



Regional mixed migration summary for April 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	
Yemen	<p>New arrivals: In April 2014, 8,356 migrants/refugees crossed into Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland), a 53% increase from the migrants/refugees that reached Yemen in March 2013 and a 30% increase from migrants that arrived in April 2013.</p> <p>An estimated 82% of the migrants/refugees arriving on the coast of Yemen remain Ethiopian, while the rest are Somali nationals. A surge in new arrivals has been witnessed since the beginning of 2014 after a sharp fall seen in the final months of 2013. In January 2014, 811 arrivals were recorded at the Yemeni coast compared to the 8,356 that were recorded in April. Danish Refugee Council (DRC) protection teams recorded more than two dozen migrants/refugees attempting their journey for a second time, following deportation from Saudi Arabia and Yemen in the last couple of years. A majority of new arrivals continue to harbour hopes of reaching Saudi Arabia to pursue economic opportunities.</p> <p>Boats & passengers: There were a total of 126 migrant boat trips that arrived on the Yemeni coast in April 2014. The average number of passengers on each boat was 68 per trip (not including smugglers/crew).</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: Migrants/refugees arriving on the Yemeni coast risk kidnapping for ransom, or arrest by authorities. Towards the end of April, the Yemeni coast guard and military units are reported to have arrested 115 migrants/refugees mostly Somalis and Ethiopians enroute to the Yemeni coast. Indications continue to suggest the possible collusion between sections of the security apparatus and criminal groups. Yemeni armed forces have recently launched a campaign against al-Qaeda militants in Shabwa and Abyan governorates, well known disembarkation points for migrants/refugees landing on the Yemeni coast.</p>
Djibouti	<p>Departing from Djibouti: In April 2014, an estimated 4864 (568 female) migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen's shores via Djibouti, a 55% increase from arrivals in March 2014. In addition, Red sea arrivals in April 2014 were a 5% increase from the migrants/refugees that arrived in April 2013. This reaffirms the possibility that the decline in arrival figures witnessed during the second half of 2013 and early 2014 resulting from the crackdown on migrant workers in Saudi Arabia may be coming to an end. New arrival figures in the coming months may come close to those witnessed in 2012. Approximately 60% of the migrants/refugees reaching Yemen in April 2014 used the Red sea crossing from Djibouti as opposed to the Arabian sea crossing from Puntland.</p> <p>Boats: A total of 85 vessels left via the Red Sea for Yemen carrying an average of 57 passengers per trip.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: Migrants/refugees remain stranded at the Obock departure point with no access to food or water as they seek additional funds or wait for smugglers to finalize their onward journey to Yemen. They continue to report overcrowding on unseaworthy vessels and mistreatment at the hands of smugglers. A heightened security presence continues to be felt at the Djiboutian/Ethiopian crossing with reports of numerous arrests and detention of migrants/refugees, for those who are, reportedly, unable to bribe authorities.</p>
Puntland	<p>Arabian sea arrivals in Yemen: In April 2014, 3,492 migrants/refugees crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen from Bossaso and other coastal areas of Puntland, a 45% increase from the migrants/refugees that made the crossing in March 2014. The April 2014 Arabian sea arrival figures were a 95% increase compared to those recorded for</p>

	<p>the crossing in April 2013.</p> <p>Irregular movement: The number of migrants/refugees originating and transiting through Puntland for Ethiopia, Sudan and onward to Libya is reported to be increasing. Exact numbers are difficult to estimate due to the clandestine nature of the movement. An estimated 231 migrants/refugees returned from Yemen in April and part of May including 121 women and 110 men.</p>
Somaliland	<p>Irregular movement to Libya: Estimates from local organizations in Somaliland indicate that between 400 and 700 migrants/refugees are reported to be departing from Somaliland every month to attempt the perilous journey to Libya. Over 600 migrants/refugees including Somalis were rescued by Sudanese authorities on the border between Sudan and Libya in late April and early May after they were abandoned and left stranded in the desert by their smuggler.</p>
Israel	<p>Asylum seekers continue to face difficulty in Israel: A limited number of Eritrean and Sudanese asylum seekers are reported to have left Israel for Ethiopia and Rwanda. A Sudanese returnee from Israel was allegedly denied entry at the Addis Ababa airport and scheduled for removal to Sudan, but involuntarily ended up back in Israel. Eritrean migrants/asylum seekers that left Israel for Rwanda were reported to be facing difficulty due to lack of stay and residency rights. The Israeli Interior Ministry confirmed that asylum seekers in Israel are voluntarily returning to their countries of origin or departing for third countries. Departing asylum seekers receive a grant of USD 3,500 and an air ticket. An estimated 2,300 migrants/asylum seekers are held in detention in Israel out of a population of 50,000 (36,000 Eritreans and 14,000 Sudanese). The Population and Immigration Authority in Israel released 24 Eritreans held at the Holot detention centre following the intervention of a lawyer. The Eritreans did not fit within the criteria set for detainees which require only Eritrean nationals who arrived in Israel prior to 2008 to report to the detention centre. One of the released Eritreans is reported to have agreed to return to Eritrea.</p>
Sudan/ South Sudan	<p>South Sudanese flee for safety: The situation in South Sudan remains volatile with continued fighting and clashes reported in various parts of the country including Upper Nile, Unity and Benitu. At the beginning of May, an estimated 20,000 South Sudanese are reported to have arrived in Ethiopia within a period of 72 hours. Nearly 110,000 South Sudanese have fled to Ethiopia since the outbreak of violence between government and opposition forces on 15th December 2013. A further 205, 000 South Sudanese are reported to have fled to Uganda (102,698), Sudan (67,401), and Kenya (38,729) including over 700 unaccompanied minors. Overall, over 1.3 million people have been displaced from the current crisis including over 923,000 internally displaced persons. President Salva Kiir and the former Vice President of South Sudan Dr. Riek Machar signed a landmark agreement in Addis Ababa on 9th May aimed at ceasing hostilities, rededicating their commitment to the cessation of hostilities agreement signed on 23rd January 2014, and pledging cooperation for the formation of a transitional government. However there are reports that the ceasefire has since been broken.</p> <p>Sudan Deports 30 Eritreans: In May, Human Rights Watch (HRW) urged Sudan to halt the deportation of Eritrean migrants/refugees to Eritrea, and provide them instead with protection in accordance with the countries international obligations. Sudanese authorities were reported to have deported 30 Eritreans including 6 refugees. An additional unconfirmed number of Eritreans detained for immigration violations also risk deportation.</p> <p>Migrants/refugees reported dead while hundreds rescued: Reports indicate that 10 migrants/refugees including 6 Sudanese, 2 Ethiopians and an Eritrean died in the desert between the borders of Sudan and Libya, a popular migratory route for migrants seeking to reach the frontiers of Europe using Libya as their launch pad. A joint Sudanese-Libyan force is reported to have rescued over 600 migrants/refugees in two separate incidents at the end of April and beginning of May. The migrants/refugees were found abandoned and stranded in the desert on the border between both countries, and were mostly Ethiopian and Eritrean nationals. A Sudanese court is reported to have sentenced the migrants/refugees to several months in jail in lieu of a court ordered fine followed by removal to their respective countries.</p>

<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Continued exodus: Eritreans continue to leave Eritrea through Sudan and to a lesser degree Ethiopia in significant numbers. Recent assessments (RMMS Study No: 5 released 19th May 2014) suggest as many as 6000 Eritreans may be leaving every month in what is a continual flow that has been rising and evident in recent years.</p> <p>Peak in Eritrean asylum seekers: The Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service detected a rise in Eritrean asylum seekers arriving in the Netherlands. Over 1000 Eritrean asylum seekers are reported to have arrived in April, compared to 980 Eritrean asylum seekers that arrived in the Netherlands in the whole of 2013. There are indications that the movement of Eritrean asylum seekers to the Netherlands is organised and likely involves human trafficking and smuggling elements. The authorities are reported to be putting in place measures to ensure adequate reception capacity and efficiency in the asylum process in the event the influx is not a temporary phenomenon.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New arrivals in Yemen: An estimated 6,865 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in April 2014, a 53% increase from the March 2014 arrivals and a 37% increase from the migrants/refugees that arrived in April 2013.</p> <p>New arrivals travelled predominantly from the Oromia region, while others originated in the Amhara, Harar, Tigray and the Ogaden region. Economic factors remain their primary motivation for flight. Some new arrivals reported religious and political persecution, including arbitrary arrest and detention for perceived affiliation to the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF). New arrivals continue to harbour hopes of reaching Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States despite knowledge of the expulsion of over 160,000 Ethiopian migrant workers from Saudi Arabia at the end of 2013 and beginning of 2014. There is speculation that these and other expulsions have opened up heightened demand for labour which the new arrivals are rushing to fill.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: Ethiopia is host to over 500,000 refugees. The largest single nationality among the refugee population remains Somali (244,263), with a rapidly growing South Sudanese population. The South Sudanese population was nearly 110,000 by mid-May.</p> <p>Modalities of travel: New arrivals reportedly travelled from Jijjiga to Wajale by bus, then proceeded to Borama and Djibouti via Loya Ade. They also travelled from West/East Harage to Dire Dawa, then to Djibouti by car, while some walked for up to eight days before entering Djibouti at the Dawalle border point, and proceeding to Obock (maritime departure point) via Tadjoura. They reportedly paid between USD 200 and 250 for entire the journey to Yemen.</p> <p>Assisted Voluntary Return to Ethiopia: A total of 220 detainees will be assisted to return to Ethiopia following a one week verification exercise conducted in six prisons in Tanzania. The detainees will be issued with travel documentation, logistical assistance to facilitate their travel, and reintegration assistance under an IOM funded programme to address irregular migration flows in Southern Africa.</p>
<p>Kenya</p>	<p>Refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya: Kenya is host to 553,726 refugees and asylum seekers, 50,368 of them in Nairobi (urban refugees). The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (423,418), followed by South Sudanese (66,341), and Ethiopians (29,723). Between March and April the Somali refugee population decreased by 5,010 individuals while the South Sudanese refugee population in Kenya increased by 3,130 individuals. Tens of thousands of undocumented migrants from neighbouring countries and further afield reside in Kenya, predominantly in urban areas.</p> <p>Progress on the Tripartite Agreement: Following the nomination of all 12 representatives from Kenya, Somalia and UNHCR to sit on the Tripartite commission tasked with advancing voluntary and organized repatriation of refugees as well as the reintegration of returnees in Somalia, the launch of the commission is now scheduled for the end of May in Nairobi. The launch was previously scheduled for Mogadishu in April 2014. An estimated 3,000 refugees have registered their interest with UNHCR to return to various parts of Somalia. The Tripartite Agreement was signed on 10th November 2013. UNHCR pilot project targeting Somali refugees voluntarily willing to return to Luuq, Kismayo and Baidoa is currently delayed due to the prevailing security situation in Somalia.</p> <p>Operation Usalama Watch: At the end of March 2014, the Interior Ministry launched a security operation dubbed 'usalama watch' aimed at addressing rising terror related attacks in Kenya. The security operation</p>

resulted in the roundup of thousands of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, mostly of Somali origin, following police operations in Nairobi, Mombasa, Baragoi, Naivasha and Nakuru. Congolese and South Sudanese refugees in urban areas have also been rounded up and transferred to refugee camps in the Northern part of the country. The Interior Ministry announced that the migrants/refugees were rounded up for a document verification exercise.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) in May urged the Government to end the ongoing harassment, arbitrary detention, involuntary relocation to camps and deportation of Kenyan nationals and foreigners under the guise of national security. According to HRW, the police stand accused of confiscating and destroying refugee documentation, extorting large sums of money from detained foreigners, and mistreating detained persons held in cramped unsanitary conditions. HRW and UNHCR further documented the deportation of 261 people to Mogadishu by air between 9th April and 3rd May, while the Inspector General is reported to have confirmed 447 deportations, the prosecution of 288 suspects and the relocation to camps of 700 refugees since the launch of operation 'usalama watch'. UNHCR indicates that approximately 950 refugees have been relocated to Kakuma refugee camp resulting in over 300 cases of separated children. In early May, 160 Congolese migrants/refugees were arrested while they congregated for a Sunday church service. An unconfirmed number of Somalis are reported to be leaving Kenya by air and road following issuance of travel documents by the Somali embassy in Nairobi.

High court temporarily halts relocation of refugees to camps: Reports indicate that the High Court of Kenya temporarily issued orders in May to halt the planned relocation of 500 urban refugees to camps. The orders were issued in response to a petition by 9 applicants representing the Eastleigh Community Association consisting of 513 members. The members argued that they hold alien certificates, have invested in business ventures in urban areas, and that the planned relocation will infringe on their right to dignity and freedom of movement guaranteed by the Constitution. Hearing of the petition is scheduled for 27th May 2014. In July 2013, the High Court abrogated a December 2012 directive, similar to the March 2014 one, requiring all urban refugees to report to the Daadab and Kakuma refugee camps located in the Northern part of the country.

Detention and irregular movement: An estimated 200 Ethiopians are reported to be irregularly entering Kenya every month. Prison authorities in Northern border towns are reported to have raised alarm over the rising number of Ethiopian migrants in their facilities. A reported 257 Ethiopians are held at the Isiolo GK Prison while 33 are held at the Meru GK Prison. A group of 120 Ethiopians have recently been repatriated by the Government. Kenya is a transit route for Ethiopian migrants/refugees seeking to reach South Africa in search of economic opportunities.

Somalia (S-C)

Somali movements to Yemen: An estimated 1,491 Somalis arrived on the Yemeni shores in April 2014, a 56% increase from March 2014 arrivals. April 2014 arrivals averaged 6% less than the Somali arrival figures for April 2013.

New arrivals continue to originate mainly from Mogadishu, Marka, Walaweyn, Galka'yo, Bossaso, Hirran, Boromo, Adwal, and Hargeysa and were pre-dominantly from the tribes of Hawiye, Digil/Mirif, Darood, Isaq and Dir. Somali arrivals accessing Yemen via the Red sea crossing primarily originate in Somaliland, and travel through Loya Ade, Woqoyi Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheer.

Economic reasons remain the primary motive for movement. However, migrants/refugees also report insecurity, arbitrary detention, and victimization for perceived affiliation to Al Shabab as their reason for flight. New arrivals indicated their intention to seek protection at the Kharaz refugee camp. A large number of the new arrivals possessed basic education and were farmers, herders, unskilled labourers and traders prior to their departure from Somalia.

Refugees and asylum seekers: In beginning of April 2014, there were 956,066 Somali refugees in the region hosted mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. An estimated 5,200 Somalis have sought refuge in neighbouring countries since the beginning of 2014. Somalia hosts a total of 2,470 refugees including 64 Zanzibari refugees in Mogadishu, and 10, 506 registered asylum seekers, mainly from Ethiopia. The refugees are mainly hosted in the Northern regions of Somaliland and Puntland.

Modalities of travel: Somali new arrivals departed from Mogadishu, Kismayo, Togdheer, Awdal and Hargeysa and belonged to the tribes of Hawiye, Darood, Dir, and Digil. Migrants/refugees originating in Mogadishu travelled inland to Galkayo, Garowe and then Hargeysa. They spent between USD 30 and 120 to reach Loya Ade on the

	border with Djibouti. They paid between USD 150 and 250 for their travel from Loya Ade to the maritime departure point - Obock and onward to Yemen. Migrants/refugees also travelled from Mogadishu to Berbera by plane and paid between USD 350 and 450 for the entire journey to Yemen. Some Somalis are reported to have sort asylum on arrival in Djibouti before continuing their onward journey to Yemen.
<p>Other Regional news</p>	<p>Movement across the Mediterranean: Reports indicate that an estimated 1,200 migrants arrived at the Sicilian port of Augusta at the beginning of May. An estimated 25,000 migrants/refugees have arrived in Italy since the beginning of 2014 compared to nearly 43,000 that arrived in the whole of 2013, 13,000 in 2012 and 63,000 in 2011 at the height of the Arab spring. Numerous reports predicate a summer of high movement across the Mediterranean from the North African coast, particularly Libya. Many of the migrants/refugees arriving are from Syria and Eritrea. Reports from Spain indicate that migrants/refugees continue to scale the Mellila fence. A group of 700 migrants/refugees are reported to have scaled the fence in April with an estimated 140 making it over. Spain has however reported a 15% decrease in the number of migrants arriving by sea between 2013 and 2012.</p> <p>Dead at Sea: At the beginning of May, the Libyan coast guard is reported to have rescued 80 migrants, while a shipwreck is reported to have claimed the life of 40 migrants/refugees, all Somali at the end of April. At least 36 migrants are reported to have drowned 30 miles east of Tripoli in early May according to Libyan officials, with an estimated 52 rescued while 42 remain missing. The deaths occurred following the collapse of the bottom of a small boat carrying an estimated 130 migrants/refugees. In another incident, 17 victims and 206 survivors of a ship wreck 115 miles off the Italian Island of Lampedusa were rescued and brought to shore in mid-May. Many of the victims were from Eritrea, Somalia, Syria and Nigeria with the dead including 12 women and 2 children. Reports indicate that over 400 migrants/refugees were onboard the capsized vessel. Another 22 migrants/refugees are reported to have died when 2 boats capsized off the Greek Island of Samos in early May. Overall, nearly 121 migrants/refugees are reported to have died in three separate boat incidences in Mediterranean waters within the last fortnight. UNHCR estimates 170 migrant/refugee deaths so far in 2014 off the coasts of Libya, Greece and Italy.</p>
<p>New Research, reports or documents</p>	<p>Letter of the law: regular and irregular Migration in Saudi Arabia in a context of rapid change (April 2014): Letter of the Law is RMMS's 4th research study in a series explaining people on the move in the region and offers analysis on regular and irregular migration in Saudi Arabia in a context of rapid change. Read the full report here.</p> <p>Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (April 2014): The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, François Crépeau, conducted an official visit to Qatar from 3 to 10 November 2013 at the invitation of the Government. The visit focused mainly on labour migration and recruitment practices. The Rapporteurs report highlights recommendations and conclusions that in some instances can be applied to most countries receiving or hosting a large number of migrant workers. Read full report here.</p> <p>Smuggled Futures: The Dangerous Path of the Migrant from Africa to Europe (May 2014): The Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime report chronicles the unprecedented surge of movement from the Northern frontiers of the African continent across the Mediterranean to Europe. The motivations for movement are multifaceted but over 80% of such movement is supported by migrant smugglers and other criminal groups loosely linked or operating within organised structures. Read the full report here.</p> <p>Conflict in South Sudan: A Human Rights Report (May 2014): 'The report presents the findings of investigations and documentation conducted by the Human Rights Division of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) since 15 December 2013. It follows from the UNMISS Interim Report on Human Rights, released on 21 February 2014. Based primarily on over 900 interviews with victims and witnesses, among others, the report finds that from the very outset of the violence, gross violations of human rights and serious violations of humanitarian law have occurred on a massive scale. Civilians were not only caught up in the violence, they were directly targeted, often along ethnic lines.' Read full report 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.