# Migration Response Centres (MRCs)
## East and Horn of Africa
### REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH
01 January - 30 October 2018

**International Organization for Migration (IOM)**
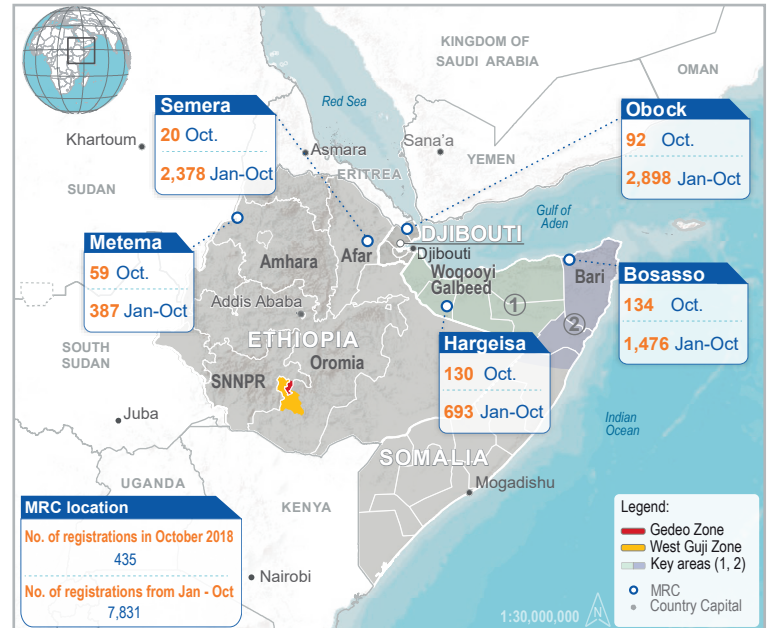The UN Migration Agency

## REGIONAL OVERVIEW: OCTOBER 2018

A total of 435 migrants were registered at MRCs across the region in October. The largest number of migrants was registered in Bosasso (134), followed by Hargeisa (130), Obock (92), Metema (59) and Semera (20). Almost a quarter of all registrations were children. The largest number of children were registered in Hargeisa (58) and Obock (24). While all 58 minors in Hargeisa were accompanied, 75% of minors in Obock were unaccompanied (18). Moreover, all registered minors in Semera (4) and Metema (10) and half of the registered minors in Bosasso (4) were unaccompanied. This is likely attributable to the fact that more than half of all minors registered in Hargeisa were younger than 6, whilst the other MRCs mainly registered 15-17 year olds. This also reflects the nature of the respective MRCs, with Hargeisa receiving larger numbers of young children compared to other MRCs due to its location in an area where many migrant families (particularly women and their children) have temporarily settled.

The vast majority (99.5%) of MRC registrations in October were of Ethiopian nationality, most commonly from the Oromia (44%), Amhara (18%), Somali (15%) and Tigray regions (14%), as has been the case in previous months. Although only 4% of registrees reported that their main motivation for leaving their place of habitual residence was conflict, ongoing hostilities in the southern part of the Oromia region may be linked to the large number of registrees from this part of the country. As was the case in previous months, the majority of migrants registered across MRCs were between 18-29 year old males, reportedly traveling without identity documentation (91%).

While 42% of registrees were headed on the eastern route towards the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, another 26% were headed to Somalia and 11% were returning home to their country of residence. Migration to Europe continued on an upward trend, with the number of migrants declaring that Europe was their final destination trippling compared to September (13% of total). The largest number of migrants headed to Europe were tracked in Metema, 92% of the migrants registered at this MRC in October. While the profiles of migrants on the eastern and northern (towards Europe) routes are similar, largely 18-29 year-old males, the profiles of migrants migrating within the Horn of Africa, to Somalia and within Ethiopia, are more varied with the age distribution more evenly spread out and females and minors constituting 44% and 39% of registrees using this route, respectively.

## MRC LOCATIONS & REGISTRATIONS*



**Semera**
20 Oct.
2,378 Jan-Oct

**Metema**
59 Oct.
387 Jan-Oct

**Obock**
92 Oct.
2,898 Jan-Oct

**Bosasso**
134 Oct.
1,476 Jan-Oct

**Hargeisa**
130 Oct.
693 Jan-Oct

**MRC location**
No. of registrations in October 2018
435
No. of registrations from Jan - Oct
7,831

Legend:
Gedeo Zone
West Guji Zone
Key areas (1, 2)
○ MRC
• Country Capital

1:30,000,000

**Migration Response Centers (MRCs)** are situated along key migration routes, where they fill critical gaps by providing direct assistance, including food and temporary shelter, information and service referrals to migrants on the move. Working collaboratively, MRCs bring together key partners to facilitate the identification of migrants in vulnerable situations, and ensure that they receive appropriate, immediate and longer-term support. Five MRCs are currently operational in the Horn of Africa: Hargeisa and Bosasso since 2009, Djibouti since 2011 and Semera and Metema since 2014. IOM is working closely with local authorities to open two further MRCs in the coming months. The services provided by each MRC vary based on location and needs.



Young Ethiopian Migrants Playing a Boardgame in the Recreational Area of the MRC Semera, June 2018. © Asnakew Mekdes

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## East and Horn of Africa
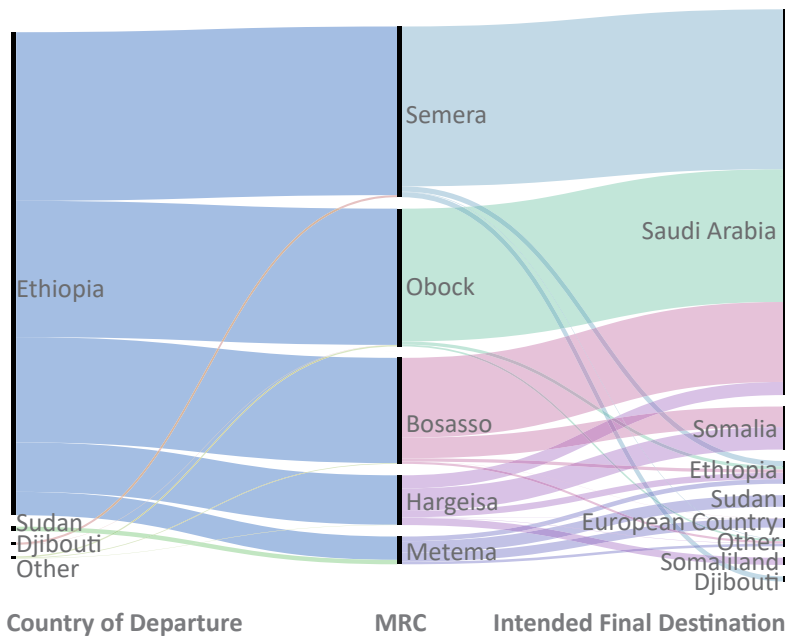### REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH
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International Organization for Migration (IOM)
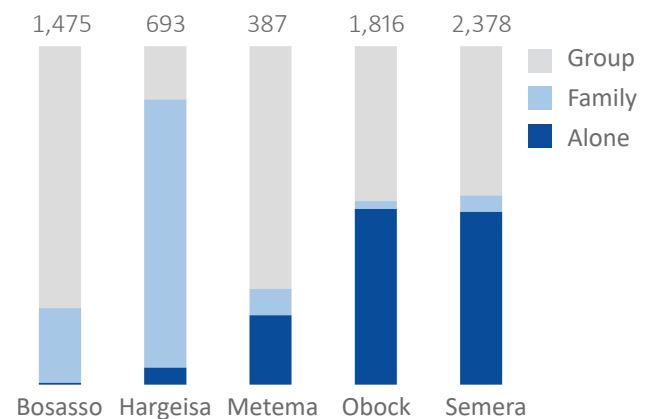The UN Migration Agency

## MIGRANT JOURNEYS

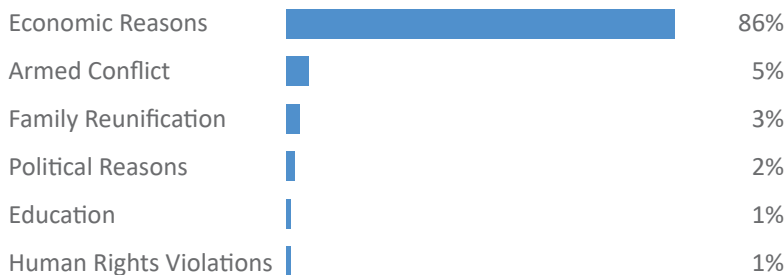### Country of Departure, MRC and Intended Destination[1]



Country of Departure     MRC     Intended Final Destination

### Top 4 Areas of Departure

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ethiopia | Tigray | 2,522 |
| Ethiopia | Oromia | 1,289 |
| Ethiopia | Amhara | 1,144 |
| Ethiopia | Afar | 967 |

### Migrant Travel Status[1]



| 1,475 | 693 | 387 | 1,816 | 2,378 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bosasso | Hargeisa | Metema | Obock | Semera |

Group
Family
Alone

### Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Migration[1,2]
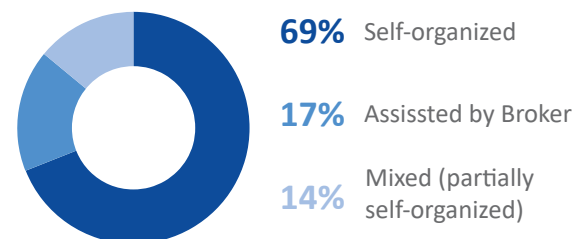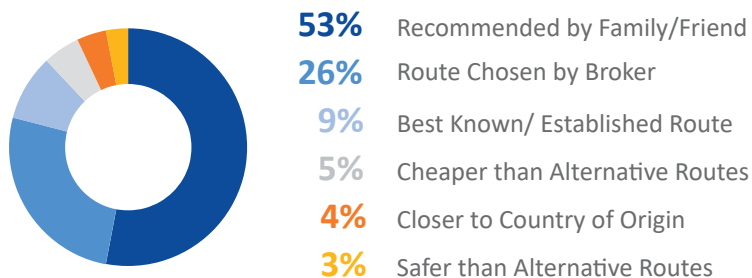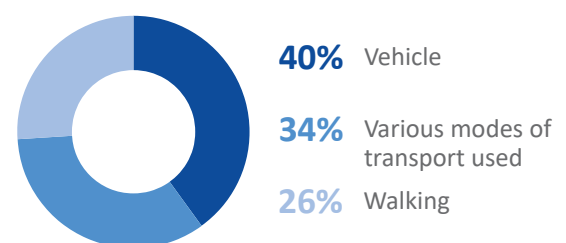
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Economic Reasons | | 86% |
| Armed Conflict | | 5% |
| Family Reunification | | 3% |
| Political Reasons | | 2% |
| Education | | 1% |
| Human Rights Violations | | 1% |

### Journey Arrangements[1]



**69%** Self-organized

**17%** Assissted by Broker

**14%** Mixed (partially self-organized)

### Choice of Route[1]



**53%** Recommended by Family/Friend
**26%** Route Chosen by Broker
**9%** Best Known/ Established Route
**5%** Cheaper than Alternative Routes
**4%** Closer to Country of Origin
**3%** Safer than Alternative Routes

### Main Mode of Transport[1]



**40%** Vehicle

**34%** Various modes of transport used

**26%** Walking

[1] June and July Obock data not yet available.     [2] Multiple choices allowed

# Migration Response Centres (MRCs)

## East and Horn of Africa

**REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH**
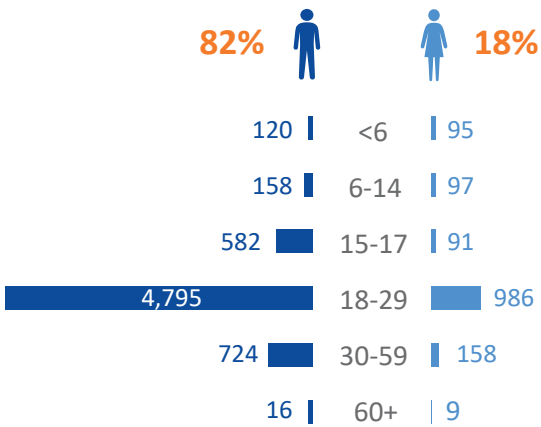
01 January - 30 October 2018

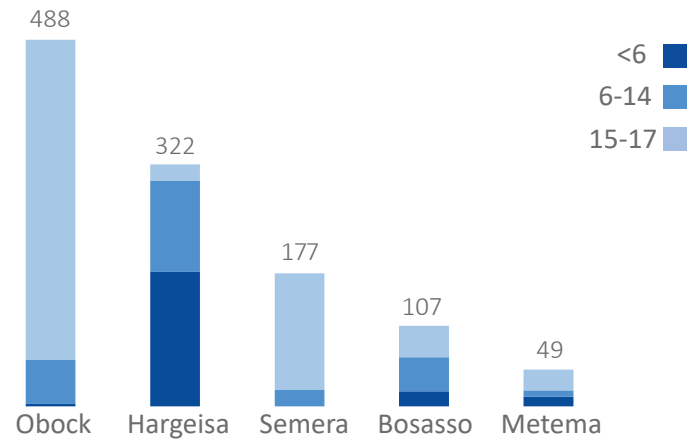International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

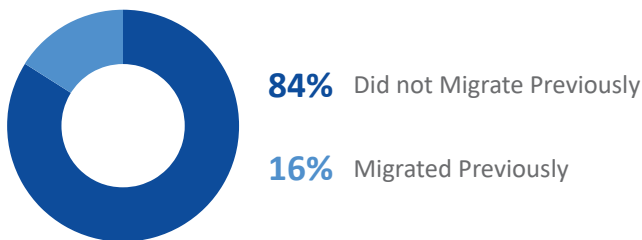## MIGRANT PROFILES, VULNERABILITIES AND INTENTIONS
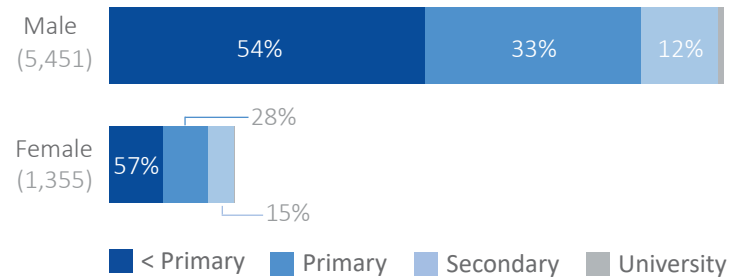
**7,831** migrant observations in 2018

**82%** | **18%**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 120 | <6 | 95 |
| 158 | 6-14 | 97 |
| 582 | 15-17 | 91 |
| 4,795 | 18-29 | 986 |
| 724 | 30-59 | 158 |
| 16 | 60+ | 9 |

**1,143** child migrant observations in 2018



- <6
- 6-14
- 15-17

488 — Obock
322 — Hargeisa
177 — Semera
107 — Bosasso
49 — Metema

### Previous Migration Attempts[1]



**84%** Did not Migrate Previously

**16%** Migrated Previously

### Migrant Gender and Educational Background[1]

Male (5,451): 54% | 33% | 12%

Female (1,355): 57% | 28% | 15%

- ■ < Primary
- ■ Primary
- ■ Secondary
- ■ University

### 904 Vulnerable Migrants (12% of total)[1]

- **52%** Detained during their journey
- **40%** Unaccompanied children
- **5%** Pregnant or lactating women
- **1%** Abducted or kidnapped
- **1%** Physically disabled migrants
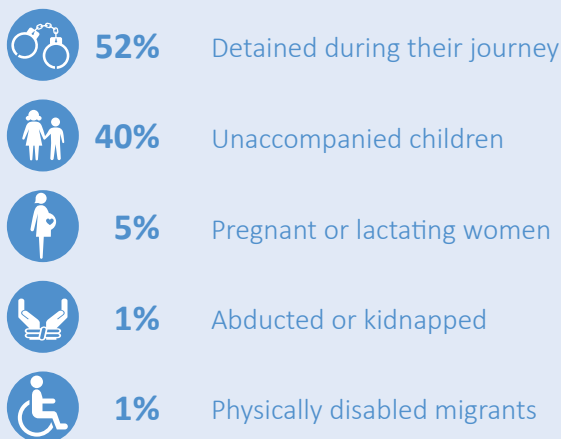
### Top 5 Reported Hardships During the Journey [1,2]
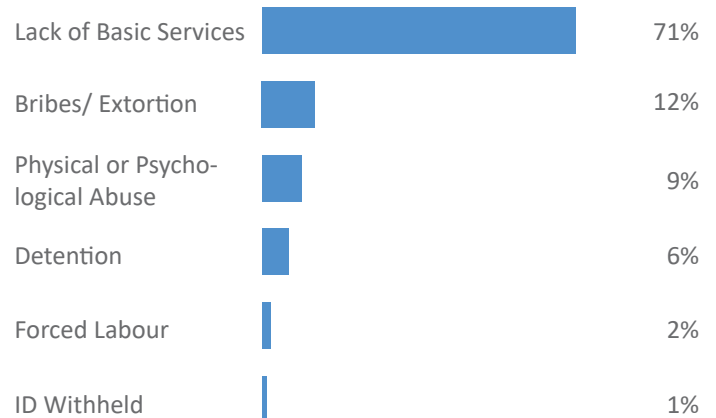
| | |
|---|---|
| Lack of Basic Services | 71% |
| Bribes/ Extortion | 12% |
| Physical or Psychological Abuse | 9% |
| Detention | 6% |
| Forced Labour | 2% |
| ID Withheld | 1% |

[1] June and July Obock data not yet available.    [2] Multiple choices allowed

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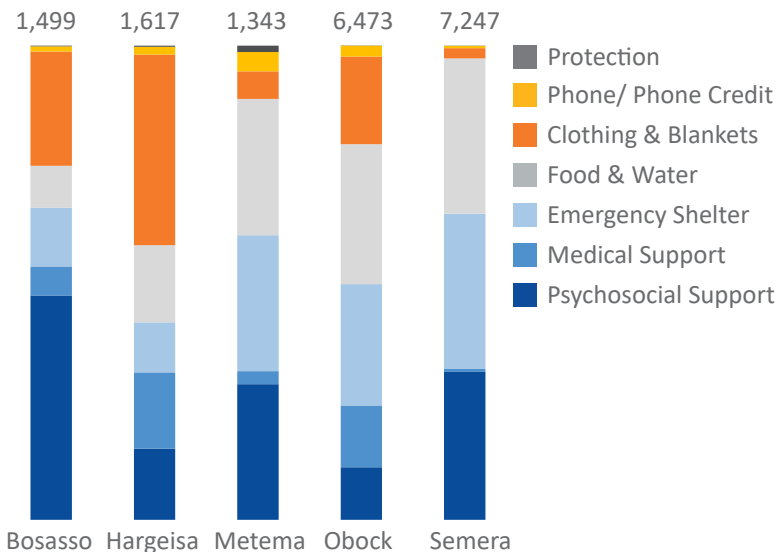01 January - 30 October 2018

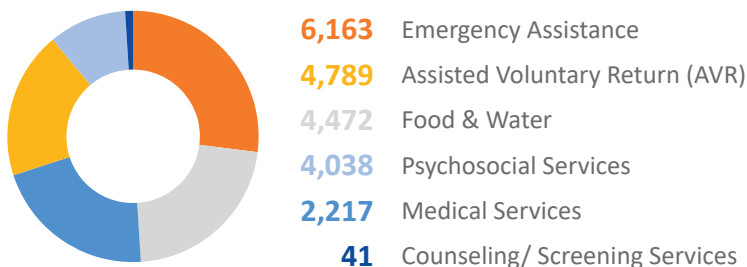**International Organization for Migration (IOM)**
The UN Migration Agency

## MIGRANT NEEDS AND SERVICE PROVISION
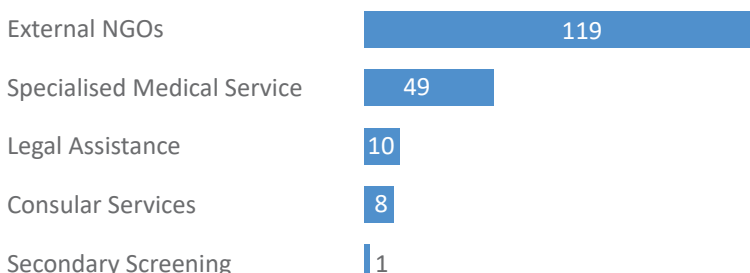
### 18,179 Multi-sectoral Needs Reported* [1,2]



Bar chart values:
- Bosasso: 1,499
- Hargeisa: 1,617
- Metema: 1,343
- Obock: 6,473
- Semera: 7,247

Legend:
- Protection
- Phone/ Phone Credit
- Clothing & Blankets
- Food & Water
- Emergency Shelter
- Medical Support
- Psychosocial Support

* The options 'Protection' and 'Phone/ Phone Credit' were added in August.

### 21,720 Services Provided at MRCs* [1,2]



| | |
|---|---|
| 6,163 | Emergency Assistance |
| 4,789 | Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) |
| 4,472 | Food & Water |
| 4,038 | Psychosocial Services |
| 2,217 | Medical Services |
| 41 | Counseling/ Screening Services |

* The option 'Counseling/ Screening Services' was added in August. Data for options 'Food & Water' and 'AVR' not yet available for August and September.

### 172 Service Referrals Provided * [1,2]

| | |
|---|---|
| External NGOs | 119 |
| Specialised Medical Service | 49 |
| Legal Assistance | 10 |
| Consular Services | 8 |
| Secondary Screening | 1 |

* Data available from August 2018 onwards.

## Background & Methodology

IOM established the MRC Regional Data Collection System, encompassing all MRCs in the Horn of Africa, in July 2016 to advance a standardized approach for collecting data and monitoring responses to mixed migration flows in the region. Data is collected upon migrant registration at the MRCs. Only the information of migrants that consent to their data being captured is collected. IOM does not share individual-level data. The MRC screening form was designed to foster a better understanding of migrant hardships, vulnerabilities and needs, as well as their motivations and intentions. The data collected is able to inform evidence-based policy and programming in the region.

In 2018, IOM revised the MRC Regional Data Collection System to strengthen the provision of relevant and robust data. First, a technical working group was established to revise the MRC screening form to better capture the fluidity of migrants' movements, their vulnerabilities and the services provided to them at the MRCs. Simultaneously, a regional network of Information Management Assistants was established to facilitate and harmonise data collection activities and further strengthen the MRC Data Collection System. Finally, all focal persons and other relevant MRC staff across the region received training on the MRC data collection procedures. They continue to receive technical support from the Regional Data Hub.

This factsheet presents key findings, rather than the entire range of information gathered in the MRC questionnaire. Information is collected in the MRCs by trained enumerators upon migrant registration. Findings are triangulated through other IOM data collection systems and secondary sources including news monitoring and humanitarian reports. All data presented in this factsheet should be taken as indicative rather than representative and should not be used to generalise across the region.

For more information on the methodology used, please contact: rdhronairobi@iom.int

## The Regional Data Hub | RDH

Established in early 2018, the RDH aims to support evidence-based, strategic and policy-level discussion on migration through a combined set of initiatives. These include: strengthening regional primary and secondary data collection and analysis; increasing Information Management capacity across countries; providing technical support to ensure harmonization and interoperability of key methodologies used to monitor population mobility; and the engagement of key stakeholders and governmental counterparts in migration dialogue and consultation.