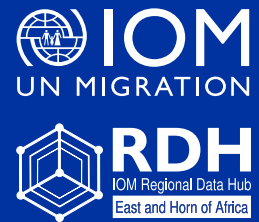


REGIONAL DATA HUB RESEARCH IN THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA

INFO SHEET 2024



Introduction

To provide a more in-depth understanding of the migration dynamics across the region, the Regional Data Hub (RDH) has developed a corridor-based research strategy along the region's three main migratory corridors: the Eastern Corridor towards the Arabian Peninsula and in particular Saudi Arabia, the Southern Corridor towards the southern part of the continent and in particular South Africa, and the Northern Corridor towards North Africa and Europe. The RDH regularly disseminates research reports and thematic analyses drawing on the analysis of the data collected along the three corridors. The RDH also annually publishes its flagship [A Region on the Move](#) report, providing an in-depth overview of the main population movement trends in the region.

Eastern Corridor

The research strategy was launched in 2019 along the Eastern Corridor, the main migratory corridor in the region. The project involved three separate data collection exercises, including two with individual migrants in key transit locations (Obock, Djibouti and Bossaso) and one in communities of high emigration in Ethiopia. The first two phases explored the profiles of young Ethiopian migrants headed towards the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and the drivers of their migration, as well as the nexus between decision-making, migrant expectations, risk perception and experienced realities of those migrating. The third stage of the project builds a better understanding of the environment in which migration is taking place and how it is experienced at household and community level. Phase three was also designed to better understand how money, information, knowledge and ideas flow transnationally between communities in Ethiopia and migrants abroad, as well as to gauge whether COVID-19 had changed the migration environment and impacted migration from and to these communities.

Northern Corridor

The RDH expanded its research portfolio to include the Northern Corridor in 2022. This research provides a more nuanced understanding of Ethiopian, Eritrean and Sudanese migrants' profiles, how they make decisions to migrate, their drivers of migration, the role of networks and facilitators and the experiences and needs of vulnerable groups on this corridor. Data were collected in three locations in Sudan (Khartoum, Al Fashir and Kassala) in 2023, prior to the armed conflict. Following the escalation of violence in Sudan in April 2023, the RDH collected further data along the Northern Corridor on Ethiopians, Eritreans and Sudanese displaced by conflict in Madani, Sudan as well as Cairo and Aswan in Egypt to inform crisis management and programmatic planning.

Southern Corridor

The RDH began researching the largely understudied Southern Corridor in 2020 through key informant interviews with over 50 experts in Ethiopia, South Africa and transit countries. In 2021, as COVID-19-related mobility restrictions eased, IOM, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Embassy, conducted data collection with migrants in detention in the United Republic of Tanzania. Simultaneously, the RDH carried out research in Misha, a community of high emigration in the Central Ethiopia administrative region of Ethiopia to investigate the context in which migration along this corridor occurs and how it affects migrant families and the community.



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



"MY LIFE, MY PLANS AND MY DREAMS ARE FALLING APART": VOICES FROM THE SUDAN CONFLICT

This report sheds light on the experiences of Sudanese, Ethiopian and Eritrean migrants displaced by the 2023 Sudan crisis. The report looks at why people fled their homes, their experiences at the time of their flight, who is migrating and who is unable to do so, how they fled, the challenges they faced during their migration and their experiences at destination. • 11.2023



THE SOUTHERN DREAM

This report provides an overview of the dynamics along the Southern Corridor, looking at who is migrating, why they are migrating, how they are migrating and their experiences in countries of origin, transit and at destination. • 5.2023



THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REMITTANCES IN SHAPING MIGRATION FLOWS FROM ETHIOPIA

This report explores the role of economic and social remittances – transfers of money, ideas, images, beliefs and behaviors – in the migration systems of five communities of high emigration and how they play a key role in perpetuating migration from Ethiopia. • 10.2022



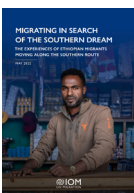
THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON ETHIOPIAN MIGRANTS AND THEIR HOUSEHOLDS IN FIVE COMMUNITIES OF HIGH EMIGRATION

Given the emergence of new migratory trends of Ethiopians along the Eastern and Southern Corridors during the COVID-19 pandemic, this report looks at five communities of high emigration using household-level data to explain how the health emergency impacted mobility dynamics in these communities and the households living in them. • 8.2022



NETWORK MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONAL TIES IN FIVE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITIES OF HIGH EMIGRATION

This report explores the role of networks in the migration systems of five different communities in Ethiopia as well as the role networks play in perpetuating migration along both the Eastern and Southern Corridors. • 6.2022



MIGRATING IN SEARCH OF THE SOUTHERN DREAM

This is the first research report focused exclusively on the migration dynamics along the Southern Corridor. The report examines a variety of topics including migration drivers, migration decision-making, the actors involved in migration, network links between origin and destination as well as migrants' experiences en route. • 5.2022



RETURN MIGRATION DYNAMICS IN FIVE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITIES OF HIGH EMIGRATION

This report explores how migration and in particular returns are experienced at the household and community level and sheds light on how returns not only pose a challenge to the returning migrants themselves, but may also severely impact their households. • 1.2022



TO CHANGE MY LIFE: RISK PERCEPTION, EXPECTATIONS AND MIGRATION EXPERIENCES OF YOUNG ETHIOPIANS

This report draws on both qualitative and quantitative data collected from migrants in transit in Obock, Djibouti. The report drills down on the drivers of Eastern Corridor migration, migrants' risk awareness, risk preference and their experiences en route, as well as migrant decision-making and the actors involved in the process. • 5.2021



COMPARATIVE EASTERN CORRIDOR ROUTE ANALYSIS: OBOCK, DJIBOUTI AND BOSSASO, PUNTLAND

In this report, data collected in Obock, Djibouti and Bossaso during the first two phases of research are compared to contextual information and relevant literature for a comparative analysis of the two main migratory routes (through Djibouti and Somalia) along the Eastern Corridor. • 12.2020



GENDERED PATTERNS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS' MIGRATION ALONG THE EASTERN CORRIDOR

This report examines data collected in Obock, Djibouti and Bossaso during the first two phases of the research, comparing them to context information, national sociodemographic data and relevant literature to provide in-depth and focused insights on gendered migration patterns along the Eastern Corridor. • 12.2020



THE DESIRE TO THRIVE REGARDLESS OF THE RISK: BACKGROUND ANALYSIS BOSSASO

Drawing on quantitative data collected from migrants in transit in Bossaso, this report presents core findings on the sociodemographic characteristics of migrants, the place of origin in Ethiopia and intended destination in Saudi Arabia, the livelihood conditions at home and main drivers of migration, the decision-making process and the awareness and willingness to take on risks. • 9.2020



THE DESIRE TO THRIVE REGARDLESS OF THE RISK: BACKGROUND ANALYSIS OBOCK

Drawing on quantitative data collected from migrants in transit in Obock, Djibouti, this report presents findings on the sociodemographic characteristics of migrants, the place of origin in Ethiopia and intended destination in Saudi Arabia, livelihood conditions at home and main drivers of migration, the decision-making process and the awareness and willingness to take on risks. • 5.2020

Legend

- Eastern Corridor
- Southern Corridor
- Northern Corridor