

Laying of the foundation stone of the recycling plant in Obock by the Prime Minister.

Signature of a partnership agreement granting an additional 2 million euros with the European Union.

677 migrants received emergency assistance through the IOM mobile unit in the Obock region.

16 refugees benefited from resettlement programmes to Canada, Sweden and the United States of America.

Renewal of the partnership agreement with the World Food Program (WFP).



The Prime Minister, accompanied by the delegation, lays the foundation stone of the recycling plant in Obock © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

The Prime Minister, accompanied by a delegation composed of members of the government, local authorities and IOM Chief of Mission, laid the foundation stone of the recycling plant in Obock. A ceremony to donate a garbage truck to Obock city was presided over by the Ministers of Interior and Decentralization. In the company of the Prime Minister, IOM distributed solar lamps to vulnerable families in the locality of Fantehrou and trees

cultivated at the Obock's MRC were planted in the locality of Assasan, in the north of Obock.

A partnership agreement was signed between IOM and the European Union for an additional funding of 2 million euros. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, IOM launched the distribution of mosquito nets in the capital's neighborhoods. IOM renewed its partnership agreement with the

World Food Programme (WFP) for 2022.

A new mobile patrol operating in the Tadjourah area and along the Lac Assal corridor has been established to provide life-saving assistance (water, food and emergency medical aid) to vulnerable migrants. Jointly with the local authorities, IOM conducted distributions of Non-Food Items (NFIs) and mosquito nets in the regions.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In February, 15,242 movements were observed by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) at key transit points in Djibouti, for a daily average of 544 movements. Migration flows increased by +8 percent compared to January 2022. This can be explained by the fact that many migrants prefer to travel near or during the month of Ramadan, when border controls are less strict and deportations less frequent. Thus, movements between Djibouti and Ethiopia increased significantly compared to the previous month, with a total of 8,866 entries (+14%), while the number of exits observed at 817 decreased (-6%). In 2021, more than 79,322 Ethiopian migrants have entered Djibouti. In addition, since the beginning of this year until February, this figure rises to 16,667 migrants. Of the 15,242 movements recorded through Djibouti in February, 16% were in Obock, in the coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula along the Eastern Route. On this route, spontaneous returns

of Ethiopian migrants from Yemen continue to be observed. In 2021, more than 10,500 returns from Yemen were tracked. While these movements had been steadily declining since August 2021, they increased by a factor of 2.5 in January 2022 (452 returns) and reached 590 in February 2022, despite the resumption (during this month) of Voluntary Humanitarian Return Flights organized by IOM Yemen. These spontaneous returns are also due to the slow pace of assisted voluntary return procedures and deteriorating living conditions in Yemen that push migrants to return home. In addition, some Ethiopian migrants transiting through Djibouti remain stranded there due to lack of resources to continue their journey. A total of 586 people were stranded in informal sites in the regions of Tadjourah (41%), Obock (39%) and Ali-Sabieh (20%).

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DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

In February, IOM continued to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from the Arabian Peninsula. Since the beginning of February, IOM has stepped up its assistance to the most vulnerable migrants through the establishment of a new mobile patrol operating in the Tadjourah area and along the Lake Assal corridor. As a result of the mobile unit's interventions, 677 migrants (624 men and 18 women) including 35 children received water, food, and medical assistance.



Mobile patrol assists migrants in the Tadjourah area © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

At the Obock's Migration Response Center (MRC), 200 vulnerable migrants (144 men, 17 women) including 39 minors (29 boys and 10 girls) were provided with food, water, NFIs, and medical and psychosocial support. IOM continues to assist migrants staying at the center as well as those in transit to Ethiopia, with funding from the European Union



RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

After being suspended due to the security situation in the country and the state of emergency declared since November 2, 2021, the Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) program to Ethiopia resumed during this month. IOM teams assisted 10 refugees (7 women, 3 men) to be resettled to Sweden. In addition, the departure of 5 refugees (3 men and 2 women) to Canada was arranged through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program. Under the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), IOM facilitated the departure of one person with refugee status to the United States. The beneficiaries of these projects were able to benefit from training on the culture and

customs of the host country before their departure in order to facilitate their integration.



EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

On February 3, 2022, the Prime Minister H.E.M. Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed laid the foundation stone of the recycling plant to be built in Obock by IOM. This plant will recycle the city's used plastic and transform it into paving stones and cinder blocks. The Minister of the Interior and Decentralization also presided over the donation ceremony of the garbage truck offered by IOM to the city of Obock.

The prefect of Obock, the president of the regional council and IOM Chief of mission attended the ceremony.



Donation of the garbage truck to the Prefecture of Obock © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

In the company of the Prime Minister and the delegation, IOM distributed solar lamps to 300 vulnerable families in the locality of Fantaherou. The day ended with a distribution of trees in the locality of Assasan. The planted trees were grown in the greenhouse of the IOM's Migration Response Center (COAM) in Obock. These activities are implemented within the framework of the project, "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory" funded by the European Union and the Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) project, funded by IOM Development Fund.

On February 14, 2022, the European Union Trust Fund granted an additional €2 million to IOM Djibouti under the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory"



Signature of additional funding agreement between IOM and the European Union at © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/Abdallah Bourhan.

This funding will enable IOM to support the Djibouti government in managing migration issues and to better assist migrants, refugees and vulnerable populations in need. The signing ceremony of the new agreement took place in the presence of the ambassadors of the European Union, France, Germany and IOM Chief of Mission in Djibouti.

IOM and the World Food Programme (WFP) have renewed their partnership agreement for the year 2022.



IOM Chief of Mission Ms. Stephanie Daviot and WFP representative Ms. Mary Njoroge sign the partnership renewal agreement for the year 2022 © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/Abdallah Bourhan

Through this agreement, WFP will provide food to vulnerable migrants crossing Djibouti along the "Eastern Route" between the Horn of Africa and Yemen and particularly for those hosted at the Migration Response Center (MRC) and informal sites along the corridor.

On February 7, 2022, the Minister of Health and IOM Chief of Mission launched the distribution ceremony of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) in Arhiba and Quartier 7.

During the week, 5,000 mosquito nets were distributed to vulnerable populations living in these neighborhoods of Djibouti City.



Launch of the distribution of mosquito nets in the polyclinic of Arhiba © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/Abdallah Bourhan.

These actions of sensitization are funded by the European Union within the framework of the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory".

In collaboration with the local authorities of Tadjourah, Dikhil and Ali Sabieh, IOM organized distributions of non-food items to migrants and vulnerable communities in these areas. In Tadjourah, 175 migrants and 75 vulnerable people from the host community benefited from this assistance. In addition, to limit the spread of malaria, 50 migrants and 50 people from the host community received long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets. In the region of Ali Sabieh, 106 vulnerable migrants stranded mainly due to lack of resources to continue their journey benefited from this assistance, along with 26 vulnerable people from the host community. In Dikhil, 203 vulnerable migrants and 47 vulnerable people from the host community received assistance.



Distribution of non-food items for migrants and vulnerable communities in the Ali-Sabieh region © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

These activities are organized within the framework of the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory" financed by the European Union.

The distributions were accompanied by awareness sessions on barrier measures against COVID19, malaria prevention measures and services offered by IOM at the Migration Response Center (MRC) in Obock.

The Directorate of Priority Health Programs (DPSP) of the Ministry of Health organized, in collaboration with IOM, a 5-day training workshop on HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis for young CARITAS beneficiaries. This training aimed to combat preconceived notions and inform on the measures to adopt in order to prevent the



CARITAS youth beneficiaries carefully follow the training on HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

transmission of these two diseases. This activity is organized through the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory" funded by the European Union.



MIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

IOM Djibouti has trained members of the Prefecture and Regional Council of Obock, the sub-directorate of agriculture and the National Office of Water and Sanitation of Djibouti (ONEAD) on the theme of migration, environment and climate change. This training took place at the regional council of Obock. The main objective of this training was to present the major concepts and issues related to migration, environment and climate change and to motivate public decision makers to take adequate measures to assist people displaced by climate change.



Training of partners on migration, environment and climate change at the IOM Djibouti office © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

From February 2 to 3, 2022, 10 representatives from the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, the National Office for Assistance to Refugees and Disaster Victims (ONARS), the National Coordination Office for Migration and civil society organizations were also trained on the topic in Djibouti City. These activities are part of the implementation of the Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) project, financed by IOM Development Fund (IDF).