Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) summary for March 2018 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia / Somaliland and Yemen.
Displacement Snapshot

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<tr>
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<th>Somalia/Somaliland</th>
<th>Yemen</th>
<th>South Sudan</th>
<th>Ethiopia</th>
<th>Eritrea</th>
<th>Djibouti</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
<th>Uganda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refugees</td>
<td>15,259</td>
<td>280,692 (mainly from Somalia and Ethiopia)</td>
<td>292,314</td>
<td>170,887 (in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya and Somalia)</td>
<td>2,246 (Somali)</td>
<td>26,915 (as at end of Feb)</td>
<td>483,597</td>
<td>1,444,873</td>
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<td>Asylum seekers</td>
<td>14,885</td>
<td>2,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internally displaced people (IDP)</td>
<td>2.1 mil</td>
<td>2.014 mil</td>
<td>1.85 mil</td>
<td>1.7 mil</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In need of humanitarian assistance / food aid</td>
<td>5.4 mil</td>
<td>22.2 mil</td>
<td>2.14 mil</td>
<td>7.9 mil</td>
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<td>2.3 mil</td>
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RMMS will soon be transitioning into the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC). The MMC was established in February 2018. It brings together various existing regional initiatives – hosted or led by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) – engaged in data collection, research, analysis and policy development on mixed migration issues into a new global network of mixed migration expertise.

Definition of Key Terms

**Refugee:** A person who is unwilling or unable to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. The 1951 UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees is based on the fundamental principle of non-discrimination, non-penalization, and non-refoulment. *(UNHCR, 1951 UN Convention)*

**Asylum seeker:** A person who seeks safety from persecution or serious harm in a country other than his or her own and awaits a decision on their application for refugee status under relevant international and national instruments. *(International Organization for Migration)*

**Refoulement:** Refers to the expulsion or return of a refugee to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. *(United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)*

**Mixed Migration:** Cross-border movements of people including refugees fleeing persecution and conflict, victims of trafficking and people seeking better lives and opportunities. Motivated to move by a multiplicity of factors, people in mixed flows have different legal statuses as well as a variety of vulnerabilities. Although entitled to protection under international human rights law, they are exposed to multiple rights violations along their journey. Those in mixed migration flows travel along similar routes, using similar means of travel - often travelling irregularly and wholly or partially assisted by migrant smugglers. *(Operational definition by the Mixed Migration Centre)*
**Country Profiles**

## Djibouti

**Policy dialogue:** On 13 and 14 February 2018, the Technical Working Group on Migration of IGAD met for a two day workshop in Djibouti. This fourth meeting of the working group was facilitat- ed by IGAD’s Senior Migration Program Coordinator, Ms. Caro- line Njuki, and chaired by the Acting Director of Health and Social Development, Ms. Fathia Alwan. The objectives of the meeting were: to explore new approaches to migration while identifying collaboration opportunities; to enhance linkages between various divisions and programs; to follow up on recommendations and planned activities from the previous thematic working group meeting; and to identify joint actions and way forward which in- cluded outreach, regular information sharing, development of an early warning system, and discussions on the Protocol of Free Movement. Additionally, Djibouti’s Office of Assistance for Refu- gees and Disaster Stricken People (ONARS) along with UNHCR conducted awareness raising sessions in Djibouti-Ville in March on the country’s new refugee law. Around 200 participants from local authorities, youth representatives, local community groups and refugees attended these sessions.

Similarly, on 12-13 March 2018, the “Regional Conference on the Protection of Child Migrants in the Horn of Africa” took place in Djibouti to address the safety and dignity of children migrating in the Horn of Africa. More than 170 international, regional and na- tional experts attended. State representatives and experts from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Denmark, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Germany, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, and more, as well as of the EU discussed with international ex- perts from UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, as well as BMM’s imple- menting partners, such as GIZ, IOM, and UNODC, and Civil Soci- ety Organizations. The conference was organized by the Better Migration Management (BMM) Program with the support of Safe the Children International (SCI).

## Somalia/Somaliland

**Refugees & Asylum seekers:** According to UNHCR, there are approximately 30,144 registered asylum seekers and refugees living in Somalia. Women and children comprise 68.9% of the entire case load. Of the 30,144 case load, 50.6% are asylum seekers and 49.4% refugees. Ethiopians constitute the highest percentage of asylum seekers at 96.2% while Yemeni refugees constitute the highest caseload at 74.1%. The main areas of set- tlement for these refugees and asylum seekers are Waaqooyi Gal- beed, Bari, Banadir and Nugaal. Men comprise 54.1% and wom- en 45.9% while adults between the ages of 18 and 59 comprise 52% and children between the ages of 5 and 11 comprising of 20.9%. Infants, teens and the elderly comprise 27.1% combined.

**Somali Returnees from Kenya & Yemen:** According to a UN- HCR report, there are approximately 78,847 Somali refugee returnees from Kenya between 2014 and 2018. A majority of these have been adults between the ages of 18 and 59 comprising 30.8% of the refugee returnee population followed by children between the ages of 5 and 11 at 28.5%. However combined, women and children represent 85% of the entire caseload since 2014. Sixty-four percent of the returnees have settled in Lower Juba while 18% have settled in Banadir. Other areas that the returnees have settled in include Bay, Gede, Middle Juba, Middle and Lower Shabelle, Hiraan, Bari, Nugaal and Waaqooyi Galbeed. However, there are approximately 36,497 Somali returnees from Yemen since 2015 with a majority having settled in Banadir.

**Policy Dialogue:** On 20 March 2018, experts from IGAD mem- ber states attended a meeting in Nairobi to review the progress on the implementation of the commitments made under the Nai- robi Declaration and Plan of Action on durable solutions for Somal refugees. In attendance were representatives from refugee management agencies and other government officials. Areas discussed include: increasing international responsibility sharing; delivering durable solutions while maintaining protection and asy- lum space; strengthening sub-regional cooperation; and acceler- ating solutions in Somalia by creating an environment for volun- tary and sustainable returns.

In addition, IGAD released a statement on the political tension in Somalia on 26 March 2018. In this statement, IGAD welcomed the development of condition-based Transition Plan outlining the gradual handover of security from AMISOM to the Somali Security Forces while also commending the Federal Government of Somalia for meeting the requirement of IMF’s Staff Monitored Program as part of the Funds engagement with the government. Lastly, IGAD capped upon the Executive and Federal Parliament to deliver milestones under the 2020 Roadmap and to aid in the implementation of the national security architecture.

In Mogadishu on the other hand, Somalia hosted a national con- sultative meeting on the IGAD Protocol on Free Movement of Persons which brought together experts and stakeholders in migra- tion governance to discuss opportunities associated with free movement of persons as well as existing barriers to free move- ment and how to reduce these. On 6 March, the High-Level Event for the Humanitarian Situation commonly known as the ‘London Conference’ took place with the aim of drawing urgent attention to the humanitarian crisis in Somalia. Six countries- UK, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Netherlands- made pledges to address the humanitarian situation in Somalia, while Amb. Mohammed Abdi Affey, UN’s Special Envoy for the Somali Situation called for stronger links between relief, recovery and development efforts.
Refugees & asylum seekers: As reported previously, Kenya was hosting approximately 483,597 refugees and asylum seekers as at 28 February 2018. A majority of these refugees are currently residing in Dadaab refugee camp (58%). However, the highest number of refugee and asylum seekers registered are in Kakuma at 2,215 out of the 3,810 total registrations. The number of refugees and asylum seekers has significantly reduced since 2014 from 585,363 in 2014 to 483,597 in the first quarter of 2018 particularly for refugees and asylum seekers from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea. However, the numbers have increased since 2014 for refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Burundi and Uganda. Adults between the ages of 18 and 59 comprise 42.4% of the entire refugee and asylum seeker population in Nairobi, Kakuma and Dadaab.

The Moyale Situation: Following the resignation of the Ethiopian Prime Minister in February, the President declared a State of Emergency which allegedly resulted in an ambush of a military truck headed to Oromia. It is reported that the military then armed bushed communities in Oromia leading to injuries and displacement of approximately 1,650 households (8,200 people) in the first three days of the attack. However, the number is reported to have increased to around 10,000 people by mid-March with the Refugee Affairs Secretariat, the Kenya Red Cross Society, and UNHCR moving to register people hosted in the Moyale camps in Somare, Kakubi, Butiye, Dambala Fachana, Mayie, Sessi and Sololo. UNHCR reports that more than 80% of those who fled to Kenya were women and children with over 600 women being expectant mothers and 1,500 children under five.

Voluntary Repatriation: As at the end of March 2018, UNHCR reported that a total of 78,847 Somali refugees had been voluntarily repatriated since 2014. In 2018 alone, however, 3550 refugees had been assisted to return from Kenya. These refugees have been repatriated by road and flight to Mogadishu and Kismayo.

Policy Dialogue: The national Action Plan for the implementation of the 2017 Nairobi Declaration is undergoing finalization by the Refugee Affairs Secretariat while the Ministry of Education is also developing a Refugee Education Inclusion Policy. Similarly, plans are underway to include stateless persons and refugees in Kenya’s UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) where they will be included under the political, social and economic pillars.

Ethiopia

Refugees and asylum seekers: As at end of March 2018, UNHCR reported that there were 916,678 registered refugees and asylum seekers with most living in the Gambella region of Western Ethiopia (45.7%) and Melkadida in South East Ethiopia (23.7%). Adults between the ages of 18 and 59 years comprise 19.4% of the entire refugee and asylum population, followed closely by children between 5 and 11 at 13.4%. Young people aged between 15 and 24 comprise of only 8.1%. In addition, majorly of these refugees and asylum seekers are South Sudanese and Somalis at 75.9% of the entire population. Despite the increase in refugee and asylum seeker population in March compared to February, the number of new arrivals in March is still lower than that of arrivals in January and February 2018.

Political landscape: Following the resignation of Ethiopia’s Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn in February citing need for reforms, the ruling Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front (EDRF) coalition appointed Abiy Ahmed from the Oromo ethnic group as its new Chairman on 27 March, 2018. It is expected that Mr. Abiy will succeed Hailemariam as Ethiopia’s Prime Minister.

Ethiopia-Israeli relations: In November 2015, the Israeli government approved a proposal to allow the immigration of thousands of Ethiopians claiming Jewish descent. The Interior Ministry at the time said that members from the Falashmura group (who had been forced to convert to Christianity) would be allowed into Israel over a period of 5 years and would undergo conversion under the auspices of the ultra-Orthodox Chief Rabbinate. Approximately 9,000 Ethiopian Jews were awaiting to come to Israel at the time. However, Israel later claimed that many of the Ethiopians were not Jewish, meaning that they were no longer eligible to migrate under it’s ‘Law of Return’ and would therefore need prior Israeli government approval to enter Israel. In March 2018, a vote by the Israeli government to approve immigration of around 8000 Ethiopian migrants seeking to reunite with their families did not occur as expected. There were concerns that this funding had allegedly not been included in the preliminary versions of the budget and that the Cabinet needed to agree to fund this immigration process before the national budget is approved in Parliament. This was followed by protests outside the Israeli Parliament by Ethiopian Israelis in March 2018.

Policy Dialogue: Under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Ethiopia, the government held two workshops on Education and basic services which were attended by donors, UN organizations, district officials, Federal Ministries of Education and Health, the Ethiopian Public Health Institute among others. The ministries present called for an end to parallel service delivery to refugees through greater inclusion of refugees in national service. Similarly, the World Bank has committed US $200 million through the ‘Program for Results’ instrument which the Ethiopian government plans to use to provide economic opportunities for refugees and nationals through formal entrepreneurship and employment.

Eritrea

Eritrean Refugees & Asylum seekers in the region: There are approximately 167,969 Eritrean refugees living in Ethiopia with 2,772 having arrived into Ethiopia in 2018 alone. 73,075 of the Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in camps have settled in urban areas. Eritrean refugees constitute 18.3% of the entire Ethiopian refugee population as at March 2018. In Somalia, there were 86 Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers by the end of March 2018 while in Kenya there were approximately 1,360 Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers by end of February 2018. Of the 1,360 refugees and asylum seekers, 95% are currently living in Nairobi. In South Sudan, there were approximately 1,472 registered Eritrean refugees at the end of March.

RMMS East Africa and Yemen Monthly Summary
Arrivals into Italy: However, between January and March 2018, Eritreans comprised 25% of all arrivals into Italy via the Central Mediterranean Route. UNHCR reports that the numbers of Eritreans registered at disembarkation sites in Italy have increased from 577 to 1,552 in comparison to the same period in 2017 with 25% of the arrivals being women. The report also shows that more Eritrean women arrived into Italy in 2018 compared to the same period in 2017. According to UNHCR, Eritreans account for 4.7% of the total Mediterranean Sea arrivals from January to March 2018 and 7.2% of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean Route. The number currently stands at 8,604 and is the highest number for migrants from the Horn of Africa region.

Yemen

Humanitarian situation, access and displacement: By end of March 2018, there were 22.2 million people in need representing approximately 75% of the entire Yemeni population. 2,014,026 people have been internally displaced with 89% of these being displaced for more than a year. IDP returnees add up to 956,076. Ongoing hostilities in the country have resulted in new displacement while the protection space for refugees and asylum seekers continues to shrink. Assessments conducted by UNOCHA in February 2018 showed that 1.2 million people in need are located in the most inaccessible parts of Yemen with an additional 8 million people in areas where humanitarian actors face obstacles. Overall, 90% of districts were reported as having access constraints with armed conflict being the main reason for this. The Yemeni Protection Cluster reports that more than 100,000 people have been internally displaced since December 2017 with most displaced from Northern to Southern governorates.

Returnees & Refugees: The number of refugees and asylum seekers in Yemen is 280,692 according to UNHCR. In addition, 11,367 Somali refugees and asylum seekers returned from Yemen in March 2018 and 36,497 returns since 2014 to date. Higher numbers of these refugees settled in Woqooyi Galbeed and Banadir while most returnees settled in Banadir. The number of registered returnees from Yemen in 2018 so far is 642 and 673 for Somali returnees under the Assisted Spontaneous Returns program. Somali refugees and asylum seekers aged between 18 and 59 years comprised 59.1% of the entire caseload and 49.9% of the caseload for the assisted spontaneous returns. In total, however, there are 36,497 Somali refugee returnees from Yemen since 2015.

Policy discussions: On 15 March 2018, the Security Council emphasized the need for an inclusive political solutions as a means of ending the conflict in the country. A Presidential Statement from the Council’s President, Karel Jan Gustaaf van Oosterom, called for all Member States to fully implement the arms embargo and for unhindered access for humanitarian assistance. The Council further called on the Government of Yemen to develop a transparent budget process and the need to strengthen the Central Bank of Yemen to develop and implement a transparent national monetary policy. The Council further called on all parties to the conflict to abandon preconditions and engage in good faith the UN-led process to political solutions in Yemen.

Human Rights Violations: A recent Human Rights Watch report highlights the ongoing torture, rape and execution of migrants and asylum seekers allegedly by Yemeni government officials. This is reported to take place in Aden where authorities have denied asylum seekers the opportunity to seek refugee protection while also taking migrants’ money, personal belongings and documents. It is also alleged that Yemeni authorities would not allow international humanitarian organizations from examining migrants at the center that had serious injuries. In response to this report, the Interior Ministry wrote a letter saying that the Ministry had removed the center’s commander and had begun procedures to transfer the migrants to another location and promised to investigate the claims.

The Israel Situation: Last month, RMMS reported that an Israeli court ruled that Eritreans who deserted military service back home in search of refugee in Israel were granted asylum status following previous challenges in accessing asylum in Israel. Following this, the Israeli government signed a deal with UNHCR to resettle approximately 16,000 African asylum seekers (including Eritreans) in Western Countries—a deal that was later suspended by the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, with reports claiming that the deal had angered members of his right-wing Likud Party.

Sudan

Refugees & IDPs: By end of March, there were 4,348 new South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan bringing the total number of arrivals in 2018 to 14,690. The main areas of settlement are East and South Darfur, West and South Kordofan, and West Nile. By end of March, East Darfur hosted 5,404 South Sudanese refugees, South Darfur 3,722, West Kordofan 3,227, South Kordofan 453 and White Nile 1,884 since the beginning of the year. However, the number of South Sudanese arriving into Sudan has decreased across the first 3 months of the year with 5,770 having arrived in January, 4572 in February and 4,348 in March. UNHCR estimates that there are approximately 769,830 South Sudanese refugees living in Sudan with a majority of these having arrived after 2013. Twenty one percent of the South Sudanese refugee population were adults between 18 and 59 years, 13% between 5 and 11 years, 9% between 0 and 4 years, 8% between 12 and 17 years and 2% over 60 years of age. In South Sudan however, there are approximately 270,560 Sudanese refugees living in the country. UNICEF reports that there are approximately 2 million people internally displaced in Sudan with 960,000 of these being children & 468,475 being South Sudanese refugee children.

Political relations with Eritrea: In January’s monthly summary, RMMS noted that there were rising tensions between Sudan and Eritrea following the closure of the border with Eritrea allegedly due to the deployment of Egyptian troops to Asmara. However on 23 March, the Eritrean Ministry of Information accused the Sudanese government of helping set up an office for the followers of radical Islamic Cleric, Mohammed Jumma, in a secluded area to organize political and military activities with funding from the Qatari Embassy in Khartoum & logistical support from Sudanese Security and Intelligence Service. The Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs later refuted these claims saying that its government is committed to its policy of good neighborliness and non-interference in internal affairs.
**South Sudan**

**IDPs, Refugees & Asylum seekers:** As at end of March, UNHCR reported that the total refugee population in South Sudan was 292,314 with 99% of these living in camps and settlements and 1% living in urban areas. Women and children represent 82% of the refugee population living in camps and settlements while 52% of the urban refugee population were women. Sixty one percent of the refugee population were between 0 and 17 years while adults between 18 and 59% comprised 37% and the elderly above 60 at only 2%. The main countries of origin for these refugees are South Sudan (92%), DR Congo (5%), Ethiopia (2%) and Central African Republic (1%). The Upper Nile State currently hosts 50% of the refugee caseload, Unity 41%, Central & Western Equatoria (8%), and Jonglei 1%. South Sudan currently hosts 2,055 asylum seekers from Burundi (13.3%), Eritrea (71.6%), Ethiopia (12.8%), Somalia (1.4%), Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Cameroon, Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo (0.9% for all five countries). In the region however, there are 2.47 million South Sudanese living in Uganda (42.6%), Sudan (31.1%), Ethiopia (17.8%), Kenya (4.6%), DR Congo (3.7%), and the Central African Republic (0.1%). The total number of internally displaced people in South Sudan is 1.85 million.

**Policy Dialogue:** On 26 March 2018, the IGAD Council of Ministers held a meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to focus on South Sudan and the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement between all parties to the conflict in the country. IGAD’s Executive Secretary, Amb. Mahboub Maalim called on the representatives of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism, UN, IGAD Partners Forum, IGAD South Sudan Office, the EU, Troika, the AU, China to provide their individual statements on the crisis in South Sudan. IGAD’s Special Envoy, Amb. Ismael Wais presented on peace efforts made while also calling upon the Council to intensify its engagement with the Parties aiming to “persuade the South Sudanese stakeholders to make compromises”. The Council of Ministers in their statement also decided to take targeted sanctions against individual violators and refer to the AU Peace and Security Council for appropriate punitive measures.

**Human Rights Dialogue:** RMMS in February reported that a UN Investigation found over 40 South Sudanese military officers guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity. On 13 March 2018, the UN Human Rights Council met in Geneva with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. During the discussions, speakers condemned the widespread violence and impunity in the country and urged the Government to set up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to speed up transitional justice mechanisms and to ensure perpetrators of crimes were brought to justice. In attendance were representatives from the Government of South Sudan, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Kenya, Algeria, Mozambique, Norway, Germany, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Article 19, among others.

**Uganda**

**Refugees and Asylum seekers:** According to UNHCR, Uganda currently hosts 1,444,873 refugees and asylum seekers with only 20,201 registered across the 30 refugee settlements. Majority of these refugees and asylum seekers are from South Sudan (72.9%), DR Congo (19.1%), Burundi (2.8%), Somalia (2.6%) and 2.6% from other countries. Sixty percent of the entire caseload are children while 52% are women and girls. However, between 10 and 13 March 2018, more than 4000 people crossed into Uganda from the Democratic Republic of Congo, mostly women and children. The UN reports that the violence in DRC is taking on ethnic dimensions with armed men reported to attack villages, killing civilians, kidnapping young men and boys, and looting and burning houses.

**Policy discussions:** In March, the government of Uganda endorsed the new national Education Response Plan that aims to ensure that children and adolescents from the host and refugee communities have access to quality education for the period 2018-2020. It is expected that this will benefit over 675,000 children annually. Similarly, the mid-term review of Uganda’s National Development Plan (2015-2020) began in March and the Government has committed to use this mid-term review to guide the partnership dialogue and further integrate refugee response. A group of local and national NGOs have also set up a Humanitarian Platform to strengthen coordination of these NGOs in responding to Uganda’s humanitarian situation.

**Other News**

**Displacement in the region:** UNHCR estimates that there are approximately 5.27 million refugees and asylum seekers in the East, Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Regions. South Sudan currently has approximately 2.46 million refugees and asylum seekers in the region, Somalia (580,400), DR Congo (550,600), Burundi (461,700), Sudan (329,400), Eritrea (300,600), Rwanda (239,400), and other countries (346,800). Uganda currently hosts 1.4 M of the entire caseload, Sudan (921,045), Ethiopia (916,678), DR Congo (642,239), Kenya (481,226), Tanzania (355,892), South Sudan (234,369), Rwanda (163,527), Burundi (73,017), Congo (47,607), Somalia (30,144), Djibouti (27,366), and Eritrea (2,395). It is also estimated that women and children constitute 81% and children below 18 years 59%.

**Arrivals to Europe & Migrant Deaths:** UNHCR reports that there have been 16,640 Central Mediterranean Sea arrivals in 2018 and 505 estimated to be dead or missing so far in 2018. Over 4,400 refugees and migrants entered Europe via Italy, Greece and Spain in March alone. In Italy, the number of refugees and migrants recorded were the lowest on the Central Mediterranean route since late 2013. Approximately 76% of these departed from Libya compared to 56% in February. The primary nationalities that have arrived via Sea are Eritreans (23%), Tunisians (12%) and Sudanese (10%).
Global Compact for Migration Discussions: The second round of intergovernmental negotiations took place from 12-15 March 2018 focusing on the differentiation between irregular and regular migrants, differentiation between migrants and refugees, implementation and capacity building, and follow up and review. In the follow up and review session, members agreed that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development be re-purposed and renamed “International Migration Review Forum” and that this forum will serve as the primary global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration.

The Burundi refugee situation in Tanzania: UNHCR along with the Government of Tanzania and Burundi have agreed to start voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees starting April 2018. So far, more than 20,000 Burundian refugees have registered to return to Burundi with the Burundi Home Affairs Assistant Minister stating that the government was ready to accommodate the returnees. UNHCR reports that by 22 March, at least 20,739 Burundian refugees had been repatriated with a government plan of action in place to send approximately 1,000 refugees per week between April and December 2018.

New Research/Reports

The Mixed Migration Center published a statement ahead of the second round of negotiations on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration looking at the differentiation between irregular and regular and between migrants and refugees. Through this statement, the Mixed Migration Center reiterated that migrants in vulnerable situations who are not refugees risk falling through the cracks and therefore strongly suggests to explicitly include and highlight the principle of non-refoulement of migrants in the GCM.

The Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) published two feature articles. One focusing on exploring legal options for migration and the contrary policies that challenge the positive impact that increased legal pathways would offer migrants. The second feature article focused on the migration trends and patterns of Eritreans in the region and beyond. This article can be accessed here.

Devex published an article looking at the Global Compact for Migration and the linkages with climate refugees. The article states that the UN was still not ready to give specific legal protection to climate-induced migrants

UNHCR have published a report 'Desperate Journeys' covering the period January 2017-March 2018. It looks at the changing patterns of movement, access to territory and asylum, risk to refugees and migrants traveling to and through Europe, Children on the move, and access to safe legal pathways and durable solutions.