

Newsletter October – December 2018

## Better Migration Management Horn of Africa

This is the sixth issue of the Newsletter on progress and developments in the implementation of the Better Migration Management Programme (BMM). The programme is funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The programme aims to improve migration management in the region, and to address the trafficking and smuggling of migrants within and from the Horn of Africa. The priority is to strengthen the rights of migrants and protect them better from violence, abuse, and exploitation. The aim is to make migration in the region easier and safer. Find more information at the end of this newsletter.

Here you will find news, information, and stories that provide an insight into BMM's activities. The stories represent a selection of activities that have been implemented since October 2018. They have also been published on the [European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa \(EUTF\)](#) website.

### Regional: East and Horn of Africa border agencies boost cooperation

**End of October 2018, border authorities from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and Tanzania took significant steps to boost this cooperation, including the establishment of inter-agency cross-border technical working groups.**



Senior leaders in border management from eight countries attended the meeting. Photo: IOM

A meeting allowed for bilateral and trilateral encounters through which several countries established joint cross-border patrols, decided to work towards opening joint border crossings, and agreed on measures to exchange best practices. The meeting, which took place in Nairobi (Kenya), was organised by IOM as one of the implementing organisations of BMM. The meeting led to the following bilateral and trilateral cooperation decisions:

- For the first time, Ethiopia and South Sudan agreed to conduct joint cross-border patrols and to work on opening new border crossing points between the two countries.
- Sudan and South Sudan agreed to work together on opening four border crossing points, including One Stop Border Posts. At a One Stop Border Posts, passengers, cargo and vehicles stop just once to process border crossing formalities when exiting

Implemented by



one country and entering another.

- Uganda and South Sudan agreed to implement joint cross-border patrols and to establish Integrated Border Management Committees.
- Kenya, Tanzania, and Somalia agreed to implement Integrated Border Management Committees and cross-border patrols.
- Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania agreed on increased cooperation, exchange and implementation of best practices on counter-trafficking efforts as well as on establishment of cross-border patrols.

Keynote speaker at the workshop, the Kenyan Principal Secretary for Immigration and Registration of Persons, Mr. Gordon Kihalangwa, said: 'With increasing complexity of migration flows, countries in the East and Horn of Africa region should enhance cross-border cooperation in order to effectively deal with existing challenges in border management which include; trafficking of persons and smuggling of migrants among other forms of transnational organised crime'.

**BMM strengthens inter-agency cooperation on border management**



## Kenya Institute of Migration Studies and post-graduation for migration officers launched

The Government of Kenya and the European Union officially launched the Kenya Institute of Migration Studies (KIMS) together with representatives from GIZ, IOM, European and Regional embassies at the University of Nairobi on 11 December 2018.

The KIMS is the regional centre of excellence for migration studies, affiliated with the Department of Immigration Services and hosted by the University of Nairobi. The Institute will train migration practitioners from all IGAD member states (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda). KIMS combines academic excellence with valuable practical skills to better equip regional practitioners to manage the many-faced challenges of migration management in the 21st century.



On the left: Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i of the KIMS announced that the institute will become "the regional go-to place". Photo: GIZ/ Timothy Njoroge

The post-graduate diploma course is a prestigious flagship course and will be taught by governmental migration practitioners, international experts from the University of Nairobi and the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. The course combines practical hands-on skills with academic expertise in an intense academic year. The course will analyse contemporary migration patterns, identify its causes and consequences, its risks and

challenges and formulate effective policy solutions. It will also benefit from a state-of-the-art document fraud examination laboratory. The first course with 25 regional migration officials will start in May 2019. Both, the KIMS and the post-graduate diploma in migration studies, have been established with the support of BMM. The objective is to improve the same level migration expertise in the governments of the IGAD member states.

BMM improves migration expertise

What makes the KIMS special is that it 'truly is a demand-driven programme', Professor Khasakhala from the University of Nairobi explained.




At a fair in Kenya, students got information about the opportunities to study or volunteer in European countries. Photo: GIZ/Wayne Wambua



Besides information about migration some of the events like here in Sudan also provided cultural performances. Photo: GIZ/Carolin Hess

## Several Events at the International Migrants Day highlighted the efforts, contributions, and rights of migrants in the region

**On the occasion of the UN International Migrants Day information fairs, presentations, and sensitising activities have taken place in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan.**

 On 18 December 2018, around 200 young Kenyan students attended the celebration of the International Migrants Day to seek information and inspiration on possibilities to study abroad. The event took place in Nairobi. It was organised by BMM and the International Organisation for Migration's (IOM) Global Film Festival. The United Nations marked 18 December as International Migrants Day to highlight the efforts, contributions, and rights of migrants worldwide. This spirit in mind, the Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to Kenya, Bruno Pozzi stated in his opening speech: 'Migration is a powerful engine for growth, development, innovation, for an exchange and mutual understanding of the people'. The full-day event consisted of a panel debate with young Kenyans who returned from abroad and shared their experiences, a tutorial on safe migration, an Opportunities Fair and the IOM Global Film Festival. At the fair Embassies of several European countries presented



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opportunities to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer in their countries. The EU programme Erasmus+ as well as the Pan-African Masters Consortium in Interpretation and Translation (PAMCIT) attracted students with their supportive offers. A [brochure](#) on these opportunities is available online.



In **Sudan**, BMM organised an event to sensitise for the protection of domestic workers. 150 students and their families, teachers, representatives of the government and of Civil Society Organisations (CSO) attended the day which was under the heading 'Your home is someone else' working place'. Many of the domestic workers are Ethiopians, followed by South Sudanese, Eritreans, and Kenyans. As most of them migrated irregular, they are vulnerable to human rights violations. Many are overworked, abused, and often not paid. 'It is our duty to seek justice for vulnerable persons,' said Ismael Tirab, representative of the National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT). 'We have to make sure that the rights of domestic workers are not violated no matter who they are and where they come from.' During the event, a role game was played to get the participants in interaction and communication on the rights of domestic workers.



In **Ethiopia**, the EU Delegation organised a one-day event in Addis Ababa. It was joined by 62 attendees and many children who were beneficiaries of various local NGOs such as the Organization for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Integration of Female Street children (OPRIFS) and the Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE), both supported by BMM. Organisations like Stemming Irregular Migration in Northern and Central Ethiopia (SINCE), ILO, GIZ, UNODC, EF, and IOM gave a comprehensive presentation of their migration-related work in Ethiopia and in the wider Horn of Africa region, while stressing the inherent nature of migration to humanity and the importance of respecting migrant's migratory decisions.



The IMD in Ethiopia was organised by the EU Delegation under the theme "Empowering migrants, empowering communities". Photo: GIZ/Thomas MacPherson



In **Djibouti**, BMM organised in collaboration with the *Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme* (CNDH) an exchange between local officials on the situation of migration and children's rights. Under the theme "Here or elsewhere, let's protect our children", the participants shared best practised and experiences to improve their migration related tasks. A theatre group presented a role play to illustrate the situation especially of migrant children.

**BMM sensitises on migration and migrants' rights**



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## South Sudan: First migration policy ever developed

In October 2018, a three-day consultation with key Government stakeholders set priorities for the development of South Sudan's migration policy; the first such policy in the young country's history. This consultative workshop was facilitated through funding from BMM and the Government of Japan.

'Migration in itself is not a bad thing,' said James Pui Yak, Deputy Inspector General of the South Sudan Police. 'We South Sudanese have been to so many countries as migrants and refugees. That experience has shown us the benefit of migration,' he added.

When a country is experiencing conflict, often migrants' specific needs are not initially considered. Migrants, particularly those with an irregular status, are vulnerable to abuse. The impact of a crisis can be worse for them, as they cannot easily access information or aid. This is not only the case in South Sudan but also in countries like Somalia, Yemen, and Libya.

South Sudan hosts thousands of migrants - estimated to be more than 845,000 (6.7 per cent of the population) according to the 2017 International Migration Report – the majority came from East Africa and the Horn of Africa and often have a non-legal immigration status. South Sudan is not only a country of destination for many migrants; it is also a major transit hub on the route to Northern Africa. Migrants move to and through South Sudan for a variety of reasons, a phenomenon described as mixed migration. Groups in the country include refugees, migrant workers and their families, unaccompanied migrant children, and victims of trafficking. Those travelling to or through the country often enlist the services of smugglers to facilitate their journey.

Discussions during the consultation focused on establishing valid facts and figures on migration in South Sudan, including mixed migration, labour migration and migration and development.

**BMM improves migration management**



## Kenya: Human Rights in Migration Governance

**More than 170 representatives from national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies participated at the regional conference "Human Rights in Migration Governance - From Influences to Responsibilities and Practice" in Nairobi in October 2018. The event was organised by BMM in collaboration with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR).**

The various forms of conflict, climate change, trafficking of human beings, and the displacement of its population are some of the most significant contemporary problems facing the Horn of Africa. The UNHCR estimated that 2015 over 67,000 people originated from the Horn of Africa were on the move within the Horn of Africa region. The movement of irregular migrants and refugees can be extremely dangerous and the International

**BMM raise awareness on Human Rights**



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Organisation for Migration (IOM) estimated that in the same year, over 5,350 migrants died globally while on the move. To address the many challenges posed by migration and to protect the rights of all migrants and their families, a human rights based governance approach is necessary and cooperation among governments is required.



Esther Mwangi, Kenyan Policy Analyst and Adviser at the Mixed Migration Centre, discusses with another participant. Photo: GIZ/Julian Manjahi

BMM's conference focused on the development of practical recommendations for mainstreaming human rights in migration governance. This event offered participants a forum for discussion, knowledge exchange and networking with practitioners, policy advisors, advocates, and academics to explore the influences that shape the perception of migration and compare practices of protection of migrant's human rights. The recommendations will be presented to relevant representatives of IGAD member states and

regional human rights institutions to promote better policy and practice. BMM, KNCHR, and IGAD will review the discussions from the conference to shape concrete and actionable recommendations to be taken up by regional human rights institutions and IGAD member states to ensure the dignity of people on the move.



### **'I learned that I can work hard in my own country and be successful' - after four years in Libya, Shukrya is now rebuilding her life back home in Ethiopia**

**'One of my main goals when I decided to migrate was the opportunity to change my life and that of my family,' twenty-seven-year-old Shukrya says. 'However, once you leave your country, things are not as you imagined them to be. And, in my case, nothing turned out as planned.'**

Upon her arrival in Libya four years ago, Shukrya worked as a domestic helper, but her employer never paid for her work. The situation around her neighbourhood also deteriorated - women were being raped, people were subject to attacks and burglaries. Finally, Shukrya ran away.

As her life in Libya had still not brought her stability, Shukrya turned to a smuggler who promised to take her to Europe. Along with other migrants, Shukrya waited for a month, without food or shelter, waiting for the smuggler to fulfil his promise. She soon realised her money had been pocketed and the smuggler would not come back to take her to Europe. This was when a fellow Ethiopian told her about the International Organization for Migration (IOM) return services.



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Three weeks after registering at the IOM office, Shukrya was set to return to Ethiopia. With IOM assistance and funding provided by BMM, she returned home safely in January 2018 after four years in Libya. As she did not have any means to support herself, IOM provided her with a grant to fulfil her wish to work in retail. She found a good location to sell her wares and, in May 2018, received Basic Business Skill training from WISE, a non-governmental organisation for Women in Self-Employment working with IOM, to help run her business. 'I am very happy to be back in my country and glad to finally be able to support myself,' she says.

About her experience as a migrant, Shukrya says: 'Not everything you learn is from books and school and I learned a lot from my experience. After I returned, I also learned that I can work hard in my own country and be successful. Although some of the challenges I faced were worth it in hindsight and shaped me to become who I am today, I still would not advise anyone to take the path that I took then.'

**BMM assists vulnerable  
migrants especially  
women**



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## Background and Conceptual Framework

Better Migration Management (BMM) is a regional development cooperation programme established under the [EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#), which aims to address the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa. The goal of BMM is to support the countries of the Horn of Africa region, in enhancing their cooperation and adoption of common approaches to improve migration management, with a focus on trafficking and smuggling of migrants within and from the Horn of Africa. The programme is designed to respond to the needs identified by partner countries taking their priorities as a basis for the definition of programme activities. Key to the programme is the alignment with existing mechanisms and initiatives of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

BMM is funded for a duration of 3,5 years (April 2016 to September 2019) by the EUTF with EUR 40 Mio. and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with EUR 6 Mio.

BMM implementation is currently taking place in eight partner countries (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda). Egypt and Tunisia are included in activities of a regional nature. BMM is maintaining contact and exchange with the South Sudanese Government at the level of the Khartoum Process to discuss possible opportunities for engagement. Due to the political sensitivities, every activity is implemented in close coordination with the EU Delegation. A more comprehensive overview can be found on the [GIZ](#) and [EUTF](#) website.

A BMM programme structure has established in all partner countries. There are three regional hubs with project offices namely: Khartoum (for Sudan and Eritrea), Addis Ababa (for Ethiopia and Djibouti) and Nairobi (for Kenya and Somalia), as well as one national project office (Uganda). The implementing partners, British Council (BC), Civipol, Expertise France (EF), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Italian Department of Public Security (IDoPS), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) have elaborated operational plans in close cooperation with the partner governments, Civil Society Organisations (CSO), and local implementing partners in most countries.

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