



A returnee migrant learning new skills to generate livelihoods. Photo: Agar Ethiopia/2022

SITUATION OVERVIEW

With over 100,000 Ethiopians leaving, the country faces one of the most complex human mobility environments in the world, with a range of social, economic, political, and climatic factors resulting in migration and displacement within and outside its borders. Ethiopians are leaving the country every year hoping to reach the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the east, South Africa to the south, or Europe to the north. The majority of migrants get stranded on the way and those who make it to final destination are most likely to eventually get detained and deported. On average, nearly 10,000 Ethiopian migrants involuntary returned to Ethiopia monthly, and most of them coming empty-handed, traumatized, and in need of emergency post-arrival assistance, including onward transportation, medical, psychosocial and psychiatric support, reunification with family, and basic personal items.

Beyond lifesaving assistance, this vulnerable population requires social, psychosocial, and economic initiatives in their home communities to give them with durable solutions and viable alternatives to irregular migration.

An upward trend in the outflow of migrants was observed between the 2nd and the 3rd Quarter. Returns from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia remained suspended until September due to overcrowding at the existing shelters. Nearly 3,000 returnees continued to be stranded in shelters in Addis Ababa, unable to return home or reunite with family or support themselves in other ways¹. According to IOM's flow monitoring data, the number of migrants seeking assistance at the Migration Response Centres (MRCs) in Ethiopia decreased by 60 per cent in Quarter 3 compared to Quarter 2.



7,540
received life-saving
assistance from
MRP partners



5,217
received protection,
family reunification and
officials received capacity
strengthening



7,300
Assisted with
sustainable
reintegration
and community
stabilization

¹ Eastern Corridor Report (July 2022) | IOM Regional Office for East and Horn of Africa

REGIONAL MIGRANT RESPONSE PLAN

The Regional Migrant Response Plan (MRP) for the Horn of Africa and Yemen 2021 – 2024 is a migrant focused inter-agency framework to respond to humanitarian and protection needs, risks, and vulnerabilities of migrants from the Horn of Africa, specifically Somalia and Ethiopia, moving towards Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through Djibouti and Yemen.

There are 30 MRP partners in Ethiopia, coordinating through a platform dedicated for the MRP, with inter-linkage to other existing coordination mechanisms such as the UN Network on Migration in Ethiopia, and The National Emergency Coordination Center and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The MRP partners are working closely with the Government of Ethiopia, migrants, aid partners, and key stakeholders to support migrants and their home communities.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1

Provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable migrants and host communities.

2

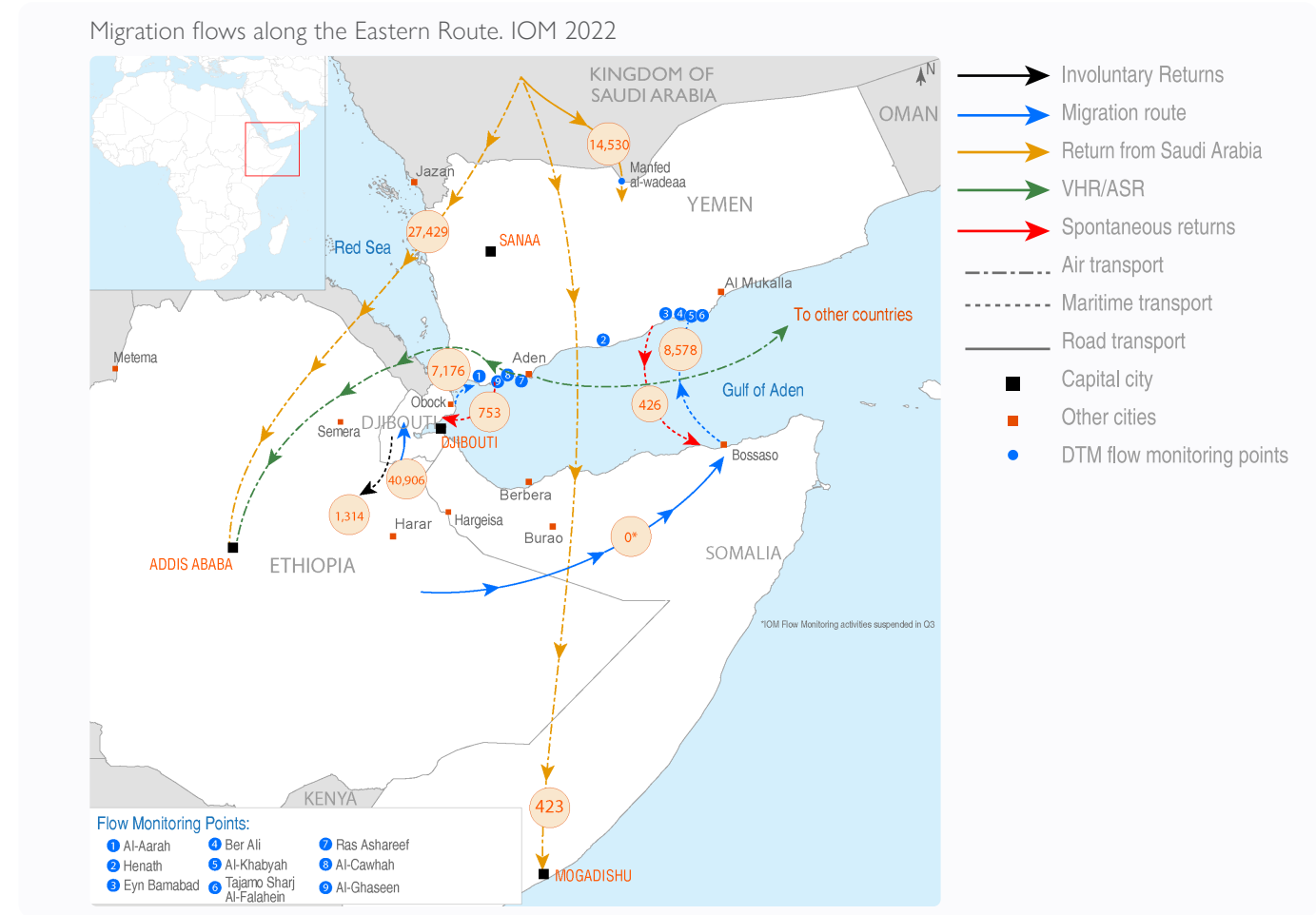
Provide quality, timely and inclusive protection assistance and services to migrants and host communities.

3

Strengthen access to return, sustainable reintegration, and community stabilization.

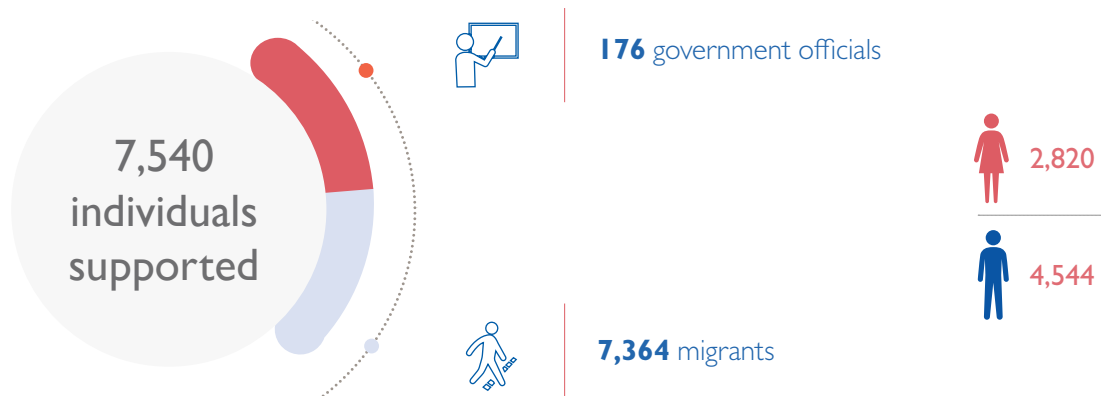
4

Build evidence, partnerships, and coordination to enhance the humanitarian response and migration management, throughout the migration route.



Strategic Objective 1 **1** Life-saving assistance to vulnerable migrants

Through the MRCs, health clinics, mobile teams, way stations, and child protection desks, MRP partners provided life-saving assistance to migrants and capacity development to government officials.



Strategic Objective 2 **2** Quality, timely and inclusive protection assistance

MRP partners reached 5,217 migrants returnees and host communities with specialized protection assistance, including, legal aid counselling, and mental health and psychosocial support, awareness-raising and community sensitization activities on topics including impacts of unsafe and irregular migration, basic child rights, and service referrals.



Strategic Objective 3

Return, sustainable reintegration and community stabilization support

MRP partners facilitated access to return, sustainable reintegration, and community stabilization through onward transportation, assisted voluntary return and tailored reintegration assistance.



COMMUNITY STABILIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

With funding from the Netherlands Ministry for Trade and Development Cooperation under the Cooperation on Migration and Partnerships to Achieve Sustainable Solutions (COMPASS) programme and the French Government, MRP partners were supported with grants aimed at achieving sustainable solutions for migrants through community-based reintegration interventions. The partners Bethany Christian Services Global, the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus- Development and Social Service Commission (EECMY-DASSC) and Positive Action for Development (PAD) are currently implementing activities in Hadiya Zone in the SNNP region, in South Wollo Zone of Amhara region, and in East Hararghe Zone in Oromia region, respectively. The projects aim to reach more than 800 migrant and 2,000 potential migrant beneficiaries in nine months with activities such as community irrigation, life skill training, business support, community awareness raising, and others.

Positive Action for Development (PAD) implemented a one-year innovative community reintegration project in Dire Dawa city with the aim of improving the income of vulnerable migrant returnee youths. The project supported 720 beneficiaries (120 migrants and 600 host community members).

Unemployed youth migrant returnees were assisted to generate income by engaging in a compost production and plastic recycling business that also support to protect the environment. The project established linkages with the private sector and community members through a cooperation agreement with a private plastic recycling plant and a farmers association.



IOM in collaboration with the relevant federal and regional government offices have completed the construction of the MRC in Dewelle and is working to operationalize the centre. Photo: IOM/2022

Strategic Objective 4 Building evidence, partnerships, and coordination

During the reporting period monthly flow monitoring reports were produced by [IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#) and by Mixed Migration Centre's (MMC) [quarterly reports](#).

On 29 September 2022, MRP partners in Ethiopia including government bodies, local and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and UN agencies gathered for a one-day workshop to validate the planning figures for the MRP 2023, including People in Need (PIN) calculations, and to agree on the country priorities to shape the 2023 MRP programming. A total of 21 participants (9 females, 12 males) attended the meeting.



MRP 2023 Planning Workshop in Addis Ababa. Photo: IOM/September 2022

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Save the Children through its regional office and in collaboration with the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) launched a multi-country study in three countries: Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt. Over the next one-year period, the study aims to investigate the challenges faced by children and youth on the move, focusing on the Northwest Migration Corridor through and from Ethiopia via Metema to Sudan/Libya/Egypt to Europe across the Mediterranean Sea. The study in Ethiopia will primarily inform stakeholders on the situation of children in Ethiopia's migration hotspots of Addis Ababa, Metema, and Moyale. IOM, Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), the Ministry of Labour and Skills are some of the main partners engaging in the study.

STORIES



"I Lost My Ability to Walk But Regained Hope"

Abi* was only 17 years old when he left Mesala, a small town some 400 kilometres from Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, hoping for a better life in Yemen.

[Read here](#)



A Second Chance for Ethiopian Migrants Returning TO THEIR HOMETLAND

When Zainab first travelled from Ethiopia to Sudan three years ago, she was too young to settle on a career path. At only 17, her sole dream was to find an easy way of getting to Egypt, and then to continue further on to Europe where she could secure a well-paid job – or so she thought. [Read here](#)

PUBLICATIONS



[Click here to read the Regional Migrant Response Plan for the Horn of Africa and Yemen 2022](#)

MRP PARTNERS AND DONORS



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Co-funded by the European Union

