per cent of the migrants from the Tigray region and 20 per cent of those from Amhara. Children represent one in five migrants observed in Djibouti in April, mostly boys (73%), and almost all were unaccompanied (94%). Spontaneous returns from Yemen to Obock have increased by 33 per cent compared to March, mostly by Oromo migrants who have not found work in Yemen and have been scammed by smugglers. The MRC in Obock welcomed 136 new migrants, therefore reaching full capacity of the facility, which, by the end of April, hosted 264 migrants. While AVRR services, which had resumed at the end of March, continued, return movements to the Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions remain suspended because of the ongoing conflict. Meanwhile, communities in Djibouti, especially in rural areas, are reportedly struggling with the effects of the drought.







679 Stranded migrants April 2022

O Dead/missing migrants**

April 2022

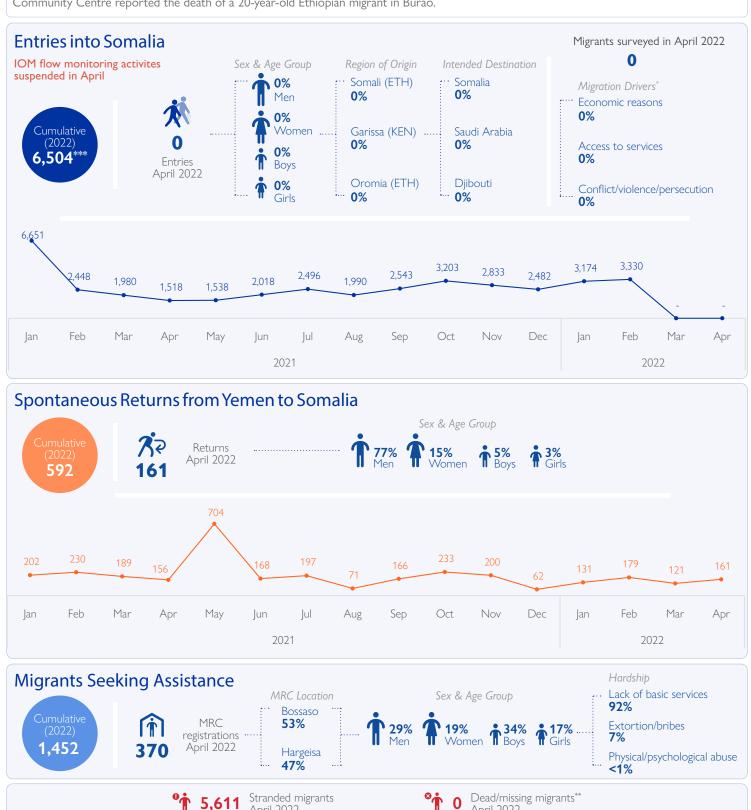
^{*}Multiple answer question.

Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verifed.

Migration Through Somalia

Observations

The temporary suspension of flow monitoring activities continued through the month of April as IOM Somalia continues to engage with the Federal Government of Somalia. The information reported by the MRC in Hargeisa is that, with the month of Ramadhan, which started on 2 April and ended on 1 May, an increase in the number of migrants coming into Somaliland was observed. Increased movements are not uncommon during this period; however, many of the new arrivals in Hargeisa, Burao and Borama were also prompted by the drought in southeastern Ethiopia. In Bossaso, a few incidents between migrants of the same ethnic groups took place in the Suwetto ghettos in Bossaso and in the outskirts near farming areas, which led to serious injuries for 10 migrants. All migrants injured were referred by the MRC to medical attention and the Ethiopian Community Centre is currently involved in better understanding the dynamics that led to such episodes of violence. Moreover, the Ethiopian Community Centre reported the death of a 20-year-old Ethiopian migrant in Burao.



^{*} Multiple answer question.

April 2022

April 2022

^{**} Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verfied.

^{***} As of February 2022.

Migration Through Yemen

Observations

In the month of April, there was a further slight decrease (-3%) in migrant arrivals from the Horn of Africa. Arrivals from Djibouti to the Lahj coast slightly increased (12%), while arrivals from Somalia to the Shabwah coast decreased (-21%) due to unfavorable weather conditions. There has been an escalation of violence since January 2022 against migrants and a further incident was reported in the northern Monnibeh district of Sa'dah Governorate as migrants approached the Saudi Arabia border. There, on 3 April a group of 120 migrants was victim of an attack that left 38 migrants killed and 17 seriously injured. Migrants in the north of Yemen continue to be detained, particularly in Sa'ada, and then transported to Sana'a where they are eventually forced to cross active front lines in Ta'iz. Forced transfers continue to be a common practice and it is believed that around 500 migrants are transferred per week. Forced returns to Yemen from Saudi Arabia through the Al Wadea'ah land border decreased by 28 per cent compared to March. Moreover, IOM Yemen estimates that 40,000 migrants remain stranded across the country and are in need of humanitarian assistance and unable to either progress with their journeys or return home. IOM Yemen continued to prepare for the resumption of VHR for vulnerable stranded migrants.

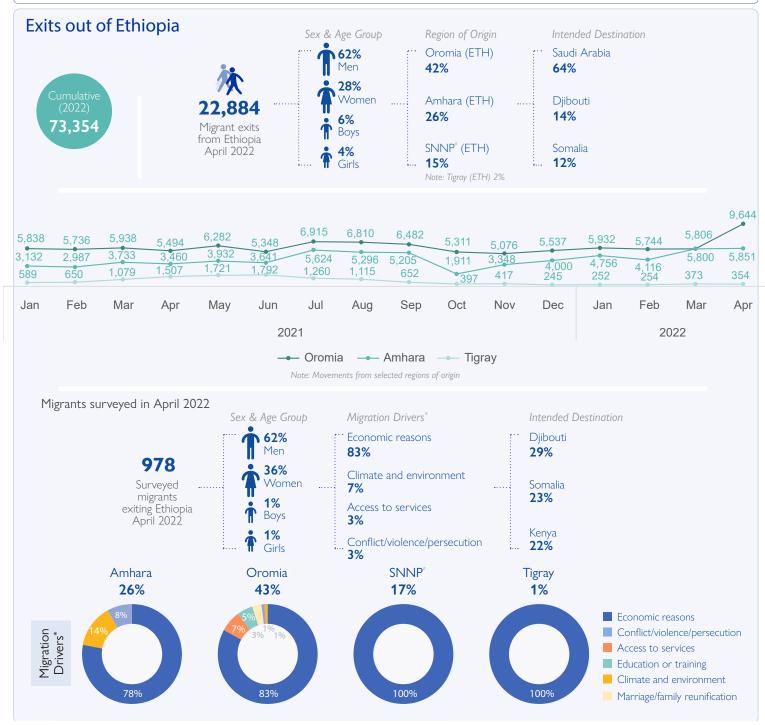


^{**} Reporting is based on IOM Yemen information and is being verified according to Missing Migrants Project criteria.

Migration Through Ethiopia

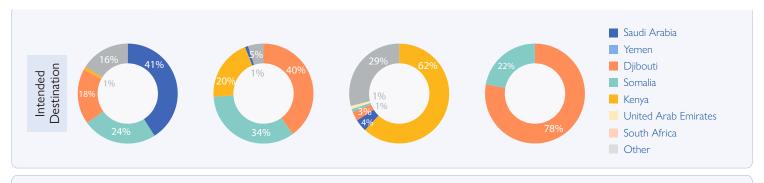
Observations

In the month of April, the number of migrants observed at flow monitoring points exiting Ethiopia increased by 26 per cent, with the greatest increases recorded in Tog Wochale (68% increase) at the border with Somalia, Dawale (35% increase) close to the border with Djibouti and Moyale (20%) at the border with Kenya. Most migrants coming from areas affected by the northern Ethiopian crisis, such as the North and South Wello zones, and parts of the North Shewa zone in the Amhara region, transit through Galafi. IOM enumerators reported that many of the migratory movements through Tog Wochale and Dawale were drought-induced. Moreover, a number of migratory movements originating from the highlands of Oromia exited through Moyale in search of job opportunities in Kenya as their livelihoods had been affected by the drought. IOM assisted voluntary returns remain suspended for migrants originating from areas affected by the northern Ethiopian conflict, namely Afar, Amhara and Tigray. Most of the migrants seeking assistance were registered at the MRC in Moyale. IOM continues to observe return movements of Ethiopian deportees, mainly from the SNNP region, who were headed to South Africa, but ended up in detention in Kenya. Returns from Saudi Arabia increased significantly in April, with an average of over 500 returnees per day and the overall return of almost 15,500 Ethiopian migrants. This is placing significant pressure on reception capacity in Ethiopia.



Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region. This region was recently redrawn into three administrations: SNNP, Sidama and South West Ethiopia. This report draws from data from the former SNNP.

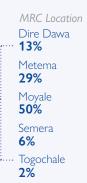
^{*} Multiple answer question.



Migrants Seeking Assistance



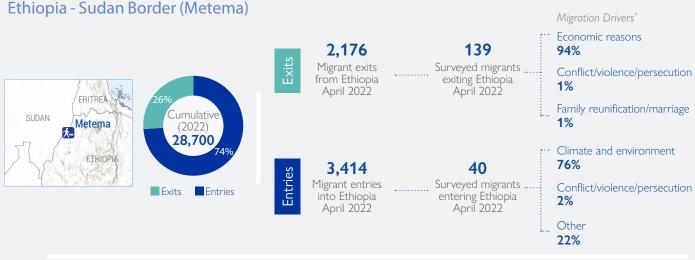








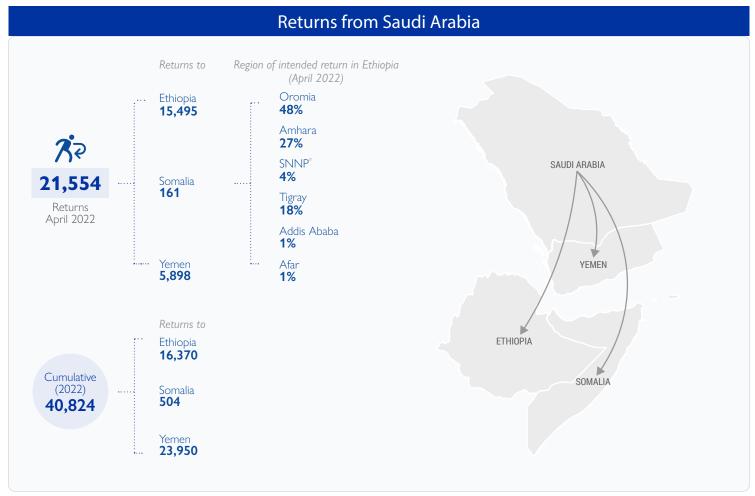
Impact of the Northern Ethiopia Conflict along the Northern and Southern Corridors





^{*} Multiple answer question.

Migrant Children Along the Eastern Corridor Into Somalia In Djibouti No data 9% **65**% available Boys 74% In Ethiopia Into Yemen 35% 24% Unaccompanied 25% 32% Migrant children Migrant Girls Girls entries children seeking April 2022 assistance In Somalia Into Djibouti April 2022 **75**% 67% My spouse/partner 61% Travelling with children 282 12% 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 (younger than 18) for children not travelling (20% of all with the migrant Who left children behind in the country of origin respondents) parent 48% April 2022 My older children (18 and older) **1%**



Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region. This region was recently redrawn into three administrations: SNNP, Sidama and South West Ethiopia. Figures in this report reflect the former SNNP.