



Regional mixed migration summary for November 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 caseload mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
Yemen	<p><i>The conflict in Yemen entered its eighth 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>Conflict-related displacement: The security situation in Yemen remained continued to deteriorate in the reporting period with persistent conflict between warring parties causing destruction, injury and claiming lives. The 6th report of the Task Force on Population Movement validated a new internal displacement figure of 2,509,062 persons, a 9% increase on the 2,305,048 displaced persons reported in October. The main reason given for the increase, is a significant improvement in the methodology used to track and profile displaced persons.</p> <p>Yemen ceasefire begins as warring parties begin talks: Following months of relentless violence, a seven-day ceasefire came into effect on 15th December 2015 as Houthi rebels and forces loyal to President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi began United Nations sponsored peace talks.</p> <p>Continued arrivals from the Horn of Africa: The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) was able to resume protection monitoring missions along the Red Sea coasts during the month of November 2015. An estimated number of 1,642 (9 Somalis and 1,633 Ethiopians, including 70 women) migrants and asylum seekers were recorded to have arrived on the Red Sea coast of Yemen. The migrants arrived aboard 20 boats which departed from Obock, Djibouti, landing in the towns of Al-Shura, Al-Hujaima, Sheikh Saeed, Al-Ordi, Al-Batin, Bir Essa, Al-Hujaf, Al-Jadid, Wadi Kuha, Al-Soqaya, Uzaf in Ta'iz and Lahj governorates. Migrants reported paying between USD 100-150 for the journey across the Red Sea. Due to the reduction of monitoring missions along Yemen's coast, it is likely that actual number of arrivals from the Horn of Africa to Yemen was higher during the period.</p> <p>According to UNHCR 1,577 new arrivals (1,368 Ethiopians, 209 Somalis) were recorded along Arabian Sea coast during November 2015. This represents an 86% reduction from arrivals recorded in October. The rate of arrivals was severely affected by Cyclones Chapala and Megh, which made conditions at sea very rough.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: In November 2015, 462 migrants and asylum seekers (28% of those arriving via the Red Sea) reported witnessing or being victim to numerous violations, including abduction, assault, detention and robbery. 146 migrants and asylum seekers (9% of those arriving, and 32% of those reporting some kind of violation) were reportedly abducted upon landing in Yemen. Migrants specifically reported the rape of four Ethiopian women by the Djiboutian army in Tadjoura, and the sexual harassment of four other Ethiopian women brokers at the departure point in Obock. Two migrants were reportedly extorted by smugglers who threatened to sell them to traffickers on the Yemeni coast unless they doubled their fare. Many of the migrants reported a shortage of food and water in Obock, where they had to resort to begging or working menial jobs to afford the journey to Yemen.</p> <p>Refugees in Yemen: According to UNHCR there are approximately 250,000 refugees and migrants situated around urban centres in the country. 240,000 of these are Somali refugees and 10,000 are migrants from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Syria and Iraq. These figures may not however represent the reality of the situation in the country, as they were last verified before the outbreak of conflict in Yemen.</p> <p>Departures from Yemen: As of 7th December 2015, the number of people fleeing Yemen to the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan) had totalled 77,620 persons (30,578 in Djibouti, 11,408 in Ethiopia, 29,924 in Somalia, and 5,710 in Sudan). Yemenis and Somalis represent the largest proportion of people moving out of Yemen, accounting for 28% and 38% of movements respectively. The primary destination for Yemeni nationals is</p>

	<p>Djibouti.</p> <p>The latest statistics and overview of the displacement situation arising out of the Yemen crisis can be found on the UNHCR data sharing and information portal.</p>
Djibouti	<p>Departures to Yemen: Available data from the still active monitoring teams along the Red Sea coasts indicate that at least 1,642 (9 Somalis and 1,633 Ethiopians, including 70 women) migrants and asylum seekers departed from Obock and arrived in coastal towns in Yemen. The numbers of actual arrivals are likely to be considerably higher. Migrants reported paying between USD 100-150 to make the boat crossing to Yemen.</p> <p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 7th December 2015, a total of 30,578 persons had arrived in Djibouti from Yemen since the outbreak of the conflict in March 2015. Djibouti continues to be the primary destination for Yemeni nationals who account for 55% of the arrivals so far. Third Country Nationals make up 38% and Djiboutian returnees account for 6%.</p> <p>Refugees from Yemen: As of 26th November 2015, UNHCR and ONARS (the government refugee agency), had registered 6,048 refugees who had fled from the conflict in Yemen. 5,846 (97%) of these refugees are Yemeni nationals. 2,753 of the refugees reside in Markazi refugee camp, which has undergone a new layout design and will have the capacity to accommodate 3,010 refugees. 953 urban refugees have been registered in Djibouti city.</p>
Somaliland	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 7th December 2015, a total of 9,474 migrants/refugees/returnees (82% Somali, 17% Yemeni) had arrived in Somaliland since the outbreak of conflict in Yemen in March 2015. New arrivals docked in the towns of Berbera, Hargeisa, Lughaya, Maydh and Zeila. 94 arrivals were recorded in November, in a continued trend of a slowed pace of arrivals from Yemen.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Somaliland: Of the 7,759 Somalis that have arrived in Somaliland since the beginning of the conflict 43% (3,352) had acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p>
Puntland	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 7th December 2015, a total of 20,083 migrants/refugees/returnees (91% Somali, 8% Yemeni) had arrived in Puntland since the beginning of the Yemen conflict. Arrivals have been recorded through the towns of Bargal, Bosasso, Elayo and Qandala. 79 migrants/refugees/returnees arrived in Puntland in November 2015, representing a 67% decrease from arrivals in October. This is the lowest monthly arrival rate since the conflict began.</p> <p>Returning refugees and asylum seekers in Puntland: Of the 18,345 Somalis that have returned from Yemen to Puntland since the conflict, 5,809 (32%) people had acquired refugee status or sought asylum in Yemen.</p>
Somalia (South Central)	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: No new arrivals from Yemen were registered in South Central Somalia in the reporting period. However a significant number (54%) of those arriving in Somaliland and Puntland indicate an intention to return to Mogadishu specifically.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: According to UNHCR figures, there are 1.1 million internally displaced persons across the whole of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Somalia).</p> <p>Refugees in the neighbouring countries: There were 973,029 registered Somali refugees and asylum seekers displaced in neighbouring countries in the region as of 7th December 2015. Kenya continues to host the majority of refugees (43%), followed by Ethiopia (26%).</p>

<p>South Sudan</p>	<p>Regional displacement: As at 30th November 2015 there were a total of 646,771 South Sudanese asylum seekers and refugees displaced into neighbouring countries since the start of the conflict in December 2013. Ethiopia hosts the largest proportion of these refugees (256,053), followed by Sudan (198,707), Uganda (172,497) and Kenya (49,514). An additional 122,865 who were displaced before the December 2013 conflict are also hosted in the region.</p> <p>Internal Displacement: As of 10th December 2015 there were approximately 1.7 million displaced persons in South Sudan.</p> <p>Refugees in South Sudan: At the end of November 2015, South Sudan was host to 264,247 refugees from neighbouring countries, the majority of whom (92%) of refugees are from Sudan. Other refugee groups include those from Democratic Republic of Congo (6%), Ethiopia and Central African Republic (2%).</p>
<p>Sudan</p>	<p>Internal Displacement: Intense violent competition over land and resources in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states continues to force thousands to flee their homes in search of refuge At the end of November 2015, there were 3.1 million Sudanese internally displaced in the country, of who 2.5 million are in Darfur, and up to 538,000 are in South and West Kordofan and Blue Nile states.</p> <p>Refugees in Sudan: As of 30th November 2015, Sudan hosted a total 375,729 refugees in the country, including 198,314 South Sudanese and 168,694 refugees from other countries.</p> <p>Onward migration of migrants and asylum seekers from Sudan: The number of Eritrean nationals crossing into Sudan remained steady during the reporting period, with numbers average approximately 1,000 persons per month. UNHCR estimate that 80% of these new arrivals move on to third countries within a short space of time. It is suspected that these migrants and asylum seekers move into Libya with a view to crossing into the Mediterranean to Europe.</p> <p>Sudanese nationals crossing into Europe: UNHCR figures show that Sudanese nationals make up 1% of the total sea arrivals (819,218) to Europe in 2015.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Eritrean arrivals in Europe: As of 14th December 2015, Eritrean nationals accounted for 4% of the 950,469 arrivals in Europe via the Mediterranean. This shoots up to 26% when accounting for crossings along the Central Mediterranean route to Italy. Eritreans are the most populous group using this route.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>Arrivals from Yemen: As of 7th December 2015, 11,408 individuals had arrived in Ethiopia from Yemen since the outbreak of violence in March 2015. The majority (66%) of those arriving are returning Ethiopian nationals. Following the government's Administration for Refugees and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) decision to assist Yemeni and Iraqi refugees within UNHCR's urban programme in Addis Ababa, ARRA will begin on a plan to relocate Yemeni nationals in refugee camps to Addis Ababa.</p> <p>Refugees in Ethiopia: As of 30th November 2015, Ethiopia was host to 730,358 registered asylum seekers and refugees. The largest groups of refugees are South Sudanese (281,763), Somalis (251,620) and Eritreans (152,555). Ethiopia is the largest host of refugees on the continent. ARRA announced a plan to relocate all new arrivals of Somali refugees to refugee camps in Dollo Ado. The relocation will be coordinated with UNHCR and IOM.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: In a reprise of violent xenophobic attacks in South Africa, six Ethiopian migrants were reportedly killed in the city of Durban by South African nationals. South Africa has experienced recurring bouts of anti-foreigner violence in recent years, targeting workers from other African countries. Many unemployed South Africans accuse foreigners of taking jobs in a country where the unemployment rate is 24%.</p> <p>Local media reported on the arrest of 105 Ethiopian undocumented migrants in Tanzania as they moved through the country's capital Dar es Salaam on their way to southern Africa, from where they hoped to travel to Europe. Tanzania is a popular transit country for Ethiopian migrants who use the Eastern corridor to travel to South Africa</p>

	<p>and beyond.</p> <p>In local reports, a bus smuggling 21 Ethiopians to South Africa crashed on a highway in Zimbabwe, killing three (two Ethiopians) and injuring 19 others. The driver and conductor were reportedly paid USD 300 to transport the migrants into South Africa from Zimbabwe. The sum paid by the migrants to the smugglers is unknown.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Refugees in Kenya: At the end of November 2015, there were 593,529 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya. The most populous nationality among this group are Somali refugees and asylum seekers (71%), followed by South Sudanese (16%), and Ethiopians (5%). 530,637 (89%) of the refugee and asylum seeker population are encamped in Dadaab, Alinjugur and Kakuma camps, with 62,892 (11%) residing in the capital Nairobi.</p> <p>Voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees: As of 30th November 2015, a total of 5,853 Somali refugees have been supported to voluntarily repatriate from Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya to Somalia since the beginning of the exercise in 2014.</p> <p>Kenya mounts initiative to curb human smuggling from Ethiopia: According to local media reports the Kenyan military have joined forces with the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit (ATPU) in a new initiative to control rampant human smuggling from Ethiopia. Soldiers have been deployed to the Isiolo-Nairobi road, which security forces said was aimed at arresting foreigners being smuggled through the country by Kenyan-based cartels. The cartels reportedly operate from Moyale, Marsabit, Laisamis, Isiolo and Nairobi.</p> <p>The government confirmed the arrest of more than 1,000 Ethiopian migrants over a one-week period in November 2015 for being present in the country illegally. The migrants were apprehended along the Isiolo-Moyale road and remanded at Isiolo prison, along with the driver of the vehicle used to ferry the group. County Commissioner Geroge Natembea reportedly termed the influx of Ethiopians a security threat, noting that Kenyan smugglers work together with Immigration officials manning the Moyale border point to smuggle in aliens.</p> <p>In other separate reports a group of 16 Ethiopian nationals and another group of 50 Ethiopian nationals were arrested in Nairobi and charged with being in the country illegally. Three Kenyans were arrested alongside the first group were charged separately with harbouring the immigrants.</p>
<p>Israel</p>	<p>Israeli NGOs appeal to the Supreme Court over “voluntary” departure of irregular migrants: A group of non-governmental organisations lodged an appeal at the Supreme Court to strike down the State’s policy to imprison persons denied refugee status indefinitely if they refuse self-deportation to an unnamed third country. An earlier petition by the group was rejected by a lower court, leading to the groups’ appeal. The organisations contest that the district court improperly ignored evidence brought on the mistreatment of migrants who agreed to be deported to a third country.</p> <p>In September 2015, the Israeli government released statistics showing the “voluntary departure” of more than 8,000 Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers to third countries. A report released by human rights group International Refugee Rights Initiative (IRRI) alleged that deported migrants were not able to secure any form of legal status on their arrival, despite assurances by the Israeli government.</p> <p>200 asylum seekers cross into Israel despite fence: Some 200 Eritrean and Sudanese nationals were arrested after crossing into Israel over the country’s border fence with Egypt. The group were sent to the Saharonim detention facility in the Negev desert pending a ruling on their asylum status. Under a new High Court of Justice ruling, the detention is limited to a year, after which the asylum seekers must be released from detention.</p>
<p>Other regional news and news from other</p>	<p>Egypt passes new anti-human smuggling law: The Egyptian Cabinet approved new anti-human smuggling legislation that will, for the first time in the country’s history, criminalise persons who facilitate the undocumented passage of migrants in and out of the country. The law stipulates a number of penalties for those involved in smuggling, with the most severe amounting to life imprisonment and fines above USD 25,000 when smuggling results in death or disability, or when links to organised crime and terrorism are substantiated. Importantly, the law</p>

<p>regions</p>	<p>does not criminalise irregular migrants, but obliges the State to provide protection to the migrants, who are considered as victims. Egypt is now the first country in the Middle East and North Africa to issue an anti-smuggling law that is in line with the standards set out in the “Smuggling Protocol” of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.</p> <p>Detention of migrants in Egypt: According to local media reports 82 Egyptians were arrested for attempting to illegally enter Libya in a militarised zone between the two countries.</p> <p>Egyptian border forces kill Sudanese migrants trying to cross into Israel: In November, the Egyptian military confirmed that border forces shot dead five Sudanese migrants trying to cross the Sinai into Israel. “The force fired several warning shots and moved to arrest those trespassers who shot at the security force. The force engaged them, killing five, injuring six and arresting five more,” the military said in a statement.</p> <p>This incident follows reports earlier in the month of the discovery of the bodies of 15 African migrants who appeared to have been shot dead on the Egyptian-Israeli border. The northern Sinai peninsula is a major route for African migrants trying to reach Israel.</p> <p>Launch of the Pan-African Network on Migration: The Pan-African Network on Migration to further the interests of migrants on the continent and beyond was launched in December 2015, as an African chapter of the World Social Forum on Migration. The Network aims to be the voice of African migrants and an interlocutor between migrants and authorities in the countries of origin and destination in an effort to strengthen their relations for the betterment of African migrants. It aims, among other things, to contribute to the promotion and protection of African migrants’ rights and interests in and outside of Africa; collaborate with authorities to ensure that African migrants are given a space in local governance; serve as an interface with authorities in countries of origin where the migrants will ultimately return.</p> <p>Sea arrivals of refugees and migrants to Europe quickly approaches the one million mark: According to UNHCR 950,469 refugees and migrants arrived in the European Union (EU) by sea as of 14th December 2015. The majority of arrivals were recorded in Greece (797,372), followed by Italy (149,400), Spain (3,592) and Malta (105). Arrivals in November considerably slowed to 154,467 persons, a 30% reduction on arrivals in October. It is likely that winter conditions are making the crossing significantly harder.</p> <p>Mediterranean deaths at sea: Figures made available by IOM’s Missing Migrant Project show that as of 11th December 2015, 3,671 deaths were recorded in the Mediterranean Sea since the beginning of the year. This sea crossing remains the most volatile globally, accounting for 73% of fatalities worldwide.</p> <p>Burundi refugees in neighbouring countries: As of 16th December 2015, there were 223,743 Burundian refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region displaced by election-related violence.</p>
<p>New Research, reports or documents</p>	<p>Just Deserters: Why indefinite national service in Eritrea has created a generation of refugees: This report by Amnesty International sheds new light on the harsh conditions facing Eritrean conscripts and the brutal methods used by the military against those who attempt to evade it. Based on interviews with 72 Eritreans who fled the country since mid-2014, it corroborates claims that despite assurances by government officials that conscription is limited to 18 months, national service in the country often lasts for decades.</p> <p>A Certain Catalyst: an overview of the (mixed) migration and development debate with special focus on the Horn of Africa region: This report, the 9th in RMMS’s <i>Explaining People on the Move</i> series, offers a balanced perspective of the migration debate and highlight the importance of full public discussion of the central issues relevant to all regions in our increasingly globalised and interconnected world. Some have argued that of all the social sciences the study of migration is most polemical and taboo because being seen as defending one side or another appears to have ethical and political overtones beyond the defined scope of discussion and often irrespective of evidence. However, unless the debate is made more public, the discourse on migration runs a risk of being dominated by extremist interests precisely because more moderate voices shy away from taking clear public positions. Also available in an extended summary.</p> <p>Seeking safe harbour: three-region comparative analysis of protection at sea: In this indicative analysis of sea crossings by migrants in the Mediterranean; the Gulf of Aden/Red Sea and the Bay of Bengal/Andaman Sea, the RMMS provides an overview of the different provisions for migrants in terms of protection at sea, revealing</p>

some important trends and considerable inconsistencies across regions.

Refocussing on Yemen: the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan: This RMMS article refocuses attention on the Yemen situation, with reference to the launch of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan that highlights the immense needs on the ground in Yemen and in neighbouring countries in the region.

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.