

# Regional mixed migration summary for June 2012 covering mixed migration events, trends and data for Djibouti, Eritrea/Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Puntland, Somalia, Somaliland and Yemen.

Country	Events /trands / data / applysis
Country (alphabetically)	Events /trends/ data / analysis
Djibouti	New information:
	In June 2012, of an estimated total of <b>4,705 people arriving on Yemen's shores</b> , an estimated 3,455 people left from Djibouti, representing 73% of the total (consistent with previous month's proportions). The departure point is Obock and different coastal departure points 30-40 km west of Obock. Approximately 115 people per day, therefore, crossed from Obock, representing a 28% decrease of the total percentage of (daily) new arrivals from last month and a 45% decrease compared to June last year. Consistent with last month, 86% were non Somalis (mostly Ethiopians) leaving from Djibouti.
	Also in June 2012, <b>59 boats landed on the Red sea coast</b> of Yemen, representing a 38% decrease from the previous month. Of note is also that there were no landings on 11 days during the month. However, the drop is a continuation of the trend marked since 2006 when the June-July period does have the lowest crossings.
	A focus group discussion session facilitated by the Danish Refugee Council (Yemen) with new arrivals in Kharaz and recent reports indicate that the drop in those making the Red Sea crossing may be attributed to;(1) The increase of checkpoints on the road between Tadjora and Obock, Djibouti as the Djiboutian government authorities attempt to curb smuggling/trafficking. These were also a result of the increased security for Djibouti's independence day celebrated in June (27th). New arrivals in Yemen in June reported that as many as 300 migrants have reportedly been arrested at these checkpoints and deported to Loya Ade, Somaliland. Further to this some 276 Ethiopian were arrested in Tadjora; (2) Appointment of a new Chief of Police in Obock. (3) And as previously reported, the recent round ups of migrants in Obock by the authorities.
	One Ethiopian new arrival that he had fled to Yemen from Djibouti where he sought asylum as he feared possible refoulement. He reported that fellow Oromos had been deported as part of an agreement between the Djiboutian and Ethiopian government.
	Following the 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2012 accident when a bus carrying 33 migrants travelling from Tadjoura to Obock veered off the side of the road, on the 4 <sup>th</sup> of June 2012, there was a similar accident along the same route involving a bus carrying an estimated 82 migrants. <b>27 Ethiopians and 1 Djiboutian driver died while 54 Ethiopians migrants were injured and evacuated to different hospitals.</b> The Djiboutian authorities that there were more migrants who they believe fled from the scene to avoid arrest.
	Somali new arrivals stated that they paid smugglers \$ 150 - \$200 for the boat crossing from Djibouti-ville to Yemen's Red Sea coast. While for the same journey, Ethiopian new arrivals reported that they paid between \$110 - \$180. This is a slight change from May when the Ethiopians where paying the higher end of between \$170- \$250.
	Previously Reported:
	The registration and refugee status determination process is still on going in Djibouti by ONARS (the National Eligibility Office) and UNHCR.
Eritrea/	New information:
Sudan/ South Sudan	In 2012, till the end of the reporting period (June), some 23 Eritreans have been recorded arriving in Yemen, mostly on the Red Sea coast. All Eritreans cited a fear of persecution on grounds of their imputed opinions. However, this is a very slight proportion of those 2,000 – 3,000 that are fleeing the country every month according to UNHCR. Most choose the western route through Sudan and into Lybia due to the porous border, or go north into Egypt and

into Israel.

As previously reported, the Israeli governments <u>announcement</u> that all Southern Sudanese asylum seekers had to repatriate and its decision to construct a <u>'holding complex'</u> for asylum seekers and migrants was followed by protests and attacks by 'nationalist' citizens who were demanding the <u>expulsion of all African migrants</u> from Israel. In June, the Israeli Prime Minister ordered <u>the 'swift deportation' of some 25,000 illegal migrants</u> mainly from South Sudan, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast and Ghana. However he said that it would be in contravention of the 1951 Convention on Refugees to deport those from Eritrea and Sudan given the current conditions there. Of the 13,683 people who entered Israel illegally in 2010, 62% were Eritreans and 33% were Sudanese. Israel is also speeding up the construction of their 'holding complex' along the border with Egypt which will house the remaining migrants.

# **Ethiopia**

#### **New Information:**

An estimated 3,786 Ethiopians made their way to Yemen in June 2012. This is a 24% drop from June 2011 but proportionally consistent with the general fall in number of boats crossing with Ethiopian migrants this June.

**Origination of new arrivals:** As seen in the past, the Oromo new arrivals continued to form the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals while the Amhara's formed 29% and the percentage of those of Tigray ethnicity continued to rise, accounting for 26%.

**Dollo Ado:** During the reporting period, some 5,964 Somalis sought refuge in Ethiopia. This brings the total of Somali refugees in Ethiopia to 203,952, accounting for approximately 61% of the total refugee population hosted in the country. The daily average of 198 of Somalis that crossed into Ethiopia in June exceeds the previous month by 75%. Some 159, 875 of these Somali refugees are hosted at the Dollo Ado camps and transit centre, which is a 4% increase from the previous month and represents the highest number of new arrival (Somalis) registered in a month in 2012. 41,545 of the Somali refugee population is hosted in Jijiga, while Gode and Addis Ababa host 1,354 and 1, 033 respectively.

At the end of the reporting period, Ethiopia also hosted some 64,636 Sudanese and 60,052 Eritrean refugees which form the second and third largest refugee population in Ethiopia respectively.

At least 45 illegal immigrants reportedly from Ethiopia died and 72 others are in critical condition from lack of clean air in a container they were in, apparently on their way to Malawi via Tanzania.

### Kenya

#### NewInformation:

According to UNHCR, as of end June there were an estimated 532, 222 Somali registered refugees hosted in Kenya with an addition of over 24,496 Ethiopians.

**Kakuma**: Some 2,027 individuals were registered in Kakuma in June, which is a 35% increase from the previous month. This brings the total camp population to 98, 380 as at the end of the reporting period. South Sudanese and Sudanese continue to comprise one third and Somalis half the total population.

**Dadaab:** At the end of the reporting period the combined population of the Dadaab refugee complex was 472, 420 of which 96% were Somali. Refugees and asylum seeker from Somali continue to arrive in Kenya and are being registered in Kakuma and Nairobi (urban case load) but registration in Dadaab remains suspended (except for vulnerable cases only).

The implications of the kidnapping of the 5 Norwegian Refugee Council staff (4 international and 1 national) from Dadaab on the Kenyan government's move towards resuming registration is yet to be seen. The 5 staff were rescued some two days later in South-Central Somalia.

**Kenyan migrants in Arab countries:** The Kenyan government has suspended the recruitment of its citizens to work as domestic workers in the Middle East following reports of abuse.

In early June **80 foreigners, among them 24 illegal immigrants, were arrested** in Kikuyu District in Kiambu County while travelling along the Nairobi-Nakuru highway yesterday. Among them were 51 Somalis, 10 Congolese, two South Sudanese and seven Ethiopians. Part of the group were registered asylum seekers on their way to

Kakuma refugee camp. UNHCR is following the matter.

In a later incident, **the Kenya police arrested 39 Ethiopians and 3 Somalis** who were jailed in Tanzania for some 2 months before being sent back to Kenya. The three Somalis submitted documents proving that they were registered in Dadaab refugee camp. Reportedly the 42 were on their way to South Africa in search of employment opportunities when they were apprehended by the Tanzanian authorities. The Kenyan courts have ruled that the Ethiopians will be sent back to Ethiopia.

In a third incident, the Kenyan authorities arrested approximately 130 foreigners in Nairobi (81 Somalis, 47 Ethiopians, 2 Pakistanis, 2 Sudanese and 1 Briton) who they claimed were in the country illegally. They further suspect some intended to 'commit crimes'. The police Chief states that this part of their 'Fagia Wageni' ('Do away with/ get rid of the foreigners') operation that is intended to round up illegal migrants from Kenya.

During June, the new **Mixed Migration Task Force for Kenya** held its first meeting. 14 agencies signed up to be part of the Phase One information gathering 6-month initiative that will be the first exercise for the Kenya MMTF. (Contact RMMS for further information)

# **Puntland**

#### **New Information:**

**Arabian Sea arrivals in Yemen:** In the reporting period, an estimated 1,250 crossed the Arabian Sea to Yemen. In the same month in 2011, 598 individuals made the Arabian Sea crossing hence June 2012 represents a 109% increase. 38% of this total were Somalis (442).

Similar to last month, there was a decrease in reports from Somali new arrivals in Yemen of the Puntland authority detaining and interrogating migrants from S-C Somalia on suspicion of Al-Shabaab links.

**As a country of origin:** Migrants originating from Puntland continued to form the minority of Somali new arrivals in Yemen, keeping steady in the 3-4% range.

**IDPs:** There are 142,600 IDPs in Puntland according to UNHCR.

# Somalia (S-C)

#### **New Information:**

In June 2012, 919 Somalis arrived on Yemen's shores which represents a 23% decrease from June last year. However, they accounted for 20% of all new arrivals in Yemen which is consistent with June 2011. 82% of Somali new arrivals in Yemen in June were from S-C Somalia with the majority originating from Banadir, Bay and Lower Shabelle regions.

65% of new arrivals cited **economic reason as the main motivation for flight**. 25% of new arrivals cited **insecurity as the main reason for flight**. In both categories the new percentages represent a slight increase from May 2012. Reports of forced marriage by the Al-Shabaab continued in June as well as check points manned by the militia and the government which resulted in restricted movement.

Many from S-C Somalia, in particular the youth, continued to report that they were still **stopped and interrogated** at checkpoints mounted in Mogadishu, Afgoye, Middle Shabelle and Hiraan on suspecion of having Al-Shabaab links. Other travelling through Al-shabaab held territory had to provide justifications for their travel. Faliure to do so resulted in detention.

**IDPs:** There are an estimated **1,129,000 IDPs in S-C Somalia** according to UNHCR of which 496,000 are hosted in Lower Shabelle itself. In June some 15,000 people were displaced. However, the TGF/KDF ousting of the Al-Shabaab from Afmadow has resulted in the return of some 350 people to the area in the reporting period.

This document does not seek to extensively detail conditions and event in Somalia (including displacements) as the subject is dealt with in great detail by various dedicated agencies.

#### Somaliland

#### New Information:

**New Arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland**: New arrivals in Yemen from Somaliland constituted 14% of all Somali new arrivals in June. This represents a 6% decrease as compared to May 2012, which is a break from the trend over the last few months of a gradual increase in the percentage that Somalis from Somaliland.

**Trafficking:** As previously reported the investigations of the **9 Ethiopian children** (aged between 1-6 yrs) who were suspected of being trafficked by 2 Ethiopian adults are still on-going. There are deliberations that a DNA test will be conducted to ascertain If the Somali man claiming to be the biological father of one of the 9 children. However, the Somaliland authorities have transported the children to the Ethiopian border and handed them over to the authorities there.

In the last week of June the Somaliland immigration apprehended a group of 12 girls aged between 12 to 15 years accompanied by two adult men traffickers in Berbera. The girls came from south-central Somalia town of Walaweyn and Dafeed and currently housed at the MRC premises. The two suspected traffickers (Somali) are under investigation. The two men claim that are relatives of the 12 girls. Reportedly the traffickers were intending to take the girls to Saudi Arabia through Somaliland, fly to Djibouti and travel on to Yemen and then to Saudi Arabia. An interview with the girls revealed that they are from nomadic families and were in possession of Somali passports.

On the 17th of June, some 30 Ethiopians migrants were detained following a round up by the Somaliland authorities. 3 of the 30 claimed to be recognised refugees which was confirmed by UNHCR. The 27 were deported without being given the opportunity to claim asylum Since the initial intervention by the international community following the September 2011 government of Somaliland announcement that the '80,000' unregistered foreigners in Somaliland had one month to leave, the authorities have refrained from conducting such round ups and deportation of illegal migrants till this recent event.

#### Yemen

# New data from the Yemen MMTF

#### **New Information:**

**New arrivals:** The total number of new arrivals recorded by the MMTF Yemen in June was 4,705 individuals representing a 16% decrease from 5,601 arrivals in the same month last year. 3,455 of June's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 1,250 crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). This is the first month in 2012 that the figures of new arrivals recorded have been less than the same month in 2011.

**Proportions:** In June 80% of the new arrivals were non-Somalis. 20% were Somalis which is a 6% drop from last month. 26% were Somalis, however, is consistent with June 2011.

**Red Sea Arrivals:** 73% of June's total arrived crossing the Red Sea (from Djibouti) while 27% crossed the Arabian Sea (from Somaliland / Puntland). As compared to last month this represents a 7% decrease and 7% increase respectively.

**Main Drivers/push factors**: Lack of economic opportunities continues to be cited as the one of the main reason for flight by Somali new arrivals, although it increased by just 3% as compared to last month. Those citing insecurity as their main reason for movement was 25% and the second largest reason. The majority of those citing insecurity were fleeing from S-C Somalia. The percentage of non-Somalis (mostly Ethiopians) citing lack of economic opportunities decreased by 5% from May 2012 to 70% in the reporting period. Insecurity saw a slight decrease of 2% as compared to last month and were mainly of Oromo and Ogadeni ethnicity. However, those stating that they had been offered a job/recruited almost doubled in June as compared to May 2012.

**Origination**: In contrast to last month but consistent with January –April 2012, the percentage of new arrivals who registered (and therefore interviewed) who were Tigray increased although by a slight 3% as compared to last month. The Oromos continued to form the majority of Ethiopian new arrivals. The Amhara constituted 29%, forming the second largest majority consistent with last month.

**Boats & passengers**: Over the reporting period the total number of boats arriving on the coast with migrants was 77 vessels; 18 crossing the Arabian sea and 59 crossing the Red Sea. The average number of passengers on each boat was 61 people per trip (not including smugglers/crew).

Protection risks faced by new arrivals over the reporting period: Reports of hostage taking and forced smuggling/trafficking, kidnapping and extortion continued, particularly of Ethiopians new arrivals continued during

the reporting period. Many new arrivals stated that they were physical assaulted during the boat journey from Djibouti to Yemen and four cases of sexual abuse were reported by those arriving at the Red Sea coast.

New arrivals in Yemen reported the **death of one Somali** man in Djibouti possibly due to starvation/dehydration.

**Deaths at Sea:** There were 3 reported deaths at sea with respect to the sea crossing to Yemen in June. This is the highest number recorded in 2012, with January have seen only 1 death.

**IDPs:** The continued fighting and tension in Yemen during the reporting period resulted in further displacement but at the current time no updated figure is available. As previously reported the joint DRC, UNHCR and WFP exercise to ascertain an accurate number of IDPs is still on-going. However, according to UNHCR, approximately 52,000 people have been displaced between Since the beginning of 2012, while 1,800 have been displaced in the first two weeks of March in the Abyan governorate in the south. The counting of IDPs in Yemen has come under some political pressure due to the associated interests of different groups in presenting high or low numbers.

**Forced Round-ups**: Some 400 African migrants (mainly Ethiopians and all male) were expelled by the Yemeni authorities from Dhamar, where they were employed on 'khat' farms, to Kharaz refugee camp. No explanation was given by the authorities for this action. At the same time during the reporting month, Yemini authorities have rounded up migrants in south along the coast and reportedly detained them at various military camps. Apparently this 'backlash' that the migrants are recently facing is as a result of the killing of a high ranking military official in South-Central Somalia, reportedly by suspected members of the Al Shabaab.

Insecurity in Yemen: In Aden, two dozen international NGOs are struggling to meet mounting humanitarian demands caused by a war raging in neighbouring Abyan Governorate where government troops have for a month fought to oust the Ansar Al Shari'a. At the same time, the Yemeni government pressed ahead with a U.S.-backed offensive to drive al Qaeda-linked insurgents from the country's south, a day after the army notched up its biggest victory in more than a year by recapturing two strategic cities.

**Ethiopians stranded in North Yemen:** IOM received medical supplies for migrants stranded in Haradh located on the Yemen - Saudi Arabia border, donated by the Italian government aid agency. As previously reported there are some thousands of <a href="Ethiopian migrants remain stranded in North Yemen">Ethiopian migrants remain stranded in North Yemen</a> around the city of Haradh— close to the border with Saudi Arabia. IOM stated that the number of stranded migrants in dire conditions and in and around the town could be in excess of 12,000.

Caveat: Despite the network of local partners collecting data along parts of the Arabian and Red Sea coasts it cannot be assumed that this data captures all new arrivals. Particularly, there may be those that arrive along the northern stretches of the Red Sea coast, beyond the data networks. Consequently the actual numbers of new arrivals in Yemen may be higher. Yemen Red Crescent and the Danish Refugee Council are planning to extend the patrol area further north along the Red Sea coast.

# Other Regional news

**Uganda:** Renewed fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo's North Kivu Province has resulted in an influx of refugees in Uganda. The transit camp in Uganda's Kisoro district is currently accommodating <u>16,000 refugees</u> <u>which is 13,000 more than its original capacity.</u> This includes 600 Congolese soldiers who have been disarmed by the Ugandan authorities. OCHA estimates that some 200,000 Congolese have been internally displaced.

**Rwanda:** UNHCR reports that an average of <u>250 Congolese continued to arrive daily</u> fleeing the renewed fighting in North Kivu Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Some 29,112 Congolese refugees had been received at Nkamira Transit Centre, through which all new arrivals pass.

**Tanzania:** Some 45 Ethiopian migrants were found dead in Tanzania after being suffocated while being transported in truck. 72 others are in critical condition.

Malawi: Reportedly <u>48 Somali migrants were found dead in Lake Malawi</u> after a boat carrying an estimated number of 60 migrants capsized while attempting to cross into Malawi from Tanzania. It is believed that the rest of the migrants fled from the scene so as not to be arrested by the authorities. Three Malawians have been arrested on suspicion that they facilitated the movement of the group, in collaboration with fellow Tanzanians.