

Launch of the National Migration Strategy and the IOM Country Strategy (2021-2024) under the high Patronage of the Prime Minister.

180 vulnerable migrants benefited from the Assisted Voluntary Return program.

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

Launch of a workshop to present the national referral mechanism for migrants to civil society organisations.



IOM Djibouti Chief of Mission, Ms. Stephanie Daviot, with the Prime Minister H.E.M. Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed, at the strategies launch ceremony © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2021/Alexander BEE

## HIGHLIGHTS

Under the high patronage of the Prime Minister H.E.M. Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed, IOM launched the National Migration Strategy and the IOM Country Strategy (2021-2024) in the presence of ministers, Ambassadors and heads of UN agencies.

During this month, IOM conducted a workshop to present the national referral mechanism for migrants to civil society organisations from Djibouti city and the regions.

A batch of medicines was donated to the Mother and Child Directorate of 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.

Within the framework of the "Africa Regional Migration Program" funded by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), a workshop on the International Health Regulations

(IHR) and the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) was held for agents involved in the management of border entry points.

8 staff members of the National Institute of Statistics of Djibouti (INSTAD) were trained on the use of the Migration Data Management Toolkit by an international expert for one week.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the month of September 2021, 9 351 movements were counted across the flow monitoring points in Djibouti, an average of 312 movements per day. This represents a 9% decrease from the daily average of 287 movements observed during August. Among these 9 351 movements, 27% were observed in Obock, in the northern coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf to the Arabian Peninsula. Along this migration route called the "Eastern route", 5 305 entries were observed from the western borders of Djibouti on one hand. On the other hand, 302 arrivals from Yemen were counted, bringing to 15 991 the number of migrants on their way back to Ethiopia since May 2020. In the same period, 333 migrants returned to Ethiopia via the western borders of the country (Ali-Sabieh and Dikhil).



A group of migrants gather on the heights of Obock. Photo: IOM © 2020/ Alexander BEE.

## CONTACTS

Stéphanie Daviot  
sdaviot@iom.int

Email:  
[iomdjibouti@OIM.int](mailto:iomdjibouti@OIM.int)

+253 21 32 04 50 or +253 21 35 72 80  
[www.iom.int/countries/djibouti](http://www.iom.int/countries/djibouti)



## DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

IOM teams in Obock continued to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from the Arabian Peninsula. During the month of September, the mobile patrol provided water, food and emergency medical intervention to 150 vulnerable migrants (132 men and 1 woman), along with 13 minors in the Obock region. At the Migration Response Centre (MRC), 322 extremely vulnerable migrants (241 males, 34 females) including 47 minors received food, water, non-food items (NFIs) assistance as well as medical and psychological support. IOM continues to support and assist migrants staying at the MRC and those who opt to voluntary return to their country of origin, thanks to the financial support of 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, 180 extremely vulnerable migrants (158 men, 19 women and 3 minors) have benefited from IOM's voluntary return programme. These returns, organised in five movements, were financed under the "EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrants Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa". Upon arrival, migrants were temporarily housed in transit centre where they were informed of the available reintegration assistance and given support to reach their final destination.

The conflict in some regions of Ethiopia poses new challenges for migrants wishing to return to their communities of origin. In line with its return, reintegration and readmission policy, IOM does not facilitate voluntary returns to conflict-affected areas. However, it continues to implement its voluntary return programme for migrants wishing to return to areas considered as stable and for those from conflict-affected areas where alternative arrangements

can be made prior to their return (e.g. with extended family members).

During this month, IOM teams assisted two refugees who were resettled to Canada under the "Government-Assisted Refugees Program (GAR)" program.



## MIGRATION AND GOVERNANCE

On September 13th, 2021, under the high patronage of the Prime Minister, H.E.M. Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed, the Ministry of Interior launched the National Migration Strategy and the IOM Country Strategy (2021-2024) in the presence of members of the government, Ambassadors and heads of UN agencies in Djibouti. The National Migration Strategy, which was developed in close collaboration with relevant ministries, sets out the Government of Djibouti's migration priorities and will serve as the basis for the work of the National Migration Coordination office, which was established in July 2021 under the Ministry of the Interior. The parallel launch of IOM's national strategy will facilitate the implementation of the government's strategy.



Launching ceremony of the National Migration Strategy and of the IOM Country Strategy (2021-2024) © Photo : IOM Djibouti 2021/Alexander BEE

The development of the national strategy was funded by the European Union within the framework of the projects of the "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti" and "Better Migration Management" (BMM) in Djibouti, which is co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).





## EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

On September 7, 2021, IOM donated a batch of medicines to the Mother and Child Directorate of the Ministry of Health. This donation was made in the framework of the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants in Djibouti" funded by the European Union.

The donated medicines will be distributed to the health centres in Djibouti city and in the regions in order to provide appropriate medical assistance to vulnerable populations, including migrant women.



Donation of medicines to the Mother and Child Department of the Ministry of Health  
© Photo : IOM Djibouti 2021/Abdallah Bourhan

This initiative complements the training workshop that was conducted in coordination with the same Directorate for the benefit of 27 midwives from 21 to 24 June 2021.

Recreational activities for migrants housed at the Obock's MRC have resumed in collaboration with a local NGO and thanks to the support of the project: "Direct Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants Transiting through the Northern parts of the Migration Corridor in Djibouti" funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).



Braiding workshop for the benefit of migrants staying at the MRC © Photo : IOM Djibouti 2021

Two experienced braiders taught the basics of traditional braiding to about 20 beneficiaries. These activities enable the migrants to acquire skills that will be useful to them back home.

A training of trainers (ToT) workshop on Child Protection and Best Interest Determination was held at IOM office from 1st to 2nd September 2021. The workshop was facilitated by a consultant and aimed to strengthen the capacities of 4 IOM staff on child protection topics, in order to implement the best interest determination process for separated and unaccompanied migrant children.



## MANAGING MIGRATION FLOWS

On September 28th, 2021, IOM conducted a workshop to present the national referral mechanism for vulnerable migrants. The workshop familiarised 26 civil society actors with the mechanism, assessed the available protection services to the migrants in Djibouti and discussed the challenges and needs in terms of assistance and protection of migrants.



Closing of the NRM presentation workshop to civil society organizations: IOM Djibouti 2021 /Abdallah Bourhan

This initiative is part of the "Better Migration Management Phase II" (BMM II) project in Djibouti, co-funded 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).



From September 12th to 23th, 2021, IOM conducted a training for 8 staff members of the National Institute of Statistics of Djibouti (INSTAD). This training, provided by an international expert and organised within the framework of the "Africa Regional Migration Program", funded by the United States Office of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), focused on the use of the toolkit to facilitate the management of migration data.

This workshop helped to strengthen participants' capacity to document, archive and disseminate migration data in Djibouti.



Group photo of training participants © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2021/Abdallah Bourhan

As part of the same project, a training on the International Health Regulations (IHR) and the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) was conducted in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Health of Djibouti, from September 19th and 23th, 2021, in Tadjourah and Obock.

These activities contributed to building the capacity of 30 agents involved in the management of border entry points. The agents were trained to minimise the transmission of infections and to strengthen health surveillance at the various entry points. These activities were carried out within the framework of the national response plan against the COVID-19 pandemic.



A practical exercise on infection prevention and control at borders © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2021



## MIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

As part of the monitoring of the implementation of the project on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, IOM donated water connection materials to the Obock's Prefecture on September 11th 2021, in the presence of a representative of the prefecture and the regional officer of the National Water and Sanitation Office (ONEAD).

These materials will be used to connect water to five water tanks for the benefit of the vulnerable community living in Fantahero, a neighbourhood where migrants transit before going to the Gulf countries. This work will be completed between 21 September 21st and October 5th 2021.



Work Progress of water connection works © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2021