

Newsletter October 2022 – May 2023

Better Migration Management (BMM) Programme Horn of Africa



We are pleased to share with you the 13th issue of the newsletter on progress and developments in implementing the BMM programme, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the European Union (EU).

As we enter the third phase of BMM, we look back at 6 years of implementation. Since 2016, BMM has supported national authorities and institutions in the Horn of Africa in facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration. In BMM III, which started in October 2022, we are building on the achievements and results of the previous phases, consolidating our fields of action and strengthening sustainability. In January, we welcomed the new programme director Marina Mdaihli and, in March, we started implementing activities under BMM's three components: migration governance, addressing trafficking in human beings and protection.

A look at the figures and what is behind them

We measure our results through quantitative and qualitative project monitoring. This is important not only to show in a transparent manner what our activities have achieved and to show the budget allocated to them, but also to check whether we are on the right track.

BMM is a complex, multi-layered programme that addresses a range of topics and works with many partners at different levels. Figures make our results more concrete and tangible, and stories and pictures make them more meaningful. Adding to the overall picture, the



Implemented by

voices of our partners provide insights into the work they carry out, often in the background, to achieve our common goal.

With our new booklet *Better Migration Management – at a glance*, we take you on a journey through the different areas of the work we carry out to promote safe migration and protect migrants. We hope you enjoy reading it [here](#).

Child protection beyond borders: Ethiopia and Djibouti join hands

Migrant children are especially exposed to different forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and trafficking. Unfortunately, far from being an isolated phenomenon, the migration of unaccompanied minors is a widespread problem across the Horn of Africa. In 2019, Ethiopia and Djibouti embarked on a collaborative approach, aiming to ensure the protection, return and reintegration of vulnerable minors, according to their best interests.



A significant majority of migrant children stranded in Djibouti come from Ethiopia. (Photo: © GIZ)

According to a study conducted by IOM in 2018 (*Étude sur les enfants en situation de rue dans la ville de Djibouti*), over 80% of children stranded in Djibouti and found living on the streets or in similar situations came from Ethiopia. The alarming statistics revealed in the study underline the need for action to address the challenges faced by child migrants. To this end, BMM has been supporting the authorities

of both countries in strengthening a coordinated cross-border response. From 22 to 24 May, a delegation of child protection stakeholders from Djibouti undertook a long-awaited trip to Ethiopia. This mission, which had been delayed due to the pandemic, was a crucial step forward in addressing this problem. The delegates discussed technical issues and shared best practices, with a focus on managing shelters, providing legal advice and establishing standard operating procedures for best interests of the child determinations.

Ifrah Ali Ahmed, representing the Djiboutian Ministry of the Interior, emphasised the significance of the mission, explaining that, while it was a technical exchange, it would lay the foundation for informing key policy-makers, ensuring the active involvement of these stakeholders in developing strategies that safeguard the rights and wellbeing of vulnerable migrant children.

CSO roadmap to sustainability



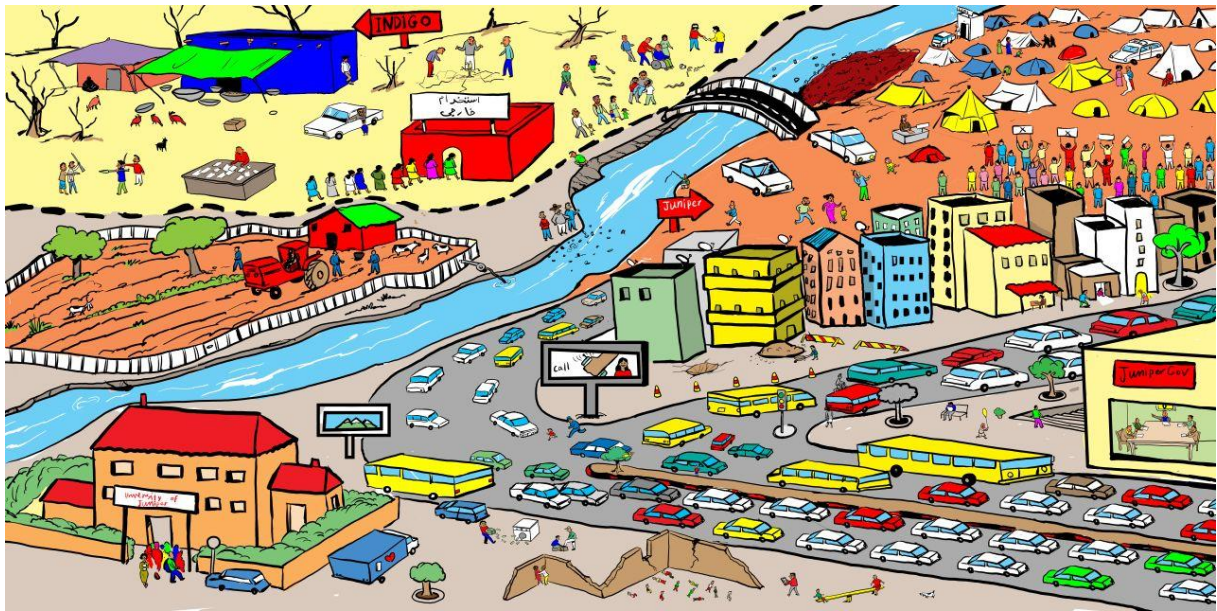
Phase III is all about how to make BMM’s impact sustainable. Projects, by their very nature, must eventually come to an end, and those involved should be encouraged from an early stage to assume ownership and continue the activities started together.

From the very start of BMM, local CSOs have played an important role in ensuring protection for migrants and victims of trafficking and promoting safe migration. Today, BMM partners with around 80 CSOs from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, brought together in a regional network. As early as 2019, the CSOs suggested jointly developing a sustainable strategy to ensure that they are well positioned to carry on without BMM. At their last annual forum, the CSOs created a detailed plan for the way forward, which has been turned into a visual roadmap.

The roadmap highlights key points in the transition to sustainability, helping to build confidence in the process. It illustrates, for example, what the role of the new hosting organisation will be. It also sets the agenda for the next annual CSO forum, which will empower CSOs to speak with one voice.

Over these past years, BMM has supported an increasing number of CSO activities: an annual forum, monthly learning calls, regular training and support to develop joint recommendations for IGAD. These activities and achievements will now be anchored sustainably within the network throughout BMM III. *‘With the roadmap in place, there is a clear plan of action and a sense of direction for the network, ensuring that all members work towards the same goal and set the same key priorities. It will also help the network adapt to changing circumstances, ensuring long-term sustainability and making a meaningful difference in the communities we serve,’* remarks Mrs Nimo Mohamed Ali from the Candle of Hope Foundation.

Juniper: Case-based learning through the very real struggles of a very fake town



Let us take you to Juniper, where Governor Tesfay, Community Elder Mama Ruth and University Professor Betty promote social and economic development and create prospects for the city's residents. Juniper is hosting migrants from famine-affected Indigo on the other side of the border. When food is scarce and parents cannot provide shoes and school materials for their children, young Indigos leave home to find work in the big city – Juniper. Once there, they often encounter harsh working conditions, get exploited, fall into the hands of criminal networks, experience xenophobia or become criminals themselves.

Juniper and Indigo are not real, nor are Tesfay, Ruth or Betty, but the challenges they face are. BMM has developed case-based training with a whole-of-government (WoG) approach to build the capacities of the members of Regional Partnership Coalitions (RPCs) in managing migration. The training is based on a simulation game in which the participants put themselves in the shoes of different characters from Juniper, focusing on three thematic areas related to migration: cross-border migration, internally displaced persons and climate change.

Following a training-of-trainers (ToT) event for seven experts in April 2023, members of the RPCs in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region and the Amhara Region were then trained by the seven new trainers. Using the WoG approach, which involves collaboration among different government ministries, institutions and agencies to find and provide common and comprehensive solutions to specific problems, the training shows the participants the role of each character – Governor Tesfay, Community Elder Mama Ruth, University Professor Betty and the other fictional characters in the play – in achieving change.

Different project management techniques, including problem identification and prioritisation, stakeholder mapping and assignment of responsibilities, are explained through the role-play. *'This exceptional and appealing methodology makes the training*

more engaging and interactive,’ observes participant Kaleb. *‘Using the visuals of Juniper and Indigo and the characters made it less of a presentation and more of a discussion of ideas and reflection on the complicated scenario of mixed migration issues.’*

BMM will further develop the idea and design of the role-play for future training to make the knowledge transferred even more tangible and memorable.

In Short

KIMS welcomes its master’s degree students to their second semester

The Kenya Institute of Migration Studies (KIMS) is recognised as a regional centre of excellence for migration studies in the Horn of Africa. In February 2023, the fourth cohort comprising 35 students successfully completed the first semester of KIMS’s full-time, one-year master’s degree course. The COVID-19 pandemic meant that the first semester had to be conducted online, but the students were finally able to come together on the campus in Nairobi to embark on their second semester.

The students, who are sponsored by BMM, are sent on the course by ministries and other governmental organisations concerned with migration of countries that are members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in the Horn of Africa. This year’s cohort includes officials from Djibouti, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Sudan and Somalia, making for a fruitful and diverse learning environment with a rich mix of different backgrounds and experiences.



KIMS was established by BMM in collaboration with the Kenyan Directorate of Immigration Services and aims to build the capacities of the region’s migration practitioners, enabling them to gain academic knowledge and practical skills in migration management and improve their research and analytical skills. Moreover, the programme gives students the opportunity to be part of a regional network and exchange ideas and practices.

To find out more about the institute and applying for a place, click [here](#).

Opening of the upscaled Migration Response Centre in Tog-Wajalle

On 11 May, the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in the Ethiopian border town of Tog-Wajalle opened its doors with a new upscaled facility to enable it to keep up with the growing numbers of migrants in need passing the border. Most of them are trying

to reach the Gulf States through Somalia. Supported by BMM, the centre assists hundreds of migrants every week with immediate life-saving support, including medical treatment, food and accommodation. *'MRCs are saving the lives of migrants who would have suffered greater hardship if they had continued their journey on treacherous irregular migration routes. This newly inaugurated centre in Tog-Wajalle will allow the government to improve protection and assistance for those who need it the most,'* says Tchalim Bawele, Migrant Protection Programme Manager of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Ethiopia.



MRCs are providing assistance to hundreds of migrants every week with live-saving support but also long-term measures.

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In addition, the MRC offers long-term assistance by providing transport services and livelihood support for the most vulnerable migrants to facilitate reintegration into their communities.

Learn anywhere, anytime: Our training course has gone digital!

BMZ's digital learning platform – atingi – allows users to participate in a variety of training events and courses free of charge. A newly uploaded course, developed by BMM, provides training on the risks of trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants and how to combat them. It includes various modules which provide a definition of these two terms, explain the differences between them and describe global legal frameworks, among other things.



Originally, the course was designed for civil society organisations (CSOs) partnering with BMM in the fields of assistance for victims of trafficking and migrants in need and raising awareness on safe migration. These CSOs, which have come together in a regional network, can regularly participate in different capacity building training events offered

by BMM and meet once a year at the Regional CSO Forum to Promote Safe and Fair Migration.

Making this course available online is part of efforts to reach more organisations, institutions and individuals beyond our BMM network and enable us to fight human trafficking and smuggling with greater force. Find the course [here](#).

Background and Conceptual Framework

BMM is a regional development cooperation programme commissioned by BMZ and co-financed by the EU with the aim of combating the trafficking and smuggling of migrants within and from the region and strengthening the protection of migrant rights. BMM supports the countries of the Horn of Africa region in enhancing their cooperation and fostering common approaches to improve migration management. The programme is designed to respond to the needs identified by the partner countries, using their priorities as a basis for the activities which follow a human rights-based approach. Key to the programme is its alignment with existing mechanisms and initiatives of the African Union and IGAD.

Phase III runs from October 2022 to September 2025 with an overall budget of EUR 41 million. It is implemented by the five implementation partners – British Council, CIVIPOL, IOM, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda.

A more comprehensive overview can be found on the regularly updated [GIZ website](#) and [INTPA website](#).

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