



Regional mixed migration summary for May 2013 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/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, refugees). If the case load mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country	Events /trends/ data / analysis
<p>Djibouti</p>	<p>New Arrivals: In May 2013, an estimated 5,091 migrants/refugees arrived on Yemen’s shores via Djibouti, a 9% increase from April 2013 and a 20% decrease from May 2012. 85% of the new arrivals were Ethiopians while the rest were Somali.</p> <p>Boats: A total of 76 vessels left via the Red Sea for Yemen carrying an average of 66 passengers per trip in the month of May.</p> <p>Campaigns against smuggling: Djiboutian authorities continued to crack down on smuggling activities in May. A number of migrants/refugees reported an increase in security personnel at the Obock departure point. As a result, smugglers have adopted by identifying new departure points in Obock that are closer to the border with Eritrea.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: New departure points identified by smugglers as a result of security official’s crackdown on smuggling activity in Djibouti may be exposing migrants/refugees to further abuse. Migrants/refugees are compelled by smugglers to move every 6 hours to avoid detection by security forces. The new departure points are relatively isolated and as a result migrants/refugees are in danger of starvation. Women migrants/refugees continue to report rape and attempted rape attempts on the sea journey enroute to Yemen from Obock.</p>
<p>Somaliland</p>	<p>Somaliland youth irregular movement to Libya: It was reported in May that newly established networks are assisting students from Somaliland to irregularly migrate to Libya through Ethiopia and Sudan. Somaliland has a high unemployment rate especially among school leavers and university graduates. This group has been migrating to Libya with the hope of bettering their economic circumstances in Europe. Youth entering Libya face the risk of abduction and torture for ransom. It was reported that 6 Somaliland youth died as a result of starvation in May between the border of Sudan and Libya.</p> <p>Response: IOM in coordination with the Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and the Ministry of Interior, Somaliland assisted 42 Ethiopian migrants to return home from Hargeisa. Many of the returnees were sick or had been abused by smugglers and/or traffickers.</p>
<p>Eritrea (Sudan/ South Sudan)</p>	<p>Eritrean and Sudanese migrants/refugees in Israel: It was reported that Israel reached an agreement with an unidentified country most likely in East Africa to absorb migrants/refugees within its borders. According to reports, the plan to move migrants/refugees to a third country was revealed during a supreme court hearing challenging an amendment to the Prevention of Infiltration Act made in January 2012. The 2012 amendment was criticized for labelling migrants/refugees, many with asylum claims, as ‘infiltrators’, and authorising their automatic deportation and detention for 3 years in violation of Israel’s constitutional guarantees and international obligations.</p> <p>Israeli officials declined to comment on the issue but were ordered by the court to reveal details of the proposed plan to move migrants/refugees to a third country, as well as the name of the proposed country. Authorities subsequently confirmed the arrangement but declined to name the third country. Migrant rights advocates accuse the government of using the proposed arrangement as a justification for keeping migrants/refugees in prolonged detention. Similar claims emerged in 2011 regarding arrangements by Israel to move migrants/refugees, to a third country. In the first quarter of 2013, Israel was accused of returning over 1000 Sudanese migrants/refugees</p>

	<p>to Sudan where they were likely to face persecution. The figure of returned Sudanese has been subsequently reported to be as high as 2100. An estimated 2,000 migrants/refugees mainly Eritreans and Sudanese are held in detention in Israel.</p> <p>Refugees flee conflict in Jonglei State, South Sudan: Reports indicate that since the beginning of the year 5,397 south sudanese refugees have been registered at the Kakuma refugee camp in the northwest of Kenya. It was reported that the number of new arrivals in 2013 is significant because it equals the total number that arrived in 2012 and is more than double the number that arrived in 2011 or 2010. An estimated 2,700 refugees have arrived in Uganda since January following fighting in Jonglei State, South Sudan. Women and children constitute a majority of the new arrivals. Fighting between government forces and armed troops in Jonglei State has led to the displacement of thousands since March. Nearly all of the 148,000 residents of Pibor county have been affected by the fighting and have fled to remote areas that are difficult to access. Between February 2012 and February 2013 an estimated 16,000 refugees/asylum seekers arrived in Ethiopia following fighting in Pibor county.</p> <p>Unaccompanied Children and Adolescents: A May 2013 research report by the Women Refugee Commission titled 'Young and Astray...' revealed that Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) as young as 10 years of age, have been fleeing from Eritrea for Ethiopia, Sudan and beyond. The youth flee for a combination of reasons including unemployment, family reunification, lack of education, fear of military conscription and the desire for resettlement. The report notes that an alarming number of minors have been travelling without parental supervision over the past 5 years. Approximately 2000 youth live in established UASC care facilities in Mai-Aini camp northern Ethiopia and Shagarab camp eastern Sudan at any given time. The population in these camps is however transient in nature and the children ordinarily move on to unknown locations within months of arrival. The care facilities were established by the governments of Ethiopia and Sudan with support from UNHCR.</p>
<p>Ethiopia</p>	<p>New Arrivals: An estimated 5,174 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in May 2013. In total, 35,269 Ethiopian migrants/refugees have crossed into Yemen since January 2013. Ethiopian nationals travelled by road on trucks from Wallo, Arsi, Jimma, Hararge and Dire Dawa and crossed into Djiboutii at the Dawelle border point. Ethiopian migrants/refugees still have Saudi Arabia in mind as their final destination despite stricter border control by the Saudi government. The Saudi government is building a fence between its borders with Yemen and has recently introduced tougher restrictions for labour migrants.</p> <p>Refugees and asylum seekers: As at 31 May 2013, Ethiopia was host to 404, 430 registered refugees and asylum seekers, 7,009 more than it hosted in April 2013. Dollo Ado refugee camp in south eastern Ethiopia bordering Somalia currently hosts 195, 701 refugees and asylum seekers 1,612 more than in April 2013.</p> <p>Ethiopia acts to stem irregular migration flows: Authorities in Ethiopia mounted checks at bus stations in Dire Dawa in an attempt to curb movement to Dawalle, a well-documented transit point to Djibouti. Passengers travelling to Dawalle were required to obtain consent from the local authorities or show identification to evidence that they are returning to their area of origin. In related attempts to curb irregular movement, Ethiopia and Sudanese authorities from 4 bordering states met in the northern Ethiopian city of Gonda to discuss issues aimed at enhancing multilateral cross border cooperation, and criminal activity such as human trafficking.</p> <p>Public forum held to prevent human trafficking: It was reported that the Prime Minister of Ethiopia addressed a public forum to prevent human trafficking and called on the National Movement against Human Trafficking to reinforce its efforts in ending the vice. The Prime Minister is reported as citing various challenges in the fight against human trafficking including controlling the flow of citizens to neighbouring countries and the middle east, poverty, and illegal brokers engaged in the smuggling business. The public forum was attended by over 4,500 officials including federal and regional government bodies, and religious organisations.</p> <p>Modalities of Travel: Following attempts by the Ethiopian government to curb the irregular flow of Ethiopian migrants/refugees to Djibouti, a number of Ethiopians travelled on foot through a mountainous region with the aid of brokers/smugglers. The broker/smuggler fees were amounts upwards of USD 481 for the journey to Djibouti. Some Ethiopians travelled on foot for 2 to 6 days, from Dawelle to Tadjoura before prior to reaching Oboc</p>

Kenya	<p>High Court judgement on encampment of urban refugees expected at the end of June: Final judgement is expected at the end of June. Reception and registration of refugees is yet to resume in urban areas. It is hoped that the judgement will provide some clarity on how to proceed with the urban refugee programme.</p> <p>Refugees and Asylum seekers in Kenya: Kenya is hosting 596,111 , refugees and assylum seekers, 51,795 of them in Nairobi. The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (492,738), followed by South Sudanese (41,835), and Ethiopians (31,759).</p> <p>Refugee returns from Kenya: Reports indicate that the population in Dadaab refugee camp has reduced by 80,000. This was established during a recent verification exercise, according to an official from the Somali Embassy in Nairobi. The official claimed that the number may be indicative of Somalis that have spontaneously returned to Somalia from Kenya in recent months. According to statistics from OCHA, an estimated 18,000 refugees returned to Somalia from neighbouring countries including Kenya, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia and Yemen in the first 4 months of 2013.</p> <p>Resume registration of Somali refugees: It was reported that Amnesty international called on the Kenyan government to resume registration of refugees at the border suspended in October 2011, and in urban centres in accordance with its international obligations.</p> <p>Kenya and Somalia sign pact for refugee return: Kenya and Somalia signed a joint commission agreement to facilitate the return of Somali refugees. A representative from the Somalia Embassy in Nairobi highlighted that international support and burden sharing was required for the return of Somali refugees. The Presidents of Kenya and Somalia also agreed to establish a task force to prepare for a Nairobi conference on repatriation and return of refugees scheduled for August 2013. The United Nations (UN) Secretary General pledged the UNs support in relocating Somali refugees. The President of Somalia indicated '<i>...it is important for people in the country and across the world to know that some of the targets will not be achieved until mid-next year</i>'. East African leaders at an IGAD summit in May called for a '<i>sustainable and gradual return programme</i>' and urged UNHCR and the international community '<i>to develop modalities for safe and orderly return... with definite timelines</i>'.</p>
Puntland	<p>Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen: In May, 1,170 migrants/refugees crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen a 27% decrease from May 2012. Reports indicate that Puntland police continue to arrest and detain migrants/refugees at the Garowe check point.</p> <p>Mobile clinic for displaced opens in Puntland: IOM in collaboration with Puntlands Ministry of Health opened a mobile health clinic in May that will cater for an estimated 10,000 internally displace persons (IDPs) and the surrounding host community in Garowe. IOM reported that Garowes IDP population has grown rapidly in the past 7 years following an influx of Somalis fleeing conflict in South Central Somalia.</p>
Somalia (S-C)	<p>Somali movements to Yemen:An estimated 1,087 Somalis arrived on the Yemeni shores in May 2013. Somalis arriving in Yemen reported their point of origin as South and Central Somalia regions of Banadir and Lower Shabelle and belonged to the clan of Hawiye and Darod. A number of them had a high school education and/or a trade skill set. Somalis fleeing continue to cite the search for economic opportunities. A number of Somalis from Mogadishu and Juba Hoose cited insecurity as their reason for flight. Somali women cited increased incidences of rape by somali security forces as their reason for flight.</p> <p>Modalities of Travel: Somalis travelled by air from Mogadishu to Berbera at a cost of USD 450 which included the cost of travel to Yemen. Somalis also travelled by road in trucks through Hargesia.</p> <p>Migrant Vulnerability: Migrants/refugees that travelled by road reported being stopped at the Garowe check point but were subsequently allowed to proceed.</p>

	<p>IDP levels in Somalia remain approximately 1.1 million: The over 1.1 million displaced in Somalia are located mainly within the South Central region. In recent months displaced persons have moved mainly to Shabelle Dhexe, Banadir, Shabelle Hoose, Juba Hoose and Bay regions. An estimated 15,000 movements were reported within Somalia in April and 920 in the first half of May as a result of insecurity, floods, IDP evictions and cross border movements. An estimated 22,000 people were displaced in the first 4 months of 2013, and 3,315 IDPs have spontaneously returned to their places of origin in Lower Shabelle, Bay and Middle Shabelle regions since January 2013.</p> <p>Refugees and Asylum seekers: An estimated 11,000 Somalis have sought refuge in neighbouring countries since January 2013.</p>
<p>Yemen</p>	<p>New Arrivals: In May 2013, 6,261 migrants/refugees crossed into Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland), a 22% decrease from May 2012 and a 16% decrease from May 2011. Since 2011, new arrival figures have characteristically dropped at the beginning of April. In depth interviews with 10% of registered new arrivals from Somali revealed that 88% fled in search of economic opportunities, and due to lack of access to basic services and 9% fled in relation to security concerns. In depth interviews with new arrivals from Ethiopia revealed that 80% of those interviewed cited the search for economic opportunities and lack of access to basic services, while 17% indicated insecurity or fear of persecution as their reason for flight. A total of 316 Ethiopians, 264 men and 52 women were registered as asylum seekers in May 2013.</p> <p>Boats & passengers: There were a total of 90 migrant boat trips that arrived on the Yemeni coast in May 2013. The average number of passengers on each boat was 69 per trip (not including smugglers/crew).</p> <p>Assistance to stranded migrants/refugees following raids to release kidnapped migrants/refugees in Yemen: Security raids in Haradh, Yemen in April resulted in the release of an estimated 2,000 migrants/refugees, and 2,329 migrants were returned to Ethiopia by the Government of Yemen by the end of May. Concerns have been raised in Ethiopia regarding inadequate reception for returned migrants, and the voluntary nature of the returns. Humanitarian agencies have also suggested that the return of migrants was a quick deportation facilitated by an intergovernmental agreement between Yemen and Ethiopia. As a result, the return/deportation raises protection concerns for migrants that may have fled for fear of persecution. IOM has been providing detailed regular reports on these events in recent weeks.</p> <p>Women and children were prioritised in the government airlift and it was reported that some children were separated from their parents who are still in Sanaa. By the end of May, Amran detention centre had been cleared of migrants, Al-Khaimah had 47, Taiz 346 and Dhamar had 250 migrants. It is anticipated that as soon as the facilities are cleared military operations targeting smugglers camps will resume resulting in the release of additional migrants/refugees.</p> <p>A (government) estimate of 25,000 migrants/refugees are stranded and destitute in Haradh at any one time following failed attempts to cross the border into or expulsion from Saudi Arabia. Registration in Haradh revealed that 2,400 migrants/refugees travelled from the southern shore of Yemen in the first four months of 2013 while 2,267 migrants/refugees were expelled from Saudi Arabia during the same period. Thousands of migrants/refugees particularly women and girls remain unaccounted for every month between the southern shore where they first land and the city of Haradh. In Aden, migrants/refugees residing in a al Basaateen mosque were expelled perhaps due to an increase in numbers seeking shelter at the mosque. Many of the migrants/refugees relocated to Ol Orood square where they received food assistance. The Yemen migration office was contacted with a view of sheltering the migrants/refugees in a facility in Sanaa. IOM, MSF, DRC and YRC continue to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants/refugees stranded in Yemen.</p> <p>Migrant vulnerability: In an attempt to avoid abduction on arrival at the Yemeni coast, some Ethiopians are throwing themselves overboard as their vessel approaches the coast. They remain hidden at sea until smugglers and criminal gangs have departed from the coast. Female migrants/refugees also reported throwing themselves overboard as their vessel neared the coast to avoid rape by smugglers and criminal gangs. Smugglers continue to force migrants/refugees into the sea as they approach the Yemeni coast in an attempt to evade security forces. It was reported that a Somali woman may have drowned in May as a result. In May there was a marked increase in forced landings from the 37 recorded in April to 280 recorded in May. Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) cases increased to 68 in May from the 49 recorded in April. There were fewer recorded</p>

	<p>abductions. In April 3,774 abductions were reported while 2,810 were reported in May 2013. Three fatalities of Ethiopian nationals were recorded in May; two were shot while trying to escape, while 1 was tortured and buried alive as a means of intimidating other abductees.</p> <p>Yemeni military and community members collaborate to combat smuggling: In May, all the smuggling vessels landed at the Taiz coast of Yemen, there were no landings in Lahj due to community action. Previously most landings took place in the southern governorate of Lahj. There was also a noted major decrease in registrations at Ahwar, in favour of Mayfa'a. The Yemeni military continued with their efforts to curb human smuggling and trafficking along that coast. It was reported that a number of smuggling vessels were intercepted either at sea or at the point of disembarkation. Once authorities have intercepted a vessel, Somali migrants/refugees are often released while their Ethiopians counterparts are arrested, and transported to the Taiz prison to await deportation.</p>
<p>Other Regional news</p>	<p>Somali immigrant stoned to death: At the end of May, it was reported that a 25 year old Somali business man was stoned to death in Port Elizabeth, South Africa while trying to protect his shop from looters. A handful of attacks against Somali businessmen in the country have been reported over the last couple of weeks. The situation is reminiscent of the 2008 xenophobic attacks against foreign African nationals in South Africa.</p> <p>Malawi to export 100,000 migrant workers to South Korea: It was reported that the Government of Malawi negotiated a labour export agreement with the Government of South Korea to export 100,000 young people aged between 18 and 25 years to work in factories and farms. Groups opposed to the agreement have termed it a form of modern day slavery, while an entrepreneurial consultant in Malawi has said that the agreement could have been better negotiated. The Government of Malawi has however maintained that they acted in good faith, to create employment opportunities for the youth.</p> <p>Over 9 million displaced in the East African region: UNOCHA Eastern Africa Displaced Populations Report indicates that approximately 9.15 million people are displaced in the east African region. Among the displaced persons 2 million are refugees and 7.1 million are internally displaced persons (IDPs). DRC, Somalia and Sudan host the largest number of IDPs at 2.59, 1.11 and 2.50 million people respectively. Since the onset of the March-May rainy season, OCHA reported that 225,000 people have been displaced from their homes as a result of flash flooding and landslides across the East African region. The most affected countries were Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda and to a lesser extent Tanzania, Uganda and Burundi.</p> <p>Human rights based approach urged in addressing migration: The special rapporteur on human rights reporting to the Human Rights Council, 23rd session in Geneva stressed that Migration Policy in the European Union must incorporate human rights based approach as opposed to focusing mainly on security concerns. The rapporteur stated that <i>“Within EU institutional and policy structures, migration and border control have been increasingly integrated into security frameworks that emphasize policing, defence and criminality over a rights-based approach.”</i> The rapporteur discouraged detention of migrants/refugees which has shown no evidence of deterrence, and urged the opening up of more regular channels of migration that reflect the labour needs of the EU. Border control has been externalized, leaving departure and transit countries with the responsibility of halting irregular migration. The rapporteur however noted that <i>‘the EU must share this responsibility among its Member States’</i>.</p>

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