

IOM SIGNS NEW COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA – 29 JANUARY 2015

IOM signed a new cooperation agreement with Ethiopia to work together on migration issues with a view to promoting economic and social development.

The agreement, which was signed in Addis Ababa by IOM Director General William Lacy Swing and Ethiopian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dewano Kedir, follows an earlier 1996 agreement to implement IOM’s Return of Qualified African Nationals (RQAN) project. RQAN was designed to reverse the impact of brain

drain in developing African countries like Ethiopia.

Twenty years later, IOM’s activities in Ethiopia have mushroomed. They now include the provision of emergency and livelihood assistance to internally displaced people and refugees, diaspora engagement, provision of health assistance to migrants, reintegration assistance for voluntary returnees from abroad, counter trafficking, refugee resettlement, and repatriation assistance among others.

IOM Addis Ababa also serves as the

liaison office with the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. Speaking at the signing, IOM Director General Swing highlighted IOM’s work with the Ethiopian diaspora as an important new area of engagement. He noted that the Ethiopian diaspora was a major IOM partner in providing assistance to the recent influx of Ethiopian returnees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ambassador Kedir highlighted the close cooperation between IOM and the Government and thanked IOM for its support on a range of migration issues. Referring to the 170,000 returnees from Saudi Arabia, he said: *“IOM saved thousands of Ethiopian lives and that is something we want to thank you for.”*



From left: Ethiopian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dewano Kedir and IOM Director General William Lacy Swing sign a new cooperation agreement to work together on migration issues with a view to promoting economic and social development. © IOM 2015

Editorial

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The IOM Mission

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with partners in the international community to:

- Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management
- Advance understanding of migration issues
- Encourage social and economic development

IOM AND PARTNERS DISCUSS THE POTENTIALS, EXPERIENCES AND INTERVENTIONS OF LABOUR MIGRATION IN AFRICA



ADDIS ABABA- 18 FEBRUARY 2015

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Labor Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA) convened under the leadership of the African Union Council (AUC) on Wednesday this week for a sensitization workshop on the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP).

During the workshop it was stated that it is the first time that a continental organization has declared a migration programme to be a strategic and flagship initiative. It is also the first time that three major international entities - IOM, ILO, and UN ECA – have joined hands together in support of a continental organization to design and implement a programme supporting the development and integration of the entire continent in the crucial arena of migration and mobility.

At the programme it was highlighted that labour migration is one of the areas which

has received its due attention with two countries Nigeria and Egypt being among the top 10 countries from the world who earn the largest from remittance. With Nigeria leading with USD 20 billion earning from remittances a year, the potential of migration for development has been emphasized at the workshop.

Speaking of the challenges the continent is facing, the IOM Special Liaison Office in Ethiopia Chief of Mission and Representative to AU/ECA and IGAD, Mr. Josiah Ogina stated that migration and mobility are powerful drivers of sustainable economic and social development. Facilitating intra-regional migration and labour mobility within Africa has the potential to boost intra-African trade; to unlock opportunities to deepen regional integration and economic cooperation for inclusive growth and sustainable development, while reducing the negative social and human impacts of irregular migration.

Mr. Ogina said, "Africa's youthful population is growing and will continue to look for

employment opportunities and better life standards. The potential role of intra-regional migration and mobility within Africa in reducing the pressure and numbers of people using irregular and dangerous migration channels is high."

Mr. Ogina also stated that the majority of African Migrants move within their own region in an intra-regional mobility than migrating from Africa to other regions of the world.

The JLMP taskforce has been working for more than a year to conceptualize and consolidate a program that responds to the needs of the AU and it's Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in terms of Labour Migration Governance at a regional level.

Another partners/stakeholders meeting is also scheduled to be held in Kigali, Rwanda in March/April 2015 to further engage with international partners and RECs on the way forward on the JLMP.

IOM RELOCATES 47,085 SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES



GAMBELLA – 03 JUNE 2015

A major flooding of camps has forced many refugees to seek shelter in higher grounds last year. To avoid similar incidents, as requested by the Ethiopia's Administration for Refugees and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and UNHCR, IOM relocated 47,085 South Sudanese refugees from the flooded camps of Leitchuor and Nip Nip to Jewii. The relocation was carried out from 08 May - 03 June 2015.

The operation, which involved 443 buses, 86 trucks, and a helicopter, moved 44, 859 refugees from Leitchour and 2,226 from Nip Nip to Jewi. Some 612 vulnerable refugees unfit to travel by road made the journey in a helicopter provided by UNHCR. The largest

convoy consisted of 71 buses and 10 trucks carrying some 4,526 refugees.

Since the conflict broke out in neighbouring South Sudan in December 2013, the total number of South Sudanese refugees IOM has relocated from Ethiopian border crossing points in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz to

camps on higher ground that are less prone to flooding has now reached 238,285.

The camp-to-camp relocation which started on May, followed months of planning and preparation by IOM, ARRA and UNHCR.

Since the conflict broke out, the total number

of South Sudanese refugees crossing into neighbouring countries has passed 559,468. Ethiopia has received the highest number of refugees with a total of over 208,700. With no sign of an end to the conflict in South Sudan, refugees continue to arrive.

SUPPORTING THOUSANDS OF ETHIOPIANS RETURNING FROM YEMEN



Transportation allowance provided to Ethiopian returnees in Addis Ababa

ADDIS ABABA – 26 MAY 2015

IOM Ethiopia has provided post arrival assistance to some 2,061 vulnerable Ethiopians returning from Yemen fleeing from war. They have included people injured in the conflict, as well as those in need of transport and accommodation.

IOM is providing accommodation at its transit centre in Addis Ababa, onward transportation allowances and post-arrival health assessments, including referrals to hospitals in Addis Ababa.

“I was working as a house maid in Yemen for two and a half years. I was near a gas cylinder when an air raid took place last month. The cylinder exploded and I had to go to a hospital. I spent all of my savings on treatment there. With this money I will now be able to reach home and my two children,” said Hadra, 25, who arrived in Addis Ababa on Sunday (24/5) evening and received a transportation allowance at the IOM transit centre.

“The situation there is very dire now. There are a lot of air raids, there is no power and even a bottle of water, which was sold for Rial 1,500, now costs Rial 5,000. Life is becoming very difficult,” she added.

Since the conflict broke out, some 3,177 Ethiopians have been evacuated from Yemen. Of these, some 2,889 were evacuated through the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Another 250 were evacuated via Khartoum, Sudan and 38 via Djibouti.

IOM has been coordinating with the Ethiopian Government to provide post arrival assistance to Ethiopian returnees who fled the conflict in Yemen via Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since April.

It is asking donors for another USD 250,000 to continue to provide post arrival assistance for 2,500 additional Ethiopian returnees who are expected to arrive in Addis Ababa in the coming weeks.

In addition to post arrival assistance for Ethiopians, IOM has also assisted 1,215 third

country nationals from over 39 countries to leave Yemen through nine flight rotations organized since 12 April: seven of those flights were organized from Sana’a to Khartoum, Sudan. One flight on 19 April flew from Sana’a to Addis Ababa. Another flight on 17 May flew from Sana’a to Mogadishu in Somalia.

In coordination with IOM Yemen, IOM Ethiopia and the relevant national authorities, IOM Djibouti is also preparing to transit 565 Ethiopian nationals currently stranded in Haradh, Yemen. The operation will include arranging travel documentation; sea transport from Hodeyda, Yemen to Obock, Djibouti; board, lodging and health screening at IOM’s Djibouti transit centre; and onward transportation to the Ethiopian border.

Similarly, in prior operation, on the month of March, IOM has also assisted 46 stranded Ethiopian migrants in Yemen to return to Ethiopia.

The migrants were intercepted in Yemen while trying to cross the border into the Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia (KSA) and have been detained in Yemen from three to seven months in Jawaza. IOM Yemen has been providing food and clothing in Yemen.

All of the 46 returnees are Un-accompanied Minors (UAMs) aged between 12-17 years.

All UAMs have been assisted with family tracing and reunification.

The 46 returnees migrated from different Regions of Ethiopia, namely Harari, Southern Nations and Nationalities, Oromia, Amhara Regional States.

14 year-old Anwar is among the returnees who are staying at the transit center waiting family tracing to reunite with his family. Anwar left his family in Wolega, Oromia Region four months ago. After heading to Dire-Dawa by bus, he and his two friends continued the journey to the Galafi border in Djibouti after crossing the desert in the Afar Region, Ethiopia. From the border, Anwar boarded the boat that took them to Yemen. "Our family members had to pay 10,000 birr in total (9,000 for the smuggler and 1,000 for water and food). We had spent some of that buying food and water while walking for six days crossing the desert and the remaining at the port in Djibouti while we waited for nine days until the boat had enough passengers to depart." Anwar's dream to reach KSA did not materialize as after a five hour boat journey and a few minutes after landing in Yemen, all of the 44 irregular migrants with him were intercepted by Yemeni police for illegally crossing the border.

17 year-old Mohammed's journey was also similar to Anwar's. Heading from



Reception of Ethiopian returnees at Bole International Airport Addis Ababa

been inspired to go to the KSA after some returnees bought three-wheeler motor cycle Bajaj and started a taxi service, while others built a house. "Three of us started the journey to Saudi. After taking a bus to Kombolcha (in Wollo) we had to walk the remaining distance for 10 straight nights until we reached Djibouti. The journey was very tough; we didn't have enough water and food. Though, none of us died, I have heard that many were not so fortunate in their journey."

Mohammed returned to Addis Ababa with his friend Worku. "The most difficult part

the scary boat ride. There were 56 of us in a small boat and it looked as if the boat was going to flip. It was scary," he said.

The returnees stated that they appreciate the warm welcome they received back home. "There is nothing like home," Worku said.

Since 2015, IOM has so far assisted 1,344 stranded migrants, majority being UAMs. The irregular migrants were intercepted in Zambia, Tanzania, Cairo and Yemen while heading to South Africa, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or Europe.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION LAW TRAINING FOR ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS



ADDIS ABABA - 19 FEBRUARY 2015

The international Organization for Migration in Ethiopia organized a two day International Migration Law (IML) training for members of the senior government officials of the national and regional state Anti-Trafficking taskforces on February 18 and 19, 2015, including officials from the Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs, Bureau of Justice, Bureau of Women Children Affairs and Police Commission.

Under the project funded by the European Union and UNICEF and in close partnership with the Ministry of Women Children and Youth Affairs, this year's IML gave special attention on migrant children.

IOM has organized four similar trainings over the past years. However, this is the first time it has paid special attention to migrant

children as in recent years, more and more unaccompanied minors from the Horn of Africa are migrating to Europe via Italy. Highlighting data from the Italian Government, presenters at the IML stated that 8,336 migrant children entered Italy in 2013, of which 3,104 were accompanied, while 5,232 were unaccompanied. The data for the year 2014 showed a significant increase with 26,112 registered children, of which half were unaccompanied.

Eritrean children make up a large proportion of the migrant children, often through Ethiopia - 927 in 2013 and 4,197 in 2014; followed by Somalis -912 in 2013 and 1,642 in 2014. The total number of registered Ethiopian children was significantly lower with 17 in 2013 and 42 in 2014. However, with more than 8,500 migrant children returnees registered from the total of over 160,000 deportees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia last year, the issue of

migrant children is also an important focus for Ethiopia as well.

The topics of IML included an overview of international migration law with special focus on migrant children. A particular focus on the vulnerabilities of migrant children across the Gulf of Aden/Red Sea migration route and the Ethiopian legal framework pertaining to migration and children, were also among the topics raised at the training.

SHELTER RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE TO IDPS IN MOYALE AND LIBEN WOREDAS OF OROMIA REGION

ADIGRAT, TIGRAY - 29 MARCH 2015

Following an intra-clan conflict between Borena and Guji of Oromo in March 2014, large number of individuals were in a protracted displacement in Moyale and Liben woredas. Through a joint humanitarian assessment, led by the Federal Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS), UN agencies, INGOs and local authorities identified a wide array of critical needs including shelters.

IOM was requested by the regional government and humanitarian partners to provide IDPs with shelter reconstruction assistance. As a result, with funding support from CERF, IOM

has identified a total of 427 most vulnerable households in Liben and Moyale woredas with critical shelter needs through a community-based selection process and targeting criteria.

IOM has procured industrial materials such as corrugated iron sheet, nails, rope, used engine oil, hinge and padlocks for door and distributed to beneficiaries in April 2015. In an effort to promote the participation of host communities, IOM has also mobilized local communities to supply with local shelter construction materials such as eucalyptus poles with different diameters, twigs and forest woods. Currently the beneficiaries



Beneficiaries in Moyale Receiving Entitlements

are constructing their shelters with close supervision and technical assistance from IOM staff members in Moyale, zonal and woreda level DPPB experts.

IOM CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING COUNCIL IN ETHIOPIA

ADIGRAT, TIGRAY - 29 MARCH 2015

IOM, in collaboration with the National Anti-Human Trafficking and Smuggling Council, organized the fourth regional review and planning workshop in Adigrat-Tigray, Northern Ethiopia. Following the Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities People's and Amhara Regions' planning workshops in the past two months, a two-day workshop was held on 28 to 29 March 2015. The workshop focused on reviewing the Tigray Region anti-tracking and smuggling council's achievements and setbacks in fighting human trafficking over the past nine months.

During the workshop, reports on the Region's prevention, protection and prosecution efforts were stated. Among the achievements, the local councils highlighted the reintegration efforts for Ethiopian returnees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as arable lands, technical and vocational trainings, working premises, and micro credit loans were provided to the returnees. However, according to reports, a significant number of returnees still require similar reintegration assistance.

Moreover, the Region pointed out the need to strengthen the efforts to combat irregular migration and human trafficking has weakened in the past few months due to budget shortage, lack of coordination, sporadic participation of stakeholder, and lack

of proper review mechanisms, among others.

During the two-day workshop, IOM oriented the participants with result-based planning and monitoring tools based on the challenges identified during the past workshops: inadequacy of consistent data collection and monitoring of implementation mechanisms from different Regions in Ethiopia.

Features identified in the migration pattern from the Region include extortion, remigration

of returnees (encouraging other youth to migrate along), and smugglers/traffickers transporting migrants without advance payments. With these developments, youth irregular migration has continued in the Region.

At the end of the workshop, the participants agreed to revise the fourth quarter activities in light of the directions given and tools introduced during the meeting.



IOM AND MOLSA ORGANIZE A NATIONAL REFERRAL MECHANISM INCEPTION WORKSHOP

ADDIS ABABA - 12 MARCH 2015

Aiming to integrate the efforts of partner organizations and Government offices working on assistance to victims of trafficking, the International Organization for Migration Special Liaison Office in Ethiopia (IOM SLO) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) has organized a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) Inception Workshop on 12 March, 2015.

The NRM is a co-operative framework through which state actors fulfill their obligations to protect and promote the human rights of trafficked persons, coordinating their efforts in a strategic partnership with international and local organizations working on trafficked persons.

At the workshop, IOM stated that the NRM can work to help improve national policy and procedures on a broad range of victim-related issues such as residence, repatriation regulations, victim compensation, and witness protection.

The workshop, which was attended by over 35 officials from different government offices and partner organizations, is the first initiative to create a National Referral Mechanism to respond to returnees' needs.

The participants at the workshop said, informally organizations have been referring returnees to different organizations and health facilities for a particular assistance. However, many did not know which organization provide



what type of assistance, and with the new mechanism in place, they will be working more effectively to assist returnees.

The NRM is believed to pave the way to systematically refer VoTs to specialized agencies offering shelter and protection from physical and psychological harm, as well as support services. The mechanism will also be the officially binding mechanisms designed to harmonize victim assistance with investigative and crime –prosecution efforts.

It was stated at the workshop that the multidisciplinary and cross –sector participation of the different partners will enable an appropriate response to the complex nature of trafficking of persons.

It is stated that the NRM will be most effective if a formal cooperation agreement is signed among partner organizations. Hence, the participants of the workshop have selected organizations which will help build a standard

operating procedure which will identify each organization's tasks.

An internal monitoring, evaluation, and feedback mechanism is also going to be one of the aspects the NRM will conduct when it is functional.

Once the formation of the NRM is completed, the National Anti-TIP council on Combating Trafficking taskforce will take the lead in guiding the mechanism on its deliberations.

It is to be recalled that IOM set up a Network of Victim Assistance Service Providers (NoVASP) workshop on Tuesday November 12, 2013. With the referral mechanism in place, the network of partner organizations and government offices will respond better to the rising challenges of trafficking in persons.

The NRM Inception project is financed by the US Department of State Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP).

VALIDATION WORKSHOP ON ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS HELD IN ADDIS ABABA

ADDIS ABABA - 11 MARCH 2015

Aiming to respond to the challenges of Trafficking in Persons, the International Organization for Migration in Ethiopia (IOM SLO Ethiopia) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) have organized a two day validation workshop of the Ethiopian National Plan of Action (ENPA) on 10-11th March, 2015. The event held in Addis Ababa, has gathered participants drawn from Government, civil society, Private Employment Agencies (PEAs), religious institutions and private sector at Federal and Regional levels. Their common task is to review Ethiopia's brand new National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons under the leadership of the Ethiopian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The document is paving the way towards a holistic long term and effective response to trafficking in persons for 2015-2020, which coincides with the new version of the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II), Ethiopia's main policy document.

The workshop was inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Zerihun Kebede, State Minister of Labour and Social Affairs as well as Mr. Zhao Jian, Deputy



Chief of Mission of IOM's special liaison office in Addis Ababa. Both officials stressed the importance of ENAP in coordinating efforts and reinforcing the commitments at all levels to combat trafficking in persons in Ethiopia. The State Minister also described the Plan of Action as being part of a wider set of governmental measures that will – directly or indirectly – help Ethiopia combat trafficking in persons such as enhancing legal migration options for seeking a job abroad and upholding their right to safety and dignity in their work.

It is to be recalled that the development of the National Action Plan against Trafficking in Persons in Ethiopia was first launched on



Thursday 29th May, 2014.

In line with the United Nations' Trafficking in Persons Protocol, when implemented, the ENAP will guarantee prevention of human trafficking by addressing the root causes of migration. It will also increase the protection of migrants all along the migration route, prosecute human traffickers and foster partnership between all stakeholders in order to provide a comprehensive and adapted response to trafficking in persons.

The ENAP project is financed by the US Department of State Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP).





SUPPORTING MIGRANTS TO SAFETY *IOM RELOCATES ERITREAN REFUGEES TO SAFE CAMPS*

ENDABAGUNA, TIGRAY – 31 MARCH 2015

Following the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and UNHCR's request, IOM has been providing transportation assistance for Eritrean refugees registered at Endabaguna screening centre since 19 December, 2014.

Currently Ethiopia is hosting more than 76,000 Eritreans in four camps namely, Adi-Harush, Hitsats, Mai-Aini and Shimelba, in Tigray Region.

In comparison to the number of refugees entering Ethiopia since 1998, there has been a significant increase registered as of March 2014, with a monthly arrival rate between 2,000 and 2,500.



IOM Sub-office in Shire deployed two dedicated buses and a van to relocate the refugees and their belongings. IOM has assigned doctors and nurses to conduct Pre-Departure Medical Screening which identifies the refugees' fitness to travel before departure. IOM also provides water, biscuits and operational escorts for all refugees. Moreover, additional medical escorts have been assigned to pregnant/lactating women, children, individuals with physical disability, elders and other vulnerable refugees.

Crossing over the Ethiopian border, refugees such as 42 year-old Yonatan Habtu are thankful for the kind reception which waited for them on the Ethiopian side. Imprisoned for four years for his political views, Yonatan said that he was afraid that he might be arrested again and fled from Asmara leaving his family behind.

"I took a bus which took me 65km from Asmara, and then I had to continue the rest of the journey on foot for two days and a half with one stop over to rest. The place was dangerous; there were lots of military men we had to sneak behind, the thorns on the dry desert road and the thirst for water has been tough," He explained how he and four other young men were crossing the border. "I met the men who were crossing on the way. One of them was young he looked not more than 16 and he was dehydrated. We had to help him up. Fortunately, he also made it across the border too."

While crossing the border, Yonatan and the group of asylum seekers with him did not know what to expect. "We have heard of stories of mistreatment of those who crossed over the border. But on the contrary, we have been welcomed and received good treatment here. I am very much thankful for that."

Speaking of where he wanted to head to next, Yonatan said, "I do not have any plans as to where to go. I just needed safety."

Yonatan has not been able to communicate with his family. Other than his younger sister who has also crossed the Ethiopian border and is now in the US, he said he has no means to make any contact with his family who are residing in Eritrea.

22 year-old Fiori is also one of the refugees grateful for the warm welcome she received when she crossed over the border, hoping to continue her journey and reunite with her husband in Israel. She states that it has been over three years since her husband left Eritrea.

Crossing through Tsorena, this young woman started her journey from Asmara and had to walk for 12 hours straight with four other young asylum seekers.

"My daughter and I were in Asmara living with my mom. I did not have any means to support her; I was unemployed so I think I am better off heading to Israel," She explains why she started her journey departing from her four year-old daughter.

40 year-old, former military Habtom said, his reason for leaving Eritrea is frustration after his house in Adiquala was demolished by the Government for what he considers unfair justification. "I had to build the house through a lot of support from my brothers who reside abroad. It has cost us one million Birr. To see it demolished has been really frustrating," Habtom said. The reason for the demolition according to Habtom was the Government claiming it was constructed not as specified in the certificate.

"I left in frustration I had to walk for one day and a half at night to be safe and avoid capture by the military forces patrolling the Eritrean border. I was crossing alone and it was scary running into a group of hyenas at night."

Habtom said he is glad that he made it across and was surprised by the support he received after he crossed the border. "What I was told there and what I found here are two entirely different things. I am glad I was given such a warm welcome."

With Ethiopia keeping its doors open to refugees from South Sudan, Eritrea and its other neighbors, there are more refugees crossing its border.

As of April 2015, the total number of Eritrean refugees IOM assisted in relocation has surpassed 9,000.

*Names have been changed for the safety of the refugees.

SURPRISING EUROPE SCREENS AT ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

ADDIS ABABA - 26 FEBRUARY 2015

The International Organization for Migration Special Liaison Office (IOM SLO) in Ethiopia screened the Surprising Europe III selected documentaries to Addis Ababa University students on 26 February, 2015.

The screening which was attended by over two hundred students featured the lives of African Migrants and challenges they face in Europe followed by a lively discussion between the Addis Ababa students and IOM.

Reflections of the students highlighted that the screening has been a real eye-opener in showing the reality of lives of irregular African Migrants in Europe. "It is hard to travel from one place to another without proper documentation. I have faced a similar problem even when I was traveling from the countryside to the city of Addis Ababa to look for work. I had to beg for some money to even find money to return to the countryside," reminding a student of his own experience.

"The screening is touching. I am sure even smugglers would feel the pain if they see it," said another student after viewing. The limitation of the legal channel is one of the factors the students mentioned as a push factor to the irregular migration. "When

there are no ways to travel regularly, it is no wonder how people would opt to go illegally." A student commented at the discussion, while another said, we need to look into proper channels such as applying for scholarships and looking for jobs online.

The students were also briefed on what IOM does to support migrants with regard to prevention of irregular migration, reintegration of the returnees and combatting trafficking in persons.

Surprising Europe contributes to the debate concerning international migration in general and African migration in particular. Surprising Europe's aim is to elucidate the image of Europe as it exists in Africa by giving information and facilitating the exchange of information. The project also aims at encouraging discussions on a range of topics including return / reintegration of migrants from overseas to countries in Africa.

When it was launched in 2011, Surprising Europe received wide distribution through international media channels. Over the summer of 2011, Al Jazeera English (AJE) broadcasted the series and documentary worldwide, with a potential range of 220 million viewers worldwide. Both were also broadcasted on Dutch national television.



Phase two (2013) took the project closer to the target groups (potential migrants to Europe). Via the IOM missions in Senegal, Republic of Congo, Uganda and Ghana, the project was promoted through events in cooperation with national and local media. Each mission organized a media event and promoted the video locally.

Prior to the screening in February 2015, in Addis Ababa, IOM SLO has screened selected episodes from the collection of Surprising Europe documentary series at the Italian Cultural Institute on December 2014. The screening events have been attended by hundreds of people including students and raised discussions amongst viewers. In a humorous and yet educational style, the short film episodes highlighted the reality of African migrants' lives to viewers in Addis Ababa. A similar screening was also held in Tigray. The attendees for the event were close to 100 Eritrean Community Conversation Facilitators participating at IOM's training program organized in Mai Aini, Adi-Harush and Hitsats camps.

PROMOTING "TOGETHER WE CAN FIGHT IRREGULAR MIGRATION" CAMPAIGN AT THE TIGRAY GREAT RUN



SHIRE, TIGRAY - 22 FEBRUARY

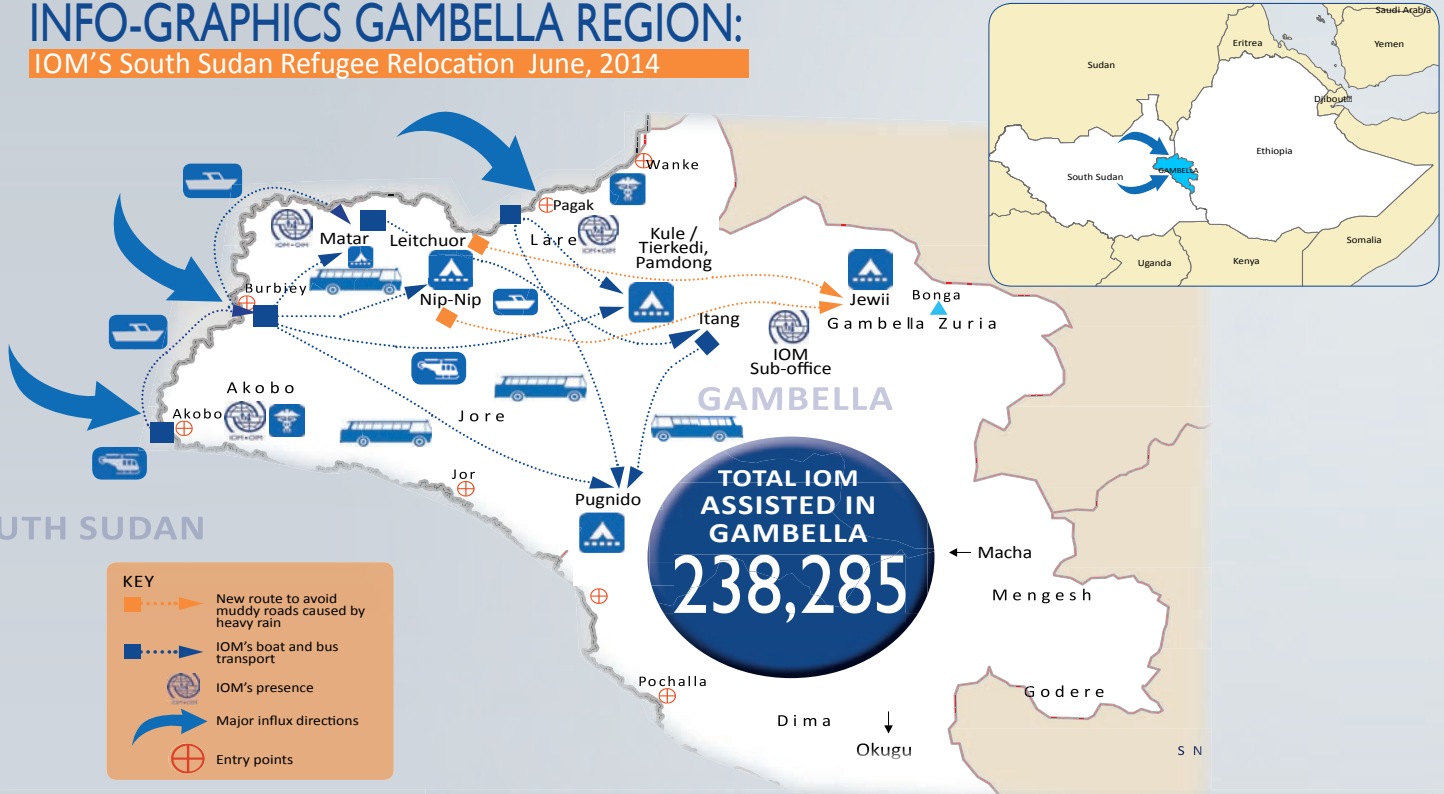
An Ethiopian Great Run event was organized in Shire, Tigray Region with the aim to promote the fight against irregular migration and human trafficking. The race promoted the cause to the youth so that they also can take the message across to their localities and inform teammates on the risks and dangers involved in irregular migration.

The Great Run and the Tigray Office for Youth Affairs organized the event which was attended by thousands of participants.

IOM was requested to take part in the event and took the lead by actively supporting the event with the printing of 250 t-shirts with a message "Together we can fight Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration". The IOM, Shire sub-office was awarded a letter of appreciation for its active participation and great support for the successful accomplishment of the event.

INFO-GRAPHICS GAMBELLA REGION:

IOM'S South Sudan Refugee Relocation June, 2014



BACKGROUND

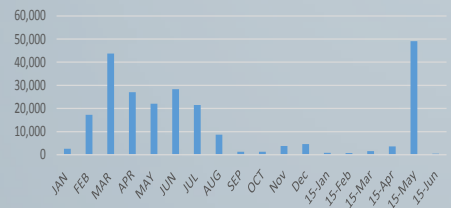
Over 200,000 South Sudanese asylum-seekers have arrived in Ethiopia mainly through the Pagak, Burbiey and Akobo-Tergol border points since the influx began on 16 December, according to UNHCR. IOM has evacuated and relocated a total of 238,285 refugees to Pugnido, Tierkidi, Leitchuor, Bonga, Kule, Nip Nip and Jewii camps as of the Early of June, 2015. Children make up 70% of new arrivals; of the adult arrivals, women make up more than three-quarters. The IOM medical team is conducting the PDMS at the entry points. IOM has also relocated over 3,000 refugees in the Regional State of Benishangul-Gumuz since January 2014.

TRANSPORTATION AND MEDICAL CHECK UP



IOM has used over 70 buses and 10 boats to relocate the refugees from entry points to camps. IOM has assigned doctors and nurses to conduct PDMS.

TOTAL ASSISTED BY MONTH



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS



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MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE OVER THE LOSS OF MIGRANT LIVES

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is deeply saddened by the news of Ethiopian Migrants' loss of life in Libya, South Africa and the boat capsizing in the Mediterranean Sea with hundreds of migrants on-board. The organization wishes for comfort to the families of the victims', Ethiopian people, and the Government of Ethiopia in these trying times.

