During the reporting period, MRP partners observed 45,948 migrants departing from Ethiopia, of these 40,691 entered Djibouti, giving a total of 256,288 migrants having left Ethiopia and Somalia in 2022. According to research conducted by IOM’s Regional Data Hub surveying 854 migrants in December 2022, the majority (83%) of the migrants reported leaving due to economic reasons, approximately five per cent cited conflict; five per cent cited climate change and environmental factors as reasons for leaving; and four per cent indicated marriage and/or family reunification as the main motivation for migrating. The reasons for migrating by the remaining three per cent of migrants are undisclosed. Non-voluntary returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia continued during the reporting period, with 22,024 migrants recorded by IOM’s Regional Data Hub, adding up to 93,527 returns since the beginning of 2022. The non-voluntary returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were suspended from September to October 2022 due to overcrowding in the reception facilities in Addis Ababa. In Q4 of 2022, MRP partners reported overstretched service provision for returnees in Addis Ababa in terms of temporary shelter and basic needs, with informal reports of returnees deciding to re-migrate along the Eastern Route. MRP partners also recorded 748 non-voluntary returns from Djibouti through Dewele, amounting to 6,148 non-voluntary returns since the beginning of the year. Among 419 surveyed migrants entering Djibouti from Ethiopia in December 2022, 41 per cent coming from the Amhara region, 44 per cent from the Oromia region, and nine per cent from the Tigray region. The regions of origin of the remaining six per cent are undisclosed. The heavy inflows from Ethiopia into Djibouti resulted in a high caseload of stranded migrants throughout the country, particularly in Ali-Sabieh and Dikhil regions, which increased the pressures on host communities to provide assistance to the migrants. Furthermore, reports from the focus group discussions (FGD) conducted by MRP partners with migrants showed that the numbers of stranded migrants in the southern regions of Djibouti also increased due to deception by migrant smugglers, as well as difficulties in accessing public services, particularly health facilities. In Somalia, the suspension of flow monitoring (FM) activities, which had been in place between March and mid-October 2022, was lifted and FM activities resumed in Q4 due to active engagement by MRP partners with the Federal Government of Somalia to reinstate operations. To address this gap, MRP partners built a predictive model to estimate the missing data during the eight-month standoff. During the reporting quarter, a total of 9,559 entries were recorded (the October figure was derived from the predictive model) into Somalia from Ethiopia for an estimated annual total of 40,836 entries into Somalia in 2022. MRP partners recorded 26,213 individuals arriving in Yemen in Q4, totaling 73,233 for the year.

Migrants along the Eastern Route face both the harsh physical conditions associated with the route as well as considerable protection risks including human trafficking and detention. Migrants endure extreme climates with limited food, water, and medical care. Migrants are also the target for human traffickers who often kidnap migrants and extort ransom from them or their families. Furthermore, migrants are also at risk of being detained or be non-voluntarily returned by border authorities. More specifically, migrants in Yemen face significant risks throughout their journey due to the ongoing armed conflict. They struggle to access humanitarian services and face dangers such as human trafficking, forced recruitment, and physical and psychological abuse. MRP partners are working to provide assistance, but the ongoing conflict and lack of access to key areas continue to prevent MRP partners in fully accessing migrant and host populations in Yemen and exacerbate the aforementioned vulnerabilities.
People in Need
759,748

People Targeted
494,758

People Reached
299,626 (61%)

Financial Requirements
$67 M

Funded
$43.8 M (66%)

Unmet
$23.2 M (34%)

In Q4, MRP partners reached a total of 37,240 beneficiaries across the MRP Strategic Objectives, including 25,813 migrants (16,360 men, 5,705 women, 2,844 boys, and 904 girls), 11,238 host community members, and 189 government officials (124 men and 65 women). Collectively, MRP partners reached 299,626 migrants, host community members, and government officials in 2022, representing 61 per cent of the MRP’s 2022 annual target population across the four countries. Furthermore, MRP partners received a collective $43.8 million in 2022, representing 66 per cent of the 2022 MRP financial appeal.

Strategic Objective 1 | Provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable migrants and host communities
MRP partners continued to provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable migrants and host communities in target countries along the Eastern Route, including assistance through the Migration Response Centres (MRCs), health clinics, mobile teams, way stations, and child protection desks. During Q4, MRP partners reached a total of 33,033 people including 21,861 migrants (13,400 men, 5,386 women, 2,227 boys, and 848 girls) and 11,172 host community members with life-saving humanitarian assistance.

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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH THE MRCs

01
1,457 migrants registered

02
1,457 migrants provided with non-food items

03
1,457 migrants provided with health support

04
1,215 migrants supported with food and water assistance

05
1,001 migrants supported with psychosocial assistance

Assistance provided included food, NFIs, multi-purpose cash assistance, primary and secondary healthcare, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), safe and dignified accommodation, counseling, registration, and assistance for voluntary humanitarian return.
Strategic Objective 2 | Provide quality, timely and inclusive protection assistance and services to migrants and host communities

During the last quarter of 2022, MRP partners provided quality, timely, and inclusive protection assistance and services to migrants and host communities. MRP partners reached 3,094 migrant beneficiaries (2,372 men, 87 women, 593 boys, and 42 girls) and 20 host community members with specialized protection assistance and awareness-raising sessions. MRP partners also led capacity-building efforts for 174 government officials, front-line actors, and partners (111 men and 63 women), focused on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), child protection, counter-trafficking, identifying protection vulnerabilities, and referral mechanisms.

Capacity Building Highlights

- In October 2022, MRP partners in Djibouti organized a three-day capacity-building workshop targeting 26 frontline actors (16 men and 10 women) involved in the protection of vulnerable populations on detection, conducting an identification interview, risk and needs assessment of potential victims, case management, and data protection tools related to the identification and referral of victims of trafficking, abuse and other forms of exploitation.

- Between 30 November and 5 December 2022, a total of four supervisors from the Somalia Immigration and Neutralization Department (IND) were trained by MRP partners in Mogadishu. The training provided an introduction to FM activities and in-depth sessions on data cleaning, data analysis, and reporting. In the next reporting periods, the officials will also visit border points where MRP partners collect data, with the first visit planned to take place in early 2023.

- In Ethiopia, MRP partners organized a capacity-building training for zonal and woreda-level Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Council members from Addis Ababa’s four sub-cities and six woredas to strengthen coordination mechanisms and enhance their ability to plan and monitor migration interventions.

Strategic Objective 3 | Strengthen access to return, sustainable reintegration, and community stabilization

During Q4, MRP partners supported 6,558 migrant beneficiaries (5,181 men, 1,150 women, 135 boys, and 92 girls) with onward transportation assistance, voluntary return, and tailored sustainable reintegration assistance. MRP partners also implemented activities to improve border and migration management processes including capacity-building on procedures for law enforcement agencies to address irregular immigration, trafficking in persons, and smuggling of migrants.

Awareness-Raising Highlights

- In the Obock region, 952 migrants benefited from awareness raising sessions on the risks of irregular migration and COVID-19 prevention measures conducted by MRP partners at the MRC.

- In Djibouti City, MRP partners held a Global Migration Film Festival on 19 December 2022, with 20 participants from the host community. The films screened during the festival raised awareness on topics such as the risks of irregular migration, opportunities of well-managed migration, and integration challenges faced by migrants globally.

- In Yemen, MRP partners provided 5,322 migrants (3,685 men, 379 women, 1,085 boys, and 173 girls) with information on legal rights in Yemen, the risks they may face and how to avoid them, survival techniques, among other safe migration-related issues. In addition, 330 host community members (229 men, 75 women, 20 boys, and six girls) benefited from awareness-raising sessions focused on issues faced by migrants, migrants’ legal rights, and how to assist and refer migrants to available services.

Strategic Objective 4 | Building evidence, partnerships and coordination to enhance the humanitarian response and migration management throughout the migration route


*These activities included protection assistance tailored to victims of trafficking and migrant children, including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), MHPSS, establishing and strengthening shelters providing specialized protection services, and conducting vulnerability assessments during the reporting period.

**It is important to note that beneficiaries reached within this Strategic Objective also most likely received life-saving and/or protection assistance as well.

**Reintegration assistance comprises of programmes geared towards sustainable livelihood generation, economic self-sufficiency, social stability, as well as psychosocial wellbeing in communities of return.
Surveys/Assessments/Research

Danish Refugee Council Ethiopia Migration Programme – Atmospherics Reports #18-19 - October-November 2022

The Danish Refugee Council’s (DRC) Ethiopia Migration Programme (EMP) produced two research publications on migration trends in Ethiopia that focused on non-voluntary returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the overcrowded shelters in Addis Ababa. In 2022, over 93,000 non-voluntary returns were recorded from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia. The reports highlighted challenges with sanitation infrastructure, shortage of clothing, and fleas in the shelters designated for new arrivals. Furthermore, the report findings showed that screenings for tuberculosis were continuously done for the new arrivals. However, medications for mental health were noted to be in short supply. Health care staff also requested training on working with vulnerable communities. The EMP is funded through the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

IOM Regional Data Hub – Eastern Corridor Reports - October-December 2022

During the reporting period, IOM’s Regional Data Hub produced three monthly Eastern Corridor Reports covering migration dynamics and FM across the Eastern Route. The regional reports provide monthly updates on the complex migratory dynamics through Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Yemen based on diverse data sources and consultations with key informants in the four countries. Moreover, the reports provide information on the main protection concerns for migrants along the journey, a specific focus on children, and information on the returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen.

Mixed Migration Centre Quarterly Mixed Migration Update - Quarter 4

This Quarterly Mixed Migration Update (QMMU) covers the Eastern and Southern Africa region plus Egypt and Yemen (ESA). The core areas of focus include the Eastern route, from East and the Horn of Africa towards the Arabian Peninsula, as well as intra-regional mixed migration dynamics. Key updates include forecasting the Horn of Africa drought. The Climate Hazards Group at the University of California Santa Barbara predicted that the Horn of Africa will experience an unprecedented sixth failed rainy season in 2023. By February 2023, the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) forecasts that 23-26 million people in the Horn of Africa will face acute food insecurity. As of November, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimated that 24.1 million people were affected by the drought in Ethiopia and 7.8 million in Somalia. Moreover, in December, the Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS) projected that the Bay area as well as the capital Mogadishu will reach the highest level of famine by March-April 2023. In Ethiopia, the drought is expected to prevail until at least mid-2023 impacting households whose main source of income is livestock. MRP partners anticipate these climate shocks will likely impact migration along the Eastern Route.

In addition, the update details protection incidents in Djibouti and In Yemen along the border with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Q4. On October 30th, a ship intending to reach Yemen sank on the coast of Djibouti. Three bodies were found and at least 28 migrants are presumed dead or missing. At the end of December, the Ethiopian Embassy in Djibouti reported 253 Ethiopian migrants including 98 women were rescued after their boat capsized in an attempt to cross the Bab al Mandab Strait from Djibouti to Yemen. During the reporting quarter, UN experts and Human Rights Watch published findings on grave allegations of human rights abuses against migrants and others perpetrated in the first four months of 2022 by security forces at the border between Sa’dah governorate, Yemen, and Jizan province, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Security forces allegedly fired artillery shells and small firearms, killing more than 400 and injuring more than 600. Thirty per cent of victims were reportedly women and seven per cent children. The UN report reveals that migrants traveling along this final leg of the migration route to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continue to be subject to attacks by both security forces and de facto authorities.

Coordination

The MRP includes 41 partners across the four target countries, in line with the MRP’s overall goal to enhance coordination and partnerships as critical enablers towards more effective response and effective use of scarce resources. The MRP Regional Coordination Committees (RCC) for Regional Directors and technical focal points comprise 15 partners at the regional level. The below section includes key highlights of MRP coordination at the regional and country levels.

Regional Coordination

Combined RCC and Information Management Working Group (IMWG) meeting

The MRP hosted a combined meeting for 25 regional focal points* from the Regional Coordination Committee and the Information Management Working Group on 6 October 2022. MRP partners’ country-level focal points also attended the meeting. The MRP Coordination Unit overviewed the key findings of the Secondary Data Review. As part of the MRP’s annual planning cycle, the MRP Coordination Unit conducted the Secondary Data Review in order to better understand the context along the Eastern Route through the analysis of all available quantitative and qualitative data sources to preface the formulation of the 2023 people in need and target. Key findings of the Secondary Data Review showed continued and increasing bi-directional flows along the Eastern Route of mostly Ethiopian migrants moving for economic reasons. The bi-directional movements resulted in dire need for basic assistance, protection assistance, and return and reintegration assistance. In addition, the MRP Coordination unit presented the final estimated People in Need figures for 2023 for validation by regional partners. Following the presentation, meeting attendants provided feedback, received clarification on the presented figures and findings and validated the figures that would form the basis of the MRP 2023. It’s important to note that the MRP 2023 planning process accounted for contributions to Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) in Ethiopia and Yemen as well as the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO).

*Participants were from the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF).
Partners’ Roundtable: Regional Migrant Response Plan 2022/2023
On 19 October, a partner’s roundtable was organized to communicate the broad overview of the projected situation of the target populations in 2023, the planning assumptions, the response priorities and anticipated gaps while emphasizing the Plan’s positioning as the appropriate vehicle for addressing the complex inter-regional migration issue. The meeting brought together over 65 participants from various donor communities and MRP partners from the regional and country levels. Speakers included both MRP partners as well as donors. Ms. Nicole Gaertner, Acting Director of the Office of Assistance for Asia and the Near East, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, provided remarks highlighting the United States’ commitment to international cooperation on migration issues and urged other donors to join the effort to support the MRP in 2023. MRP partners, IOM, MMC, UNICEF, Save the Children, and UNFPA also provided updates on the Eastern Route in various thematic areas including migration trends, protection of migrants, gender-based violence against migrants, reintegration assistance to returning migrants, as well as a preliminary needs overview, assumptions, and priorities for the MRP 2023.

Country Coordination

Protection Cluster - North Wollo Zone, Ethiopia
In Ethiopia, MRP child protection partners worked closely with migration actors to establish and strengthen the Protection Cluster in North Wollo zone, arranging weekly meetings with members of the coordination structures. MRP partners also conducted service mapping across North Wollo project implementation woredas to ensure timely and quality service delivery for returnees, including boys and girls at risk and survivors of violence.

Mixed Migration Working Group - Aden, Yemen
MRP partners in Yemen conducted three monthly meetings with the Mixed Migration Working Group in Aden to coordinate a more principled response to the migration management challenges in Yemen. The response includes providing life-saving assistance and outreach services to vulnerable migrants in remote areas.

MRP Coordination Meeting - Djibouti City, Djibouti
MRP partners in Djibouti conducted an MRP coordination meeting on 23 October including five partners, Caritas, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), IOM, UNICEF, and WFP. The meeting focused on the MRP 2023, overviewing the results framework as well as the 2023 projected PIN and priority needs in Djibouti. The meeting also included a refresher session on key migration definitions and a training on the online tools for proposed activities in 2023.

Projected Situation For Q1 2023
MRP partners anticipate continued migration flows across the Eastern Route in the first quarter of 2023; necessitating continued provision of life-saving humanitarian assistance and inclusive protection assistance along the Eastern Route. In Ethiopia, MRP partners expect the non-voluntary returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Djibouti to continue and MRP partners in Ethiopia will continue to provide direct assistance, tailored protection response inclusive of MHPSS, and return and reintegration assistance for vulnerable migrants. In Djibouti, MRP partners anticipate that the drought will continue in the Southern regions, and will impact both migrants and the host communities supporting them. In response, MRP partners will strengthen their presence in the Southern regions, strengthen coordination with civil society organizations and conduct an assessment of migrant presence in the key localities of Dikhil and Ali Sabieh. Beyond Djibouti, the Horn of Africa drought will also continue to worsen the situation of transiting migrants in Ethiopia and Somalia, further weaken host communities’ ability to assist migrants, and potentially drive further outward flows. Despite the ongoing violence and instability in Yemen, the number of migrants attempting to cross into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States is projected to increase, due to worsening economic conditions in Yemen. This scenario would likely lead to an increase in the number of migrants facing abuse and exploitation at the hands of smugglers. Voluntary humanitarian returns remain a critical lifeline for migrants stranded under deplorable and inhumane conditions in Yemen.
**MRP 2022 Key Achievements**

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### Life-saving Assistance

- **299,626** migrants, host community, and government officials reached in 2022
- **15** MRCs, health clinics, mobile teams, way stations, and child protection desks established/strengthened/managed enroute
- **31,430** (16,137 men, 7,745 women, 4,223 boys, and 3,325 girls) assisted with or referred for primary health care, including medical screening, first aid response, emergency health support and COVID 19 related assistance, vaccination, TBC, Hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, non-communicable diseases
- **3,019** (1,961 men, 782 women, 190 boys, and 86 girls) assisted with multipurpose cash for basic needs

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### Tailored Protection Assistance and Services

- **497** Households assisted with family tracing and reunification (separate to deceased migrants)
- **2,281** (1,192 men and 1,089 women) government officials trained
- **808** Vulnerability assessments conducted
- **317** Unaccompanied and separated children (162 boys and 155 girls) identified and referred to specialized services
- **45,156** (37,856 men, 7,103 women, 65 boys, 62 girls, and 60 host community members) migrants supported with mental health and psychosocial support
- **2,281** (1,192 men and 1,089 women) government officials trained
- **3,894** (3,076 men, 234 women, 467 boys, and 157 girls) migrants supported with VHR support

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### Building evidence, partnerships and coordination

- **74** flow monitoring deliverables, reports, snapshots, quarterly overviews, and in-depth research covering migration trends along the Eastern Route, including drivers, key vulnerabilities, and contextual analysis.
- **14** country-level events including partner coordination meetings, technical working groups, and consultation meetings to discuss contextual updates, coordinate country-level response along the Eastern Route, and facilitate planning for 2023.

The MRP Coordination Unit facilitated various regional events to strengthen country and regional level coordination mechanisms as well as to highlight the achievements of MRP partners as follows:

- Virtually launched the MRP 2022 in February 2022 bringing together 165 participants including the IOM Director General, high-level government officials from Eastern Route countries, as well as key donors.
- Held a MRP Photo Exhibition in June 2022 in London, United Kingdom to raise awareness about the challenges and difficulties faced by migrants along the Eastern Route.
- Conducted five regional level working group meetings to organize migrant protection response through the MPWG (two meetings) and to coordinate the 2023 planning process through the IMWG (three meetings).
- Facilitated two respective MRP retreats for IOM and MRP to discuss key implementation issues, reinforce coordination mechanisms, and develop synchronized action plans.

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### Return, Reintegration, and Community Stabilization

- **41** Community initiatives that foster stabilization and resilience through access to quality basic services, livelihoods and other initiatives addressing the root causes of migration, serving communities in countries of origin as well as migrants and host communities in hot spot areas of transit and migration were established
- **2,922** (1,629 men, 956 women, 55 boys, 56 girls, and 226 host community members) individuals benefited from sustainable reintegration & economic empowerment interventions
- **6,014** (2,120 (1,511 men, 212 women, 311 boys, and 86 girls) migrants supported with voluntary return support and 3,894 (3,076 men, 234 women, 467 boys, and 157 girls) migrants supported with VHR support
Projects

Recycling Project - Dire Dawa, Ethiopia

Community-based reintegration (CBR) projects contribute to sustainable solutions by addressing specific needs identified by the communities of high emigration and return along the Eastern Route. One of the flagship community stabilization projects undertaken by MRP partners in 2023 included a plastic recycling and compost production project in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. The activities of this project contribute to the MRP’s third strategic objective to strengthen access to return, sustainable reintegration, and community stabilization by providing livelihood opportunities and preventing irregular migration and remigration. In March 2022, MRP partners facilitated the signing of a MoU between the Plastic and Compost Cooperatives and the Dire Dewa City Administration’s Agency of Sanitation and Beautification within the framework of the Plastic Recycling and Compost Production project. Under this MoU, the government will transport plastic and other waste for one year and avail shade for two years for free as their contribution. The Plastic and Compost Cooperatives will collect a minimum of 24 and 100 tons of plastic and compost respectively per month from the city. Following a series of trainings delivered by the Dire Dawa City Administration’s Agency of Sanitation and Beautification in plastic recycling, compost production, environmental protection, cooperative management, life skills, entrepreneurship, savings, branding, and marketing, project beneficiaries were assisted to legally form cooperatives. The government also conducted assessments and feasibility studies; availed working shades, electricity, water, and office space for the cooperatives, as well as vehicles to transport waste to the project site; organized experience-sharing visits; and facilitated market linkages with the private sector, farmers’ union and government offices. To date, project participants have started generating income through the collection of over 50,000 kg of plastic bottles for recycling and 200,000 kg of organic waste, which was turned into produced compost. The project will continue into 2023.

Research Publications

A Region on the Move 2021: East and Horn of Africa

The “A Region on the Move” report series for the East and Horn of Africa has been the regional flagship publication since 2017. Over the years, the report series has illustrated the main humanitarian situations in the region, with a focus on internal displacement and mixed migration flows along the major migration corridors. Building on IOM’s leading World Migration Report series, the structure of the 2021 edition of “A Region on the Move” was revamped to explore mobility dynamics affecting the East and Horn of Africa region across its broader spectrum: from providing a regional overview of data and trends on international migrants to discussing specific groups of migrants, namely migrant workers, refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and irregular migrants along the main migratory corridors. A Region on the Move 2021, the ninth report in the series, builds on more than 20 data sources — official and operational — that examine different aspects of the multifaceted migration landscape. While the focus extends beyond the geographic and thematic scope of the MRP, covering all of East and the Horn of Africa as well as internal displacement, the Region on the Move report highlights key trends of the Eastern Route as well as key issues affecting migrants such as conflict, climate shocks, COVID-19, and protection vulnerabilities.

Key findings of the report included migration trends in 2021. The Eastern Route comprised 40 per cent of all movements tracked in the region with 27,700 migrant arrivals in Yemen from the Horn of Africa in 2021, 13,100 returns from Yemen to Djibouti and Somalia, as well as 79,500 returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia. Movements in 2021 along the Eastern Route increased by 71 per cent since 2020, mainly attributed to the easing of COVID-19 related travel restrictions. The report also highlights the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of loss of income, poverty and reduced ability to cope, as well as a lack of access to health services. The lack of livelihoods affected countries of origin and increased drivers for irregular migration. In addition, increased poverty also impacted the ability of communities to send remittances to support migrants traveling along the Eastern Route.

Other 2022 Regional Data Hub Products

- Return of Ethiopian Migrants from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – Annual Overview 2022
- Eastern Corridor Report – Migration Along the Eastern Corridor
- Horn of Africa Drought 2022: Human Mobility Snapshot (January – October 2022)
- The Role of Economic and Social Remittances in Shaping Migration Flows from Ethiopia – October 2022
- The Impact of COVID-19 on Ethiopian Migrants and their Households in Five Communities of High Emigration
- Returns from Saudi Arabia Mid-Year Overview 2022
- MRC Midyear Overview 2022
- Network Migration and Transnational Ties in Five Ethiopian Communities of High Emigration
- Missing Migrants Project Briefing Paper 2021
IOM and Mixed Migration Centre: Survey on the interactions between local communities and transiting migrants in Hargeisa

This snapshot presents the main findings on the interactions between migrants and local communities in Hargeisa, based on 201 surveys conducted with the local community in July 2022. According to the results, 60 per cent of the respondents had daily interactions with migrants, while another 24 per cent said they interacted with migrants weekly. In addition, the primary reason for interactions between local community respondents and migrants consisted of the provision of free assistance (52%), commercial/economic interactions (45%), and social interactions (22%). Food, water, and cash remained the most common assistance provided by local communities to the migrants. In addition, 27 per cent of local community respondents indicated that they hired migrants in domestic work. An accompanying snapshot of Obock and Tadjourah in Djibouti is available at this link.

Mixed Migration Centre: Drivers and aspirations of Ethiopians impacted by the Tigray conflict

MMC produced a snapshot exploring the migration drivers and aspirations of Ethiopians in Somalia and Sudan who left Ethiopia since the outbreak of conflict in Tigray in November 2020. The report sheds light on how the conflict impacted mixed migration dynamics in the region and farther afield, including movements east to Somalia, where some Ethiopians join routes towards the Gulf. This snapshot aimed to inform protection responses outside of Ethiopia, highlighting the need for a route-based approach and coordinating responses across routes, given the complex movement dynamics emanating from the crisis.

Other 2022 Mixed Migration Centre Products

• Quarterly Mixed Migration Update – Eastern and Southern Africa

Coordination

In 2022, the MRP Coordination Unit enhanced coordination at the regional and country level by holding internal coordination meetings with MRP partners at the country and regional levels as well as organizing outward facing events such as donor briefings and photo exhibitions. The MRP Coordination Unit leads two regional working groups, the Migrant Protection Working Group (MPWG) and the Information Management Working Group (IMWG), bringing together the MRP’s regional partners to discuss and coordinate response along the Eastern Route within the respective thematic areas. In addition, the MRP Coordination Unit organizes events to highlight the key needs of migrants and host communities along the Eastern Route and appeal for support from the donor communities.

Main Achievements

• Organized two MPWG meetings bringing together regional MRP partners to discuss key protection priorities for the Eastern Route.
• Coordinated three IMWG meetings with regional MRP partners to discuss overarching information management needs and facilitate the MRP 2023 annual planning cycle.
• Held two MRP retreats in 2022 for MRP focal points from IOM country missions as well as for the MRP’s NGO partners to discuss key challenges in response, improve coordination, and develop comprehensive action plans for the year.
• Conducted field visits to Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Somalia to meet with MRP partners, visit activity sites, and improve capacity within designated areas (programme management, coordination, information management, monitoring and evaluation, etc.).

MRP Photo Exhibition

The IOM Regional Director for East and the Horn of Africa hosted a photo exhibition on 10 June 2022 in London, the United Kingdom, to raise awareness about the challenges and difficulties faced by migrants along the Eastern Route, which are often hidden and underreported. The photo exhibition also reflected on the achievements and assistance provided by MRP partners to vulnerable migrants and host communities along the migration route. Attendees of the exhibit included representatives from the FCDO, the United Kingdom Home Office, and various diaspora associations. The event was well-received among the attendees, who felt the images were moving. Participants appreciated having a photo exhibit to more easily digest the complex topic and to understand the gravity of migrants’ conditions while traveling along this route. The event was publicized on Facebook and Twitter, as well as through a video.

MRP Partner Retreat 2022

In Q2, the Migrant Response Plan Coordination Unit organized a strategic retreat in Nairobi for 40 MRP regional-level partners and representatives of the national coordination structures from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Yemen to discuss ways to strengthen coordination, strategic planning, resource mobilization, reporting, financial tracking, and communications and visibility. The retreat resulted in a comprehensive list of country-specific recommendations, an action plan and a road map to provide strategic guidance for enhancing the MRP-coordinated response at both the regional and country levels.
MRP Partner Retreat in Ethiopia 2022
A two-day MRP partner coordination meeting was held in Ethiopia in June 2022. Forty technical representatives from the Government of Ethiopia, the UN, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and local MRP partners participated in the meeting to share, discuss, and explore pathways to strengthen the coordination and operationalization of the MRP 2022 and to shape the way forward for the planning of the MRP 2023 in Ethiopia. The primary outcomes of the meeting included:

• Better strategic-level understanding of the MRP coordination structures and functions.
• Improved understanding of MRP reporting tools, reporting process, financial tracking, and resulting deliverables.
• Review and appraisal of the MRP National Coordination Committee terms of reference.
• Development of a joint MRP 2022-2023 work plan for Ethiopia.

About the MRP
The Regional Migrant Response Plan (MRP) for the Horn of Africa and Yemen 2021 – 2024 is an inter-agency migrant-focused humanitarian and development response strategy for vulnerable migrants from the Horn of Africa, specifically Somalia and Ethiopia, transiting through Djibouti, moving to and from Yemen. It provides an essential strategic framework to ensure a whole-of-society, whole of-route, and whole-of-government approach to addressing migrants’ protection needs, risks and vulnerabilities. The MRP is led by IOM’s Regional Office for the East and Horn of Africa based in Nairobi. MRP partners include governments, intergovernmental actors, including UN Agencies, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and non-governmental actors working in close collaboration at the regional and country levels to set strategic objectives, determine yearly operational priorities and budgets, support country offices in implementation through capacity building and technical support, and identifying challenges and trends that inform partners’ responses. In 2022, the MRP consists of 41 organizations across the four countries.
Contact Information

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