

Inauguration of the National School of Judicial Studies' library.

Distribution of food and non-food items for migrants and vulnerable communities in the southern regions.

1117 migrants received emergency assistance through IOM's mobile unit in the Obock region.

Writing workshops on migratory themes in collaboration with the Association Caravanes et Savoirs du Désert at the Maison des Contes et des Ecrivains.



IOM teams distribute non-food items to stranded vulnerable migrants © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

In the presence of the IOM Chief of Mission, Ms. Stephanie Daviot and the Director General of the National School of Judicial Studies (ENEJ), IOM officially inaugurated ENEJ's library. The inauguration ceremony was followed by a donation of training manuals and office equipment to enable students to increase their knowledge on migration topics.

In collaboration with local authorities in the southern regions of the country, IOM organized a distribution of food and non-food items for vulnerable migrants and host communities in Dikhil and Ali Sabieh.

In coordination with the Association Caravane et Savoirs du Désert, IOM organized a poetry writing workshop on migration thematic for 20 students at the Maison des Contes et des Ecrivains.

IOM donated a computer server to the Migration Unit of the Institute of Statistics of Djibouti (INSTAD) to contribute to the efficient management of migration data in Djibouti

During the month of July, the number of entries observed at the different transit points decreased by 10% compared to last month, from 22,363 entries from Ethiopia during June, to 20,214 entries during this month.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In July 2022, 20,214 movements were observed by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) at key transit points in Djibouti, for a daily average of 652 movements. Migration flows decreased by 10% compared to June 2022 (22,363 movements). It is important to emphasise that in July 2022, flows decreased compared to the levels observed during the pre-COVID-19 period (between March 2019 and March 2020, the daily average was 654).

In addition, movements from Ethiopia have also decreased significantly by 11% from the previous month, with a total of 14,327 entries in July. In 2022, a total of 80,141 migrants from Ethiopia entered Djibouti. However, exits to Ethiopia remained in the same proportions as the previous month with 693 exits (693 in June 2022). Of the 20,214 movements recorded in July 2022

through Djibouti, 12% were to 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. Since the beginning of 2022, 3,723 returns from Yemen have been tracked with a total of 300 in July 2022.

In addition, some Ethiopian migrants transiting through Djibouti remain stranded there due to lack of resources to continue their journey. Thus, 753 people are stranded in 7 informal sites in the regions of Dikhil (37%), Obock (37%) and Ali-Sabieh (26%).

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DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

In July, IOM teams in Obock continued to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from the Arabian Peninsula. Since the beginning of this month, through the mobile unit, 1,117 migrants (869 men, 144 women, and 104 minors) have received water, food, and emergency medical assistance along the desert coast of the Obock region. At the Obock's Migration Response Centre (MRC), 223 vulnerable migrants (139 men, 27 women) including 57 unaccompanied children (45 boys and 12 girls) received food, water, non-food items (NFI) assistance, and medical and psychosocial support.



IOM mobile team assists migrants returning from Yemen in the desert of Obock © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022.

With funding from the European Union (EU-IOM Joint Initiative, DG ECHO), IOM continues to meet the basic needs of migrants staying at the center and those who wish to return to their country of origin.



RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

Thanks to the support of the European Union within the framework of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa, 22 migrants were able to benefit from the Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) program to Ethiopia. This group of 15 men, 4 women including 3 unaccompanied and extremely vulnerable children were able to return to Ethiopia in an informed and voluntary manner. In addition, IOM teams facilitated the departure of a person with refugee status to Canada through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program. The beneficiary of this project benefited from pre-departure training on the culture and customs of the host country in order to facilitate his integration in the host country.



A group of migrants benefiting from the Assisted Voluntary Return program leave the MRC in Obock to reach the capital © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2021



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

During this month, in collaboration with the local authorities in Dikhil and Ali Sabieh, IOM organized a distribution of food and non-food items for vulnerable migrants and communities in these regions. A total of 125 vulnerable migrants and 24 host community members in Ali Sabieh and 204 vulnerable migrants and 30 local community members in Dikhil benefited from this assistance. The kits distributed contain essential items such as clothing, shoes, hygiene products, and energy cookies from the World Food Program (WFP). These activities are implemented within the framework of the projects "Direct Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants Transiting through the Migration Corridor in Djibouti" funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and "Durable Solutions for the Most Vulnerable Host Populations, Refugees and Migrants living in Djibouti Territory" funded by the European Union.



Vulnerable migrants stranded in the country receive assistance with non-food items © Photo: IOM Djibouti

Migrants hosted at the Obock's Migration Response Centre (MRC) celebrated Eid-el-Adha (the sacrificial feast), also called Eid-el-Kebir (the great feast), in a friendly atmosphere and around a coffee ceremony as per the Ethiopian tradition. The celebration of EID, which is a moment of joy and sharing, was also an opportunity to remind the importance of living together, accepting differences and supporting each other in order to overcome difficult migratory ordeals. The families residing in the center, accompanied by their children, benefited from this initiative to create strong links between community members.



Preparation of the coffee ceremony at the MRC in Obock on the occasion of the Eid celebration © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022



COORDINATION

On July 19, 2022, IOM donated a computer server to the Migration Unit of the Institut de la Statistique de Djibouti (INSTAD) to contribute to the efficient management of migration data in Djibouti.



Group photo on the occasion of the server donation with representatives of two organizations © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

In order to facilitate a coordinated management of migration governance in Djibouti, IOM continues to work in collaboration with the National Institute of Statistics of Djibouti through the Migration Unit and the Technical Working Group on Migration Data which brings together ministries, departments and agencies with migration statistics in Djibouti. This working group aims to revitalize the national coordination process on migration data and to serve as a platform for discussion and exchange to facilitate the production and sharing of evidence-based data on migration in Djibouti. This donation was made with financial support from the joint EU-IOM initiative for the protection and reintegration of migrants in the Horn of Africa.

IOM, in collaboration with the National Coordination Office for Migration, organized a workshop on 28 July 2022 to disseminate the national referral mechanism for vulnerable migrants to actors providing protection and assistance services to vulnerable migrants in the Arta region. The workshop was attended by representatives of local authorities, civil society organizations, law enforcement agencies, the national human rights commission, the National Office of Assistance to the Refugees and the Disaster victims (ONARS) and the medical-hospital staff working in these regions.



Group photo of participants at the presentation workshop of the national referral mechanism for migrants in Arta © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

This meeting allowed these actors to familiarize themselves with the referral process, to take stock of the services available in this region and to discuss the challenges and needs in terms of assistance and protection of migrants. This initiative was conducted thanks to the Better Migration Management (BMM II) program in Djibouti, which is co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and coordinated by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).



MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

The official inauguration of the National School of Judicial Studies' library took place on July 27, 2022, in the presence of the IOM Chief of Mission, Ms. Stephanie Daviot, and the Director General of ENEJ, Dr. Mag-Teerey Ibrahim Ahmed. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Affairs in charge of Human Rights, this school, created in July 2020, aims to train judicial auditors, court clerks, and any other profession related to the legal or judicial field (including lawyers, notaries, bailiffs, and judicial police officers).



After the inauguration of the library, the IOM Chief of Mission and the Director General of ENEJ sign the book donation agreement © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

Within the framework of the African Regional Migration Program, funded by the United States Office of Population, Refugees and Migration, IOM has donated training manuals and office equipment to the ENEJ library.

The establishment of this library, which now includes a section dedicated to books on migration and particularly on migrant law, will allow students to deepen their knowledge on migration topics.



AWARENESS RAISING OF THE RISKS AND DANGERS OF UNREGULAR MIGRATION

After having collected the stories of several migrants residing at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock and exposed these writings to French teachers last month, during the Short stories workshops, the authors of the Association Caravanes et Savoirs du Désert, organized, during this month, in collaboration with the IOM, a final 5-day writing workshop on poetry for twenty students who have recently graduated from the School of Excellence. This school is an institution that welcomes the best students from different public institutions in Djibouti. The texts produced recounted mostly the migratory journeys of individuals who have left their places of origin in search of a better life. They also expressed in verse and prose the difficulties they faced and the hope of a return to the homeland.



Poetry writing workshop at the House of Stories and Writers for high school students © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

The produced texts will be selected and published in a book to be edited and used as a means of raising awareness of the dangers and risks of irregular migration.

This activity was organized thanks to the financial support of the program "Joint EU-IOM Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa" funded by the European Union.