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Better Migration Management  
Horn of Africa



Newsletter March - September 2018

## Better Migration Management Horn of Africa

This is the fifth issue of the BMM Newsletter on progress and developments in the implementation of the Better Migration Management Programme (BMM). The programme is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

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 March 2018. They have also been published on the [European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa \(EUTF\)](#) website.



### Ethiopia: Fighting the Trafficking of Children alongside a Local NGO

**BMM supports the local non-governmental organisation Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE) to prevent the trafficking of children in Addis Ababa and reduce irregular migration and labour exploitation.**

Mihiret was only fifteen years old when a man lured her family into sending her away to the city on a promise of a better education. But what seemed like a good opportunity was in fact an open door to exploitation. Once in Addis Ababa, she was placed with a family, not as a guest but as a domestic worker. Locked away from the outside world, she endured heavy workloads, with regular punishments instead of food.

Mihiret's case is not unique: being trafficked within the own country often is a first step for girls and boys to be smuggled into neighbouring states and beyond. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 2016, worldwide 44 million children were living in forced displacement, either internally or outside their home country. They migrate for various reasons: to escape abuse and exploitation in their family; to escape child marriage;



Family reunification is one of the main services of the Ethiopian NGO "Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment". Photo: FSCE

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due to peer-pressure; or by being deceived and coerced by human traffickers. It is also not uncommon for families to send their children away in hopes that they might find a better life. Because of their age, unaccompanied minors are easy prey for human traffickers.

In 2017, the FSCE offered comprehensive support to 645 trafficked and/or unaccompanied boys and girls. Mihiret was one of them. One year after being taken to Addis Ababa, she has now been reunited with her family, rescued by the FSCE, with the support of the Women, Children, Youth, & Social Affairs Bureau and the local police. Those responsible for her hardship have meanwhile been brought into custody. The case is currently being investigated and may soon find its way to court.

With the support of the BMM, the FSCE has been able to extend their efforts and to set-up temporary accommodation centres in major migration corridors. Since January 2018, the BMM has provided food, sanitary materials, school material, and supported individuals with documentation, family tracing, transportation and family reunification. Since some of these minors did not want to be reunited with their families, the BMM also supported the FSCE in the field of vocational training and the development of business ideas including financing of possible start-ups.

BMM improves assistance of victims of trafficking



Lokdi is one checkpoint in Sudan where seasonal labour migrants from Ethiopia crossing the border to Sudan. Photo: Wasil Engel/GIZ

## Sudan and Ethiopia met for the first time to discuss improvements to seasonal labour migration

**Rising unemployment, land shortage, and ethnic tensions across the Amhara region in Ethiopia drive about 80,000 people to cross the border every year to find work on the Sudanese farms in the Gedaref State where labour demand is high.**

Seasonal labour migration has become a stable livelihood basis both to Ethiopian families and to the sustainability of farming and agricultural production in Sudan. However, due to the lack of legal frameworks, border crossing and employment agreements are often irregular, leaving workers with little protection from abuse by employers, border officials and other threats.



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For the first time, Sudan and Ethiopia met to discuss the challenges of seasonal labour migration between their countries. The BMM Programme facilitated the bi-lateral cross-border workshop in Khartoum in June 2018. More than 65 representatives of national and regional governments, the agricultural sector and research institutions, as well as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the European Union (EU), the International Labour Organization (ILO), Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and BMM implementing partners discussed a concrete plan of to improve the management of seasonal labour migration between these two countries. The discussions were based on the main findings and recommendations from a BMM assessment report on seasonal labour migration management. The report provides recommendations for the governments of both countries to improve cross-border flows of seasonal migrants without putting the positive effects of seasonal migration at risk. In September 2018 the representatives met again to agree on a regulated recruitment agencies system, the establishment of information centres at the borders, capacity building for border management bodies, and enhanced coordination and information sharing between the Ethiopian and Sudanese authorities. A third workshop will be held in December 2018.

**BMM improves migration management in the region**



## Sudan: Regional Conference on Human Trafficking sets Tone for Prevention, Protection, and Prosecution



EU Ambassador Jean Michel Dumond gave an opening speech at the conference. Photo: GIZ/Sari Omer

The Horn of Africa hosts more than 9 million displaced persons, many of which travelling irregularly, without visa or papers. Human-traffickers take advantage of these already vulnerable migrants often subjecting them to greater abuse, violence and exploitation. Sudan, Kenya and Djibouti, are main transit countries for Ethiopians, Eritreans, and Somali on the migration routes in the Horn of Africa, creating the need for a strong regional approach.

In this light, more than 80 representatives of national anti-trafficking bodies from Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya came together in Khartoum for the “Regional Conference on Combatting Human Trafficking” to exchange best practices and improve cooperation in combatting human trafficking. “It is our responsibility to harmonise our policies. We are in need of knowledge, experience, and training. The research exists in our countries. We have to use and share it with one another in order to halt human trafficking”, General Awad Alneil Dahiya, Sudanese representative of the Ministry of Interior said. The three day conference that included panel and group discussions set a strong emphasis on the support and protection of victims. “We have to make sure that the victims are not criminalised”, said Jean Michel Dumond, Ambassador of the European Union to Sudan in his opening speech. National Referral Systems in line with migrant services, especially vulnerable ones, such as women



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and unaccompanied minors, have to be harmonised in the region. The victims need a lot of support”, the Ambassador added. Furthermore, in order to bring human traffickers to justice, testimony is essential, and this will only be provided in safe circumstances.

The conference was organised by the BMM programme in cooperation with the Sudanese Government. The conference focussed on the Northern migratory route. In two consecutive events to follow, the focus will be on the Eastern and Southern Route. More than 80 representatives from Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya came together in Khartoum for the “Regional Conference on Combatting Human Trafficking” on 16-18 July 2018. The participants met with representatives of international NGOs, national CSOs, relevant UN agencies, and interested diplomatic missions and shared their good practices and experiences on how to improve national counter-trafficking structures – including organisations such as IGAD, UNHCR, UNICEF, Uganda Coalition Against Trafficking In Persons or the Conseil national des droits de l'Homme (CNDH) from Djibouti.

**BMM improves regional policy harmonisation and cooperation**

## Region: UN World Day against Trafficking in Persons 30 July 2018

**On 30 July 2018, the Better Migration Management (BMM) programme supported several activities to mark the World Day against Trafficking in Persons in Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Kenya.**

Globally, an estimated number of 2.45 million people, of which 1.2 million children, are trafficked every year. Many of these victims come from the East African region and travel without the required documents aiming to find jobs and a better life in other countries. As they are irregular they are an easy prey for human traffickers. Most of the survivors of trafficking went through a deeply traumatising experience. With the events and campaigns organised in July 2018. BMM aims to promote legal and safe migration and to create awareness on the risks of human trafficking



In Kenya, the annual ‘Regional Forum to Promote Safe and Fair Migration’ marked the launch of an awareness campaign leading up to World Day against Trafficking in Persons. From 2-5 July, more than 30 organisations working on anti-trafficking of human beings all over the Horn of Africa met in Nairobi to discuss best practices for victim protection. The forum was organised by the Kenyan non-governmental organisation (NGO) HAART, Expertise France, and GIZ within BMM programme. The participants came from non-governmental organisations in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan, Tunisia, and Uganda. During the meeting principles of practice were developed which serve as common guidelines for the organisations on how to best protect victims and vulnerable migrants in the region. The principles were presented to stakeholders involved in counter trafficking from all over the region during the regional conference on “Combating human trafficking within the Horn of Africa” in Khartoum on 16-18 July. This conference was also

organised by BMM. More than 80 representatives of national bodies from Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Tunisia, and Egypt attended the conference.

Meanwhile, BMM along with the Kenyan NGO Trace Kenya campaigned to build momentum towards the UN World Day. The NGO Trace Kenya works on counter-trafficking in persons in many locations in Kenya. The campaign culminated in a high-level panel organised by UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) debating how to improve judicial cooperation on addressing trafficking of children in the region. On that occasion, EU Ambassador Stefano Dejak stated that “trafficking in persons is against the fundamental values the European Union stands for and a gross violation of human rights. It is the Slave Trade of our world today: a horrible crime that EU, Africa, and the UN need to join hands to address“. In parallel, BMM in partnership with Trace Kenya organised a public awareness raising event in Mombasa. Over 250 members of the community, local counter trafficking NGOs and the governor of Mombasa attended a public procession across the city.



Around 80 people marched and danced through the streets of Mombasa to raise awareness. Photo: Johanna Bögel/GIZ



On 30 July 2018, a high-level panel discussion was held in Ethiopia to analyse the current situation in the country. Representatives of the Ethiopian Government, implementing partners of BMM, and the civil society highlighted the details of the revised Proclamation 909 in Addis Ababa. Conclusions from the regional conference mentioned above in Sudan were presented and the issue of child justice in trafficking case addressed. The event was accompanied with the opening of a public photo exhibition in Addis Ababa. The pictures were provided by BMM’s implementing partners and partner NGOs. They illustrate the work of BMM’s partner CSOs in addressing issues related to human trafficking, visualise activities such as capacity building workshops, shelters, and support for survivors of human trafficking.



In Djibouti, BMM supported the Ministry of Justice and Penitentiary Affairs in charge of Human Rights as well as the State Secretariat for Youth and Sports in providing a two-day sensitisation workshop on 28-29 July 2018. A total of 48 law enforcement officers, officials from other migration-related ministries as well as from the civil society were sensitised on the difference between smuggling and trafficking of persons and how to counter it. The participants worked out recommendations and compiled a document which will be handed over to the relevant state authorities. The recommendations focus on the establishment of an anti-trafficking

**BMM raises awareness  
on the risks of human  
trafficking**



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committee, a mechanism for coordinating governmental action in the field of migration, and the development of a referral mechanism to assist victims of trafficking. BMM is prepared to support the roll-out of a referral mechanism in the prefectures after the Government of Djibouti is finalising the existing drafts.

The workshop was accompanied by sports events. In Tadjourah, 1,500 spectators cheered on young teams who competed in a handball tournament for girls and a football tournament for boys. The teams of seven girls and seven boys from Dikhil, Ali Sabieh, Obock, and Tadjourah included migrants in the second generation particularly aiming to bring the youth of the communities together. The matches were titled "Migrants someday, Humans always. Let's protect our fellow".



Four teams with seven players each competed in a football tournament in Djibouti. Photo: Omar Saad/GIZ



## Kenya: Training for Trainers to Better Identify and Aid Victims of Human Trafficking

**A young woman enters a local health clinic; her hands filled with blisters. She is accompanied by what, at first sight, seems to be a caring family member who will not leave her out of sight. While this could be an everyday situation, there is more to it than meets the eye: the young woman in this story is a victim of human trafficking, who has been coerced into silence by the person accompanying her.**

This and several other scenarios were presented at the training organised by BMM and the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa in September in Nairobi. The aim was to teach health care providers how to personalise and individualise care when suspicions arise that the person might be a victim of human trafficking (VoT) or a migrant in a vulnerable situation. Representatives from the Ministries of Health, as well as those working in providing protection services in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, learned how to conduct protection-sensitive interviewing under the do-no-harm principle. Participants also learned about mental health and psychological support and how to apply the newly gained knowledge through practical exercises. After the workshop, participants are expected to roll out this training in their places of work with the support of IOM staff in the respective countries.

**BMM improves protection of victims of trafficking**

Speaking at the launch of the training, Gordon Kihalangwa, the Principal Secretary in the Kenyan Ministry of Interior and Chairman of the National Coordination Mechanism on



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Migration commended the work of IOM, in particular under BMM, especially through the assistance provided to vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking. He called on actors to address the push and pull factors for migration in the region. “You are going to meet people who have lost self-esteem, their travel documents taken away. You should not add more miseries and distress to them rather try to alleviate their sufferings,” Kihalangwa said.

## Short News:

### Kenya: On the Way to the First State-run Shelter for Victims of Human Trafficking

In Kenya, most temporary shelters are run by non-governmental organisations, with limited financial and human resources. The Kenyan government is now planning to fill this gap, by establishing its first state-run shelter. Therefore, a delegation visited Jordan in search of best practice. When victims of human trafficking are rescued there is an immediate need to place them in a safe location, where they have a chance to heal and reintegrate into society. The Kenyan authorities reported having identified 530 victims of trafficking in 2016 (TiP Report 2017, US Department of State), all of whom were referred to NGO shelters. The BMM programme is supporting the Kenyan government in its goal to establish the first state-run shelter. The first step in this process was an official visit to Jordan to observe and discuss best practices in the management of government-run shelters and to check if any standard procedures can be benchmarked to Kenya.

### Integrating border management in South Sudan – Nimule as a pilot under the BMM

The BMM Programme facilitated a workshop for the border agencies at Nimule along the border with Uganda in May 2018. They had operationalised the Ministerial Order No. 09/2015, which established the Integrated Border Management Committee (IBMC). The Ministerial Order calls for the establishment of these committees for all the respective land borders in the Republic of South Sudan, and Nimule Border acts as a pilot because of the level of activities. The workshop brought together fifteen agencies with border roles and functions, such as Immigration, Customs Services, Wildlife and Tourism, Highway traffic police, Interpol (CID), Military Intelligence, and the National Security Services. Apart from law enforcement agencies the 37 participants also consisted of local chiefs and county authorities to ensure host community engagement. The Inspector General of the South Sudan National Police Service (SSNPS), Gen. Majak Akec Malok officially opened and closed the workshop in his capacity as the chairman of the National Coordination Mechanism and also as Inspector General of police.

### Film on BMM is online

Have a look at how the BMM programme is protecting migrants in Djibouti and Sudan. [Click here](#) and use Mozilla as your browser



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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 years (April 2016 to March 2019) by the EUTF with EUR 40 Mil. and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with EUR 6 Mil.

BMM implementation is currently taking place in eight partner countries (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda). Egypt and Tunisia may be included at a later stage 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.

The BMM programme structure has been 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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