



Regional mixed migration summary for July 2014 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan/South 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, and refugees). If the case load mentioned refers only to refugees, asylum seekers or trafficked persons, it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events / trends / data / analysis
Movement: Migrants/refugees move from the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia and Somalia) to Yemen and Saudi Arabia	
<p>Yemen</p>	<p>New arrivals: In July 2014, 6,536 migrants/refugees crossed into Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland), a 5% increase from the migrants/refugees that reached Yemen in June 2014 and a 70% increase compared to the number of migrants/refugees that arrived in July 2013. Approximately 75% of the migrants who made the crossing in July were of Ethiopian origin while the rest were Somali.</p> <p>An estimated 37,971 migrants/refugees have arrived on the shores of Yemen since the beginning of 2014. Unfavorable weather conditions, a westward shift of movements to Libya, change in the Saudi labour migrant policies resulting in the expulsion of over 160,000 Ethiopians in late 2013 and early 2014, and a deteriorating security situation in Yemen, has and may continue to influence the rate of new arrival figures to Yemen in the coming months. The majority of Ethiopian migrants have in mind Saudi Arabia as their final destination. An increasing number of Somalis are in search protection, improved livelihood opportunities and living conditions in Yemen or Saudi Arabia. Anecdotal evidence continues to suggest that Somalis and Ethiopians recently deported from Saudi Arabia are re-attempting their journeys.</p> <p>Boats & passengers: A total of 140 migrant boat trips arrived on the Yemeni coast in July 2014. The average number of passengers on each boat was 46 per trip (not including smugglers/crew).</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: Kidnapping for ransom and detention remain the main protection risks facing migrants/refugees arriving on the shores of Yemen. Ethiopians continue to be more vulnerable to kidnapping for ransom than their Somali counterparts partly stemming from a perception that they are more likely to pay ransoms demanded. Migrants/refugees continue to report collusion between military authorities and criminal gangs. A security imperative is reported to be attached to the increasing detention of migrants/refugees arriving on the shores of Yemen. At the beginning of July, between 42 and 44 Ethiopians were arrested near the port of Mocha and were being held in Taiz governorate awaiting deportation while Government forces raided a human trafficker's den in Haradh District, Hajjah Governorate, freeing 141 migrants. Momentum exhibited in cracking down on smuggling dens following the release of the Human Rights Watch (HRW) report "Yemen Torture Camps" seems to have waned. A draft law on human trafficking is reported to have been endorsed by the cabinet and awaits parliamentary approval.</p> <p>Update on the Sanaa Declaration: The Yemen Foreign Affairs ministry is reported to have communicated with its counterparts in the region, including IOM and UNHCR, requesting the nomination of focal points, and proposing a regional meeting to review and assess the implementation of the Sana'a Declaration. Yemen is reported to have established a working group mandated to follow up the implementation of the Sanaa declaration.</p>
<p>Djibouti</p>	<p>Departing from Djibouti: In July 2014, an estimated 4,264 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 44% increase from the migrants that arrived in June 2014. Red sea arrivals in July 2014 were 14% higher than those recorded in July 2013. Approximately 65% of the migrants/refugees reaching Yemen in July 2014 utilised the Red sea crossing from Obock, Djibouti.</p> <p>Boats: A total of 110 vessels left via the Red Sea for Yemen carrying an average of 33 passengers per trip. Migrant boats/smuggling vessels are reported to have landed on the Red Sea coast in proximity to Al-Jadid, Sheikh sa'eed, and Al-Shura.</p>

	<p>Migrant vulnerability: Lack of water, food, fraud perpetrated by the brokers, and robbery by criminal gangs continue to be the main protection concerns cited by migrants</p> <p>Modalities of travel: Migrants/refugees reported an increase in smuggling fees from Obock/Djibouti to Yemen from between USD 150 and 200 to USD 300 in the month of July. The increase is attributed to tighter controls along the Ethiopia and Somali border as well as a fuel crisis in Yemen in the last couple of months.</p>
Puntland	<p>Arabian sea arrivals in Yemen: In July 2014, 2,272 migrants/refugees crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen from Bossaso and other coastal areas of Puntland, a 30% decrease from the migrants/refugees that made the crossing in June 2014. The July 2014 Arabian Sea arrival figures were 1762% higher than those recorded for the crossing in July 2013.</p> <p>Returns from Yemen and movement from Bossaso. An estimated 4,000 Somalis are reported to have returned from Yemen in the first half of 2014. A decrease in the number of returnees from Yemen was reported from the beginning June. Danish Refugee Council (DRC) monitors along the Bossaso/Garowe highway have also reported a decrease in the number of migrants/refugees arriving at the port of Bossaso. Migrants/refugees can be seen begging in Bossaso as they wait for an opportunity to make the sea crossing to Yemen, and are reported to be most vulnerable during the summer months when livelihood opportunities are limited.</p>
Somaliland	<p>Authorities intercept irregular migrants: A Somaliland immigration official is reported to have confirmed the interception of over 97 irregular migrants from Somaliland en route to Libya. The migrants were reunited with their families but it was speculated that many of them may re-attempt the journey in the coming months. In addition, an estimated 42 irregular Ethiopian migrants were intercepted in the Gabiley region an estimated 54km from Hargeysa. The migrants were handed over to Ethiopian authorities at the Tog Waajale border crossing. Somaliland and Ethiopian authorities are collaborating to stem irregular movement from or transiting through their respective jurisdictions towards Libya. Migrants/refugees attempting the journey often die from starvation or succumb to the elements, and in many instances face inhumane and degrading treatment from smugglers including kidnapping for ransom, extortion, rape and physical abuse.</p>
Israel	<p>Impact of Gaza/Israel conflict on asylum seekers: Asylum seekers in Tel Aviv's southern neighbourhoods and those in detention reported being unclear on the cause of action in the event of an attack. Instructions in a language that they could not understand seemed to be the main barrier. The municipality is reported to have provided an assurance of the distribution of leaflets in various languages identified among the asylum seeking community including English, Arabic, Tigrinya and Hebrew. The state continues to be levied with criticism from civil society and human rights activists regarding detention of asylum seekers at the Holot centre located near its border with Egypt. Critics have argued that public funds dispensed to build and run the detention facility may have been better utilised to upgrade services in Tel Aviv's southern neighbourhoods where considerable friction exists between asylum seekers and the Jewish residents. An estimated 2,400 migrants/asylum seekers are currently resident at the Holot detention center, 70 % of them are Sudanese nationals, while the rest are Eritrean. Israel has an estimated population of 50,000 (36,000 Eritreans and 14,000 Sudanese) migrants/asylum seekers. Fewer than 200 asylum seekers are reported to have been granted refugee status since 1954 when Israel ratified the Refugee Convention. Asylum seekers from the Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) form part of the minority groups seeking protection in Israel.</p>

<p>Sudan/ South Sudan</p>	<p>South Sudanese flee for safety: The situation in South Sudan remains volatile amidst a looming famine and food crisis. Reports at the beginning of August indicate that overall, over 1.7 million people have been displaced from the current crisis including over 1.1 million internally displaced persons. Over 561,000 South Sudanese have fled with increasing South Sudanese refugee populations in Uganda (142,927), Sudan (88,878), Kenya (86,689), and Ethiopia (242,582). Peace talks brokered by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) were gearing up for the formation of a government of national unity in August but negotiations faltered. It has been predicted that South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia may reach 300,000 to 350,000 by the end of 2014. An estimated 90% of the arrivals in Ethiopia are women and children, while 70% are under the age of 18. There are a reported 242,024 registered refugees in South Sudan, mainly from Sudan (92%). The rest are from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia (1%) and Central African Republic (CAR).</p> <p>Human trafficking in Sudan: Since the beginning of 2014, reports from humanitarian actors indicate a 50% decrease in trafficking cases in Eastern Sudan in the first half of 2014 compared to a similar period in 2013. A reported 5 cases have been verified in the Eastern Sudan since the beginning of the year while 31 potential trafficking cases have been reported in Khartoum. A drop in kidnapping cases in Eastern Sudan has also been noted with an increase in the number of migrants/refugees held for ransom in and around Khartoum. In the past 3 months, Eritrean arrivals to Sudan have doubled while unprecedented movements north have been reported. Since mid-2012 UNHCR and IOM have been implementing a joint strategy to enhance protection for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants at risk of kidnapping, smuggling and trafficking.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Italy and Eritrea discuss irregular migration: Italy's Deputy Foreign Minister is reported to have held talks with the Eritrean President and his Foreign Minister aimed at fostering cooperation and enhancing bilateral relations during a visit to Asmara in early July. The visit, a first in nearly two decades aimed to rekindle mutual trust between the two nations. Italy is seeking to re-engage Eritrea as an important actor in stabilization within the region particularly on issues touching on security and migration.</p> <p>UNHCR advocating for access to asylum: UNHCR and IOM have reported the increasing arrest and deportation of Eritreans in Sudan. Numerous reports of <i>refoulement</i> to Eritrea of asylum seekers accessing Sudan through Gadaref state continue to be a cause for concern.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New arrivals in Yemen: An estimated 4,917 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in July 2014, a 10% increase from arrivals in June 2014, and a 53% increase from the Ethiopians that arrived in July 2013. Ethiopian migrants were predominantly from Oromia, while others travelled from Tigray, Amhara, Harar, and Ogaden regions. The search for a better life, and fear of persecution based on political opinion, religious grounds or perceived affiliation to the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) continue to be cited as reasons for flight.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: At the end of July 2014, Ethiopia was host to 629,270 refugees, the majority of them Somali (244,995) followed by South Sudanese (242,582) arriving at the rate of 800 daily. In the Tigray region, an estimated 150 to 200 unaccompanied Eritrean minors arrive in Ethiopia every month. The Eritrean refugee population in Ethiopia stands at over 90,000.</p> <p>Modalities of travel: Ethiopian migrants/refugees crossed into Djibouti at the Dawalle border point and proceeded to Obock via Tadjoura. They also moved from central and southern Ethiopia, crossed the border with Somalia, through Waajale/Borama and entered Djibouti via Loya Ade. They paid USD 300 for the entire journey to Yemen. Secondary movements fueled by smugglers have also been reported from the Shire camp.</p> <p>Child bride to migrant worker: A study by the Overseas Development Institute 'Unhappily Ever After' found that girls in the Wollo zone of the Amhara Regional State move from early marriage, to a swift divorce, and then international migration fraught with risk. The quick succession from marriage to divorce is perceived to preserve the girl's dignity by ensuring the loss of her virginity in a 'dignified' manner before migrating. The Amhara regional state is reported to have Ethiopia's lowest average age of marriage at 14.7 years and highest illiteracy rates at 60%. The report points to food insecurity resulting from drought, overpopulation and land fragmentation constraining the options of Ethiopian girls to either early marriage, migration to the Middle East for domestic work or both. Parental pressure, filial piety or the seduction of a glamorous life are also identified as a significant factor</p>

in migration. The report indicates that girls as young as 14 years of age may be travelling to the Middle East with false identification. Read the ODI report [here](#).

Kenya

Refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya: Kenya is host to 575,334 refugees and asylum seekers, 50,185 of them in Nairobi (urban refugees). The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (426,484), followed by South Sudanese (82,845), and Ethiopians (30,364). Between June and July the Somali refugee population decreased by 1,338 individuals while the South Sudanese refugee population in Kenya increased by 6,535 individuals. Tens of thousands of undocumented migrants from neighbouring countries and further afield continue to reside in Kenya, predominantly in urban areas.

Progress on the Tripartite Agreement: The Tripartite Agreement was signed on 10th November 2013. All 12 representatives from Kenya, Somalia and UNHCR were nominated to sit on the Tripartite commission in the first quarter of 2014. The commission is tasked with advancing voluntary and organized repatriation of refugees as well as the reintegration of returnees in Somalia. An official launch of the commission was scheduled for April in Mogadishu but was postponed to May in Nairobi and is currently anticipated to take place in Nairobi during the month of August. The delay is reported to have been occasioned by Somalia pulling out of the process to protest the treatment of Somali refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya. The first phase of the voluntary repatriation exercise is set to begin in August following the August launch of the commission. Consultations at the ministerial level involving foreign and interior ministers in Kenya and Somalia have been unsatisfactory thus far according to various reports.

The number of Somali refugees who have registered their interest to return at UNHCR established help desks is estimated to be between 2,000 and 3000 individuals. An uncertain security situation in south central Somalia including areas that have been identified for return, a projected famine, environmental degradation and lack of access to basic services in Somalia may hamper return efforts. UNHCR's position on returns to southern and central Somalia issued in June discourages the forced return of Somalis to Mogadishu and surrounding areas and encourages the provision of accurate and timely information to spontaneous returnees seeking to return to south and central Somalia.

Operation Usalama Watch: At the end of March 2014, the Interior Ministry launched a security operation dubbed 'Usalama Watch' aimed at addressing rising terror attacks in Kenya. More than 4,000 individuals were arrested and detained, majority of them Somali refugees and asylum seekers. A subsequent rise in flight bookings between Mogadishu and Nairobi was noted signaling spontaneous returns from Kenya. Secondary movement from Somalia to other East African countries such as Uganda and Rwanda has been confirmed. An estimated 3900 refugees and asylum seekers have been forcibly returned to the Daadab and Kakuma refugee camps since April 2014 including 516 at the beginning of July. An unconfirmed number of minors remain separated from their parents as a result of the forced returns to the camps. The number of Somali migrants/refugees deported to the Mogadishu stands at 359 with no new deportations reported since 20th May. According to UNHCR 6 registered refugees were among the deportees to Mogadishu and their re-entry to Kenya is under consideration.

Action challenging the separation of minors: The Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) is reported to have brought a suit against the Government to compel them to reunite children separated from their parents as a result of their parents forced relocation from urban areas to camps. The separated children are Somali, Ethiopian and Congolese and some of the older ones have been forced to take up head of household roles and care for their siblings, while others are being cared for by relatives, neighbours or well-wishers. Children attending secondary schools in urban areas were reportedly exempted from the relocation order but their care givers may have been forced into camps. An appeal challenging a June 30th court decision that upheld the camp relocation order issued by the Interior Ministry in March 2014, is allegedly under consideration by human rights groups.

Kenya launches the Counter Trafficking Advisory Committee: Kenya launched the Counter Trafficking Advisory Committee on 8th July, 2014. The committee is a creation of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act which was passed in 2010 and came into effect in 2012. It is mandated with crafting a framework to enhance victim assistance, preventative mechanisms, collaboration and partnership to combat trafficking in Kenya. The committee is housed under the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services, chaired by The CRADLE-The Children foundation, a non-governmental organization promoting the rights of the child in Kenya, with Secretariat functions provided by the Children Department. The committee is expected to launch a National Plan of Action, including activities by a broad range of Government and civil society actors, aimed at comprehensively addressing trafficking in persons.

<p>Somalia (S-C)</p>	<p>Somali movements to Yemen: An estimated 1,619 Somalis arrived on Yemeni shores in July 2014, a 7% decrease from June 2014 arrivals. The July 2014 arrivals were 159 % more than the Somali arrival figures for July 2013. The majority of Somalis arriving in Yemen are from south central Somalia. Migrants/refugees utilising the Red Sea crossing to Yemen travel from Somaliland, through Loya Ade, Woqoyi Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheer. Their motivations for migrating include the search for livelihood opportunities, the need for protection, lack of freedom of movement, and arbitrary detention for perceived affiliation to Al Shabab.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: In July 2014, there were 956,564 Somali refugees in the region hosted mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. Somalia is host to a total of 2,470 refugees including 64 Zanzibari refugees in Mogadishu, and 10, 506 registered asylum seekers, mainly from Ethiopia. The refugees are hosted in the Northern regions of Somaliland and Puntland.</p> <p>Modalities of travel: Somalis travelled from Mogadishu and its environs by plane to Hargeysa paying USD 450 in advance to a broker for the entire journey to Yemen. They proceeded to Loya Ade and crossed the border on foot to Djibouti. They then travelled to Tadjoura and Obock. Others departed from Bossaso (Puntland). Some new arrivals traveled to Hargeysa overland from Mogadishu, through Galkcayo, and proceeded to Loya Ade at a cost of USD 150. At Loya Ade, Somalis paid USD 300 to a broker to assist them with the border crossing and for the Red sea crossing to Yemen.</p>
<p>Other Regional news</p>	<p>Movement across the Mediterranean: Calmer seas during the summer months have witnessed a surge in the number of migrants/refugees attempting the Mediteranean crossing. Reports indicate that 88,000 migrants/refugees had crossed the Mediteranean by the end of July 2014 surpassing by over 100% the 43,000 that arrived in the whole of 2013, and 63,000 that arrived in 2011 at the height of the Arab spring. Italy has received the bulk of 2014 arrivals mainly from Eritrea, Syria and Mali crossing primarily from Libya (77,000). Egyptian authorities are reported to have intercepted 157 migrants/refugees near the northern city of Marsa Matrouh. The migrants/refugees were enroute to Libya.</p> <p>Concern mounts for migrants in Libya: Migrants in Libya are reported to be suffering abuse amid deorable conditions in detention. Libya is experiencing a rapidly deteriorating security situation with both migrants and Libyans fleeing for safety. Libyans and Egyptians are reported to be fleeing to Tunisia with some Egyptians returning home. Diplomatic missions are reported to have evacuated their staff and some foreign workers but tens of thousands of undocumented migrants and asylum seekers remain stranded, with limited options for escape, they may increasingly submit themselves to migrant smugglers promising passage to Europe.</p> <p>Dead at sea: UNHCR indicates that over 1,000 migrants/refugees have died attempting the mediteranean crossing so far in 2014 an estimated 260 of them in July and 128 at the beginning of August. An estimated 600 are reported to have died in 2013 compared to 500 in 2012. Part of the dead include 29 bodies recovered in a ship hold in July, the result of a fight between smuggling crew and migrants/refugees. Nearly 60 others may have been stabbed and thrown overboard and between 131 and 180 are missing from the incident. Italian authorities arrested 5 men in connection with the incident. The UNHCR's Global Initiative on protection at sea will take place on 10 – 11 December 2014 at the Palais des nations in Geneva. The core objective of the meeting is to develop a broad consensus on rescue-at-sea issues, disembarkation arrangements and responsibility sharing, and the need for comprehensive approaches to protection at sea.</p> <p>Southern African Development Cooperation (SADC) meet to discuss mixed migration and irregular flows: SADC member states met in Lilongwe, Malawi at the beginning of July to 'take stock of actions undertaken at national and regional level to address mixed and irregular migration, reflect current trends in the region and share best practices among member states and other regional partners' according to information from IOM. The Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) conference was hosted by the Government of Malawi, with support from IOM, UNHCR, UNODC, and SADC. Members from the diplomatic community, regional partners and international organizations were also in attendance. The conference presented an opportunity to reflect on the 2010 Dar es Salaam action plan on mixed and irregular migration, notable progress being the adoption of legislation on human trafficking in most countries in the region. Members reached consensus on the continuing relevance of the 2010 action plan and agreed to pursue the formulation of a SADC regional action plan on mixed migration and irregular movement.</p>

	<p>First UN World Day against Trafficking in Persons: The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime marked the first ever United Nations (UN) world day against trafficking in persons on 30th July 2014 aimed at raising awareness on the plight of victims, expressing solidarity and promoting hope for communities vulnerable to, and affected by trafficking. It has been noted that many countries have legislation to address human trafficking but implementation remains unsatisfactory, does not always meet the minimum standards established by the Palermo protocol, and prosecution of perpetrators remains poor. As part of the events to mark the occasion, UNODC launched the '#givehope' campaign to show solidarity with victims of trafficking.</p>
<p>New Research, reports or documents</p>	<p>Report by OSCE Special Representative and Co-coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, following her visit to Italy, 17-18 June 2013 and 15-19 July 2013 (July 2014): The OSCE report documents consultations with Government and civil society actors based on the legislative, policy and operational responses to human trafficking in Italy. Read the report here.</p> <p>Eritrea: Ending the Exodus (August 2014): The Update Briefing by the International Crisis Group (ICG) provides an overview of the exodus from Eritrea. It makes recommendations aimed at confronting the factors contributing to the mass exodus and highlights regional as well as country specific implications of the movement from Eritrea. Recommendations are addressed to the Eritrean Government, Ethiopian Government and other regional actors under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and international actors including the UN and the European Union (EU). Read the update briefing here.</p> <p>International Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) Annual report (July 2014): The annual report looks at factors that influence displacement, the interrelated effects of conflict, natural hazards, poverty, food and livelihood, insecurity and current capacities to manage them. It offers information on the needs of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) at the local level, and explores displacement patterns and trends. Read the report here.</p> <p>Annual Report: Situation of Asylum in the European Union 2013 (July 2014): The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) report provides an overview of the asylum situation in the EU through the examination of asylum requests to the EU, analysis of application and decision data, with a focus on prominent countries of origin. A record 435,760 asylum applications were received in 2013 the highest number since data collection begun in 2008. Read the report here.</p> <p>A Safe Haven for Somalis in Uganda: Rift Valley Institute Briefing Paper (August 2014): The Briefing by the Rift Valley Institute (RVI) examines Uganda as an emerging migration route for Somalis and its historical significance in the movement of Somalis within the East African region. The Briefing examines factors that might be influencing the movement including increasing pressure on the Somali community by the Kenyan government resulting from the permeation of security imperatives in refugee protection and an enabling and conducive framework for refugees in Uganda. Read the Briefing paper here.</p>

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. A media press listing of mixed migration events for this month can be accessed on RMMS's website [here](#)