Human mobility in North Africa is characterized by complex movements originating within the region, as well as in other parts of Africa and the Middle East. They involve regular and irregular migrants, including those escaping poverty, discrimination and other human rights violations, those in search of a more dignified life and better opportunities, refugees and asylum seekers, those looking to reunite with family abroad, smuggled migrants, victims of trafficking and unaccompanied minors. People travelling along these routes often experience severe human rights violations. Refugees and migrants are stranded in transit or get caught up in conflicts and remain in situations of increasing vulnerability. State practice and actions of state authorities can include mandatory detention, inadequate conditions of detention, violence and discrimination by border authorities and unlawful and disproportionate use of force. To address the rights, needs and vulnerabilities of the people moving in these mixed and complex flows, further insight is needed into the circumstances of their movements. Through innovative research and knowledge management activities, and by facilitating inter-agency collaboration, MHub aims to promote a human rights-based approach to ensuring the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows along the North African migratory routes.

MHub works on behalf of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force consisting of DRC, IOM, OHCHR, MMC, Save the Children, UNHCR and UNODC. 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 serves as the secretariat of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force.

MHub is a go-to place for knowledge, data and research. MHub collects, analyzes and disseminates relevant data among North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) members and concerned stakeholders. It produces regular trend bulletins, undertakes innovative research and organizes expert discussions.

A platform for inter-agency exchange and coordination. MHub provides the secretariat for the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force with a view to

- Pooling expertise: North Africa MMTF members regularly share their expertise and identify good practices and lessons learnt. MHub collects this expertise and redesseminates it through its information channels.
- Disseminating innovative and good practices: MHub and the North Africa MMTF members share lessons learnt with governments and concerned actors to promote the protection of the human rights of people on the move.
- Establishing priority areas for cooperation and potential joint programme responses: Exchange and co-operation among North Africa MMTF members and with national governments, inter-regional bodies and other UN agencies can promote synergies, define new interventions, and minimize duplication.
- Advocacy: MHub provides a collective means for Task Force members to highlight pressing policy and programmatic concerns.
MHub has delivered a range of innovative outputs:

- **Trend bulletins** are issued on a monthly basis and contain up to date information on mixed migration trends in, to and through North Africa. They are disseminated among policymakers, academia, development partners and other relevant stakeholders.

- In June, we published the **Migrants and Detention in North Africa** study.

- In November, we published the **Conditions and Risks of Mixed Migration in North East Africa** study (see below).

- Completed small scale **pilot research** that analyzed issues associated with the socio-economic background of migrants, targeting in particular those coming from Western Africa that are hosted in Italian centers for asylum seekers.

- **Migrant Footprints** is a data hub, knowledge production, analysis and communication tool designed to make the patchwork of information held at the regional, country and individual level available to stakeholders in an easy to use & efficient platform. The data is gathered and imported from a variety of existing sources and combined to provide an interactive and visual tools for exploring the complexity of human migrations in North Africa. - [www.migrantfootprints.info](http://www.migrantfootprints.info)

- The **North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force**, consisting of a range of agencies working on mixed migration, gathers bi-monthly to share information and discuss policy and programming.

- **Expert speaker** presentations were held in Cairo on topics in mixed migration in the region and highlighted knowledge gaps and policy recommendations.

- MHub’s social media channels provide regular updates and news on mixed migration in the region.

- Coordinated a **Task Force Key Messages** statement for the Khartoum Process meeting in Sharm El Sheikh September 2015

All this and more can be found on our website: [www.mixedmigrationhub.org](http://www.mixedmigrationhub.org)

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Research

**Conditions and Risks of Mixed Migration in North East Africa**
Sussex Centre for Migration Research, University of Sussex
Dr. Michael Collyer, Vanessa Iaria, Markus Breines, Elisa Pascucci.

This research project maps out current movement of mixed migratory flow along the North East Africa migratory route, with a focus on flows into, through and out of Sudan.

Applying a migrant focused perspective, it identifies the principal risks to migrants' safety and human rights, migrants' coping strategies to avoid violence. Special attention is given to the activities of local and transnational criminal gangs and non-state agents.

The research analyzes the efforts of governments and non-governmental and international organizations to reduce the security risks migrants face. It examines the role of institutional actors, including states' migration policies, border management activities, detention facilities and practical support and advocacy.

Published in November 2015

**Detained Youth**
The fate of Young Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Libya Today
Asmita Naik

This research project contributes to a better understanding of the issue of migrants and detention in North Africa, with a special focus on unaccompanied and smuggled minors and young people. The research applies a region-wide perspective with a focus on Libya.

The study maps out the scope and prevalence of the issue and the experiences of migrant detainees. It analyses the context of laws and policies on detention in the region and identifies international standards and best practices.

A review of existing policies by governments, multilateral institutions and civil society is aimed at informing the development of policy and programme responses to the needs of migrants in detention.

Published in June 2015