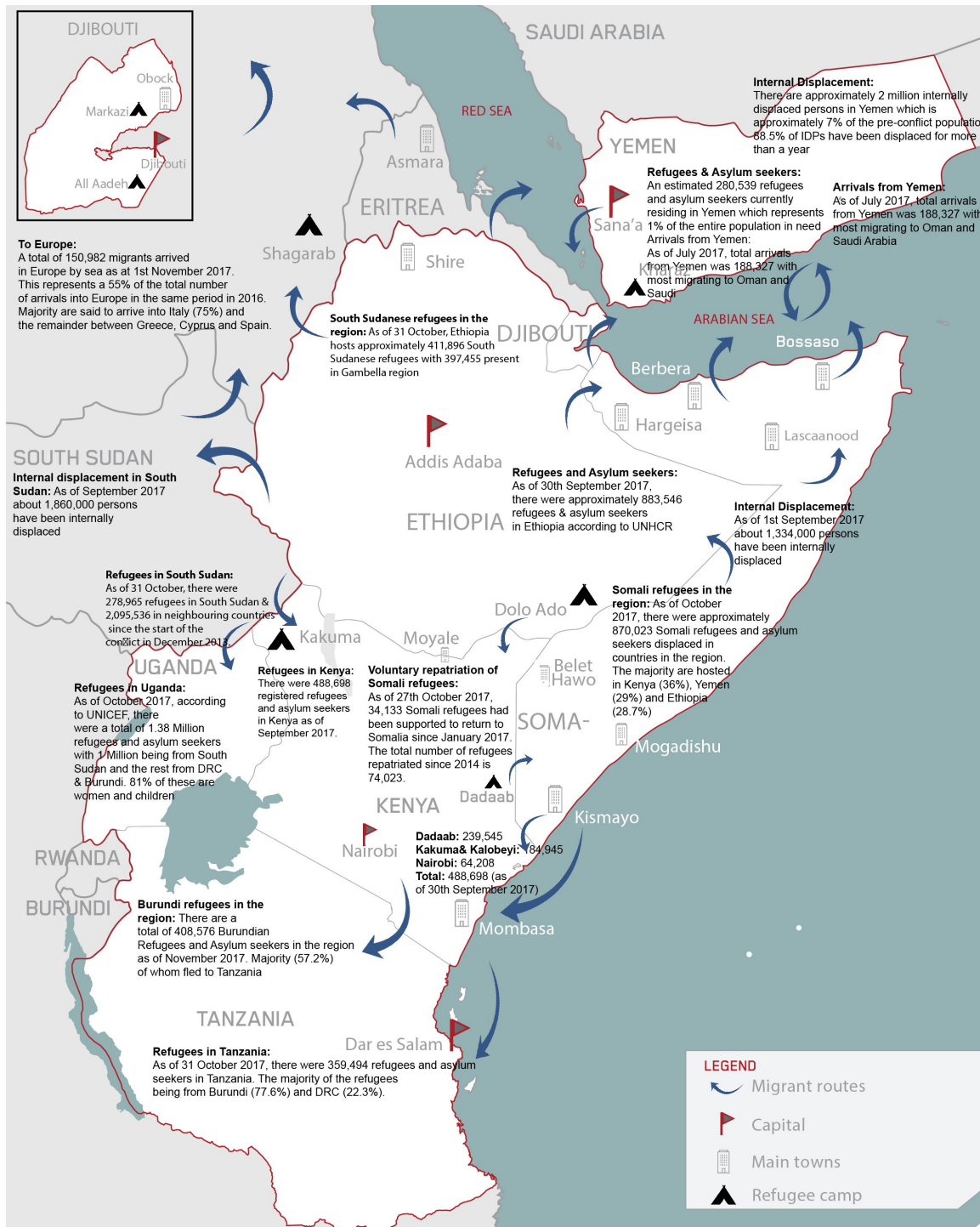




RMMS Mixed Migration Monthly Summary

October 2017 East Africa and Yemen

Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) summary for October 2017 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia / Somaliland and Yemen.



Displacement Snapshot

	Somalia/ Somaliland	Yemen	South Sudan	Ethiopia	Eritrea	Djibouti	Kenya	Uganda
Refugees	13,390 (mainly from Yemen and Ethiopia)	280,539 (including asylum seekers)	278,965	883,546 (including asylum seekers)	-	27,553 (including asylum seekers)	488,698	1,381,207 (including asylum seekers)
Asylum seekers	14,428 (largely from Ethiopia)	-	281,560	-	2,394	-	-	-
IDPs	1,334,000	2,014,026	1,860,000	221,500 (as of June 2017)	-	-	24,803 (as of June 2017)	1,380,000
In need of humanitarian assistance / food aid	6.2 million until end of 2017 (with 3.1 million in need of urgent life-saving assistance)	20.7 million (75% of the total population)	4.8 million	8.5 million	-	-	3.4 million	2.4 million

Terminology: Throughout this report the term migrant/refugee is used to cover all those involved in the mixed migration flows (including asylum seekers, trafficked persons, smuggled economic migrants, refugees). If the caseload mentioned refers only to refugees or asylum seekers or trafficked persons it will be clearly stated.

Country Profiles

Djibouti

Refugees: The country currently hosts approximately 27,553 refugees according to UNHCR. Majority of these refugees are from neighboring Somalia, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Policy discussions: On 13 - 14 September 2017, Djibouti's government held its 7th regional meeting on mixed migration whose objective was to foster technical discussions and collaboration on issues such as cross-border migration as well as protection of vulnerable mi-

grants. Subsequently on 24 September, the government held a national consultation on the Global Compact for Migration which was attended by various government stakeholders, IOM, the National Police, RMMS, NGOs and other agencies. This meeting offered an opportunity for government partners and other stakeholders to share their perspectives of migration-related priorities for Djibouti as well as provide recommendations for migration-related thematic areas in the 2016 [New York Declaration](#).

Ethiopia

Refugees & civil registration: Currently, Ethiopia hosts 411,896 South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers according to UNHCR with a majority of these being female (53.3%). However, recently the government of Ethiopia began accepting applications from refugees for civil registration where refugees will receive a certificate to document life events such as births, deaths and marriage. By end of October 2017, approximately 11 refugees had registered at the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs offices in [Addis Ababa](#).

Policy dialogue: In October, the African Regional Consultative Meeting on the Global Compact for Migration took place in Addis Ababa where participants dis-

cussed push factors behind migration as well as agreed on regional priorities and recommendations to push the African Agenda on migration forward. Some of the recommendations were that regional governments would implement all international and regional human rights instruments, update legal and policy frameworks on migration governance, enhancing collection and analysis of migration data, [among others](#).

Eritrea

Refugees & Asylum seekers: According to IOM, 15000 Eritrean refugees have been relocated to Tigray region in Ethiopia since March 2017. In 2017, 20,000 Eritrean refugees have arrived in Ethiopia with a majority (46%) are youth.

Kenya

Humanitarian Situation: According to the 2017 Long Rains Assessment, approximately 3.4 million people are food insecure out of which 2.6 million are severely food insecure. According to UNOCHA 420,674 children are acutely malnourished. The food insecurity is further exacerbated by the recent Fall Army Worm infestation that has affected 250,000 hectares of crops in 27 of the 47 [counties](#).

Disease outbreak: According to Kenya's Ministry of Health, six counties have active Cholera outbreaks and these include Vihiga, Garissa, Nakuru, Kajiado, Machakos and Nairobi. As of 26 September 2017, 2966 cases had been reported across the country. The nurse's nationwide is said to have further affected the public health sector.

Repatriation of refugees: Currently 33,759 refugees have been repatriated from Daadab, Nairobi and Kakuma with Daadab having the highest number of repatriated refugees (32,189) and Kismayo hosting the highest number of returnees (47,915 cumulatively) according to [UNHCR](#).

Policy dialogue: the Kenya National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM) together with IOM on 17 October held a stakeholder forum to discuss the Global Compact for Migration. This forum was attended by government representatives, civil society stakeholders, research institutions, academics and inter-faith organizations. The forum focused on discussing the drivers of migration in Kenya, international cooperation and migration governance, role of diaspora, human rights of migrants among [other issues](#).

Uganda

Refugees & asylum seekers: As of October 2017, Uganda hosts over 1.38 million refugees and asylum seekers from the region. 1 million refugees are from South Sudan, 236,000 from the Democratic Republic of Congo and 39,000 from Burundi. Of these 1.38 million refugees and asylum seekers, 1.13 million are women and children according to [UNICEF](#).

Disease outbreak: On 19 October 2017, Uganda's Ministry of Health officially declares Marburg Viral Disease outbreak a public health emergency following two-laboratory confirmed cases and three deaths. There has also been sporadic cases of measles in the country with six districts confirming cases while cholera outbreaks were confirmed in Kases and Nebbi with a total of 178 cases.

Sudan

Refugees & asylum seekers: As of the end of October 2017, Sudan hosted 453,258 South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers according to [UNHCR](#).

Repatriation: In September 2017, Libyan authorities sent back around 170 illegal Sudanese migrants back to Sudan as part of a voluntary repatriation program with support from IOM. This is due to the current lack of capacity of the detention centers to accommodate new illegal [migrants](#). Similarly in Belgium, authorities in September planned to repatriate up to 600 illegal migrants including from Sudan by issuing travel documents to aid in the [repatriation](#).

Deportations from Sudan: Following the forced deportation of Eritrean refugees in August, Sudanese authorities further deported 36 Eritreans convicted of illegal entry into the country in September 2017 following a brief imprisonment of these refugees in Sudan. Human rights activists have condemned this move and called on [UNHCR](#) to [intervene](#).

Somalia/Somaliland

Refugees & Asylum seekers: As of 31 October 2017, Somalia registered 14, 428 asylum seekers and 13,390 refugees. Majority of the refugee population originated from Yemen (10,230) while majority of the asylum seekers originated from Ethiopia (14,179). The total percentage of female asylum seekers and refugees is at 46.7% with 23.2% of these being female adults and 27.9% of the 53.3% male asylum seekers and refugees being adults. However, there has been outward movement from Somalia with a total 870,023 currently living as refugees in the Horn of Africa region. Currently, Yemen hosts 256,169 Somali refugees, Ethiopia (249,903), Kenya (313,255), Uganda (35,373), Eritrea (2,246), and Djibouti (13,077).

Repatriation of refugees: Between January and September 2017, 33,759 Somali refugees have been returned to Somalia from Kenya with 32,189 being voluntary repatriated (by 6 October) according to UNHCR.

Humanitarian Situation: 3.1 million people still remain in need of urgent life-saving assistance. Humanitarian partners in Somalia made an appeal for USD 1.5 Million to meet the needs of vulnerable populations until end of 2017. So far, only 54.5% of the appeal has been funded at USD 822 Million.

Internal displacement: The total number of people internally displaced from January 2016 to September 2017 is 1,334,000 according to UNHCR. However, in September alone, 49,000 people had been displaced as a result of the ongoing drought in the Horn of Africa. Regions accounting for a large number of departures and arrivals include Bay & Lower Shabelle regions in the South, Bakool and Mudug Central regions, and Woqooyi Galbeed and Togdheer in the North.

South Sudan

IDPs, Refugees & Asylum seekers: South Sudan currently hosts 278,975 refugees and 1.87 million IDPs as of 30 September 2017. However, the entire caseload of South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers in the region currently stands at 2,095, 536 (17 times more than the entire case load in 2013). Approximately 63% of the refugees are children under the age of 18 and it is expected that by the end of 2017, the total number of South Sudanese refugees in the region will be 2,130,500.

Currently, Uganda hosts majority of South Sudanese refugees in the region (1,035,703) and has also recorded the highest number of arrivals in 2016 (489,234) and 2017 (345,279) as of 15 October 2017. Other asylum countries include Ethiopia, Kenya, DRC, and Central African Republic. By the end of September 2017, South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers in the East,

Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region was approx 2.1 million according to UNHCR.

Disease Outbreak: South Sudan is experiencing several disease outbreaks including Cholera and Kala-Azar. By 27 October, UNOCHA confirmed that 2,447 people were ill and 52 people had died from Kala-Azar in 2017 alone. The spread of this disease has been attributed to environmental changes that favor the sandflies that transmit the disease. Similarly, the current cholera outbreak has affected several counties including Budi which has had 703 cases since July 2017. This has been largely attributed to the declining investment in water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.

Yemen

Humanitarian situation: As of 29 October 2017, 20.7 million people out of the 27.4 Yemen population, are in need of humanitarian assistance (75% of entire population) with 6.8 million people severely food insecure. And 13,900 casualties reported and verified, 8,761 deaths have been reported since March 2017 according to UNOCHA. Children constitute around 54% of the population in need at 11.3 million in need of humanitarian assistance. Disease outbreak has also hit Yemen with 870,000 suspected cholera cases reported since April 2017 and it is reported to likely reach 1 million before the end of 2017. Similarly, funding towards the country's humanitarian response has only be 53.8% funded at 53.8 million (total budget was at USD 114.6 Million).

Internally Displaced Persons, Returnees & Refugees: As of 1 September 2017, 2,014,026 (approximately 7% of pre-conflict Yemen population) had been internally displaced persons and 956,076 (approximately 3.3% of pre-conflict Yemen population) constituting the returnee population since March 2015 as a result of the conflict. Since July 2017, there has been an overall increase in conflict related displacement with approximately 88.5% of IDPs having been displaced for a year or more. For returnee populations, an estimated 81% have returned from displacement sites situated within their governorates of origin. Similarly, according to UNHCR, Yemen currently has 280,539 refugees and asylum seekers.

Other News

Sudan Sanctions: The American government in October 2017 called off sanctions to Sudan after 20 years following claims by the US government that Sudan was offering support for international terrorism and human rights violations.

Arrivals to Europe: According to IOM's latest report, Europe has received 150,982 sea arrivals by the end of October 2017. Italy is the main recipient of migrants (at 72.1% of the entire migrant population in Europe) followed by Greece. The significant drop in migrant numbers from 2016 is as a result of a drop in arrivals through the Eastern Mediterranean route. By end of October 2017, 2661 people are reported to have died while using the Mediterranean route in 2017 alone, particularly the Central Mediterranean route.

Migrant arrivals to Europe have significantly dropped in 2017: UNHCR and IOM reported only 48,238 migrant arrivals from June to November 2017 – compared to 104,510 arrivals in the same period in 2016. Migrants from the **Horn of Africa** have decreased by nearly two thirds as well: from over 30,000 in 2016 to just 8,688 arrivals recorded so far in 2017 (5,616 Eritreans, 2,393 Somalis and 679 Ethiopians).

Libya: At the end of October 2017, Libyan coast guards had rescued a total of 12,987 people along the Libyan coast with majority of those rescued being Nigerians. Of these 12,987 people, 11,090 were men, 1292 women and 497 children.

New Research / Reports

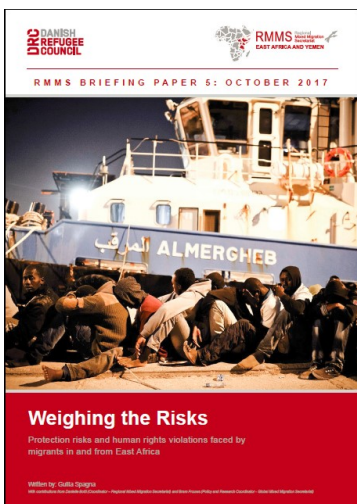
Global Mixed Migration Network. **RMMS West Africa** monthly summaries, feature articles and new reports are [available here](#). **DRC Central Asia and Southwest Asia's 4Mi** (Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism initiative) summary are [available here](#). **Mixed Migration Platform (MMP)** monthly summaries, feature articles and new research reports are [available here](#).

The **Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat** recently published a briefing paper on *'Weighing the risks: Protection risks and human rights violations faced by migrants in and from East Africa'* which highlights the various forms of abuses that migrants face.

RMMS has also published a **feature article** *'At what cost? Human rights concerns as migrant arrivals to Europe temporarily slow'*.

Action Against Hunger in partnership with IRIS have released a report titled *'Bridging the gap: Long-term implications for South Sudanese Refugees in West Nile, Uganda'* that looks into the inter-connectedness of the humanitarian emergency in Sudan with the current under-development and poverty infrastructure in Uganda and what these means for refugees, IDPs, returnees and host communities. The report also looks into the drivers of change which continue to affect migration flows in and out of the country.

Samuel Hall published a study *'Understanding intra-regional labor migration in the East African Community (EAC)'* which aims to generate evidence to support interventions aimed at eliminating poverty and reducing vulnerabilities.



Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) is to support agencies, institutions and forums in the Horn of Africa and Yemen sub-region to improve the management of protection and assistance response to people in mixed migration flows within and beyond the Horn of Africa and across the Gulf of Aden or Red Sea in Yemen. www.regionalmms.org.

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