



Regional mixed migration summary for November 2013 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/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>Djibouti</p>	<p>New Arrivals: In November, an estimated 1,412 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 48% decrease from arrivals in October 2013, and a 78% decrease from numbers that arrived in November 2012 and 2011.</p> <p>Boats: A total of 26 vessels left via the Red Sea for Yemen carrying an average of 54 passengers per trip in the month of November.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: Arrivals in Yemen reported witnessing Ethiopian migrants/refugees stranded at the Obock departure point, afraid to embark on the sea journey to Yemen for fear of detection and arrest by the Djiboutian coast guard, which has reportedly increased patrols along the coast.</p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>Migrants/refugees depart from Somaliland: A large number of migrants/refugees departing from Somaliland are university graduates according to media reports. An average of 750 migrants/refugees continues to leave Somaliland every month hoping to reach Libya, in search of work or as a springboard to Europe. Reports indicate that Somaliland authorities have introduced programmes to promote youth employment aimed at curtailing the irregular movement of youth.</p>
<p>Eritrea (Sudan/ South Sudan)</p>	<p>Recent Eritrean arrivals report kidnapping: Eritrean migrants/refugees who recently arrived in Italy report being kidnapped and tortured in Chad. Amounts demanded for the release of held Eritreans average USD 3,500. Reports are also emerging that Eritreans may be kidnapped from East Sudan and Asmara and held in the Sinai for ransom. A recently published book 'The Human Trafficking Cycle: Sinai and Beyond' chronicles the abduction of Eritreans from Eritrea, Sudan and Egypt in some cases facilitated by the collusion between criminal gangs and members of security agencies. At least USD 600 million is estimated to have been paid in ransoms over the last 5 years in an illegal trade where ransom payments contribute to the rise in kidnappings and amounts demanded.</p> <p>State response following High Court ruling on Anti-infiltration law: In September the High Court in Israel quashed an amendment to Israel's Anti-Infiltration law, and ordered the Government to re-examine detained migrants/refugees cases with a view to releasing them within 90 days. Advocacy groups dissatisfied with the pace at which migrants/refugees cases were being re-examined instituted contempt proceedings against the Government. The proceedings prompted the Government to provide updates on released migrants/refugees. The Government has since reported that at least 530 out of 1800 detained migrants have been released. A new amendment to the Anti-infiltration law proposing 1 year detention as opposed to the 3 year provision quashed by the court was published at the beginning of November and passed in early December. Under the new amendment migrants entering Israel will be detained in closed facilities while those already in Israel will be detained in open facilities. Detainees in the open facilities will not have the right to work outside the facility and will need to report for roll call three times a day. The new amendment has been criticised as an attempt by the Government to continue the unconstitutional detention of migrants/refugees that cannot be deported. In addition critics have questioned the necessity of the amendment given that the impetus for prolonged detention does not currently exist, following completion of construction of a fence on Israel's southern border with Egypt, which has succeeded in curtailing irregular movement. The open facility with a capacity of 3,300 and projected to rise to 11,000 will be managed by the Israel Prison Service and is reported to resemble a prison.</p>

	<p>Sudan endorses legislation to combat human trafficking: The Sudan Vision newspaper reported that the National Assembly endorsed the Human Trafficking Combating Act first approved in mid- 2013. The legislation is expected to provide protection against trafficking to women, children and the elderly. The endorsement coincides with reported discussions between the Sudan Interior Minister and German officials in Berlin aimed at curbing irregular migration through enhanced support in border management. The UK and EU are also reported to be collaborating with Sudan to curb irregular movement and human trafficking.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New Arrivals: An estimated 1,692 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in November 2013 a 56% decrease from October arrivals and a 76% decrease from the migrants/refugees who arrived in November 2012 and 2011. Cumulative figures for January to October 2013 indicate that at least 56% of the migrants/refugees that have arrived on the shores of Yemen are Oromo, 19 % Amhara, 17% Tigray and 4% Somali. New arrivals are mostly illiterate and engaged in farming prior to their departure for Yemen. Their reasons for flight include the search for economic opportunities reportedly curtailed in Ethiopia by high taxation and compulsory acquisition of property without compensation. Migrants/refugees also report persecution on religious grounds as a reason for their flight.</p> <p>Modalities of Travel: Ethiopians travelled from Addis Ababa to Dire Dawa. From Dire Dawa they sought the aid of smugglers at the cost of just over USD 250 or walked to Obock, a journey that took over 7 days. They then paid between USD 270 and 400 for the sea journey to Yemen. Some Ethiopians traveled through Jijiga, Wajale and the Borame crossing, before entering Djibouti at Loya Ade and walking to Obock. The Ethiopian government is engaged in various activities along established migration routes aimed at curtailing irregular movement.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: In the beginning of November 2013, Ethiopia was host to approximately 425,720 refugees and asylum seekers (predominantly Somali) following the registration of 2,632 new arrivals. UNHCR launched child protection programs in all its camps in Ethiopia including Tigray which hosts a large number of unaccompanied minors from Eritrea.</p> <p>Over 100,000 returnees arrive in Addis Ababa from Saudi Arabia: An average of 7,000 labour migrants are arriving at the Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa every day as part of a strictly enforced returns/deportation programme initiated by Saudi Authorities in November. Over 115,000 Ethiopian migrants have returned since 13th November 2013, 29% women and 4% children including unaccompanied minors. A large number of the returning women are pregnant or lactating mothers. Witness accounts reported the rape of women among other abuses during raids by authorities seeking to round up irregular labour migrants and transfer them to detention facilities. An estimated 30,000 more migrants are expected to arrive by mid-December. IOM has provided post arrival assistance to over 80% of the returning migrants. Migrants are registered and transported to government provided transit centres for an overnight stay or to bus stops where they can access transport to their areas of origin. UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and IRC are complementing IOM and the Ethiopian government's efforts to provide assistance to returning migrants.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Refugees and Asylum seekers in Kenya: Kenya is host to 584,195 refugees and asylumseekers, 51,208 of them in Nairobi (urban refugees). The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (475,36), followed by South Sudanese (45,224), and Ethiopians (31,525).</p> <p>Kenya and Somalia sign tripartite agreement to facilitate voluntary return of Somali refugees: The refugee commissioners of Kenya and Somalia visited Dadaab refugee camp to engage with refugees on issues related to return in November. A tripartite agreement between Kenya, Somalia and UNHCR was signed to facilitate the gradual and phased return of refugees, subject to the establishment of a regulatory framework that guarantees international protection standards are applied to the voluntary return of Somali refugees from Kenya. The Government of Kenya is reported to support voluntary repatriation while pledging continued protection to those refugees still seeking durable solutions. The Federal Government of Somalia pledged to create a conducive environment for return while UNHCR pledged to seek support for voluntary repatriation and reintegration of Somali refugees. Return desks have been established in Nairobi, Kakuma and Daadab to document and provide returnees with information. UNHCR has underscored that voluntary repatriation is likely to outlive the 3 year period provided for the review of the tripartite agreement signed in November, and continues to reiterate that return must be voluntary.</p>
<p>Puntland</p>	<p>Arabian sea arrivals in Yemen: In November 2013, 606 migrants/refugees crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen from Bossaso and other coastal areas of Puntland, a 69% decrease from the migrants/refugees that made the</p>

	<p>crossing in October 2013. The November 2013 Arabian sea arrival figures were approximately 76% less than those recorded for the crossing in November 2012 and 2011.</p> <p>Returns from Yemen: An unconfirmed number of migrants/refugees of Somali origin arrive on the shores of Puntland every month from Yemen. Approximately 5,000 returns were recorded in 2012. The migrants/refugees are reported to be registered upon arrival by Puntland authorities. Apart from registration minimal reintegration assistance is available to returning migrants. Little is known about what happens to the returning migrants/refugees following return but it is speculated that they may integrate into the IDP population, locate friends or family for support, or eventually proceed west in an attempt to irregularly reach Libya. Somalis from Zone 5 Jijiga, Ethiopia are also being returned to Puntland. They require assistance for their journey to Ethiopia and have difficulties accessing shelter and sustenance unless they can locate a settlement of their community members in Puntland. It has been suggested that Puntland and Yemeni authorities should enhance collaboration to ensure that returns are safe and dignified.</p>
<p>Somalia (S-C)</p>	<p>Somali movements to Yemen: An estimated 326 Somalis arrived on the Yemeni shores in November 2013, a 60% decrease from October 2013 arrivals. November 2013 arrivals were over 81% less than the arrival figures for November 2012 and 2011 respectively. An estimated 70% of 197 Somali arrivals profiled sought to seek asylum and were directed to the Kharaz reception centre. Nearly 24% of the profiled Somalis were re-attempting their journey to Yemen hoping to find their way to Saudi Arabia, having voluntarily left or been deported as recently as October 2013. Cumulative Somali new arrival data for January to October 2013 indicates that 94% of Somalis reaching Yemen are from South Central, 4% from Somaliland and 2 % from Puntland. Migrants/refugees from South Central Somalia hail from Shabelle Hoose (26%); Banadir (24%) and Bay (22%). Somali arrivals have primary level education and were engaged in petty trade prior to their departure. New arrivals report lack of basic services, the search for economic opportunities, and forced recruitment/marriage by Al Shabab as their reason for flight.</p> <p>Modalities of travel: Many Somalis fly from Mogadishu, contract a smuggler from Mogadishu for their journey, or travel overland to Galckayo and then Hargeysa from where they access Djibouti. The cost of travel to Yemen ranges between USD 175 and 450. Some new arrivals flew from Mogadishu to Berbera, Somaliland at a cost of between USD 100 and 300, traveled to Loya Ade, and crossed into Djibouti aided by smugglers. They paid USD 150 for the sea journey to Yemen having spent an average of 20 days in Obock waiting for other passengers before embarking on the sea journey. Reports indicate that air travel between Mogadishu and Berbera a known migration route for Somalis seeking to reach Yemen was halted in early December over a passport dispute. Other migrants/refugees paid USD 400 to brokers in Mogadishu for the cost of the journey to Yemen including smugglers and boat fees. While some new arrivals traveled overland from Mogadishu to Galckayo at a cost of USD 70, then to Hargeysa at a cost of USD 25 and onward to Loya Ade at USD 20. From Loya Ade, they sought the services of smugglers and paid USD 60.</p> <p>UNHCR pilot programme to assist returnees: UNHCR unveiled plans to pilot a programme aimed at providing assistance to voluntary Somali refugee returnees from Kenya. The pilot scheduled to be a collaborative effort with humanitarian and development agencies in Somalia is scheduled to begin in January 2014. The pilot will target 10,000 returnees and the identified regions of return are Luuq, Baidoa and Kismayo. Somali refugees seeking to return to the identified regions will receive some assistance from UNHCR which is working to establish stations along the return route.</p>
<p>Yemen</p>	<p>New Arrivals: In November 2,018 migrants/refugees crossed into Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland), a 57% decrease from the numbers that reached Yemen in October 2013 and a 77% decrease from those that arrived in November 2012 and 2011. Approximately 70% of the total number of migrants/refugees arriving on the shores of Yemen in November utilized the Red sea crossing via Obock, Djibouti. An estimated 83% of the November arrivals were Ethiopians, an established trend since 2011. Migrant profiling in Aden revealed that migrants/refugees had received information related to difficulties experienced in accessing Saudi Arabia. This could be the main reason for the drop in new arrival figures. This indicates that most Ethiopians in recent months and years were seeking to reach Saudi Arabia through Yemen.</p> <p>Boats & passengers: There were a total of 34 migrant boat trips that arrived on the Yemeni coast in October 2013. The average number of passengers on each boat was 52 per trip (not including smugglers/crew). 26 of the vessels landed on the Taiz governorate coast while at least 5 landed on the Lahj coast.</p>

	<p>Migrant Vulnerability: Out of 145 migrants profiled in Aden, 39% were kidnapped and tortured for periods ranging between 3 days and 2 months. Some of the kidnapped migrants reported gunshot wounds to their legs and the rape of female migrants/refugees with Christian migrants/refugees being more vulnerable. Their kin paid between USD 262 and 1,047 for their release. In some cases migrants face multiple kidnapping, by multiple gangs and are re-taken soon after their release. Ransoms demanded reportedly increased from an average of USD100 to an average of USD 500. Somali hostages are reported to have been released in some instances without paying ransom. New arrivals also risk arrest on arrival on the Yemeni coast. Reports indicate that 52 Ethiopian migrants/refugees were arrested towards the end of November and transferred to the Taiz central prison.</p> <p>Yemeni returns from Saudi Arabia: Over 200,000 migrant workers from Yemen are said to have returned from Saudi Arabia since labour migrants were called upon to regularise their stay in March 2013, impelled by an amnesty issued by the Saudi King in April. Following the expiring of the amnesty in November returns are reported to have reached a peak of 7,000 daily. Returnees arrive at the Yemeni, Al Tuwal border with Saudi with no personal belongings which they report confiscated, exhausted and dehydrated due to the time spent in less than favourable detention facilities. IOM is providing returnees with assistance, and reported that 27% of the returnees indicated their intention to return to Saudi Arabia when the situation permits.</p>
<p>Other Regional news</p>	<p>Responses to the October Mediterranean boat tragedies: In a press release dated 4th December 2013, the European Commission through its Task Force for the Mediterranean identified five areas for action in response to recent boat tragedies resulting in hundreds of migrant/refugee deaths. The first measure proposed is border surveillance to save lives. This includes strengthening aerial and maritime surveillance as well as rescue capacity, through information exchange and the reassurance of non-prosecution of ship masters for assisting migrants in distress. Other proposals include supported processing of asylum applications, combating trafficking, smuggling and organized crime, expanding resettlement quotas, and enhancing channels for regular migration and protection space in third countries. The proposals will be tabled at the December European Council for further deliberation and endorsement.</p>
<p>New Research, reports or documents</p>	<p>Recommendations and Note of the Co-Chairs 3rd Regional Mixed Migration Committee meeting held in Nairobi at the end of October and hosted by IOM. http://www.regionalmms.org/fileadmin/content/Legal%20Documents/Recommendations_3rd_Meeting_Regional_Committee_on_Mixed_Migration.pdf</p> <p>The 'Sana'a Declaration' which was the result of the Yemen International / Regional Conference on Asylum and Migration held in mid-November. Hosted by the Government of Yemen in coordination with UNHCR and IOM. http://www.regionalmms.org/fileadmin/content/Legal%20Documents/Sanaa_Declaration_ENG_13-11-2013.doc</p> <p>UNODC Issue Paper on Corruption and Smuggling: http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2013/The_Role_Of_Corruption_in_the_Smuggling_of_Migrants_Issue_Paper_UNODC_2013.pdf</p> <p>"We risk our lives for our daily bread": Danish Refugee Council (DRC) launched a new study on mixed migration in Libya. The DRC report seeks to dispel the widely held misconception that most migrants access Libya as a transit point to Europe, as opposed to a destination country in pursuit of employment opportunities and protection. It outlines the heterogeneity of mixed migrants in Libya highlighting their intentions on arrival, longer term plans, specific vulnerabilities and protection needs. It recommends increased support towards the establishment of a concrete asylum and migration framework in Libya, and a more balanced approach to border control through increased refugee resettlement quotas in Europe. Melissa Phillips, Senior Programme Officer for DRC highlighted that "Mixed migrants are unprotected, marginalized and at the mercy of anyone who wants to abuse them," Refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants including children continue to be detained for irregular entry in Libya. Read the full report: http://drc.dk/fileadmin/uploads/pdf/IA_PDF/North_Africa/Danish_Refugee_Council_Report_Risking_our_Lives_Mixed_Migrants_in_Libya_Dec_2013_01.pdf.</p>

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