



Regional mixed migration summary for September 2012 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.



The RMMS is primarily funded by the European Union Commission with significant support from other donors.

Country	Events /trends/ data / analysis
Djibouti	<p>New Arrivals: According to the data compiled by the UNHCR and partners during the month of September 2012, an estimated 8,382 people arrived on Yemen's shores, with the largest movement of 5,530 people moving from Djibouti, representing 66% of the total arrivals.</p> <p>The total arrivals in September 2012 are almost the same as those arriving in August 2012, but are 31% less than the total number of new arrivals in September 2011. In terms of those crossing the Red Sea from Djibouti, in September 2011 the numbers are 28% lower than the same month last year.</p> <p>The major departure points of the migrants from Djibouti, was from Obock and different coastal departure points 30-40 km north of Obock. There were Approximately 185 people crossing out of Obock per day in September, representing a 6% decrease of the total percentage of (daily) new arrivals from last month.</p> <p>To transport the above migrants, 95 smuggler boats were recorded as having landed on the Red Sea Coast of Yemen which is slightly higher than the previous month which recorded 92 boats.</p> <p>Assistance to migrants: The government of Djibouti has recently stepped up efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants, including health support and voluntary return assistance. So far this year, Djibouti coastguards have rescued 2,049 migrants in distress at sea, compared to 2,622 in 2011</p> <p>Smuggling: Some Somali new arrivals in September reported that they engaged the services of a smuggling network based in Mogadishu. They paid between \$350- \$400 to travel from Mogadishu via Djibouti to the Red Sea coast of Yemen. It was reported that a new smuggling ring seems to have cropped up in Harar, an Eastern city of Ethiopia. The syndicate appears less organized due to the piecemeal payment to each broker at each travel point. Ethiopians using this route paid approximately 290 USD for the journey to Yemen. Journeying to Jijiga through to Wajalle and Borama before proceeding to Loya Ade from where they are smuggled to port Obock.</p> <p>As previously reported, Somali new arrivals continued to report that with the tightening of controls against smugglers on the roads of Djibouti, smugglers transport migrants from Djibouti-ville to Obock by small boats after they cross the Loya Ade border. From Obock, they board larger boats bound for Yemen. Many Somali new arrivals stated that they told the smugglers that they were Ethiopians because Ethiopians normally travel on to Saudi Arabia and are given preference. New arrivals reported that they paid smugglers \$ 130 - \$150 for the boat crossing from Obock to Yemen's Red Sea coast.</p> <p>2nd Regional Committee on Mixed Migration: The Regional Committee on Mixed Migration for the Horn of Africa and Yemen held its second meeting in Djibouti on 23- 24 September 2012. The meeting follows an earlier event held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in December 2011 which included member government delegations from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somaliland, Puntland and Yemen. Egypt, Eritrea and Saudi Arabia were also invited as observer States. Representatives from the international and donor community included IGAD, the AU, UNHCR, IOM and DRC. The meeting aimed to improve collaboration between governments in the Horn of Africa and Yemen, and their international partners and to improve the condition of migrants, save lives and effectively manage migration in the region. Participants reviewed progress on 2011 recommendations relating to rescue at sea, smuggling and trafficking, and the role of Migration Response Centers (MRCs) operating in the region. The meeting also assessed the situation of migrant health and examined ways to extend medical services to migrants.</p>

	<p>Arrest and Deportation: Few Somalis reported that while in Djibouti, they were arrested, detained and ill-treated, after they were suspected of being linked to the Al-Shabaab group.</p>
<p>Eritrea (Sudan/ South Sudan)</p>	<p>New information: 20 Eritrean asylum seekers were stranded in harsh conditions between Egypt and its border fence for seven days. During the month, Israel softened its stance and allowed two women and one child in the group to enter the country. After making the trek across Egypt's increasingly lawless Sinai region, the group refused to return to Egypt for fear of deportation or kidnapping by Bedouin tribesmen.</p> <p>Israel: Illegal migration from Africa (predominantly Eritreans) to Israel continues to drop. The latest figures from the Interior Ministry's Population, Immigration, and Borders Authority indicate that a total of 122 illegal migrants crossed from Egypt into Israel during the month of September 2012. The number refers to only those who were apprehended by Israeli authorities after crossing into the country. It represents a small drop from August, when some 199 were arrested. Compared to the previous year, the figure represents a dramatic drop over the same period last year when 2,000 African migrants crossed into Israel.</p> <p>Trafficking/Kidnapping and extortion of Eritreans: During the reporting period a new report that highlights the kidnapping and torture of migrants in the Sinai region was presented to the European parliament. The report titled "Human Trafficking in the Sinai: Refugees between Life and Death" (University of Tilburg, Holland) details the torture and hardships experienced by migrants in captivity, including death. According to the report 95% of the people held in Sinai originate from Eritrea, a country that has been at the bottom of the freedom house index for the last 5 years. Eritrean migrants who are released face a dilemma since they cannot go to either Egypt or Israel for fear of being deported back to Eritrea where they would be detained and imprisoned for leaving the country illegally.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New Arrivals: An estimated 5,896 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in September 2012 representing 70% of the total new arrivals. In September 2011 the number of Ethiopian new arrivals was 8,787 and represented 72% of the total new arrivals, indicating that proportionally the number from Ethiopia has remained constant.</p> <p>Origin of new arrivals: As seen in the past, the Oromo new arrivals continued to form the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals. The other regions are Ogadenis, Amharas and Tigrays.</p> <p>Dollo Ado: During the reporting period, there was an increase of 2,576 Somali refugees hosted in Ethiopia. This brings the total of Somali refugees in Ethiopia to 214,000, accounting for approximately 58% of the total refugee population hosted in the country. Some 170,068 of these Somali refugees are hosted at the Dollo Ado camps and transit centre. 41,545 of the Somali refugee population is hosted in Jijiga, while Gode and Addis Ababa host 1,354 and 1,033 respectively which is the same as last month for all three locations. With the rising number of Somalis hosted in the country, the Ethiopian government endorsed the opening of a sixth camp in the Dollo Ado region which will be located near the Kobe camp area.</p> <p>Displaced: Days of heavy flooding in Ethiopia's Afar region have displaced over 25,000 people and caused extensive damage to agricultural crops. The floods - caused by days of torrential rains in the last week of August - struck 12 districts of the region. IRIN reported that some 53,237 households in Oromiya, South Wollo, North Wollo, South Gondar, North Gondar and North Shoa zones in Amhara have been affected, with 1,960 households temporarily displaced, stated a 23 August update by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It warned of the risk of flooding in western, southwestern and central parts of Ethiopia in September.</p> <p>Returnees: IOM-chartered 3 flights that airlifted 915 of destitute Ethiopians previously reported living in the open in and around Yemen's north western town of Haradh after trying and failing to cross to Saudi Arabia. IOM's limited funding meant that the most vulnerable, including women, children, the elderly and unaccompanied minors, were given priority on the flights back to Ethiopia. So far, in recent years they have assisted more than 13,000 Ethiopians to return. There are an estimated 12,000 or more Ethiopians stranded on the border town (Haradh) between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, although not all this number are hoping or seeking to return home.</p>

<p>Kenya</p>	<p>According to UNHCR, there were an estimated 533,231 Somali registered refugees hosted in Kenya at the end September.</p> <p>Kakuma: Some 956 individuals were registered in Kakuma in September, which is a 61% increase compared to those registered in the previous month. At the end of the reporting period, the total camp population was 102,147 of which Somalis comprise 47.6% reflecting a slight drop of 0.4% from the previous months. South Sudanese and Sudanese collectively comprise 36.6% which is a 5.7% decrease from the previous month. The current total population has surpassed the camps original capacity of 100,000 and there are on-going talks between UNHCR and the government to establish a second camp near the original camp.</p> <p>Dadaab: The population of registered Somalis at the Dadaab refugee complex decreased during the month of September by 3,943 to a total of 451,244. The Somali population comprises over 95% of the total refugee population in the Dadaab refugee complex. Refugees and asylum seekers from Somalia continue to arrive in Kenya and are being registered in Kakuma and Nairobi but registration in Dadaab remains suspended (except for vulnerable cases only). So far some 12,938 Somalis have been registered in Kenya in 2012.</p> <p>New Information: The fear of a terror attack in Nairobi has led to increased vigilance by police and suspicion of migrants, especially in Eastleigh, (Nairobi) mostly inhabited by Somali immigrants. During the reporting period, 30 immigrants were arrested in a police raid that targeted various hotels in Eastleigh. The police raid followed an earlier arrest of 2 suspected members of the Al-Shabaab group in possession of 6 bombs and 12 grenades within the same area who were allegedly planning to attack various churches in Nairobi.</p> <p>More than 40 Kenyan women (legal labour migrants) who were stranded in Saudi Arabia returned to Kenya after government intervention. The group left Kenya with hopes of securing employment in the Middle East called on the government to rescue them. They had been living under poor conditions with no food, no proper sleeping place or basic requirements. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary more than 200 Kenyans had sought help from the embassy after falling out with their employers between January and April this year.</p> <p>Inter-communal conflict displaces thousand: The conflicts that were previously reported in Wajir, Mandera (north-eastern Kenya) and Tana river counties (south-eastern Kenya) have continued. Some 13,500 people have been displaced and 30,000 affected during the reporting month according to the Kenya Red Cross.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen: In the reporting period, an estimated 2,852 individuals crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen representing 34% of the total new arrivals in Yemen. The last two months have seen a sharp increase of Arabian sea crossings both in volume and proportion from 370 (just 4% of the total) during the month of July to 2,536(30%) and 2,852 (34%) during the months of August and September respectively. However, August and September have always been high volume months due to calmer seas.</p> <p>Puntland as a country of origin: Migrants originating from Puntland continued to form the minority of Somali new arrivals in Yemen, they make up 3 – 4 % of the total.</p> <p>IDPs: Currently, there are an estimated 142,600 IDPs in Puntland based on UNHCR data. In September, it was reported that a significant number of IDPs and migrants had been arrested in Galkayo under a security operation by Puntland forces. However, they were released the next day. The operation is expected to continue until the end of December.</p> <p>Smuggling: The authorities in Puntland have intensified patrols and investigations against smuggling. Several arrests have been made in the last few months. In August, the police in Puntland arrested 80 migrants who were to be smuggled to Yemen when they were tipped off about two smuggling boats that were heading for Yemen. The migrants were detained at the Bossaso seaport but were released the next day.</p> <p>Kidnappings: As previously reported <u>2 Kenyan aid workers and a Somali doctor</u> employed by the International Aid Services were kidnapped about 50km north of Galkacyo. Reportedly they were kidnapped by Somali pirates who still hold them captive.</p> <p>Rescue at Sea: During the reporting period, a Spanish warship on anti-piracy patrol off the Somali coast rescued 68 people found drifting in a small boat in the Gulf of Aden. The 68 migrants were picked some 100 nautical miles</p>

	<p>(185 kilometres) out at sea and towed to Bosasso port, in North Somalia. The presence of several navy task forces in the region has seen a significant decline in piracy incidents.</p>
<p>Somalia (S-C)</p>	<p>Somali (SC) movements to Yemen: During the month of September 2,486 Somalis arrived on Yemen's shore which is an increase of 69 individuals compared to the previous month. The number of new arrivals during the same period last year was 3,292 representing a drop of 24%.</p> <p>Origins: South Central continues to contribute the majority of the total Somali new arrivals to Yemen. The majority are from the Shabelles, Juba, Banadir, Bay, Hiraan and Gedo regions. The majority of new arrivals cited economic reason as the main motivation for flight. Many stated that they could no longer rely on remittances from relatives abroad, many of whom reside in the US, and who were their major source of economic support. Some cited the suspension by American banks of offering remittance services due to 'terrorist financing' concerns. Insecurity also continues to feature as a major main reason for flight.</p> <p>Checkpoints: Many migrants on the move from S-C Somalia, in particular the youth, continued to report that they were still stopped and interrogated at checkpoints mounted in Mogadishu, Afgooye, Middle Shabelle and Hiraan on suspicion of having Al-Shabaab links. Whereas, those on the outskirts of Shabelle report of being arrested and ill-treated on suspicion of supporting western ideals. There are continued reports of the Al-Shabaab demanding 'taxes' from Somalis in areas controlled by the militia.</p> <p>Over a million Somali refugees in the HoA: As reported, in July 2012, the number of Somali refugees hosted in the HoA (including Uganda and Tanzania) and Yemen surpassed the one million mark. Half of this figure is hosted in Kenya alone with Yemen and Ethiopia hosting the second and third largest populations respectively.</p> <p>IDPs: Drawing on data from the UNHCR, a total of 24,000 individuals have been displaced in South Central in the period between 1st July and 14th September 2012. The UNHCR data revealed that insecurity was reported as the major cause of displacement of some 12,100 people, lack of livelihood (4,500), cross-border movement (2,400), IDP temporary return (2,100). The total number of IDPs in Somalia remains an estimated 1.36 million according to UNHCR.</p> <p>Kismayu displacement: The United Nations Refugee Agency, UNHCR, reported thousands of residents of the Somali port city of Kismayu had fled into neighboring areas, as the threat of violence continued to hang over the city now under the control of Somali and Kenyan troops. The majority of the displaced headed to districts surrounding Kismayo, including the Jilib and Jamame districts. Others travelled to Mogadishu and Dadaab refugee camps. During the month of September a total of 14,000 people left Kismayu.</p> <p><i>This document does not seek to extensively detail conditions and event in Somalia (including displacements) as the subject is dealt with in great detail by various dedicated agencies.</i></p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>New Arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland: A small number of Somali new arrivals originate from Somaliland. Most belong to the majority clans of Dir, Darood, Hawiye, with few indicating that they belong to the minority clans of Digil Mirifle and Jareer.</p> <p>UNHCR responds to planned removal and deportation of Ethiopian migrants: During the month of August, the forcible removal and deportation of Ethiopian migrants from the Social Welfare Centre (SWC) in Somaliland was reported. There was a violent altercation on 30th August at the SWC area between the former occupants and the host community. The police were later alerted to restore order in the area, resulting to the injury of one refugee and several policemen. After the skirmish 58 men were detained, these migrants were later released and are in contact with UNHCR. Another different group of migrants was then subsequently ordered removed to Wachale border on 31st August, this was a group of 73 refugees. However, UNHCR accompanied by the Chief of Internal Security of the Ministry of Interior went to Wachale border and prevented the deportation of the 73 refugees. The group was transported to Hargeisa and assisted with (food and NFI, accommodation, medical assistance and cash) by UNHCR. This event was the subject of a Human Rights Watch report.</p> <p>Media training: During the reporting period IOM and RMMS organised a one-day media training workshop on the mixed migration in the Horn region. 15 media representatives / journalists were represented. The purpose of the</p>

[workshop](#) was to share information on mixed migration as it pertains to the Horn of Africa as a prelude to widen the knowledge of journalists and improve on factual and impartial reporting.

Yemen

New data from the Yemen MMTF

New Arrivals: The total number of new arrivals recorded in September was 8,382 individuals . 5,530 of September's total arrivals crossed the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 2,852 crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). The total number of new arrivals in September represents, as previously mentioned, a 30% drop when compared with numbers from September 2011.

Red Sea Arrivals: 66% of September's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 34% crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland).

Proportions: In September, 70.5% of the new arrivals were non-Somalis while 29.5% were Somalis, compared to the previous month, September arrivals has seen an 11.5% proportionate decline in non-Somali migration to Yemen.

Main Drivers/push factors: Lack of economic opportunities and insecurity continues to be cited as the main reasons for flight by new arrivals to Yemen. The majority of those Somalis citing insecurity were fleeing from S-C Somalia. It remains to be seen how the ouster of the Al-Shabaab group from Kismayu will affect security in the area. The majority of non-Somalis making their way to Yemen via the Red Sea were from Oromia State. There were also Ethiopians hailing from Ogaden, Amhara, Tigray, Silte and Affar regions.

Boats & passengers: Over the reporting period the total number of boats arriving on the coast with migrants was 136 vessels; 44 crossing the Arabian sea and 92 crossing the Red Sea. The average number of passengers on each boat was 61 people per trip (not including smugglers/crew). Of note is a significant increase in boats crossing the Arabian Sea, from 6 boats in July 2012 to 39 in boats in August.

Migrant vulnerability: New arrivals continue to face banditry and robbery from Affar smugglers in Djibouti, many have to pay their travelling fee twice after the smugglers aiding them deny receiving initial payments. New arrivals at the Red Sea coast of Yemen continue to be taken hostage for ransom upon arrival. On 4 September, new arrivals witnessed an Ethiopian male fall to his death from a moving vehicle after he was forcefully bundled out of the vehicle by Yemeni inland smugglers. Women continue to face sexual and gender based violence on-route to Yemen, with at least 7 incidents reported during the reporting period. Sexual assaults are either perpetrated by Affari smugglers in Obock or by Yemeni smuggling crew during the boat journey. Reports indicate that many cases of SGBV taking place when the smuggling crew disembarks in Al Jadid, a dialogue session has been held with local leaders in an attempt to curb the violence. Starvation and dehydration continue to be a grave concern faced by mixed migrants. At least four Ethiopians are reported to have died due to starvation in Obock during the reporting period.

Ransom demands: While initial reports indicated that the hostage takers were demanding ransom of about 100 USD, the ransom demands seem to have increased to 300 USD. New arrivals are subjected to severe beatings as they are coerced to contact family members to pay up the ransom demands. New arrivals, however, are sometimes released if they are not able to meet the ransoms demanded.

Deaths at Sea: In line with the trend observed throughout 2012, there were no confirmed reported deaths at sea from those crossing to Yemen in September.

Smuggling: During the reporting period Yemeni police conducted a raid and arrested three African smugglers, who allegedly traffic Africans to Saudi Arabia. The raid operation came after it was reported to police that smugglers had detained a number of Ethiopians inside their yard and that the migrants were being exposed to abuse, beatings and torture in order to obtain funds. Yemeni police have [arrested more than 15 smugglers](#) since the beginning of the year 2012.

IDPs: As previously reported, the continued insecurity in Yemen hinders large scale return of IDPs and recent clashes have resulted in new displacement. With government control of parts of Abyan since June 2012, some IDPs have returned to the area, however, this return has been limited due to the presence of un-exploded land mines and UXOs. The counting of IDPs in Yemen has come under some political pressure due to the associated interests of different groups in presenting high or low numbers, the most up-to-date figure (30th June – UNHCR/GoY) available is that there are a total of **545,318 registered internally displaced people**. Of this figure, 335,415 are said to be in the North, of which 36% are in the Hajjah governorate and 32% in Sa'ada governorate.

	<p>209,895 are in the South of which 72% are in Aden, the largest group of IDPs overall.</p> <p>Insecurity in Yemen: Insecurity continues to be a major issue in Yemen. The country has been undergoing a democratic transition, under the leadership of President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi Mansour, who came to power in an election in February. In September, a terrorist attack in the capital, Sana'a, resulted in numerous deaths and injuries, including among the security detail of Yemen's defence minister. The United States Embassy in Sana'a was also attacked during the same period.</p> <p>Ethiopians stranded in North Yemen: As previously reported, for many months there have been thousands of <u>Ethiopian migrants stranded in North Yemen</u> around the city of Haradh– close to the border with Saudi Arabia. During the month of September a total 915 Ethiopian migrants were repatriated back to Ethiopia from Yemen, they were airlifted to Addis Ababa with the assistance of IOM chartered flights.</p> <p>Continuing trend: The flow of refugees and migrants from the Horn of Africa across the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea towards Yemen continues to exceed previous records. This year total new arrivals are 12% higher than than total figures from January to September (inclusive). However the difference is less than expected at the start of the year and significantly less than the differences between total numbers arriving in 2011 compared with 2010, when the increase represented 100%.</p> <p>Caveat: <i>Despite the network of local partners collecting data along parts of the Arabian and Red Sea coasts it cannot be assumed that this data captures all new arrivals. Particularly, there may be those that arrive along the northern stretches of the Red Sea coast, beyond the data networks. Consequently the actual numbers of new arrivals in Yemen may be higher. Yemen Red Crescent and the Danish Refugee Council are planning to extend the patrol area further north along the Red Sea coast.</i></p>
<p>Other Regional news</p>	<p>Deportation of Burundians: Following a screening exercise of some <u>38,000 Burundians living in the Mtabila refugee camp</u> in the Kigoma region, the Tanzania authorities have set a deadline for repatriation by 31st December 2012. However, this has led to a tense and uncertain atmosphere within the camps resulting in many refugees moving to other countries such as Mozambique.</p> <p>Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC): According to OCHA, some 600,000 Congolese have been displaced between January to August 2012, due to the fighting in the DRC. 220,000 are displaced in North Kivu while some 339,309 are displaced in South Kivu. An estimated 60,000 have fled the country since the start of the conflict early this year, which has impeded humanitarian aid access especially in the Ituri region.</p> <p>Uganda: The number of refugees fleeing following renewed fighting in the DRC has risen to 114,000 according to government figures. Uganda though the State Minister for International Affairs has asked for assistance to support the Congolese refugees.</p> <p>Rwanda: The number of refugees crossing to Rwanda from Congo has dropped drastically, to one or two people a day, according to a statement from the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs. The statement was released at the conclusion of the relocation of about 20,000 refugees from Nkamira Transit Centre in Rubavu district to Kigeme Camp in the Southern Province. The exercise which was jointly carried out with the UN Agency for Refugees (UNHCR), started early June following an influx of refugees from Congo fleeing conflict in DRC. Since April this year to the end of the reporting period, an estimated 19,829 Congolese fleeing the conflict in the DRC arrived in Rwanda according to UNHCR.</p>

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