

EAST & HORN OF AFRICA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT - #21

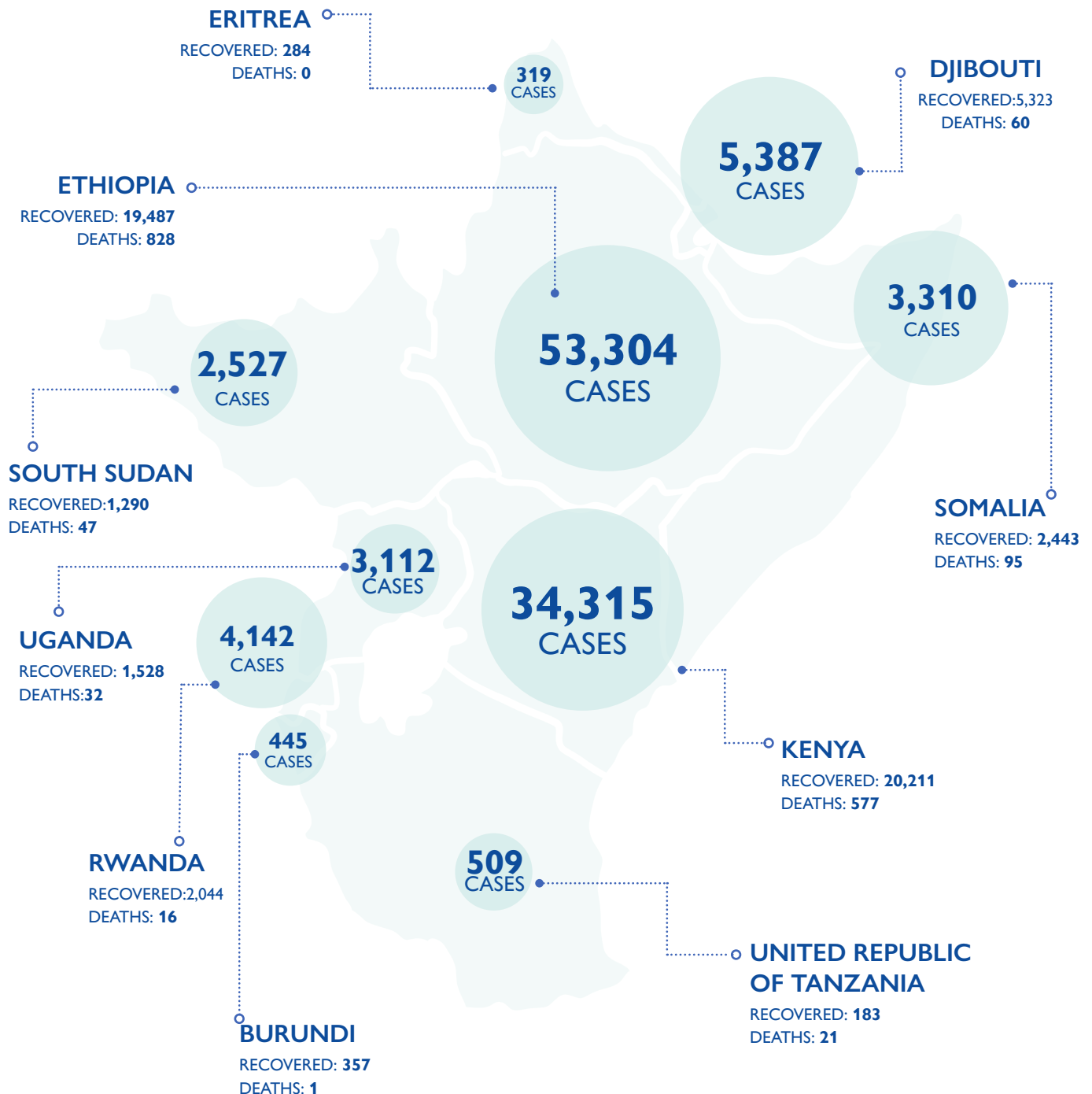


03 SEPTEMBER 2020 Update

107,379
CONFIRMED CASES

1680
CONFIRMED DEATHS

53,188
TOTAL RECOVERED



DISCLAIMER: The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on these maps may include errors and do not imply judgment of the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by IOM.



80,784

Migrant Movements observed (DTM, July 2020) (73% reduction compared to July 2019)



579

Migrant arrivals in Yemen from the Horn (DTM, July 2020) (94% reduction compared to July 2019)



6.3M

IDPs (July 2020 – DTM, OCHA)



EHoA SITUATION OVERVIEW

The number of people infected with COVID-19 in East and Horn of Africa is still increasing with the disease now infecting over 107,000 people. Migrants, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are more likely to be disproportionately affected by the impact of COVID-19, compared to non-migrants. Migratory routes and displacement settings by nature, are more exposed to conditions in which COVID-19 spreads. A lack of access to clean and sanitary conditions and environments, the poorer and makeshift overcrowded living circumstances in which these groups often find themselves, and an over-representation of pre-existing health issues, exacerbates the risk of exposure to the disease. Migrants are disproportionately at risk of experiencing stigma, xenophobia, and being blamed for COVID-19 and often do not have access to national public health services, may not feature in government response plans, and may not have access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as facemasks. Since many of these groups rely on mobility to find work, do business, border closures and movement restrictions are set to be particularly devastating for migrants. Meanwhile, thousands of migrants from the East and Horn of Africa remain stranded.

As of September 2, the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the region stands at 107,379. 1,441 new cases have been reported in the last day with most new cases reported in Ethiopia (1,173 daily increase 2.3%), followed by Kenya (114 daily increase 0.3%), Rwanda (79 daily increase 2.0%) and Uganda (75 daily increase 2.5%). Ethiopia remains the country with the highest number of confirmed cases in the region at 53,304 (49.6% of total case), followed by Kenya 34,315 (32.0%), followed by Djibouti 5,387 (5.0%).

IOM is supporting governments throughout the region respond to COVID-19 in the areas of risk communication, disease surveillance, infection prevention and control, case management, at 'Points of Entry' (PoEs), procurement and logistics, among other areas. IOM is advocating for migrants, including IDPs to be included in government responses to fight COVID-19. IOM launched a regional appeal for East and Horn of Africa for \$71.6M in April 2020, to meet the many needs of these communities. So far 72% of the required funds have been received. IOM has also launched an appeal for the Regional Migrant Response Plan for Horn of Africa and Yemen for migrants along the 'Eastern Route'— many of whom have been stranded trying to reach Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

Links to these appeals can be found here. <https://ronairobi.iom.int/publications/iom-east-and-horn-africa-strategic-and-preparedness-and-response-plan-covid-19>

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IOM COUNTRY RESPONSE

Partnerships and Coordination


IOM participated in IGAD's Expert Meeting on the impact of COVID-19 on people on the move in the IGAD region. The meeting outlined recommendations meant to strengthen cooperation on safe mobility, protection and socio-economic recovery in the context of COVID-19. IOM is working with the Government of **Ethiopia** to support 35 COVID-19 quarantine facilities in the capital Addis Ababa and other regions. **IOM South Sudan** is participating in the national Strategic Advisory Group, the National Task Force, COVID-19 National Steering Committee, Technical Working Groups, and State Task Forces with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, partners, and other stakeholders. IOM is also a member of the Needs Analysis Working Group, a key platform that provides decision-makers and responders with data and analysis on impact and needs. IOM is also continuing to lead the sub-committee on infection prevention and control/water sanitation and hygiene in communities and camp-like settings. In addition, IOM is participating in the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster Emergency Preparedness and Response technical working group to coordinate COVID-19 response in Juba. IOM **Somalia** is contributing to the overall objective of the National Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19, the UN COVID-19 Country Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP), as well as the IOM and WHO Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plans to halt further transmission of COVID-19 as well as mitigate the socio-economic impact of the outbreak. IOM builds its response on existing partnerships with relevant actors at global, regional, national and sub-national levels to ensure that IDPs and migrants, communities in hard to reach locations and other vulnerable groups are assisted. IOM is addressing cross-cutting humanitarian and development needs through the expansion of its programmes designed to engage directly with communities.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

Over 168,000 people have been reached with COVID-19 related hygiene awareness messages by IOM **Ethiopia** and another 10,000 people have been reached through 41 jerrycan cleaning campaigns. More than 1,200 people have been reached with handwashing demonstrations while 35 returnees in quarantine facilities in Addis Ababa have had access to health promotion and COVID-19 awareness raising activities. IOM provided flyers with information on COVID-19 related stress management to 50 households living at an IDP site in Dire Dawa. Eighty-nine WASH management

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committees and over 160 religious leaders have been trained on COVID-19. IOM has distributed 22 and 63 institutional cleaning and handwashing kits, respectively. IOM **Somalia** is continuing to raise awareness on COVID-19, particularly targeting internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrant communities, to ensure they are aware of the risks, signs and symptoms and mode of transmission and the appropriate mitigation measure to reduce the risks of contracting the disease. In Somalia over 800,000 people have been reached with information on COVID-19. IOM is also conducting community mobilization and sensitization sessions on good hygiene and sanitation practices among IDP communities. In coordination with the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster, IOM has reached over 900 IDP sites with risk communication and community engagement activities. IOM in South Sudan is continuing with COVID-19 awareness and hygiene promotion activities to communities living in and out of Protection of Civilian sites (PoCs) in Juba and other locations. Over 276,000 people have been reached with hygiene promotion sessions held at water points and through house to house campaigns, including through the utilization of megaphones. They were also reached with key messages including signs and symptoms and prevention measures, all aligned with the guidance from the Risk Communication and Community Engagement Technical Working Group. IOM is continuing to display COVID-19 information, education and communication materials at over 667 installed handwashing stations. IOM is partnering with 50 water suppliers in the capital, Juba to broadcast COVID-19 awareness messages. Eight community hygiene promoters and 9 caretakers in Juba were trained on COVID-19 infection prevention and control/water sanitation and hygiene (IPC/WASH) protocols, as well as on the types, consequences and referral for gender-based violence services. IOM partnered with a local radio station to disseminate COVID-19 awareness raising messages, combined with gender equality messages. The first radio show covered topics on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, debunking common rumours, and stigmatization related to the wearing of face masks. Over 5,000 beneficiaries in Malakal were reached directly and indirectly with mental and psychosocial support messages in relation to COVID-19 aimed at behavioral change and tackling misinformation. More than 1,300 people in Wau were reached through risk communication and community engagement activities while 80 female beneficiaries of IOM's livelihood programmes in Bussere and Bazia Jedid received information on COVID-19. Over 950 people in Abyei Administrative Area were reached through COVID-19 prevention and awareness-raising activities.

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Disease Surveillance

More than 4,500 people were screened for COVID-19 at government health posts in Gedeo, West Guji and East Wollega zones with the support of IOM **Ethiopia**. IOM also registered 535 new returnees. More than 1,400 returnees are currently in quarantine centers. IOM is continuing to provide personal protective equipment to staff working in quarantine facilities across Ethiopia. Two hundred and ten returnees in quarantine facilities are receiving food and non-food items such as blankets, soap, mosquito nets and dignity kits from IOM. IOM also provided water trucking services to a temporary quarantine facility in Jijiga and trained 4 hygiene promoters in quarantine facilities there.

Points of Entry

IOM **Burundi** is preparing technical and financial proposals for the establishment of waiting areas at 6 PoEs. IOM in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the national Civil Aviation Authority and UN World Health Organisation (WHO) organised a three-day training on COVID-19 for 180 personnel working at Melchior Ndadaye International Airport. The participants were trained on infection prevention and control as well as detection, notification and management of suspected cases. IOM organized dialogues between the police and communities in Rumonge and Cibitoke provinces. The dialogues are meant to empower border communities and the police to address issues related to cross-border crimes, such as human smuggling and trafficking. IOM **South Sudan** is continuing with COVID-19 screening and infection prevention and control/water, sanitation and hygiene, and risk communication and community engagement activities at Juba International Airport and other areas. Over 7,000 travelers at these PoEs were screened for COVID-19 by IOM which is also collaborating with WHO on the integration of COVID-19 screening for truck drivers in Nimule and Abyei. Forty-five truck drivers were screened in Abyei and an average of 15-20 truck drivers are screened daily at the Nimule PoE. Over 55,000 people were screened by IOM **Somalia** at the Points of Entry (PoEs) in Baidoa, Doolow, Dhobley, Kismayo and Xudur.

Infection Prevention and Control

Over 3,700 people in Mogadishu and Jubaland were provided with soap and hygiene kits. Twelve hygiene promoters have been recruited and trained in Baidoa. Over 3,570,000 litres of safe and clean water has been provided to an estimated 30,000 people as part of COVID-19 emergency response. 200 latrines were also constructed. More than 13,700 people in Wau, **South Sudan**, are benefiting from 5 handwashing

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IOM South Sudan is supporting a partner in Juba with critical water and sanitation (WASH) items to be distributed to households as part of COVID-19 infection prevention and control.

stations constructed by IOM while an estimated 26,000 people in Juba are benefiting from 8 such handwashing facilities. Over 10,000 people in Twic are benefiting from 3 handwashing facilities and 3 handwashing stations. Over 7,000 people have been provided with buckets. IOM has distributed dignity kits to 81 women and girls, complemented with COVID-19 sensitization and menstrual hygiene management training sessions. IOM supported displaced communities and local organizations to produce almost 7,000 washable and reusable face masks. The facemasks are distributed to local communities and frontline humanitarian workers.

Case Management and Continuity of Essential Services

IOM **Djibouti** is continuing to provide water, food and medical assistance for migrants arriving from Yemen through its mobile unit in Obock region. IOM reached 58 migrants through awareness raising sessions on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) as well as COVID-19 awareness and prevention conducted at the Migration Response Centers in Bossaso, **Somalia**. Over 300 migrants and host community members were reached by IOM's mobile health clinic teams and the Ministry of Health and provided with non-food items such as shoes, clothes, medicines, dignity kits, and food and water. Host community members were sensitized on the risks and the prevention of COVID-19. IOM **South Sudan** is continuing to support COVID-19 infection prevention and control, water sanitation and hygiene activities at three IOM-managed PoEs. IOM is maintaining 676 handwashing stations.

Logistics, Procurement and Supply Management

IOM **Djibouti** distributed non-food items to rural communities in the migratory corridor in Arta region. Non-food items were provided to 300 migrants in Tadjourah and 2 tents were donated to the local authorities there. IOM also distributed 300 non-food items kits to migrants and vulnerable host population in Fantahero in Obock region. Two hundred and sixty such kits were donated to the Obock Migrant Response Centre. IOM **South Sudan** is supporting a partner in Juba with critical water and sanitation (WASH) items to be distributed to households as part of COVID-19 infection prevention and control. An estimated 4,000 individuals will benefit from these items. IOM is continuing with prepositioning of key WASH supplies to key logistics hubs which are still accessible by road to ensure uninterrupted provision of these items to WASH cluster partners.

Protection

IOM **Ethiopia** provided technical support to 6 volunteer psychologists at Addis Ababa quarantine facilities. 94 returnee migrants in East Wollega received mental health and psychosocial support awareness in relation to COVID-19. Over 300 people in Bule Hora received awareness on mental health and psychosocial support and protection in relation to COVID-19. IOM conducted consultative discussions

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with staff and federal police assigned by the government to provide protection services to returnees arriving at POEs in Semera.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

IOM Somalia is disseminating information to ensure IDPs are aware of the risks, signs and symptoms and mode of transmissions of COVID-19 and the appropriate mitigation measures. Awareness raising sessions were conducted at information centres, marketplaces or during community meetings, with emphasis on how to practise social distancing. Over 17,000 people including leaders of IDPs, women groups, youth groups and religious leaders have been reached with COVID-19 awareness raising sessions. Over 6,400 people in Wau protection of civilian site have been provided with reusable facemasks by **IOM South Sudan**. The masks were donated by UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and the women-led cloth face covering production pilot teams supported by IOM. Over 800 reusable face masks were sewed by 29 internally displaced women in Wau as part of efforts to enhance women's participation in COVID-19 response. Over 4,600 such masks have been produced since July 2020. IOM Tanzania is continuing to support voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees to Burundi in strict adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures. IOM Somalia has established over 1,000 handwashing points in IDP sites.

Displacement Tracking Matrix

IOM Burundi's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) continued with flow monitoring data collection at Burundi's borders with the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo as part of COVID-19 surveillance. DTM in **Djibouti** is collecting data at migrant sites across the country daily. IOM has identified 870 stranded migrants across 19 sites. They are in immediate need of water, food, hygiene kits and non-food items. Over 4,500 people - among them over 1,100 migrants - were reached with COVID-19 awareness and information across flow monitoring points in Obock City and 8 other areas. DTM in **Somalia** is conducting a Multisectoral Location Assessments in IDP sites, neighborhoods in urban centers, and villages in rural areas across Somalia to better understand the needs and gaps in the provision of services to displaced populations. DTM in **South Sudan** is continuing with its COVID-19 mobility impact support, providing information on movement restrictions, active measures and the impact of the outbreak on different population groups in the country for 90 locations. DTM field enumerators conducted over 2,200 interviews representing 6,330 individual movements through flow monitoring points at the country's borders, internal transit hubs and displacement sites. DTM initiated a monitoring mission to Tambura and Yambio to assess the population movement in these areas, including at Gangura Flow Monitoring Point which has been identified as a priority PoE by the PoE Technical Working Group. The mission will provide partners with updated information on the movement dynamics to inform planning for COVID-19 response.

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POINTS OF ENTRY & MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS

