

MIXED MIGRATION TREND REPORT FOR JULY 2015 COVERING MIXED MIGRATION EVENTS IN: EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, LIBYA, MALI, MOROCCO, NIGER, SUDAN, TUNISIA, GREECE AND ITALY.

MHub works on behalf of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force consisting of DRC, IOM, OHCHR, RMMS and UNHCR. It promotes a human rights-based approach to ensuring the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows to, through and from North Africa.

MHub produces knowledge on the human rights protection issues faced by people on the move in North Africa for use by policy makers agencies, donors, public and academia, with a view to inform advocacy, policy and program development.

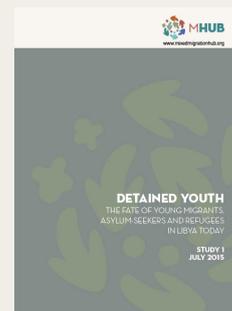
It fosters collaborative approaches among key stakeholders. Specifically, it holds the secretariat of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force.

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

Sources: Data is sourced from a wide variety of collaborators, partners, international and local organisations, media outlets and individuals in the region. The refugee agency – UNHCR – and migration agency – IOM are frequently the origin of specific refugee or migrant related data. MHub makes its own independent editorial decisions as to what sections and what data is included in this monthly update.

LAUNCH OF NEW MHUB STUDY

DETAINED YOUTH: THE FATE OF YOUNG MIGRANTS, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN LIBYA TODAY



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NORTH AFRICA EGYPT

Routes

- Egypt continues to be a country of departures by sea as well as a country for two-way land migration in and out of Libya and Sudan.
- Increasing irregular entries through Sudan and Libya by Syrians into Egypt.
- While also increasing attempts were reported on irregular crossings into Libya and Sudan and subsequent arrests involved mostly Syrians and African nationals.
- Detention facilities being recently used to hold those attempting to depart Egypt in an irregular manner, such as those in Alexandria, El Beheira, Marsa Matrouh and Kafr El Sheikh Governorates, indicate that different routes are now being taken for irregular departures by sea and by land.
- Formerly Alexandria was seen as the largest hub for irregular migration in Egypt.

Boat departures / Arrivals / Rescues

- Slight decrease of arrests of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants, especially Syrians for attempting to depart Egypt by sea irregularly in July, as compared to May and June. A total of 14 sea incidents that have been recorded in July 2015 alone, during which 354 refugees and migrants have been arrested for attempting to depart by sea.
- As in the preceding months, Sudanese constitute the great majority of those attempting to depart Egypt in an irregular manner by sea in July, followed by Syrians, and Somalis.

- On [July 9th](#), Egyptian naval forces foiled an attempt by 74 migrants from different nationalities while trying to travel irregularly to the Italian territories.
- On July 19th, [Italian police](#) arrested three Egyptian men over suspicion of piloting a boat carrying more than 300 migrants to Italy from Egypt. On board of the boat, was a 10-year-old Syrian girl whose father said she died during the sea crossing.
- A total of [52 people](#) were arrested in the Delta Governorate of Beheira while attempting to irregularly migrate to Italy via the Mediterranean coast, Youm7 reported Saturday 25 July. The arrested migrants include: 25 Egyptians, 7 Iraqis, 2 Eritreans, 6 Syrians and one Sudanese. They were captured at Edkou Beach by Behei security forces and Border Intelligence Guards in Abu Qir, a town on Egypt's Mediterranean coast.

Migrant Vulnerabilities

- Slight increase in [number of detentions](#) and continuous risk of deportation (refoulement) to Country of Origin for attempts of irregular departure.

Trafficking

- A total of 339 people, including [four human traffickers](#) were arrested on Monday 28 July 2015 while attempting to illegally travel to Libya through Egypt's Western Desert towns of Sallum, Siwa and Matrouh, Youm7 reported.

ETHIOPIA

New Arrivals

- Some [157 Eritrean](#) refugees arrived in northern Ethiopia daily during the month of July. In the second week of July, 787 new arrivals were registered, the majority were students (426), unaccompanied (131) and separated (3) children.

Refugees / Asylum seekers

- High levels of [secondary movement](#) are estimated to have reduced the refugee population to less than a third of the registered 139,000. Ethiopia is the largest refugee-hosting country in Africa and the

fifth largest in the world with nearly 705,000 refugees, including 281,514 South Sudanese, 247,706 Somalis, 139,039 Eritreans, 36,863 Sudanese and refugees from other countries.

Trafficking

- IOM evacuates [1,429 Ethiopian](#) trafficking victims from Yemen to Ethiopia. Most of the migrants were stranded in Yemen route to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Over the past three weeks, 57 of the returnees have required medical assistance.

LIBYA

Boat departures / Arrivals / Rescues

- Between [35 and 40 people](#), including up to 7 minors, are believed to have drowned off the coast of Tripoli between Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd July, survivors rescued by a merchant vessel have said. The group of about 120 people mostly from West Africa (Senegal, Mali Nigeria and Benin) was travelling on a rubber dinghy that left from the Libyan capital. The boat began taking on water and dozens of people ended up in the sea. In total 283 people were picked up and taken to Augusta, Sicily on July 22.
- [Rescuers](#) from the Irish naval vessel Le Niamh discovered 14 lifeless bodies in the hold of a wooden boat some 80km northwest of Tripoli on Monday 27th July.
- As many as [100 bodies](#) believed to be sub-saharan migrants have been found in the sea and the shores of the Tajoura, a coastal town about 10kms east of Tripoli, according

to the capital's anti-immigration department. Details are unclear but there were women and children among the dead. They are believed to be the victims of a shipwreck off Tajoura, which is known as a sending spot for migrants heading for Europe on boats.

Trafficking

- A [man has been arrested](#) in Tripoli for allegedly trafficking in women for prostitution and providing a document-forging service for migrants. They would typically be lured under the pretext that he would arrange their marriage. The man is also being accused of forging residence permits for migrants. Arrests of smugglers or traffickers in Libya are rare with policing agencies focused on migration mostly arresting migrants.

MALI

Refugees / Asylum seekers / IDPs

- After the signing of a [peace accord](#) the end of June between Government allied groups and Tuareg separatists, people who were displaced in May-June due to fighting are

gradually [returning home](#) in the north and center of the country, particularly Mopti and Timbuktu.

MOROCCO

Routes

- Morocco has become a bottleneck for sub-Saharan African migrants aiming to reach Europe, pinched by the Moroccan and Spanish governments working together to halt the flow across the Mediterranean. Thousands of irregular migrants were unable or unwilling to take advantage of the Moroccan government's limited "[regularisation](#)" process that granted less than 18,000 one-year residency permits.

Irregular border crossing / Detention

- Four Sub-Saharan migrants [drowned](#) Sunday 1 August while trying to cross by swimming the border between northern Morocco and the Spanish enclave of Ceuta,

the Moroccan authorities reported.

- [Arrests](#) of African migrants in Tangier. On the 2nd of July, after a 24 hours ultimatum issued by the Interior Ministry, the police raided the neighborhood Boukhalef in Tangier for a wide operation of expulsion of sub-Saharan migrants.
- A Moroccan [man suffocated](#) while being smuggled to Spain in a suitcase stowed in the boot of a car. The man, was found dead after the car arrived at the port of Almeria on a ferry from Melilla, a Spanish enclave in North Africa. In May a similar attempt was conducted when an [eight year old boy](#) from the Ivory Coast was smuggled into Spain from Morocco, The suitcase was carried by a 19 year old woman into Ceuta.

NIGER

Routes

- Since the beginning of 2015, more than 5,600 people who attempted to migrate to Europe have been returned to their countries of origin from the capital city Niamey, according to [IOM](#).
- Niamey constitutes one of the most important travel hubs along the route for many migrants originating from west Sub-Saharan countries. IOM estimates that more than [100,000 migrants](#) will cross Niger this year on their way to Magreb countries.
- Furthermore [Authorities in Niger](#) estimate that between 40,000 and 80,000 migrants passed through the country in 2014 and expect up to 120,000 people to migrate through Niger this year.

Trafficking

- Niger has [stepped up efforts](#) to combat the smuggling of migrants since 2013, when 92 of its own citizens died in the Algerian

desert while attempting to make it to Europe. Measures have included the creation of the National Agency against the Trafficking of Persons, the National Commission for the Fight against Human Trafficking and most recently, in May, the adoption of an anti-human smuggling law by the National Assembly. The new legislation is the first of its kind in the region and allows for convicted smugglers to receive up to 30 years in prison. "(Smuggling) affects, in one way or another, almost all areas of Niger," said Marou Amadou, Niger's justice minister, bemoaning the country's location in the Sahel, its porous borders, the illiteracy of its population, and the temptation for poor Nigeriens to seek easy money from the migrant business. Niger's government is now asking for an additional \$4.1 million from donors to finance a five-year action plan to bolster anti-smuggling capabilities and help victims.

SUDAN

New Arrivals

- From December 2013 to 29th July 2015 over [199,828](#) persons have arrived in Sudan from South Sudan.
- Sudan hosts an estimated [350,000](#) Southern Sudanese individuals following the secession of South Sudan from Sudan.
- Some [800](#) new South Sudanese arrivals in the Abyei area require assistance.
- During the week 13-19 July, a total [2,157](#) refugees arrived in Sudan at an average rate of 308 people per day. Of these people, 102 travelled to Khartoum open areas.
- A total of 5,994 people have so far arrived in the month of July, a comparative drop from last month's 38,311 new arrivals.

Migrant Vulnerabilities

- [29,000](#) vulnerable people in Ammar Jad-ed, Central Darfur now have access to safe drinking water and over 1,150 emergency latrines.
- In [South Kordofan](#), over 600 people whose homes were damaged by heavy rains and floods are in need of assistance. In North

Kordofan's El Obeid town, an estimated 400 South Sudanese refugees need assistance, according to WFP.

Trafficking

- Sudan's police have rescued [six foreign hostages](#) from a human trafficker in a wide campaign against the human trafficking in the Eastern parts of the country at the beginning of the month. They also managed to rescue 154 irregular migrants in the remote desert between Sudan and Libya, where they were en route to Libya and then southern Europe. The hostages were mainly from Eritrea and Ethiopia.
- Human trafficking is widely spread on the border between Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia, with hundreds of refugees being abducted and taken as hostages for ransom in Sudan.
- Sudan ratified laws that ban human trafficking just this year

TUNISIA

Boat departures / Arrivals / Rescues

- [143](#) Individuals rescued at sea have ap-

proached UNHCR to claim asylum in Tunisia in 2015.

MEDITERRANEAN

GREECE / BALKAN ROUTE

New Arrivals

- Since the beginning of the year, a staggering number of people had arrived in Greece by sea, many on flimsy and unsafe vessels. While [Syrians](#) make up 63 per cent of all arrivals since the beginning of the year, the percentage of Syrian arrivals increased in July to 70 per cent. Nearly all new arrivals in Greece are refugees from the wars in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.
- More than [3,000](#) refugees are currently living in difficult conditions at the makeshift accommodation site of Cara Tepe, and 1,000 are camping outside the Moria facility.
- So far in 2015, over [225,000](#) refugees and migrants have arrived by sea in the Mediterranean and around 2,100 are estimated to have died or gone missing while trying to reach Europe

Refugees / Asylum seekers

- On Tuesday, July 7, [four migrants died](#), while at least 15 others were reported missing in the Aegean Sea, after a boat carrying migrants sank in waters between Turkey and the Greek islands of Farmakonisi and Agathonisi, according to Greek authorities.
- On Wednesday, July 8 the body of a man was recovered and [18 others are feared drowned](#) after a boat destined for Greece capsized about 15kms off Turkey. Some 21 survivors told rescuers there were about 40 people on the boat when it capsized probably due to overloading.
- On Thursday, July 16 at least [six people](#)

[have died](#) after a boat carrying Syrian asylum seekers sank off the northwestern coast of Turkey while on their way to Greece. The passengers included women and children. They were coming from the town of Ayvacik and headed for the Greek island of Lesbos when their boat sank.

- According to the [Hellenic Coast Guard](#), some 900 people a day have been crossing the Aegean over the past month. During the first week of July, 7,202 migrants arrived in Greece by sea. Their main countries of origin were Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and Somalia. The largest numbers came from Syria.

Migrant Vulnerabilities:

- Migrants trying to sail from Turkey to Greece are increasingly reporting being [attacked](#) by gunmen trying to prevent them from reaching Europe, according to multiple sources. The reports came as the UN's refugee agency on Friday 31st of July said Greece's infrastructure was falling "far short" of the needs of the 109,000 migrants who have arrived in the country this year, fleeing war, poverty and persecution. Reports of attacks on migrants were particularly common around the Greek island of Lesbos in the east Aegean Sea.

ITALY / CENTRAL MED ROUTE

Boat departure / Arrivals / Rescues

- A Frontex-deployed Norwegian vessel brought [785 migrants](#) to the port of Palermo, Italy, on Saturday 25 July morning after three Italian coast guard vessels rescued them from a wooden boat and a rubber dinghy off the Libyan coast on Thursday. Among the rescued migrants there were 133 women and 27 children. Members of the crew gave plush toys, which they brought from Norway, to the children aboard. Most of the migrants said they came from Eritrea. During the last week of July more than 6 100 migrants were saved off the coast of Libya. Since the start of the year, some 81 500 migrants have been rescued in the Central Mediterranean, with one in four saved with the participation of vessels and aircraft deployed by Frontex.
- Some [456 people](#), including several dozen children, were rescued by an Irish naval patrol responding to a distress call on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28 but 14 others died.
- Italy's coast guard said about [1,800](#) migrants were rescued from seven overcrowded vessels on Saturday 1 August, while five corpses were found on a large rubber boat carrying 212 others. The dead bodies were found on board at the time of the rescue, a coast guard spokeswoman said on Sunday. The cause of death was not yet known,

Migrant vulnerability

- More migrants are [missing](#) and likely drowned in the Mediterranean after an-

other overloaded vessel sank off the Libyan coast this week. This shipwreck occurred on Wednesday 5 August

- The Mediterranean has become the world's [deadliest barrier](#) for migrants and refugees, with 3,500 thought to have died at sea last year and almost 2,000 so far this year. Many are fleeing poverty and violence in the Middle East and Africa.
- The number of fatalities has started to [decrease since May](#). This is probably due to the large presence of European Union/Frontex ships in international waters. The enhancement of the EU's Operation Triton has enabled maritime forces to save more migrants lives in the Channel of Sicily.

Trafficking

- Papiro Operation: Indictment of [33 people](#) for Human Trafficking.
- Glauco Operation: Alleged Smuggler gang of [24 people arrested](#) in Sicily. Furthermore the operation was able to identify a transnational network with operations in central and north Africa, especially Libya, but also with branches in Europe, namely, Scandinavia, UK, Netherlands and Germany, with significant centers of operation in Italy, especially in Agrigento, Lampedusa, Palermo, Catania, Rome and Milan.

MEDITERRANEAN OVERVIEW

187,377	Jan-July 2015 total arrivals in Europe
219,000	Jan-Dec 2014 total arrivals in Europe
	Greece
88,695	Jan- July 2015 total arrivals Greece
14,714	Jan- July 2014 total arrivals Greece
85,453	Jan - July 2015 sea arrivals Greece (Hellenic police data)
3,242	Jan- July 2015 land arrivals Greece (Hellenic police data)
Greek arrivals:	88,204 Syria
(incl. Aug)	32,414 Afghanistan
	9,445 Pakistan
	5,421 Iraq
	1,757 Somalia
	1,009 Palestine
	Italy
93,540	Jan - July 2015 total arrivals Italy (Ministry of Interior data)
87,915	Jan - July 2014 total arrivals Italy (Ministry of Interior data)
Italian arrivals:	25,567 Eritrea
	11,899 Nigeria of which 2,360 are female (433% increase to 2014)
	7,538 Somalia
	5,658 Sudan
	5,495 Syria
	Deaths in the Mediterranean
2,010	Total deaths 2015 en route to EU
1,931	Deaths on Central Med Route 2015
61	Deaths on Eastern Med Route 2015
18	Death on Western Med Route 2015
	Number of arrivals of unaccompanied minors (UAM) in Italy 2015
225	January
296	February
92	March
1,073	April
1,202	May
1,456	June
2,008	July
2,107	UAM arriving from Eritrea in Italy 2015
800	UAM arriving from Somalia in Italy 2015
534	UAM arriving from Gambia in Italy 2015
514	UAM arriving from Nigeria in Italy 2015

Sources if not specified: IOM, UNHCR

RESEARCH OF INTEREST

The Sea Route to Europe: The Mediterranean Passage in the Age of Refugees

A large majority of the thousands of people who made dangerous sea journeys across the Mediterranean into Europe in the first six months of 2015 were fleeing war, conflict or persecution. This makes the current Mediterranean crisis primarily a refugee crisis, according to the landmark UNHCR report released on July 1. The report can be accessed [here](#)

Protection for Sale: the big South African asylum racket

The African Centre for Migration and Society (ACMS) and Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) released a critical expose that discloses a pattern of widespread and systematic corruption at all levels of the South African asylum system, involving a wide range of officials including security guards, interpreters, refugee officers, and police officers. The expose can be found [here](#)

MULTI-MEDIA OF INTEREST

Al Jazeera, Between the desert and the fire

New media production for Al Jazeera World that explores what continues to drive Eritreans from their own country; the poor conditions they often encounter in refugee camps across the border; and the smuggling and human trafficking surrounding them. Find it [here](#)

The Guardian, MOAS Rescue Mission Short-Film

The Guardian spends five days with the Migrants Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) meetings its crew and the migrants it saved. MOAS, a privately funded search-and-rescue vessel, was founded in 2013 and is made up of international humanitarian workers, security professionals, medical staff and maritime officers - they search for and save migrants stranded at sea. During the first six months of 2015, an estimated 137,000 migrants tried to cross the Mediterranean sea - the majority fleeing war, conflict or persecution. Watch it [here](#)

Calais migrants: life in the Jungle - video

Away from the chaotic scenes on Calais's motorways and ports, the migrant camp known as the 'new Jungle' is growing fast and showing signs of becoming a permanent fixture. The Guardian spent three weeks following the lives of a few of its 3,000 residents, rare in-depth access that reveals a growing human cost of the crisis, and the challenges facing refugees and migrants trying to reach Britain. Watch it [here](#)