

972 migrants

assisted through IOM's mobile unit in Obock region

1 capacity building workshop

organised for social workers from the Ministry of Women and Family

34 vulnerable migrants

returned home through the Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) program

24 protection staff trained

to improve the provision of direct assistance to vulnerable migrants in Djibouti



A minor leaving the MRC in Obock returns home thanks to the AVR program. © OIM 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

IOM continues to assist vulnerable migrants in the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock where they receive food, non-food items (NFI), medical and psychosocial assistance.

Migrants arriving from Yemen also receive lifesaving assistance such as water, food and medical assistance through IOM's mobile unit and are transferred to the MRC. IOM continues to provide support to the

government-led quarantine site in Ali-Sabieh through the transfer of migrants from the MRC to the site, as well as through the provision of food and medical assistance.

Following the signing of an agreement with the National Office for Refugees and Disaster Victims (ONARS), IOM will provide support to the on-going operations in the Ar Aoussa quarantine

site from the 1st of October till the end of the year.

Through its flow monitoring points (FMPs) across the regions, IOM raised awareness on COVID-19 and related prevention measures.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the month of October, a total of 7,223 persons were recorded at the different flow monitoring points across the country, the majority (75%) of whom arrived in Djibouti on foot. Since Djibouti and Ethiopia resumed land services in July, the number of arrivals from Ethiopia is slowly increasing again. In July, 505 arrivals from Ethiopia were recorded whilst more than 2,350 arrivals were recorded during the month of October.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, authorities closed the land borders in Djibouti from the 20th of October for a period of 15 days. However, these imposed movement restrictions had little effect on the migration flows recorded during that period.

Meanwhile, an increasing number of migrants have been returning from Yemen since September. In the past month, more than 1,000 migrants arrived along the shores of the Obock region. Border closures in Saudi Arabia, movement restrictions and difficult living conditions in Yemen are contributing to this migration trend.

As an increasing number of migrants are leaving or are coming back from Yemen every day, they are risking their lives crossing the Bal El Mandeb strait. During the month of October, 17 Ethiopian migrants and 1 Somali migrant lost their lives off the coast of Djibouti in Obock region.

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MIGRANT RESPONSE

With the increasing number of migrants arriving from Yemen, IOM is providing lifesaving assistance to vulnerable migrants in Obock region. During the month of October 2020, a total of 862 migrants (817 men and 45 women), including 70 children (50 boys and 12 girls) were assisted via the mobile unit in Gehere, Doubia, Ras bir, Adou, Oulma and Garowa. The stranded migrants were provided with water, food and medical first aid before being transferred to the MRC in Obock.

In the MRC, 919 migrants were registered during the month of October and were provided with tailored multisectoral assistance. IOM distributed a total of 1,175 Non-Food Items (NFI) kits and 662 migrants received medical assistance.

On the 13th of October, IOM, in partnership with ONARS, organized the transfer of 475 ethiopian migrants (454 men and 21 women) from the MRC in Obock to the government-led



IOM's mobile unit in the Obock region © IOM 2020

quarantine site in Ar-Aoussa in the Ali-Sabieh region. IOM provided water and food assistance to the transiting migrants for a two-week quarantine period.



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

On the 27th and 28th of October, IOM organized a training for 30 DTM enumerators in order to reinforce their capacities on topics related to data collection on migration flows. The training was also used as an opportunity to jointly update data collection methodologies through a sharing of experiences and best practices.

financed by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa and the German Foreign Ministry for Economic and Development Cooperation.



PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE FOR MIGRANTS

Under the EU-funded « Durable solutions for host communities, refugees and most vulnerable migrants » project, a training for social workers from the Ministry of Women and Family Affairs (MFF) was held between the 27th of September and the 8th of October and focused on the use of hotlines and case management of vulnerable migrants. It included modules on methods of registration, referral and case management. This initial training was followed up by a series of trainings on the Best Interest Determination (BID) of a child for different representatives from the MFF, Caritas, ONARS, UNHCR and IOM. These trainings are the stepping-stone towards the implementation of a pluri-disciplinary committee on the BID to ensure an effective case management for vulnerable children in Djibouti.



MANAGING MIGRATION FLOWS

A capacity-building training for social workers and protection agents of the Union Nationale des Femmes Djiboutiennes (UNFD) was held during the month of October. The training focused on reinforcing the capacity of the 24 participants to improve the identification, assistance and referral process for vulnerable migrants, in particular those that seek assistance at UNFD's "listening cell" and in its different offices across the country. The training was conducted in the framework of the "Improving the management of migration flows" project which is coordinated by GIZ and co-