



April 2017

Regional mixed migration summary for April 2017 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Terminology: Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, refugees). If the caseload mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends /data /analysis
<p>Yemen</p>	<p><i>The conflict in Yemen entered its twenty-fifth month with escalation in fighting being reported in the country's western coast (Taizz and Al Hudaydah governorates). As previously reported, due to the conflict, monitoring and data collection activities along the Red Sea and Arabian sea coasts continued to be affected, with a majority of monitoring exercises suspended. Therefore the data presented in this report concerning new arrivals in Yemen cannot be considered comprehensive or conclusive.</i></p> <p>Internal displacement: There were approximately 2 million internally displaced persons in Yemen at the end of April 2017. UNHCR has expressed concern about the intensifying conflict in Taizz and Al Hudaydah governorates, warning that it could potentially displace up to half a million people, in addition to the two million people who remain displaced, further exacerbating Yemen's deep humanitarian crisis.</p> <p>High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen: On 25th April 2017, international donors pledged nearly USD 1.1 billion to help scale up lifesaving aid to millions of people in need in Yemen. The pledging event was held in Geneva and was co-chaired by the UN, Sweden and Switzerland. According to the UN, Yemen is the largest humanitarian crisis in the world with close to 19 million people – two thirds of the population – in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. These include more than 10 million people extremely vulnerable and in need of immediate humanitarian assistance and about 6.8 million people prone to famine.</p> <p>Continued arrivals from the Horn of Africa: In April 2017, at least 5,750 migrants and asylum seekers (4,709 Ethiopians and 1,041 Somalis) arrived from the Horn of Africa to Yemen via the Red Sea, Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden. Arrivals in April were slightly lower (4%) compared to March 2017 however at par with (lower) monthly figures recorded since the last two months of 2016. Several reasons may be linked to the reduced movement of migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn travelling to Yemen, including the deportation of migrants from Yemen to the Horn (first reported in September 2016), the ongoing drought situation in the Horn and its devastating effects on livelihoods/resources, and the expected mass deportations of undocumented migrants from Saudi Arabia, a key destination country for Ethiopian migrants transiting through Yemen. Nonetheless, due to the reduction of monitoring missions along the Yemeni coast, it is understood that the actual total number of arrivals from the Horn into Yemen is likely to have been higher during the period.</p> <p>Arabian Sea arrivals: In April 2017, an estimated 3,862 (2,824 Ethiopian and 1,038 Somali) migrants and asylum seekers arrived in Yemen via the Red Sea.</p> <p>Red Sea arrivals: An estimated 1,888 (1,885 Ethiopian and 3 Somali) migrants and asylum seekers arrived on the Red Sea coast of Yemen in April 2017, an 18% increase on figures reported on March 2017 (1,599) but still lower than typical arrival averages at this time of the year. Migrants and asylum seekers departed from Obock, Djibouti aboard 39 boats to the Lahj coastlines.</p> <p>Ethiopian profiles, drivers, intentions and costs: In an ongoing trend reported since mid-2016, the majority (92%) of Ethiopian nationals encountered in Yemen identified themselves as Oromo and originated from the Jima, West Hararge and Wallo regions. Fourteen Ethiopian nationals were identified as asylum seekers. The primary drivers of migration cited by Ethiopians include lack of livelihoods and the severe drought affecting the country while those seeking asylum reported persecution. Most of the new arrivals reported intention to find work in Saudi Arabia, however those seeking asylum reported that they intended to remain in Yemen.</p> <p>Ethiopian migrants and asylum seekers continued to rely on smugglers and/or facilitators to enter Djibouti aboard cars and trucks, with some walking segments of the journey. Migrants reported paying between 7,000 – 11,000 Birr</p>

(approx. USD 302 – 474) for the journey to Obock, with some paying an extra fee for the sea crossing.

Somali profiles, drivers and facilitation: Approximately 80% of Somali nationals encountered in Yemen came from the Banadir, Shabelle Hoose, Shabelle Dhehe, Bay and Bari regions. About 36% of Somali nationals came from the Hawiye tribe with 30% from the Digil-Mirifle tribe. The primary drivers of migration cited by the Somalis were drought, lack of livelihoods/economic opportunities, insecurity and lack of basic necessities. Somalis travelling to Yemen via Obock reported travelling by car or plane and on foot for segments of the journey. The new arrivals reported paying between USD 100 – 200 for the entire trip to Yemen.

Migrant vulnerabilities: In April 2017, most migrants and asylum seekers did not report any protection concerns on the sea crossing from Djibouti to Yemen. However, there was one incident reported in which three migrants were robbed and physically assaulted by the boat crew. The boats were manned by the Yemeni and Afari smugglers and the trips took between 5-9 hours depending on the weather and sea conditions. The amount paid for the trip differed from boat to boat and ranged from USD 13 - 430.

Migrants and asylum seekers continued to report human rights violations upon arrival to Yemen. The new arrivals reported the presence of armed traffickers along Yemeni coastlines who are known for abducting large groups of migrants usually at gunpoint. In April, there were reports about the treatment of abducted migrants inside the ransom “dens” or *hosh*. These ranged from kidnapping, extortion, physical and sexual abuse including rape. In one incident, a migrant reported that all passengers on his boat were abducted at gunpoint and taken to a trafficking den where together with other migrants they were tortured for ransom. In another incident, a migrant held for two months and tortured for ransom reported that he had witnessed two men being tortured to death. Other abducted migrants were forced to bury them. Three Ethiopians held for 4-5 months and released after paying 5,000 Birr (approx. USD 215) reported that six females had been raped nightly by drunk traffickers.

Migrants also reported incidents of deportations from Yemen to the Horn of Africa. In one incident, approximately 300 new arrivals were reportedly deported from Yemen and forced to disembark somewhere along the Djibouti or Eritrean coastline. When the migrants returned to Obock, three of them died due to starvation or dehydration. In another incident, a group of 19 migrants encountered in Yemen reported being held in a detention centre in Aden alongside another group of approximately 284 people, including ten women. Another group of 60 migrants was reportedly forced to board a fishing boat to be deported back to Djibouti, however the boat operator forced them to disembark at Al Watia in Yemen.

Protection issues reported by migrants transiting through Djibouti on their way to Yemen are reported in the Djibouti country section below.

Departures from Yemen: As of 31st March 2017, an estimated total of 95,078 persons had fled Yemen to countries within the Horn of Africa (37,428 in Djibouti, 36,087 in Somalia, 14,560 in Ethiopia and 7,003 in Sudan) since March 2015. Yemenis and Somalis continue to represent the largest proportion of people moving out of Yemen to the Horn of Africa, accounting for 30% and 35% of movements respectively. Djibouti is the primary destination for Yemeni arrivals to the Horn, with 70% of those moving opting to travel to Djibouti. The general outflow of persons from Yemen has [reduced since peak figures in 2015](#). More recent figures were not available at the time of writing this report.

The latest statistics and overview of the displacement situation arising out of the Yemen crisis can be found on the UNHCR data sharing and information [portal](#).

Djibouti

Departures to Yemen: In April 2017, an estimated 1,888 (1,885 Ethiopian and 3 Somali) migrants and asylum seekers arrived along the Red Sea coast of Yemen. The new arrivals landed aboard 39 boats in various coastal points in Lahj governorate. Due to the reduction of monitoring missions along Yemen’s coast, it is likely that the actual number of arrivals from the Horn of Africa to Yemen was higher during the period.

Migrant vulnerability: Migrants and asylum seekers transiting through Djibouti reported several protection concerns along the route to Obock. These ranged from hunger, illness, dehydration and death. In Obock there were multiple reports of migrants suffering from vomiting, diarrhoea / cholera. At Tadjoura, 8 Ethiopians (5 male and 3 female) reportedly died as a result of hunger and thirst. Multiple reports of robbery at various points along the route were reported including an incident where a migrant was stabbed. 25 migrants were intercepted by the federal police and detained in Diridawa where they were reportedly robbed. Some migrants encountered reported burying five people in

	Lac-Assal, who were believed to have died from hunger or thirst.
Somalia/ Somaliland	<p>Somali refugees in the neighbouring countries: As of 1st April 2017, there were 879,078 Somali refugees and asylum seekers being hosted in countries in the region. The majority of these refugees are hosted in three countries – Kenya (36%), Yemen (29%) and Ethiopia (28%).</p> <p>Internal displacement: According to UNHCR, there are approximately 1.1 million internally displaced persons across the whole of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Somalia), however latest drought displacement data indicate that nearly 700,000 people have been newly displaced since November 2016 due to the worsening drought situation in Somalia. An estimated 377,000 people were displaced during the first quarter of 2017.</p> <p>Drought situation in Somalia: The humanitarian situation in Somalia continues to deteriorate and an estimated 3.2 million people are reportedly facing emergency levels of food insecurity. According to UNICEF, more than 6.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 3.7 million are children. More than 275,000 children have or will suffer life-threatening severe acute malnutrition in 2017 and there are reported cases of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera and measles especially in hard to reach areas.</p> <p>London Somalia Conference: On 11th May 2017, the UK hosted an international conference on Somalia that brought together Heads of State and government from East Africa, and other key international partners, to accelerate progress on security sector reform, economic development, international response to the ongoing drought and humanitarian crisis and to agree on a new international partnership framework for support to Somalia. Speaking at the conference, UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, called for enhanced international coordination in support of the Somali government appealing for an additional \$900 million in aid for the millions of people affected by the deteriorating drought situation.</p>
South Sudan	<p>Regional displacement: The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) has expressed concern over the continued fighting and deteriorating security situation in South Sudan calling on armed actors to uphold their responsibilities under the international humanitarian law to protect civilians and ensure the proportionality of their actions.</p> <p>Renewed fighting has been reported in Waat and Walgak regions in Jonglei causing thousands of people to flee amidst concerns that clashes may spread to additional areas. Preliminary results indicate that up to 100,000 people have been displaced across northern Jonglei as of April 2017, many of whom had previously been displaced during fighting in February 2017. An estimated 17,000 people are seeking shelter in Wau town following clashes and killings in the month of April while more than 7,000 people have fled fighting in Eastern Equatoria and crossed to Uganda.</p> <p>As of 30th April 2017, there were 1,812,943 South Sudanese refugees displaced in the region. The majority of these refugees are being hosted in neighbouring Uganda (920,621), Sudan (375,719) and Ethiopia (342,573). Latest UN figures indicate that children make up 62% of the 1.8 million South Sudanese refugees while more than 1,000 children have been killed or injured since fresh conflict erupted in 2013.</p> <p>Internal displacement: According to UNHCR, as of 15th April 2017, there were 1.9 million people displaced inside South Sudan. This figure includes 223,895 people in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites.</p> <p>Refugees in South Sudan: As of 31st March 2017, there were 265,921 refugees in South Sudan, the majority (92%) of whom are from neighbouring Sudan.</p>
Sudan	<p>Sudanese army stops over 200 migrants en-route to Libya: Sudanese security forces reportedly intercepted more than 200 migrants of different nationalities on the Sudanese-Libyan border as they attempted to cross into Libya. The nationalities of the migrants were not immediately revealed however authorities indicated that the migrants were transported to Khartoum and handed over to their respective embassies. Other media reports indicate that security officers freed 21 Eritreans nationals, including ten men, eight women and three children, held for ransom by a suspected human trafficking gang following a security operation in Sudan's eastern Kassala state, on the border with</p>

	<p>Eritrea. Seven suspects were detained during the raid and three vehicles seized.</p> <p>Sudan is a key transit country for migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa attempting the perilous journey across North African countries and the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. The European Union has ramped up its partnership with Sudan, through financial aid, to curb [irregular] migration from /through the country, amid concerns over human rights violations in Sudan and the deployment of the Rapid Support Force, formerly known as the Janjaweed militia, in efforts to curb migration.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>Refugees in Ethiopia: As of 30th April 2017, there were 843,171 refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia. The majority of the refugees are from South Sudan (375,755), Somalia (248,943), Eritrea (169,655) and Sudan (41,298). According to UNHCR, 49,231 refugees were newly registered between January and April 2017, while 10,797 refugees were newly registered in April 2017. While the breakdown of nationalities is not available, a comparison of figures of refugees/asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia in November 2016 and April 2017 indicate South Sudanese nationals make up the largest proportion of newly registered refugees in Ethiopia.</p> <p>Ethiopia to facilitate repatriation of its citizens: The Ethiopian government has stated that it is enhancing efforts to safeguard the rights of citizens abroad and facilitate the repatriation of those stuck or in bad situation in foreign countries. This follows an announcement by the Saudi government to deport undocumented immigrant workers <i>en-masse</i> after a grace period of 90 days which began on 29th March 2017. Thousands of Ethiopians have migrated to Saudi Arabia through regular and irregular means in search of economic opportunities. An estimated 260,000 Ethiopians have travelled [irregularly] to Saudi Arabia since 2014 and are likely to be affected by the campaign.</p> <p>The Ethiopian government has set up a national task force to facilitate safe return of Ethiopian migrants from Saudi Arabia in addition to expediting registration and issuance of travel documents to its nationals by the Ethiopian consulate and Embassy in Riyadh and Jeddah. More than 20,000 Ethiopians have been registered and issued with travel documents and about 3,000 Ethiopians have already left Saudi Arabia following this announcement.</p> <p>The detention and deportation of Ethiopian migrants and asylum seekers, although not on the scale of the upcoming mass deportations from Saudi Arabia, has frequently been reported in many other countries, for example along the southern route from the Horn of Africa to South Africa, (as well as other migration routes), where migrants are commonly being regarded as illegal aliens or undocumented criminals.</p> <p>EU Special Representative for Human Rights visits Ethiopia: The EU Special Representative for Human Rights, Stavros Lambrinidis, visited Ethiopia in early April 2017 to launch sectoral dialogue on Human Rights and Governance, the first formal dialogue between the two sides under the June 2016 EU-Ethiopia Strategic Engagement. Key topics of the sectoral dialogue included a) rule of law, b) economic and social rights and; c) human rights in the context of migration i.e. human rights of Ethiopian migrants in the Middle East and cooperation in the fight against human trafficking. The EU representative encouraged concrete civil and political reforms to ensure citizens are able to express their views and concerns freely and peacefully, including through independent media, political parties and civil society to promote stability and social resilience in the country. Human rights organizations have expressed concern over widespread human rights violations in Ethiopia noting that this has contributed to thousands of Ethiopians fleeing the country in search of safety and protection in neighbouring countries.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>	<p>Mediterranean Sea arrivals: The arrivals figures of Eritreans along the Central Mediterranean route to Italy declined significantly during the first quarter of 2017, far below typical movement patterns observed in past years. An estimated 530 Eritrean nationals arrived in Italy since the beginning of 2017, representing 5.1% of overall arrivals recorded by March 2017. Several factors may have contributed to the reduced arrivals including [frequent] cases of interception and deportation of Eritrean migrants (as well as other migrants and asylum seekers from Horn of Africa) in transit countries such as Sudan and Egypt. It is also possible that Eritrean refugees/migrants are biding time in transit refugee camps and urban centres in the region.</p> <p>Drought concerns in Eritrea: Humanitarian agencies have raised concern about ravaging drought which at the beginning of the year was reportedly affecting half of all Eritrea. Even though there is insufficient information about the current drought situation in the country (compared to other neighbouring countries), according to UNHCR, more than 3,490 Eritrean nationals were registered in Ethiopia during the month of March 2017, possibly displaced by drought. Other reports indicate that more than 4,500 Eritreans arrived in Ethiopia at the beginning of 2017 in urgent need of</p>

	humanitarian assistance.
Kenya	<p>Refugees in Kenya: As of 30th April 2017, there were 486,150 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (a very minor increase compared to last month), including refugees from Somalia (306,321), South Sudan (97,147), DR Congo (29,654), Ethiopia (27,504), Sudan (9,746) and other nationalities. The majority of refugees live in refugee camps across the country (418,883), while 67,267 refugees reside in Nairobi.</p> <p>Voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees: As of 5th May 2017, a total of 24,193 Somali refugees had been supported to return to various locations within Somalia since the beginning of 2017. Since the voluntary return programme began in 2014, a total of 64,083 Somali refugees have returned to Somalia with majority returning to Kismayu (63%), Mogadishu (17%), Baidoa (15%) and Luuq (5%).</p>
Other regional news and news from other regions	<p>EU approves €59 million to support peace, stability and job creation in the Horn of Africa: On 28th April 2017, the EU announced four new actions worth €59 million under the EU Trust Fund, aimed at improving stability and addressing the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement in the Horn of Africa region. The target countries include Kenya (support to counter violent extremism), Sudan (support to strengthen rural livelihoods), and all Horn of Africa countries (support to peacebuilding and security including countering transnational organized crime such as trafficking and smuggling). A statement by the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, noted that the new actions will help to “address instability and lack of economic opportunities, the two main root causes of forced displacement in the Horn of Africa [and help] create alternatives for people to improve their lives to ensure that migration can become a choice for people and not a necessity.” This latest funding builds on previous packages of actions worth €606 million committed (in separate tranches) under the EU Trust Fund since December 2015 aimed at providing long-term sustainable solutions to irregular migration and forced displacement in the region.</p> <p>South Africa to lift visa requirements for African citizens: South Africa is reportedly putting in place measures that will see citizens of African countries allowed visa-free entry into the country. At first, only “trusted travellers” like diplomats, officials, academics, business people and students will be considered as the country works out the visa-free regime. In mid-2016, South Africa launched a Green Paper on International Migration aimed at reforming the country’s immigration policy. The (now) White Paper has reportedly been adopted by the Cabinet and is expected to form part of South Africa’s immigration legislation by 2018. South Africa is a major destination country for migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa (mainly Ethiopians and Somalis). Latest RMMS estimates indicate that between 13,400 and 14,050 migrants/asylum seekers from the Horn entered South Africa annually in 2015 and 2016.</p> <p>Libya could relapse into conflict, Secretary General’s Special Representative warns: The UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative and Head of UNSMIL, Martin Kobler, has warned that the situation in Libya could relapse into wide-spread conflict citing the volatility and human rights situation in the country. Addressing the UN Security Council, Mr. Kobler urged all armed actors to exercise restraint, to uphold their duties under international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to protect civilians. The Representative reiterated the importance of an inclusive political solution to end divisions over Libya’s Political Agreement, urging the international community to move beyond a containment approach and the fight against terrorism and migration, which alongside border security, “were symptoms rather than root causes of the conflict in Libya.”</p> <p>Developments in Libya: In April, the UN Migration Agency reported that migrants were being bought and sold openly in modern-day slave markets in Libya – in addition to previous reports of violence, extortion and slave labour that migrants and asylum seekers faced in the country. Kidnapped migrants are being sold from between USD 200 to USD 500 according to survivors assisted by the agency. In response to reports about the dire conditions migrants and asylum seekers face in Libya, the European Commission on 12 April 2017, approved a €90 million programme under the EUTF to step up the protection of migrants and reinforce migration management in Libya. Planned activities under the programme include reducing the number of crossings and saving lives at sea, protecting migrants and stepping up the fight against migrant smugglers and human traffickers.</p> <p>In contrast to these developments, leaked confidential assessments accessed by some EU officials reveal that Libya’s UN-backed government had no clear plan to help counter or stop the flows of migrants and asylum seekers reaching Europe’s shores. The officials noted that the newly trained Libyan coastguards lacked a strategy on how/where to intercept people smugglers citing a confused request for equipment to patrol its shores. A statement from the</p>

Commission acknowledged Libya's request for equipment noting that it (the request) was "currently being assessed."

In latest efforts aimed at curbing the influx of migrants and asylum seekers, Germany and Italy have [reportedly requested for a joint EU mission](#) to patrol Libya's southern border with Niger to stop migrants from reaching Libya's shores and attempting the dangerous sea crossings to Europe. "The goal is as quickly as possible to build up an EU mission on the border between Libya and Niger," Interior Ministers from Germany and Italy said. The two countries noted that current efforts to curb the influx of migrants were insufficient and that the pace of migrants' crossings was expected to surge as the weather improves.

Italy passes new law asylum law: In April 2017, the Italian parliament [approved new asylum rules](#) aimed at accelerating asylum procedures and expediting the deportation of rejected asylum seekers following a surge in the number migrants and asylum seekers arriving in the country. Italy is one of the frontline EU States where the ["hotspot approach"](#) was established under the EU law to help identify, register and fingerprint incoming migrants with the aim of facilitating the relocation [to other EU Member States] of people in need of international protection, and return of irregular migrants. Under the new asylum rules, the asylum decisions can be appealed only once instead of twice and the request has to be submitted within a month. The new rules also establishes 26 new sections in courts across the country that are specialized in immigration. Human rights groups have expressed concern over the new asylum rules stating that the new procedures could be ["unconstitutional and discriminatory"](#) as they could lead to a limitation of migrant rights.

European Court of Auditors reviews EU's "hotspot approach": The European Court of Auditors released its [findings of EU's response to the refugee crisis](#) through the "hotspot approach" on 25th April 2017. The auditors found out that the approach had helped to significantly improve the registration, identification and security checking of migrants in Italy and Greece despite challenging circumstances such as inadequate reception facilities and slow asylum procedures. Thousands of migrants continue to be stranded in the frontline States upon arrival. Based on these findings, the auditors made a number of recommendations to help improve EU's response.

Mediterranean Sea arrivals: A total of 14,097 migrants and asylum seekers arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean Sea in April 2017, representing a 5% increase on figures recorded in March 2017 (13,378). 92% of these flows (or 12,901 people) were recorded along the Central Mediterranean route from North Africa to Italy. Between January and April 2017, 37,193 migrants and asylum seekers were recorded on this route, a 33% increase compared to arrival figures recorded in the same period in 2016 (27,926). However, arrivals from the Horn of Africa along the Central Mediterranean route reduced significantly during the [first quarter of 2017](#), far below typical figures reported in 2016. A total of 1,419 migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa including, 548 Somalis, 530 Eritreans, 277 Sudanese and 64 Ethiopians, arrived in Italy between January and March 2017, a 55% decrease on arrival figures recorded in the same period in 2016 (3,179) while if the current trend of arrivals in Italy continues, 2017 will be a record year with an estimated 250,000 arrivals (compared the previous record of 181,000) mainly caused by high numbers of migrants from West African countries and [Bangladesh](#). The [RMMS first quarter of 2017 trend analysis](#) as well as a [feature article](#) on the relation between drought and international migration explore some potential causes for the reduced number of arrivals from the Horn of Africa.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees on spike in Mediterranean crossings: Following the surge in the number of migrants and asylum seekers being rescued in the Mediterranean Sea, [UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi](#), has called for enhanced efforts to save lives along the dangerous route noting that it is a "matter of life or death which appeals to our most basic sense of humanity and should not be called into question." Taking note of the grave abuses suffered by migrants and asylum seekers at the hand of smugglers and traffickers, Mr. Grandi appealed for urgent action to address the root causes which drive people to migrate, as well as alternatives to the dangerous crossings including accessible and safe ways to reach Europe such as family reunification, relocation and resettlement. The statement by the UN High Commissioner follows earlier statement by the [Austrian Interior Minister, Wolfgang Sobotka](#), calling for the immediate closure of the Mediterranean route as "the only way to end the tragic and senseless dying in the Mediterranean."

Migrant deaths: IOM estimates indicate that there were at least 345 migrant deaths (including maritime and overland) that occurred in the process of migrating in April 2017. The Central Mediterranean route, linking North Africa with Europe via Italy, continues to be the most deadly maritime route, accounting for 80% (or 275) of all recorded deaths in April 2017. Migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa, as well as West Africa, have traditionally used this route to enter Europe.

Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries: The political situation in Burundi continues to displace Burundian nationals into neighbouring countries. Latest figures from UNHCR indicate that there were 413,600 Burundian

	<p>refugees and asylum seekers hosted in neighbouring countries. The majority of the refugees are hosted in Tanzania (57.4%), Rwanda (20.7%), Uganda (10.8%), DRC (8.7%) with smaller numbers in Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia and Malawi. UNHCR has expressed concern over the political violence in the country indicating that the number of Burundians fleeing the country is expected to reach 500,000 in 2017. The UN refugee agency has called on neighbouring countries to allocate more land for existing refugee camps or for building new ones to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers are provided with sufficient shelter and lifesaving services in the camps.</p>
<p>New Research, reports or documents</p>	<p>Regional Mixed Migration in East Africa and Yemen in 2017: 1st Quarter trend summary and analysis: This report by RMMS provides a trend analysis of mixed migration flows within, from and to East Africa and Yemen in the first quarter of 2017. The report finds that mixed migration flows in the region continued to be affected by a number of complex dynamics, including conflict, drought, and economic reasons among others. Migrants and asylum seekers continued to be at a significant risk of harm, ranging from abduction, physical abuse and death on land and at sea. Policy considerations remained focused on limiting irregular migration, particularly to Europe.</p> <p>Regional Mixed Migration in East Africa and Yemen in 2016: End of year trend summary and analysis: This report by RMMS provides a trend analysis and summary of mixed migration landscape within, to and from East Africa and Yemen region in 2016. The report finds that a combination of ongoing and renewed conflict, persecution, endemic poverty, drought and weak protection space contributed to complex population movements throughout the year. Policy debates on mixed migration during the year were dominated by the arrival of migrants and asylum seekers in Europe and efforts to curb the flows.</p> <p>Mass Deportations Looming: Saudi Arabia gears up to expel millions of migrants...again: This feature article by RMMS explores the current drive by the Saudi government to expel undocumented foreigners and compares the situation of the previous campaign and mass deportations in 2013/14 with the current context, with a particular focus on how Ethiopian migrant workers will be affected. The article notes that the planned mass deportations come at a time when origin countries in the Horn of Africa region are currently facing major challenges including conflict in Yemen and drought in Ethiopia and Somalia.</p> <p>Drought: A contributing or limiting factor in migration? This latest feature article by RMMS explores the current drought situation in the Horn of Africa region and its implication, as a contributing or limiting factor, to migration. The article argues that while drought conditions in the region has increased population movements, its impact on migration is limited to displacement within countries (internal displacement) or just across borders within the region only, while having an opposite effect on movements further afield, resulting in reduced international migration along traditional routes out of the region.</p> <p>Mixed migration updates and reports from other regions: Mixed Migration Platform (MMP) monthly summaries, feature articles and new research reports on mixed migration issues in the Middle East are accessible here. RMMS West Africa summaries are available here. 4Mi (Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism initiative) reports from the Central Asia and Southwest Asia region are available here.</p> <p>A child is a child: Protecting children on the move from violence, abuse and exploitation: This new report by UNICEF presents a global snapshot of refugee and migrant children, the motivations behind their journeys and the protection risks they face along migration routes. At least 300,000 unaccompanied and separated children have been recorded in 80 countries in 2015 and 2016, up from 66,000 in 2010 and 2011. The report calls on governments to adopt a six-point agenda for action to protect refugee and migrant children and ensure their wellbeing. The report used data and information from over 3,500 migrant interviews collected as part of the RMMS Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism initiative (4Mi) as well as previous RMMS and Save the Children research on children on the move within and from East Africa.</p> <p>The Refugee Explosion: How Europe treats refugees fleeing explosive violence: This new report by Action on Armed Violence (AOAV) sets out to examine the links between explosive violence and the mass influx of refugees into Europe, as well as to look at the impact this had had on EU States. Explosive violence refers to the use of explosive weapons such as bombs, missiles, IEDs, in armed violence. The report further seeks to understand what protection and support in Europe is offered to those particularly fleeing explosive violence. Three case study countries, Germany, the UK and Greece, are explored in detail.</p> <p>Migration and Remittances: Recent developments and outlook: This brief by the World Bank provides an update on worldwide remittance flows and the global migration crisis. It focuses on two Sustainable Development Goal</p>

indicators: reducing remittance costs and reducing recruitment costs for low-skilled migrants. The brief also reports on progress in the preparation of the global compacts, with an expanded discussion of the Global Compact on Migration. In relation to Sub-Saharan Africa, the reports notes that remittance flows declined in by 6.1% in 2016 to reach \$33billion due to factors such as slow economic growth in remittance-sending countries and a slump in commodity prices. Due to the tightening of immigration laws in many high-income countries, SSA countries could see more returnee flows and lower refugee and migrant admissions in host countries in the near future.

A Comparative Thematic Mapping of Global Migration Initiatives: This report commissioned by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), seeks to review issues, themes and recommendations made by previous global migration initiatives and critically analyse areas of convergence and key tension points over time. The report achieves this by mapping the global migration initiatives along three main thematic clusters a) minimizing the negative aspects of migration by addressing the drivers and consequences of forced and irregular migration, and combating smuggling and trafficking; b) acknowledging and strengthening the positive effects of migration; and c) protecting migrants' rights and ensuring their well-being.

Crossing the Mediterranean Sea by boat: Mapping and documents migratory journeys and experiences: This report by Warwick University provides a unique, in-depth analysis of the impact of EU policies in addressing the European migration or refugee 'crisis' in 2015 and 2016. Based on in-depth interviews and analysis from seven sites, the report provides previously unconsidered insights into the effects of policy on the journeys, experiences, understandings, expectations, concerns and demands of people on the move. With the aim of informing policy development, the report concludes by proposing a set of policies associated with A European Agenda on Migration. These include, alternatives to deterrent approach, sufficient safe and legal routes to EU, investments in reception facilities, halting policies that violate access to rights and advancement of accurate and rights-oriented information campaigns.

Danish Refugee Council establishes the Global Mixed Migration Secretariat (GMMS): After 5 years of the RMMS in the East Africa and Yemen region and the emergence of other RMMS and similar entities in other regions, in March 2017 the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) established the Global Mixed Migration Secretariat (GMMS) based in Geneva. This new office, starting with 4 initial positions, aims to offer coordination and strategic guidance to existing and emerging RMMS entities globally, while also serving to articulate DRC's mixed migration policy and enhance protection operations and advocacy for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants on the move globally. Direct contact with the GMMS can be made through its coordinator at geneva.representative@drc.dk and the Global Specialist Lead on Mixed Migration at chris.horwood@regionalmms.org.

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.