MIXED MIGRATION
IN HORN OF AFRICA AND YEMEN

August -September 2013

RMMS Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat

Towards Egypt: Sub Saharan migrants/refugees use the 'northern' route into Egypt before passing the Sinai region into Israel. Refugees/migrants in this region are vulnerable to sporadic deportations and arrest. Eritrean refugees (the majority) face abusive treatment in Egypt and Libya. Population and Immigration authorities in Israel reported that during the month of August there were no recorded entries of irregular migrants while a total of 168 had left Israel voluntarily.

Haradh: It is estimated that up to 25,000 migrants are stranded in this northern town of Yemen. The migrants live in deplorable conditions with mere access to water, sanitation and health. Their vulnerability is increased by the high sense of insecurity and commonly occuring kidnapping cases.

Saudi Arabia - Legal and Policy Changes : Since the beginning of King Abdullah's "corrective period" last April, at least 656 thousand migrants were deported or have willingly left the Saudi kingdom as of August 2013. The Kingdom has extended the period for another three months set to end in mid- November. Officials promised raids and punishments for migrants who choose not to turn themselves in during the remaining time of the amnesty period. It has been reported that 159,000 migrants were deported in the month of July 2013 alone some having lived in Saudi for 20 years. Saudi citizens interviewed complimented the king's initiative saying the campaign will help create jobs for nationals and decrease crime rates.

Trafficking of women: Female migrants/refugees in Yemen are vulnerable to harrassment,kidnapping,domestic servitude and other forms of slavery.

Oman: A much smaller number emigrates to Oman, however, it remains a desirable destination for some migrants.

Snatched in the desert: Eritreans are fleeing Eritrea at an estimated rate of 2000-3000 per month (2012 estimates); Some are kidnapped by tribesmen in the desert and sold to trafficking / extortion gangs in Sudan, Libya, Egypt and the Sinai region. The Shagarab camp complex near Kasala hosts approximately 30,000 people. The rate of arrival may have declined to levels ranging between 400-600 per month.(2013 estimates)

Arriving from Eritrea: Eritrean refugees have continued to flow into Ethiopia. Early this year the UNHCR opened a new 20,000 capacity camp in Ethiopia. At present two camps are already filled up and host approximately 49,000 refugees.

Departing from Obock: In August, an estimated 2007 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 45% decrease from July 2013 and a 66% decrease from August 2012. 3,120 migrants/refugees arrived in Septmeber 2013.

Refugees As of September Yemen hosted 240,000 refugees from Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Iraq

Departing from Bossaso: An estimated 587 Somalis arrived on the Yemeni shores in August 2013, a 5% decrease from July 2013 and 75% decrease from August 2012. New arrivals continue to originate fom south and central regions including Bay, Banadir, Juba and the Shabelles.

Ethiopian exodus: An estimated 3,129 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in August 2013 compared to 3,198 in July. A majority of the new arrivals were from the Oromia region, particularly Hararge and Jimma, and the rest were of Amhara, Tigray, Silte, Ogaden and Afari origin.

South Sudanese refugees: Thousands of refugees from South Sudan continue to flee conflict in Jonglei state, Pibor county. Over 3,000 South Sudanese refugees moved to Ethiopia in July, contributing to the highest number of new arrivals since January 2013. It is estimated that over 120,000 civilians have fled the conflict between government forces, rebels and rival ethnic militia groups, to areas where aid is unable to reach them. An estimated 19,000 South Sudanese have fled to neighbouring countries since January 2013.

Irregular immigration is on the rise in Somaliland consisting mainly of youths searching for economic opportunities and migrants from Ethiopia and South Central transiting through to Djibouti. The authorities in Somaliland are planning to stiffen penalties on human trafficking and human smuggling mainly due to a rise in cases of kidnapping for ransom of Somaliland youth in North Africa.

Refugees in Ethiopia: By end of August Ethiopia played host to some 420,579 refugees. The largest groups are Somalis followed by Sudanese, South Sudanese and Eritreans.There are currently (end of September) 245,068 Somali refugees in Ethiopia (mostly in Dollo Ado camp). The population of Eritrean refugees also stands at over 74,513 spread over 4 camps. A majority of the refugees are unaccompanied minors and educated youths.

Somali returns: OVer 26,500 Somali refugee returns have been recorded since January 2013 mainly from Kenya. In August 1,800 Somali refugees returned to Somalia. However, many of the returns may be a a look and see mission.

Nairobi: Refugee Relocation The terror attack in Nairobi on the 21st of September 2013 has renewed calls for the relocation of Somali refugees in Dadaab refugee complex. The Government of Kenya formed a commission of inquiry to probe the West-Gate terror attack.

Somali Refugees in Kenya: Kenya is host to over 570,000 , refugees and asylum seekers, over 51,000 of them in Nairobi. The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (474,790), followed by South Sudanese and Ethiopians.

Somali IDPs: Somalia generates the highest number of refugees in the region. According to data collected and posted in September by the UNHCR there are 1.1 million internally displaced persons in Somalia.

Refugees in Uganda: Uganda hosts over 200,000 refugees from regional nations including people fleeing conflict from DRC as well as Burundi, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Rwanda, Somalia and South Sudan. Uganda has denied earlier claims that it allegedly agreed to receive African migrants deported from Israel.

Migrants/ Refugees going to South Africa Irregular immigrant's en-route to South Africa face xenophobic attacks both in transit and destination countries. Countries South of Africa have featured cases of rising mob violence towards immigrants mostly Somalis and Ethiopian migrants.

Going South: Ethiopian and Somali migrants move along the eastern corridor of Africa towards South Africa led by smugglers. Death and violence are common.

Egypt
Sudan
Eritrea
Red Sea
Yemen
Saudi Arabia
Gulf of Aden
South Sudan
Ethiopia
Somaliland
Puntland
Somalia (South-Central)
Uganda
Kenya
Tanzania
Indian Ocean

Kassala
Shagarab
Sana`a
Kharaz
Obock
Ali Addeh
Hargeysa
Gaalkacyo
Addis Ababa
Dollo Ado
Kakuma
Moyale
Mogadishu
Dadaab
Kismaayo
Nairobi
Mombasa

- Capital
- Main town or village
- Refugee camp
- Movement on land
- Movement by sea

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