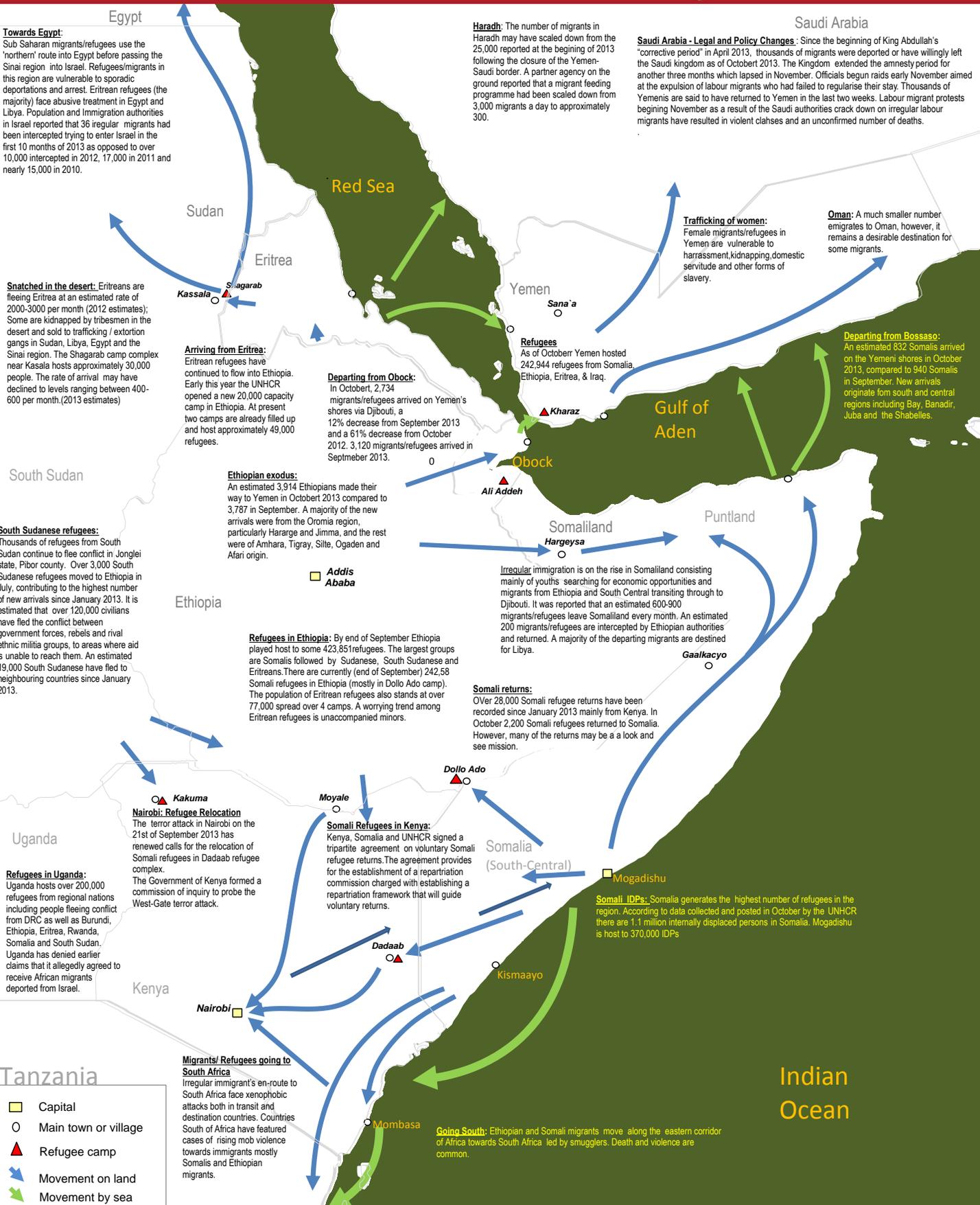


# MIXED MIGRATION IN HORN OF AFRICA AND YEMEN

October 2013



**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 36 irregular migrants had been intercepted trying to enter Israel in the first 10 months of 2013 as opposed to over 10,000 intercepted in 2012, 17,000 in 2011 and nearly 15,000 in 2010.

**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 Kassala hosts approximately 30,000 people. The rate of arrival may have declined to levels ranging between 400-600 per month.(2013 estimates)

**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.

**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.

**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 October, 2,734 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 12% decrease from September 2013 and a 61% decrease from October 2012. 3,120 migrants/refugees arrived in September 2013.

**Ethiopian exodus:** An estimated 3,914 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in October 2013 compared to 3,787 in September. 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.

**Refugees in Ethiopia:** By end of September Ethiopia played host to some 423,851 refugees. The largest groups are Somalis followed by Sudanese, South Sudanese and Eritreans. There are currently (end of September) 242,58 Somali refugees in Ethiopia (mostly in Dolo Ado camp). The population of Eritrean refugees also stands at over 77,000 spread over 4 camps. A worrying trend among Eritrean refugees is unaccompanied minors.

**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, Somalia and UNHCR signed a tripartite agreement on voluntary Somali refugee returns. The agreement provides for the establishment of a repatriation commission charged with establishing a repatriation framework that will guide voluntary returns.

**Somali returns:** Over 28,000 Somali refugee returns have been recorded since January 2013 mainly from Kenya. In October 2,200 Somali refugees returned to Somalia. However, many of the returns may be a look and see mission.

**Somali IDPs:** Somalia generates the highest number of refugees in the region. According to data collected and posted in October by the UNHCR there are 1.1 million internally displaced persons in Somalia. Mogadishu is host to 370,000 IDPs

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

**Haradh:** The number of migrants in Haradh may have scaled down from the 25,000 reported at the beginning of 2013 following the closure of the Yemen-Saudi border. A partner agency on the ground reported that a migrant feeding programme had been scaled down from 3,000 migrants a day to approximately 300.

**Saudi Arabia - Legal and Policy Changes:** Since the beginning of King Abdullah's "corrective period" in April 2013, thousands of migrants were deported or have willingly left the Saudi kingdom as of October 2013. The Kingdom extended the amnesty period for another three months which lapsed in November. Officials began raids early November aimed at the expulsion of labour migrants who had failed to regularise their stay. Thousands of Yemenis are said to have returned to Yemen in the last two weeks. Labour migrant protests beginning November as a result of the Saudi authorities crack down on irregular labour migrants have resulted in violent clashes and an unconfirmed number of deaths.

**Trafficking of women:** Female migrants/refugees in Yemen are vulnerable to harassment, 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.

**Departing from Bossaso:** An estimated 832 Somalis arrived on the Yemeni shores in October 2013, compared to 940 Somalis in September. New arrivals originate from south and central regions including Bay, Banadir, Juba and the Shabeelles.

**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. It was reported that an estimated 600-900 migrants/refugees leave Somaliland every month. An estimated 200 migrants/refugees are intercepted by Ethiopian authorities and returned. A majority of the departing migrants are destined for Libya.

**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.

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

