



**Regional mixed migration summary for June 2015 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.**

**Terminology:** Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, refugees). If the case load mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
<p><b>Yemen</b></p>	<p><i>The conflict in Yemen entered its fourth month with escalation of shelling and fighting putting civilians at risk. As previously reported, due to the conflict, monitoring and data collection activities along the Red Sea and Arabian sea coasts continued to be affected, with a majority of monitoring exercises suspended. The data presented in this report on arrivals in Yemen is therefore not conclusive of the actual number of arrivals during this period.</i></p> <p><b>Conflict-related displacement:</b> Violence between the government and Houthi rebel forces continued to spread across Yemen in June 2015. According to figures by UN agencies there were 1,267,950 internally displaced people in Yemen as of 6 July 2015, a 24% increase since mid-June. This number is expected to increase in the coming month as the conflict continues to displace more people from their homes.</p> <p><b>Continued arrivals from the Horn of Africa:</b> In June 2015, an estimated number of at least 122 (112 Ethiopians, 10 Somalis) mixed migrants arrived in Yemen via the Red Sea. The new arrivals were reported at Al-Jadid and Al Gurera (Ta'iz governorate). This is a 321% decrease from May 2015 and represents a steady month on month decline since the conflict erupted in March 2015. However these comparisons need to be treated with caution for two reasons: first, the data is partial and incomplete (of those landing along the Red Sea coast) and secondly, the majority of migrants/refugees now leave from the Puntland port area of Bossasso and arrive along the Gulf of Aden coast in Yemen where all monitoring has been suspended since March.</p> <p><b>Annual totals to date:</b> It is estimated that 9,979 migrants/asylum seekers have arrived in Yemen via the Red Sea this year. This figure is an unverified estimate based on records of monitoring teams that are still operative; the number of actual arrivals are likely to be considerably higher, for the reasons mentioned above.</p> <p>Despite the conflict, criminal extortionist and possibly trafficking gangs are still active along the Red Sea coast. Reports received from new arrivals indicate that 50 Ethiopian migrants were abducted upon arrival in Yemen in June (from the recorded total of 122, therefore over 40% of new arrivals). A majority of the new arrivals reportedly continued their journey towards Saudi Arabia, while others headed towards Kharaz refugee camp.</p> <p><b>Departures from Yemen:</b> The number of people fleeing Yemen to the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Puntland, South Central and Somaliland) continued to rise steadily in the reporting period. As of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 20,973 people had arrived in Djibouti from Yemen, and a further 23,751 people had arrived in Somalia as of 16<sup>th</sup> July. The majority of arrivals in Somalia comprised of returning Somali migrants/refugees who made up 90% of new arrivals, Yemenis comprised 7% and other nationalities made up the remaining 3%. The biggest individual group arriving in Djibouti from Yemen are Yemeni nationals (46%).</p> <p><b>Yemeni nationals in Saudi Arabia:</b> The Saudi government announced the extension of a grace period previously offered to Yemeni nationals working as irregular migrants, allowing them to regularise their stay by applying for six-month visit visas. The initial two month grace period was extended to August 16, after which the government has warned that legal action will be taken against violators, highlighting that those with visiting visas could not work in the country without work permits. In 2013/14 over 500,000 Yemenis were expelled from Saudi Arabia.</p> <p><b>Migrant vulnerability:</b> Migrants/refugees continued to face conflict-related risks. On 1<sup>st</sup> July, mortar and gunfire shelled IOM's Migrant Response Centre in Basateen, Aden governorate, and IOM's office in Haradh. No incidents were reported following these attacks, but due to the continuous shelling IOM continued the relocation of migrants to a new facility in Hudayah. According to IOM nearly 2,000 civilian deaths, including migrants, have been registered since the beginning of the conflict.</p> <p><b>UN-brokered ceasefire fails to hold:</b> Less than one day after Yemeni government forces and Houthi rebels came</p>

	<p>to a negotiated six-day ceasefire, fighting broke out in Yemen on 11<sup>th</sup> July. On 1 July 2015, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) declared a Level 3 emergency response declaration for Yemen, indicating the complexity and urgency of the situation in the country. The situation continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate with no resolution or end to the conflict in sight.</p>
<b>Djibouti</b>	<p><b>Departures to Yemen:</b> Information on the movement of migrants from Djibouti to Yemen remains limited, but available data from the still active monitoring teams indicate that at least 122 migrants departed from Obock and arrived in coastal towns in Ta'iz Governate, Yemen. The number of actual arrivals are likely to be considerably higher. Migrants interviewed by the Danish Refugee Council suggest that the news of the conflict in Yemen is now widespread across Ethiopia, accounting for the decreased numbers of Ethiopians on the move into Yemen. Nevertheless Ethiopian migrants continue to make up the majority of migrants using this route, accounting for 93%, with Somalis making up the remaining 7%. Migrants paid between USD 120-150 to make the crossing by boat to Yemen.</p> <p><b>Arrivals from Yemen:</b> As of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015, IOM reported that 20,973 persons (1,792 Djiboutians, 9,626 Yemenis, and 9,555 Third Country Nationals) had arrived in Djibouti from Yemen since the outbreak of the violence on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015.</p> <p><b>Refugees from Yemen:</b> As of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee agency) registered 2,179 refugees in Djibouti, including 2,060 Yemeni nationals and various other Third Country Nationals. Approximately 1,617 refugees are registered in Obock and are mainly hosted at the Markazi camp located about 4 kilometres Obock. Following the directive issued by the Djiboutian government in May 2015, all Yemeni refugees have to stay in Obock, limiting their movement.</p> <p><b>Migrant Vulnerability:</b> Migrants and refugees continue to report of difficult living conditions in Obock. Temperatures hit an average of 47°C from June-September, and strong sandstorms recently hit the port town. Many refugees have temporarily left Marzaki camp for Obock city and Djibouti city where weather conditions are slightly more favourable.</p>
<b>Somaliland</b>	<p><b>Arrivals from Yemen:</b> As of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015, 6,987 migrants/asylum seekers from Yemen arrived in Somaliland (5,728 Somalis, 1,170 Yemenis, 73 Ethiopians, and 16 other Third Country Nationals). 1,760 people arrived in June 2015 alone, with 1,554 arriving in July. Somali returns make up approximately 79% of the new arrivals in Somaliland, followed by Yemenis, Ethiopians and other Third Country Nationals. New arrivals travelled from various locations within Yemen and arrived in Somaliland through Berbera, Elayo, Hargeisa, Lughaya, Qandala, and Zeila.</p>
<b>Puntland</b>	<p><b>Arrivals from Yemen:</b> Between 27<sup>th</sup> March and 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015, 16,629 migrants/asylum seekers fleeing the conflict in Yemen arrived in Puntland. Somali arrivals make up approximately 93% of the arrivals to Puntland. 4,516 (4,110 Somalis, 395 Yemenis, 11 Ethiopians) people arrived in June alone, with a further 3,661 arriving in July.</p> <p><b>Relocation of refugees from Bossaso reception centre:</b> According to local media reports, Puntland begun the relocation of hundreds of Yemeni refugees in a camp-to-apartment programme. Around 200 refugees were transferred from the reception centre in Bossao to Gardo, a city approximately 250 kilometres away.</p>

<p><b>Somalia (South Central)</b></p>	<p><b>Arrivals from Yemen:</b> No further arrivals were registered in South Central Somalia from Yemen in the reporting period. However, the majority of new arrivals in Puntland and Somaliland have indicated an intention to head southwards towards various regions in Somalia, with 54% indicating Mogadishu as their intended area of return.</p> <p><b>Internal Displacement:</b> According to UNHCR figures, there are 1.1 million internally displaced persons across the whole of Somalia.</p> <p><b>Refugees in the neighbouring countries:</b> As of June 2015, there were 967,445 registered Somali refugees and asylum seekers in neighbouring countries with Kenya hosting the largest number (44%), followed by Ethiopia (26%), Yemen (25%), and other countries (5% - Djibouti, Uganda, Egypt, Eritrea and Tanzania).</p>
<p><b>South Sudan</b></p>	<p><b>Continued conflict pushes up numbers of displaced:</b> The security situation in South Sudan continued to deteriorate in June, with an escalation of violence in Unity and Upper Nile states causing tens of thousands of people to flee. The approximate number of South Sudanese displaced into neighbouring countries since December 2013 now stands at 607,606 people, a 109% increase since May 2015. Ethiopia is the largest host of South Sudanese refugees in the region is (213,025), followed by Sudan (191,584), Uganda (156,762), and Kenya (46,235). According to UNHCR 90% of new arrivals in neighbouring countries are women and children.</p> <p><b>Internal Displacement:</b> UNHCR reported that there were approximately 1.54 million displaced persons in South Sudan as of 10th July 2015.</p>
<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p><b>South Sudan arrivals on the rise:</b> According to UNHCR, over 38,000 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Sudan during the month of June, marking the largest monthly arrival since the outbreak of violence in the country in December 2013. As at 5<sup>th</sup> July the total number of South Sudanese refugees in Sudan stands at 187,747.</p> <p><b>Darfur crisis continues to drives displacement:</b> Intensifying attacks on civilians in Sudan's Darfur region continue to force people out of their homes. UN officials now estimate that the number of people displaced as a result of the conflict in 2015 has topped 200,000. On 29 June the United Nations Security Council unanimously approved a one-year extension of the Darfur peacekeeping force, known as UNAMID, to protect civilians, ensure delivery of humanitarian aid and support a peace process.</p> <p><b>Migrant vulnerabilities:</b> Migrants remain at risk of kidnapping and abduction by traffickers on their journey through Sudan. In one incident, Sudanese police reported that they rescued 48 trafficking victims who had been held for 2 weeks by traffickers in eastern Sudan. In two separate campaigns, 154 and 6 migrants were rescued respectively. The migrants were of Eritrean and Ethiopian nationalities.</p>
<p><b>Eritrea</b></p>	<p><b>UN raises concerns about alleged deals to “shut Eritrean borders”:</b> The media <a href="#">reported</a> about UN officials' concerns about a possible collusion between Italian and British governments to impose tougher border controls in return for money or having sanctions lifted.</p> <p><b>Eritrean arrivals in Europe:</b> According to <a href="#">figures</a> by UNHCR, Eritrean nationals make up the second-most populous (12%) group of migrants/asylum seekers arriving in Europe by sea in 2015, after Syrians (34%). Of those arriving in Italy alone, Eritreans accounted for 25%. Most Eritreans do not stay in Italy and Greece, preferring instead to move further north for better prospects.</p> <p><b>UN Commission of Inquiry presents findings on Eritrea:</b> On 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015, the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Eritrea formally <a href="#">presented</a> the findings of their report on Eritrea in the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Council, Geneva. Thousands of diaspora Eritreans from Europe, the USA and Canada rallied together in Geneva in support of the report. The UK's Independent Advisory Group on Country Information (IAGCI) has since criticised the Home Office for relying on the controversial research by the Danish Immigration Service.</p>

<p><b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p><b>Ethiopia extradites human traffickers:</b> Media <a href="#">reports</a> stated that Ethiopian police in collaboration with Interpol had succeeded in extraditing what they regard as 5 human trafficking suspects from Kenya, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Tanzania over the past 10 months. The Ethiopian Police announced that it is currently working with Interpol to extradite an additional 80 suspected human traffickers from various countries.</p> <p><b>Refugees in Ethiopia:</b> As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 there were 704,816 refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia. South Sudanese continue to make up the largest refugee and asylum seeker population (39%), followed by Somalis (35%), Eritreans (20%) and other Third Country Nationals (6%).</p>
<p><b>Kenya</b></p>	<p><b>Voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees:</b> As at 5th July 2015, 2,691 Somali refugees had been repatriated from Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya to Somalia. 460 refugees returned in June following the resumption of the voluntary repatriation exercise in May 2015. 102 refugees have returned in July so far. Despite the opening up of return locations within Somalia to a total of 9 districts, returnees have thus far only opted returned to Baidoa (25%), Kismayo (73%) and Luuq (2%) districts. As at 30 June there were 350,092 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Dadaab alone, as well as over 50,000 Somali urban refugees.</p> <p><b>Kenyan government takes over Refugee Status Determination:</b> On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) officially took charge of the Refugee Status Determination of all refugees in Kenya. Registration centres are open all over the country with registration of all new arrivals happening in Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Eldoret, Kakuma and Dadaab. For the last 2 years the DRA and UNHCR have been acting jointly on these issues working towards a full hand over to DRA.</p> <p><b>Drafting of a new Refugee Bill:</b> The Taskforce on the Review of the Refugee Bill, chaired by the Department of Refugee Affairs and UNHCR, is in the advanced stages of drafting a Refugee Bill that will overhaul the Refugee Act 2006 to bring it in line with the Constitution of Kenya. The Taskforce is also developing a draft National Asylum Policy that will act as a complimentary guiding document for the implementation of the proposed law.</p>
<p><b>Israel</b></p>	<p><b>Asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa:</b> In July 2015, a report released by an NGO <a href="#">reported</a> that Israel's Ministry of Interior was threatening asylum seekers with deportation to Rwanda without first hearing asylum claims. The report claims that asylum seekers are being asked to choose between deportation to a third country, or being held indefinitely in a desert prison called Saharonim. In April 2015, Rwandan president Paul Kagame confirmed that his government was finalising a deal to accept Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers deported from Israel. Israel is a signatory to the 1954 Refugee Convention (ratified in 1954) as well as the 1967 Protocol (acceded 1968)</p>
<p><b>Other regional news and news from other regions</b></p>	<p><b>EU struggle to reach agreement on voluntary scheme on relocation and resettlement:</b> EU ministers failed to reach a consensus on the voluntary relocation of 40,000 asylum seekers and migrants from Italy and Greece and the resettlement of refugees currently residing outside the European Union. Ministers have now set a deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> July to reach an agreement. Germany and France announced that they would jointly take in more than 20,000 refugees over the next 2 years. Several other countries have made commitments but figures remain undisclosed. Diplomats suggest that national pledges are “more than enough” to cover the proposed resettlement of 20,000 refugees, but there is more difficulty in sharing out the 40,000 asylum seekers from Italy and Greece. Britain and Denmark declined to participate in the relocation of the asylum seekers, although they are likely to take part in the resettlement of the 20,000.</p> <p><b>EU launches naval operation to disrupt human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Mediterranean:</b> EU states launched a naval operation known as “EUNAVFOR Med” on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015, with a mission to ‘identify, capture and dispose of vessels and enabling assets used or suspected of being used by migrant smugglers or traffickers’. The first phase of the operation will focus on surveillance and assessment of said networks in the Mediterranean. The Libyan government has warned the European Union that any vessels entering Libyan waters without permission would be targeted by air strikes by the Libyan air force.</p> <p><b>Greece surpasses Italy as the main entry point into Europe for migrants/asylum seekers:</b> Greece has now surpassed Italy as the main entry point into Europe for migrants and asylum-seekers. According to UNHCR, an</p>

average of 1,000 asylum seekers and migrants are arriving on Greek islands every day. Recent IOM [figures](#) state that some 150,000 migrants and asylum seekers have arrived in Europe by seas since the beginning of the year. Greece has received 75,970 and Italy 74,947. Almost 60% of these arrivals are from Syria, while others come from Afghanistan, Iraq, Eritrea and Somalia.

**Egypt's crackdown on irregular migration:** In a crackdown on irregular migration through Egypt, security forces in the country claim to have arrested a total of 619 migrants in separate swoops. The migrants/refugees were attempting to cross through Egypt into Libya through Salloum City, a coastal border town with Libya

**Burundi refugees continue to flee to neighbouring countries:** According to UNHCR figures, the number of refugees who fled the country spiked towards the end of June ahead of parliamentary elections. In keeping with usual practice, the border was closed 48 hours during the election period, forcing refugees to use informal border crossings to leave the country. As at 13 July, 165,484 refugees had crossed borders into neighbouring countries (77,638 Tanzania, 11,500 Democratic Republic of Congo, 65,181 Rwanda, 11,165 Uganda), with an arrival rate of more than 2,000 persons per week.

**Australia seeks to silence whistle-blowers on refugee camps:** The Australian government passed a law that will prevent medical practitioners or other people contracted to work in a detention centre from divulging information on the conditions and treatment of refugees in camps on the remote islands of Nauru and Manus. The Border Force Act, which came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, threatens persons disclosing information with the risk of two years in prison. The new law has been challenged by doctors, nurses, teachers and other practitioners who say that they have a duty of care to report any sub-standard or harmful care. The Australian government has come under fire in recent years from rights groups and others for its strict immigration policies and alleged treatment of refugees in these centres.

**New  
Research,  
reports or  
documents**

**Migration Policy Practice: Vol. V, Number 2 (April 2015 – June 2015):** This issue of the Migration Policy Practice features a selection of articles of papers discussed at the 13<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Transatlantic Council on Migration, convened in December 2014. The focus of the articles are centred round examining the realities of the current global protection system and identifying gaps and opportunities for change. Access the journal [here](#).

**Toughening up on irregular entries: EU's evolving migration policy:** A new RMMS feature article that examines the closing space for migrants and asylum seekers in Europe and the various initiatives proposed by European Union states to tackle the increase in irregular migration. Click [here](#) to access the article.

**The Sea Route to Europe: The Mediterranean passage in the age of refugees:** This report by UNHCR offers a snapshot of the passage of across the Mediterranean into Europe in the first six months of 2015. It presents six major findings including; that the majority of those making the crossing are refugees, a rise in the use of the eastern Mediterranean route, and the inadequate conditions in reception centres. Read the report [here](#).

**Detained Youth: The Fate of Young Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Libya Today:** A study commissioned by the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force (MHub) that aims to give an updated understanding of the detention and abuse of young migrants and refugees by State actors in Libya. The report is based on interviews with 45 former detainees from North-East Africa, West Africa and the Middle East, and reveals a consistent pattern of arbitrary detention and includes allegations of serious violations, including violence and brutality. The report can be accessed [here](#).

**Frontex Risk Analysis Network Quarterly. Quarter 1 January-March 2015:** This quarterly report by Frontex gives a comparative analysis of data collected by Member State border-control authorities in the first quarter of 2015 across a series of eight irregular migration indicators and one asylum indicator. Indicators include detection of illegal border crossings, refusals of entry, and returns, among others. Findings of the report show increasing trends across all indicators when compared to the same period in 2014. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

**UNHCR regional data on Burundi:** UNHCR launched a data sharing information portal that gives a regional overview of the Burundi situation. Click [here](#) to access the portal.

*This information sheet is distributed to over 1,200 agencies, academic institutions, donors, embassies, journalists, government officials / departments, international and multi-national organisations and related non-government organisations. Sources: Data is sourced from a wide variety of collaborators, partners, international and local organisations, media outlets and individuals in the region. The key refugee agency – UNHCR – and migration agency – IOM – are frequently the origin of specific refugee or migrant return-related data. RMMS is a unit/project within the Danish Refugee Council and also uses data and information generated by DRC activities. RMMS makes its own independent editorial decisions as to what sections and what data is included in this monthly update.*

