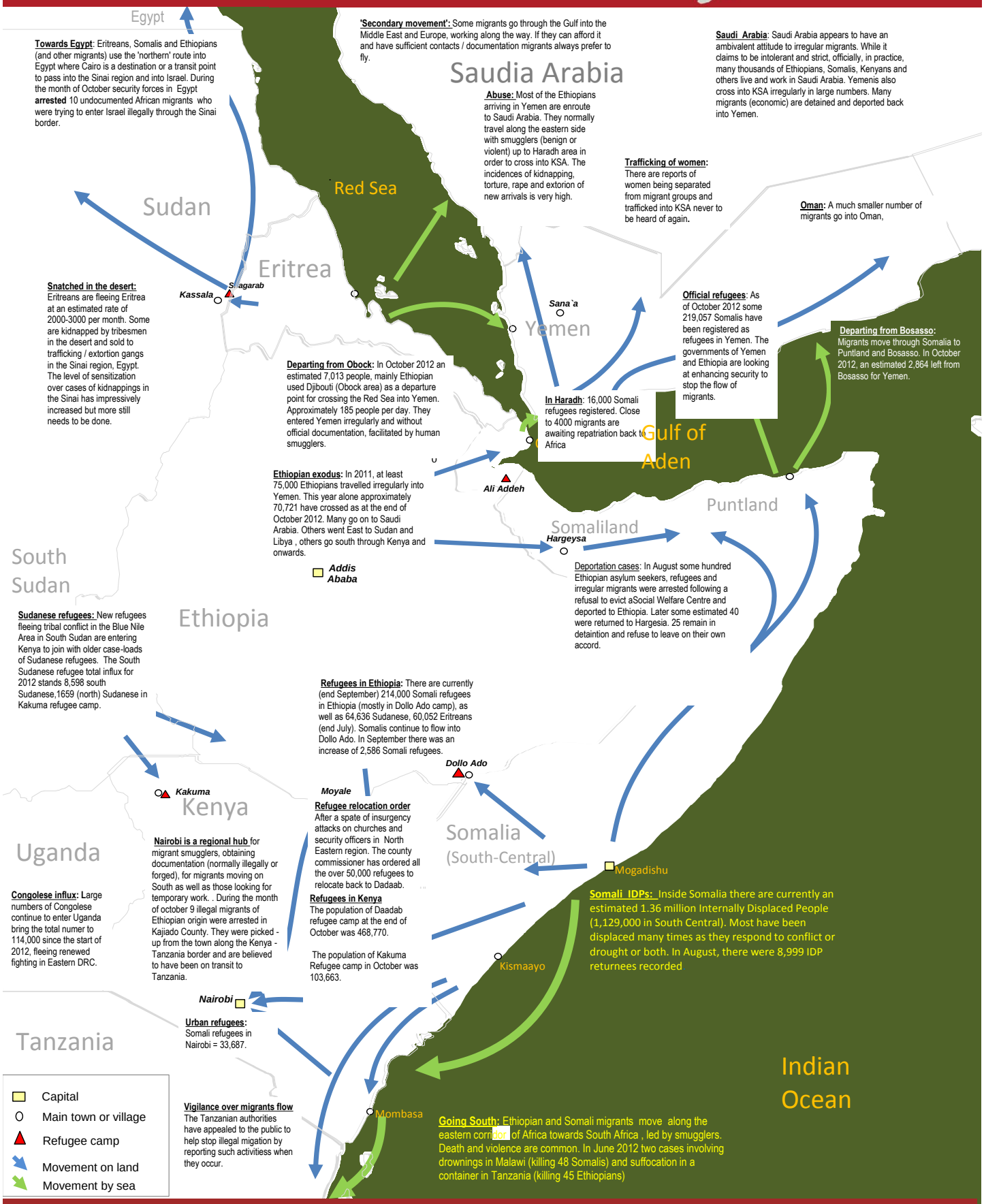
MIXED MIGRATION
IN HORN OF AFRICA AND YEMEN

October 2012

RMMS Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat



Towards Egypt: Eritreans, Somalis and Ethiopians (and other migrants) use the 'northern' route into Egypt where Cairo is a destination or a transit point to pass into the Sinai region and into Israel. During the month of October security forces in Egypt **arrested** 10 undocumented African migrants who were trying to enter Israel illegally through the Sinai border.

'Secondary movement': Some migrants go through the Gulf into the Middle East and Europe, working along the way. If they can afford it and have sufficient contacts / documentation migrants always prefer to fly.

Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia appears to have an ambivalent attitude to irregular migrants. While it claims to be intolerant and strict, officially, in practice, many thousands of Ethiopians, Somalis, Kenyans and others live and work in Saudi Arabia. Yemenis also cross into KSA irregularly in large numbers. Many migrants (economic) are detained and deported back into Yemen.

Abuse: Most of the Ethiopians arriving in Yemen are enroute to Saudi Arabia. They normally travel along the eastern side with smugglers (benign or violent) up to Haradh area in order to cross into KSA. The incidences of kidnapping, torture, rape and extorion of new arrivals is very high.

Trafficking of women: There are reports of women being separated from migrant groups and trafficked into KSA never to be heard of again.

Oman: A much smaller number of migrants go into Oman,

Snatched in the desert: Eritreans are fleeing Eritrea at an estimated rate of 2000-3000 per month. Some are kidnapped by tribesmen in the desert and sold to trafficking / extortion gangs in the Sinai region, Egypt. The level of sensitization over cases of kidnappings in the Sinai has impressively increased but more still needs to be done.

Departing from Obock: In October 2012 an estimated 7,013 people, mainly Ethiopian used Djibouti (Obock area) as a departure point for crossing the Red Sea into Yemen. Approximately 185 people per day. They entered Yemen irregularly and without official documentation, facilitated by human smugglers.

Official refugees: As of October 2012 some 219,057 Somalis have been registered as refugees in Yemen. The governments of Yemen and Ethiopia are looking at enhancing security to stop the flow of migrants.

Departing from Bosasso: Migrants move through Somalia to Puntland and Bosasso. In October 2012, an estimated 2,864 left from Bosasso for Yemen.

In Haradh: 16,000 Somali refugees registered. Close to 4000 migrants are awaiting repatriation back to Africa

Ethiopian exodus: In 2011, at least 75,000 Ethiopians travelled irregularly into Yemen. This year alone approximately 70,721 have crossed as at the end of October 2012. Many go on to Saudi Arabia. Others went East to Sudan and Libya , others go south through Kenya and onwards.

Deportation cases: In August some hundred Ethiopian asylum seekers, refugees and irregular migrants were arrested following a refusal to evict aSocial Welfare Centre and deported to Ethiopia. Later some estimated 40 were returned to Hargesia. 25 remain in detaintion and refuse to leave on their own accord.

Sudanese refugees: New refugees fleeing tribal conflict in the Blue Nile Area in South Sudan are entering Kenya to join with older case-loads of Sudanese refugees. The South Sudanese refugee total influx for 2012 stands 8,598 south Sudanese,1659 (north) Sudanese in Kakuma refugee camp.

Refugees in Ethiopia: There are currently (end September) 214,000 Somali refugees in Ethiopia (mostly in Dollo Ado camp), as well as 64,636 Sudanese, 60,052 Eritreans (end July). Somalis continue to flow into Dollo Ado. In September there was an increase of 2,586 Somali refugees.

Refugee relocation order
After a spate of insurgency attacks on churches and security officers in North Eastern region. The county commissioner has ordered all the over 50,000 refugees to relocate back to Dadaab.

Refugees in Kenya
The population of Daadab refugee camp at the end of October was 468,770.

The population of Kakuma Refugee camp in October was 103,663.

Nairobi is a regional hub for migrant smugglers, obtaining documentation (normally illegally or forged), for migrants moving on South as well as those looking for temporary work. . During the month of october 9 illegal migrants of Ethiopian origin were arrested in Kajiado County. They were picked - up from the town along the Kenya - Tanzania border and are believed to have been on transit to Tanzania.

Congolese influx: Large numbers of Congolese continue to enter Uganda bring the total numer to 114,000 since the start of 2012, fleeing renewed fighting in Eastern DRC.

Urban refugees: Somali refugees in Nairobi = 33,687.

Vigilance over migrants flow
The Tanzanian authorities have appealed to the public to help stop illegal migation by reporting such activitiess when they occur.

Somali IDPs: Inside Somalia there are currently an estimated 1.36 million Internally Displaced People (1,129,000 in South Central). Most have been displaced many times as they respond to conflict or drought or both. In August, there were 8,999 IDP returnees recorded

Going South: Ethiopian and Somali migrants move along the eastern corridor of Africa towards South Africa , led by smugglers. Death and violence are common. In June 2012 two cases involving drownings in Malawi (killing 48 Somalis) and suffocation in a container in Tanzania (killing 45 Ethiopians)

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