

Launch of the awareness campaign on malaria risks and prevention measures.

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

20 refugees benefited from resettlement programmes to Sweden, Canada and the USA.

Training on new health registers in the regions.

Orthodox Christmas celebration at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock.



Malaria awareness and distribution of mosquito nets to residents of Djibouti City © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/ Abdallah Bourhan.

HIGHLIGHTS

In collaboration with the National Malaria Control Programme (PNLP in French), IOM has launched an awareness campaign on the risks and prevention of malaria in the neighborhoods of the capital city.

A series of training sessions on the use of the new health registers was initiated jointly with the Ministry of Health for the benefit

of staff members of health structures in the regions.

IOM facilitated the resettlement of 20 beneficiaries with refugee status in Sweden, Canada and the USA.

Migrants residing at the Migration Response Center (MRC) in Obock celebrated the Orthodox Christmas and participated in

cultural and recreational activities.

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) program teams continued to observe movements at the various flow monitoring points across the country.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In January 2022, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) observed 14,067 movements at key transit points in Djibouti, representing a daily average of 454 movements. Migration flows increased by 44 % compared to the month of December 2021, which can be explained by the relative improvement in the security situation in certain regions of Ethiopia. In this context, movements between Djibouti and Ethiopia rose significantly compared to the previous month, with 7,801 entries (+45%) and 867 exits (+69%) observed. Since the onset of the conflict in November 2020, more than 94,000 Ethiopian migrants entered Djibouti. Of the 14,070 movements registered across Djibouti, 19% were observed in Obock. This coastal region of Djibouti is the main gateway for migrants crossing the Gulf of Aden to reach the Arabian Peninsula along the Eastern Route. Along this route, spontaneous returns of Ethiopian migrants

from Yemen back to Djibouti continue to be observed, notably due to the deterioration of living conditions in Yemen. In 2021, more than 10,500 returns of Ethiopian migrants were tracked. While these movements have been after steadily dropping since August 2021, they were multiplied by 2.5 in January 2022 (452 returns), notably due to the suspension of Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) flights organised by IOM Yemen, prompting returning migrants to pass through Obock. In addition, a number of Ethiopian migrants transiting through Djibouti remain stranded in the country, mainly due to the lack of resources to continue their journey: 655 migrants (256 men, 43 women and 356 children) are stranded in informal settlements in the regions of Obock (34%), Ali-Sabieh (30%), Dikhil (28%) and Tadjourah (8%).

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DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS

IOM continued to provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable migrants arriving in Obock from Yemen. During the month of January 2022, thanks to the mobile unit, 257 migrants (203 men and 48 women) including 6 minors received water, food and medical assistance. At the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock, 292 vulnerable migrants (246 men, 13 women) including 33 minors (30 boys and 3 girls) were provided with food, water, non-food items (NFIs) and medical and psychosocial support. With funding from the European Union, IOM continues to assist migrants staying at the centre, as well as those in transit to Ethiopia.



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



RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

For the third consecutive month, the Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) programme to Ethiopia remains suspended due to the security situation in the country and the state of emergency declared for 6 months since 2 November 2021.

During this month, IOM teams assisted 20 refugees (6 men, 10 women, 2 girls and 2 boys) who were resettled in Sweden, Canada and the United States.

The beneficiaries of these projects, were able to benefit from pre-departure training on the culture and customs of the host country to facilitate their integration. These activities are part of the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Programme (PSRP) and of projects dedicated to the resettlement of refugees in Canada and in the United States funded by the Government of Canada and the United States Refugee Admissions Programme (USRAP) respectively.



Beneficiaries of the resettlement programme at Djibouti airport before their departure to destination countries © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022.

In collaboration with the relevant governments, UNHCR and its partners, IOM resettles refugees to the United States and Canada but also to various European countries.



EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

From 11 to 12 January 2022, IOM, in collaboration with the National Malaria Control Programme (PNLP), organised a training session in Ethiopian languages (Oromo, Amharic and Tigrigna) on malaria risks and prevention measures for 14 peer educators from the migrant community of Djibouti-city. In the weeks that followed, these trainers and actors involved in the awareness-raising distributed long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) in the neighbourhoods of Djibouti-city (Arhiba, Ambouli, Q4, Q2, Engueila and PK12) where migrants and the host population cohabit. These awareness-raising activities continued for 9 days in these neighbourhoods, where 12,500 mosquito nets were distributed.



Training of peer educators on malaria at the IOM Djibouti office © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/ Abdallah Bourhan.

These activities are funded by the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory" project funded by the European Union.

On 31 January 2021, IOM, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, initiated a series of trainings on the new hospital registers. These trainings, which will be held in the five regions of the country, will build the capacity of staff members of health structures regarding the registration of populations that are treated in hospitals and health centres, including migrant populations.



Launch of training on the new register in health facilities in the interior © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022.

These activities are financed by the project "Durable solutions for the most vulnerable host populations, refugees and migrants living in Djibouti territory" funded by the European Union.

On 09 January 2022, on the occasion of the Orthodox Christmas celebration, IOM organized at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock, a set of cultural and recreational activities (volleyball, dances, songs and culinary tasting) for migrants residing in the centre.

These activities, funded through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for the Protection and Reintegration of Migrants in the Horn of Africa, aimed to foster cohesion among the migrants living in the centre and allowed them to escape and forget their daily difficulties.

The MRC's medical staff took the opportunity to raise awareness among the centre's residents about the risks of COVID-19 and the importance of vaccination.



COVID-19 awareness raising session on the occasion of the Orthodox Christmas celebration at Obock's MRC © Photo: IOM Djibouti.



PREPARATION AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19

On 11 January 2022, IOM donated a vehicle to the Ministry of Health. The handover ceremony took place at the headquarters of the Ministry of Health in the presence of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Health, the IOM Chief of Mission and Ministry officials.

In addition to the equipment donated in November 2021 to facilitate vaccination against COVID-19 in the regions and Djibouti city, this donation will help to further support the Djibouti government's fight against the coronavirus pandemic in the country.



Vehicle donation ceremony at the Ministry of Health © Photo: IOM Djibouti 2022/ Abdallah Bourhan.