

**Awareness raising on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants** conducted in Djibouti city and in the regions in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice.

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

**201 vulnerable migrants** benefited from the Assisted Voluntary Return program.

**Training for two women's cooperatives** in the Dikhil region, in Kontali and Cheikati.



*A group of migrants wait in Fantaherou, on the outskirts of Obock, to cross the sea to Yemen.  
© Photo : IOM Djibouti 2019/Alexander Bee.*

## HIGHLIGHTS

During the month of August, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Affairs, in charge of human rights, IOM conducted a series of activities to raise awareness on issues related to human trafficking and smuggling of migrants in Djibouti City and in the regions.

IOM donated 482 health registers to the Ministry of Health as part of the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable

host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti" funded by the European Union.

Two women's cooperatives were trained in poultry farming in the Dikhil region (Kontali and Cheikati) in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Family.

IOM organized with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Ministry of Women and

Family a mission to monitor income-generating activities for the benefit of refugee women living in the capital city of Djibouti.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the month of August 2021, 8 891 movements were counted across the flow monitoring points in Djibouti, with an average of 287 movements per day. This represents a 9% decrease from the daily average of 317 movements observed in July. Among these 8 891 movements, 23% were observed in Obock, in the northern coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf to reach the Arabian Peninsula. Along this migration route called the "route of the East", 4 555 entries were observed from the western borders of Djibouti on one hand. On the other hand, 316 arrivals from Yemen were counted, bringing to 15 689 the number of migrants on their way back to Ethiopia since May 2020. In the same period, 344 migrants returned to Ethiopia via the western borders of the country (Ali-Sabieh and Dikhil).



*A group of migrants is gathered on the heights of Obock. @Photo: OIM © 2020/ Alexander BEE.*

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## DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

IOM provides life-saving assistance to migrants returning from Yemen in the Obock region. During this month, through its mobile unit, 164 vulnerable migrants (159 men and 1 woman), including 4 minors received emergency assistance including water, food and emergency medical intervention.

223 extremely vulnerable migrants (167 men and 20 women) including 36 minors housed at the IOM's Migration Response Center (MRC) in Obock received food, water and non-food items (NFI) as well as medical assistance and psychosocial support. IOM continues to provide support and assistance to migrants who join the MRC and to those who choose to return to their country of origin, thanks to financial support from the European Union.



*The Mobile Unit assists a group of migrants in the desert of Obock © Photo: IOM 2020/Alexander BEE*



## RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

During this month, among the migrants housed at the MRC, IOM assisted the voluntary return of 50 extremely vulnerable migrants (10 men, 8 women and 32 unaccompanied children) to their homes in Ethiopia.

These returns were funded by the "EU-IOM Joint Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa", funded by the European Union. Upon arrival at their destination, these migrants were temporarily housed in transit centers where they were informed of available reintegration assistance and given support to continue their journey to their final destination.

A departure of a person with refugee status was also organized to Sweden by IOM teams.



## EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

On August 19, 2021, IOM donated 482 registers to the Ministry of Health, thanks to the financial support of the European Union within the framework of the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti". These registers, which will be delivered to the health facilities across the country, will facilitate the registration of patients. Training will follow in the coming weeks for the agents who will use these documents.



*Donation ceremony of the registers to the Ministry of Health © Photo : IOM Djibouti 2021/Abdallah Bourhan*

As part of its programs to promote the setting up of the income-generating activities, the Ministry of Women and Family and IOM trained two women's cooperatives in poultry farming in the Dikhil region, in Kontali and Cheikati. This training, provided by a veterinary doctor, trained 20 women in poultry farming techniques and promoted their economic and social empowerment.



*Training in poultry farming for women's cooperatives in the Dikhil region © Photo IOM Consultant*



During this month, the Ministry of Women and Family, IOM and UNHCR organized a joint mission to follow up on 15 income-generating activity projects for refugee women trained at the Center for Social Action and Empowerment of Women (CASAF in French).



Monitoring of livelihood activities for refugee women © Photo: IOM 2021/Alexander BEE



## FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS

On the occasion of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, IOM jointly organized with the Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Affairs, in charge of Human Rights, an awareness-raising and discussion workshop on trafficking in persons for civil society actors in Djibouti. The event was held in the presence of the Ambassador of the United States to Djibouti, H.E. Mr. Jonathan Pratt, the IOM Djibouti Chief of Mission, Ms. Stephanie Daviot and the representatives of the Ministry of Justice.



Launch of the workshop to raise awareness on Trafficking in Persons for the benefit of civil society organizations © Photo IOM Djibouti/Abdallah Bourhan

Conducted within the framework of the project "Protection and Support of Victims of Trafficking and Other Forms of Abuse and Exploitation in Djibouti" and funded by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS), this workshop provided an opportunity to discuss the legal framework in place in Djibouti to combat trafficking in persons and more specifically the care of victims affected by this phenomenon.

Within the framework of the African Regional Migration Program (ARMP), IOM and the Ministry of Justice organized a series of events to raise awareness on human trafficking at the Regional Councils of Obock on August 10, 2021 and Dikhil on August 16, 2021.



Awareness raising workshop on human trafficking at Dikhil Regional Council © Photo IOM Djibouti

About 20 representatives of civil society and local authorities took part in each of these workshops to discuss the legislation in place in Djibouti regarding human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.

In Obock, awareness sessions in the form of focus group discussion on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants were organized in the localities of Fanteherou and Badaf, targeting a total of 60 migrants.

These activities ended with the screening of a documentary film on the risks and dangers of human trafficking and irregular migration for the benefit of migrants residing at Migration Response Center (MRC).