

Celebration of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons at the Migration Response Centre in Obock.

Distribution of food and Non-Food Items (NFIs) for migrants and vulnerable communities in the regions of the country.

130 vulnerable migrants benefited from the assisted voluntary return program to Ethiopia.

«Body mapping» workshop for IOM and CARITAS protection staff.



Celebration of the World Day against Trafficking at the Obock's MRC © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

On the occasion of the International Day against Human Trafficking, IOM organized a series of activities at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock. This day provided an opportunity for the MRC's staff to deepen their knowledge on this topic and to raise awareness among the migrants residing in the center.

In collaboration with the local authorities in the regions, IOM organized a distribution of food and Non-Food Items (NFIs) for vulnerable migrants and host communities in Dikhil, Ali Sabieh, Tadjourah and Obock.

Through the technical expertise of the Art2be (NGO) artist, IOM facilitated a "Bodymapping" workshop for a group of IOM and

CARITAS Djibouti professionals and vulnerable children hosted at CARITAS.

As part of its Assisted Voluntary Return program in Ethiopia, IOM was able to assist 130 extremely vulnerable migrants, hosted at the Obock's MRC, to return home voluntarily, safely and in an informed way.

During the month of August, the number of entries observed at the various transit points decreased by 5% compared to last month, from 20,214 entries from Ethiopia during July, to 19,163 entries during this month.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In August 2022, 19,163 movements were observed by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) at key transit points in Djibouti, for a daily average of 618 movements. Migration flows decreased by 5% compared to July 2022 (20,214 movements). Of these 19,163 movements, 2,883 (15%) were observed 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. Since the beginning of 2022, 3,989 returns from Yemen have been observed with a total of 266 in August 2022 representing an 11% decrease from July. In 2022, 94,164 migrants from Ethiopia returned to Djibouti. In August, a total of 14,023 arrivals from Ethiopia were recorded, a decrease of 2% compared to July 2022. This continued decline has been

observed since June of this year. This decrease may be due to increased insecurity in some areas of Ethiopia limiting migrants' access to the routes leading to Djibouti.

Similarly, outflows to Ethiopia fell drastically by 94% between July and August 2022 (693 movements in July compared to only 40 in August).

In addition, some Ethiopian migrants transiting through Djibouti remain stranded, due to lack of resources to continue their journey. Thus, 950 people (96% male and 4% female) were stranded in 7 informal sites in the regions of Tadjourah (34%), Obock (28%) and Dickil (27%), while 11% were transiting through Ali-Sabieh.

CONTACTS



DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

IOM provided shelter, water, food, non-food items, medical and psychosocial assistance to 317 vulnerable migrants consisting of 227 adults (196 men, 31 women) and 90 unaccompanied minors (76 boys and 14 girls) hosted at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock. Through the mobile patrol operating in the Obock's desert and the Tadjourah region, 147 vulnerable migrants (118 men, 12 women, and 17 children) received water, food, and emergency medical assistance along the desert coast of the Obock region.



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

IOM continues to meet the basic needs of migrants staying at the centre and those who wish to return to their country of origin with the financial support of the European Union (EU-IOM Joint Initiative, DG ECHO),



RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

During this month, among the migrants hosted at the Obock COAM, IOM assisted 130 vulnerable migrants to return safely, voluntarily, and in an informed way to Ethiopia. This group included 82 adults (73 men, 9 women) and 48 unaccompanied minors (76 boys, 14 girls). Upon their return to Ethiopia, they will receive tailored assistance to reintegrate and rebuild their lives in their home communities. These voluntary return activities are implemented under the « EU-IOM Joint Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa », funded by the European Union.



A group of migrants benefiting from the Assisted Voluntary Return program prepare to leave the Obock's MRC to Djibouti-City © Photo: IOM Djibouti



FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING

As part of the celebration of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, IOM organized a series of activities at the Migration Response Centre in Obock. The day started with a presentation on the topics related to human trafficking and smuggling of migrants to IOM staff members in Obock to enable them to better understand the causes and risk factors related to trafficking in persons



Obock's MRC staff attend a presentation on trafficking in Persons © Photo: IOM Djibouti.

A video testimony from victims of trafficking in the East African region was screened, which was followed by a group discussions held with the migrants hosted at the center. The main objective was to discuss both the complex subject of human trafficking and the dangers of irregular migration. Each year, IOM Djibouti marks this day to highlight the risks and consequences of human trafficking, and to emphasize the rights and protection of people in vulnerable situations in the country.

These activities are organized with financial support from the Joint EU-IOM Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa, funded by the European Union, and the Regional Migration Program for Africa, funded by the U.S. Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

During the month of August, in collaboration with local authorities in the regions, IOM organized a distribution of food and non-food items for vulnerable migrants and communities in the regions of Dikhil, Ali Sabieh, Tadjourah and Obock. A total of 661 (252 in Obock, 71 in Tadjourah, 101 in Ali-Sabieh and 237 in Dikhil) vulnerable migrants including host community members benefited from this assistance. This assistance includes essential items such as clothing, shoes, hygiene products, and high energy cookies from the World Food Program (WFP). This initiative demonstrates the close collaboration between IOM and local authorities in assisting vulnerable migrants stranded in the country and the community hosting them. 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.



A stranded migrant in the Obock area receives assistance from the IOM team © Photo: IOM Djibouti. 2022.



AWARENESS RAISING ON THE RISKS AND DANGERS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Between August 22 and September 4, IOM Djibouti organized a "Body Mapping" art workshop for the children hosted at CARITAS. Body Mapping consists of creating a large-scale representation of oneself, through drawing, painting or any other artistic technique, in order to illustrate aspects of daily life and the world in which young people live. These children, aged 11 to 17, were able to use art as a means of communication. The workshop was an opportunity for each of them to express themselves freely and outside the socio-economic and security pressures of their daily lives. Between therapeutic work and the sharing of profound testimonies, this workshop also gave the opportunity to a group of IOM and Caritas Djibouti staff to be trained in this field.



A participant in the bodymapping workshop reproduces a large-scale drawing to illustrate aspects of his life © Photo: IOM Djibouti. 2022.

This workshop offered them a unique opportunity to develop new professional practices inspired by artistic and expressive practice. These activities are funded by the European Union within the framework of the project "EU-IOM Joint Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa".