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Better Migration Management
Horn of Africa



Better Migration Management – at a glance

Our commitment to the protection of migrants in need



FOREWORD

The Horn of Africa is one of the most conflict-affected and fragile regions, and a region with millions of people on the move. The number of refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and internally displaced people in the Horn of Africa is estimated at around 19 million. The majority of migrants move within the region. Many travel irregularly out of necessity and are vulnerable to criminal networks and human traffickers, abuse, violence and exploitation.

Regional dialogue

The Horn of Africa is also a region on the rise, full of ideas, innovations and commitment to change. Despite being challenged by geopolitical events, internal conflicts and natural disasters, for example, many progressive steps have been taken, including initiatives to promote regional economic integration, enhance sustainable development, foster peace and stability, and tackle challenges jointly. One regional initiative is the Khartoum process, which was set up in November 2014. It is a regional dialogue for collaboration on migration between the

European Union, its Member States and countries of origin, transit, and destination in the wider Horn of Africa region with a focus on addressing trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants.

Our commitment

In 2016 the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the European Union (EU) jointly established the Better Migration Management (BMM) Programme to respond to the needs identified by the African member states of the Khartoum Process. BMM accompanies governmental and non-governmental actors in strengthening migration-friendly policies, legislation, infrastructure and cooperation beyond borders to ensure safe and legal migration.

Jointly for safe migration

To make the implementation as effective as possible, BMM pursues a multi-level and multi-actor approach. It is combining the expertise of international implementing partners and cooperates with national actors, ranging from local communities to high political level, spanning from the drafting of migration policies and legislations to forensic training, awareness-raising campaigns and protecting services for those directly affected.

On the following pages of this booklet, we would like to present the impact we have achieved together with our partners. Join us on this journey and get an insight into our work. We hope you enjoy reading.

BETTER MIGRATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Our objective

Enable national authorities and institutions to facilitate safe, orderly, and regular migration, and effectively address and reduce trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants within and from the Horn of Africa region by applying a human rights-based approach.

Our components

We are working in 3 components:

1. Migration Governance to establish a political basis for regionally harmonised migration management
2. Effective institutions to address and reduce trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants
3. Protection for victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants

Our approach

We are bundling the resources, skills, and experiences of 5 international implementing organisations to provide integrated and comprehensive solutions.

- British Council
- CIVIPOL
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Internationale Organisation für Migration (IOM)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

GIZ heads the implementing partnership

Phase I:
+ Expertise France and the Ministero dell'Interno (Ministry of the Interior of Italy)

Our partner countries

BMM III: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda*

BMM I and BMM II: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda

Project period

October 2022 – September 2025
(Phase III)

October 2019 – September 2022
(Phase II)

April 2016 – September 2019
(Phase I)

Overall budget

122 mio Euros
BMZ: 17 mio Euros
EU: 105 mio Euros

** Sudan included only for regional BMM III activities at technical level.*



OUR WORK IN FIGURES



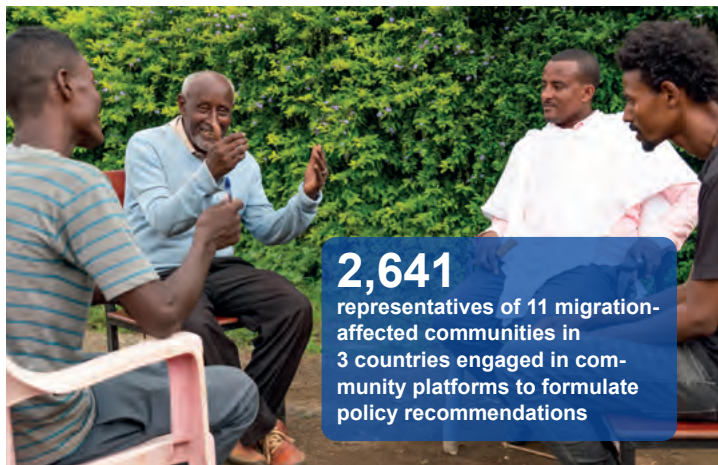
22,668

stakeholders supported to strengthen national migration management and regional and cross-border cooperation



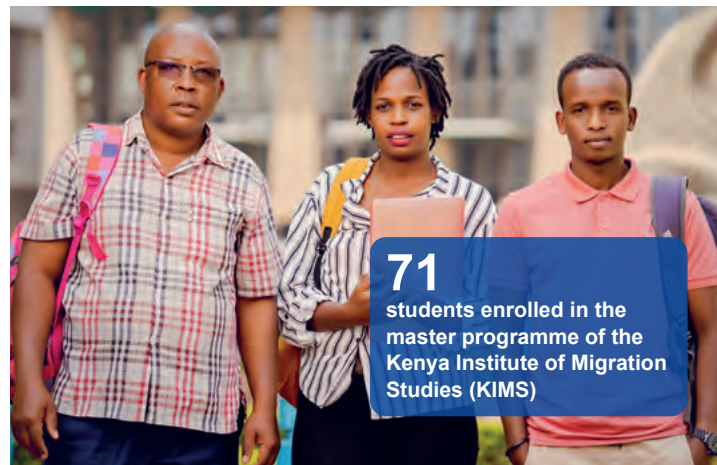
21

national migration policies, strategies and legal frameworks developed or revised



2,641

representatives of 11 migration-affected communities in 3 countries engaged in community platforms to formulate policy recommendations



71

students enrolled in the master programme of the Kenya Institute of Migration Studies (KIMS)



561
prosecutors and judges trained
in court proceedings according
to international standards



1,921
border and immigration
officials trained in the safe
and easy movement of
people within the country
and across its borders



2,604
investigators, police officers and other
stakeholders trained to improve inves-
tigation, including forensic training,
mock trials, the use of data extraction
systems, and crime scene management



14
law enforcement training institutions in 5
countries have adopted curricula on the
investigation of trafficking in human beings
and the smuggling of migrants into their
general curriculum



18

Integrated Border Management Committees established between governmental and non-governmental institutions to facilitate safe and regular migration



~ 54 million

people potentially reached through awareness-raising campaigns on the risks of trafficking in human beings



1,056

stakeholders trained to better monitor and report cases of human rights violations against migrants, with a focus on women, boys, and girls



> 80

civil society organisations (CSOs), providing assistance to migrants and victims of trafficking, brought together in a regional network and strengthened through training and regional exchange

49,856

migrants and victims of trafficking assisted and/or referred to protection services



517

submissions on human trafficking and vulnerable migrants' routes relating to 34 countries collected by 31 CSOs to better address gaps, provide comprehensive protection and effectively combat trafficking



11,144

stakeholders of governmental and non-governmental institutions accompanied to improve their support services and adopt standard operating procedures for the protection and referral of vulnerable migrants and victims of trafficking



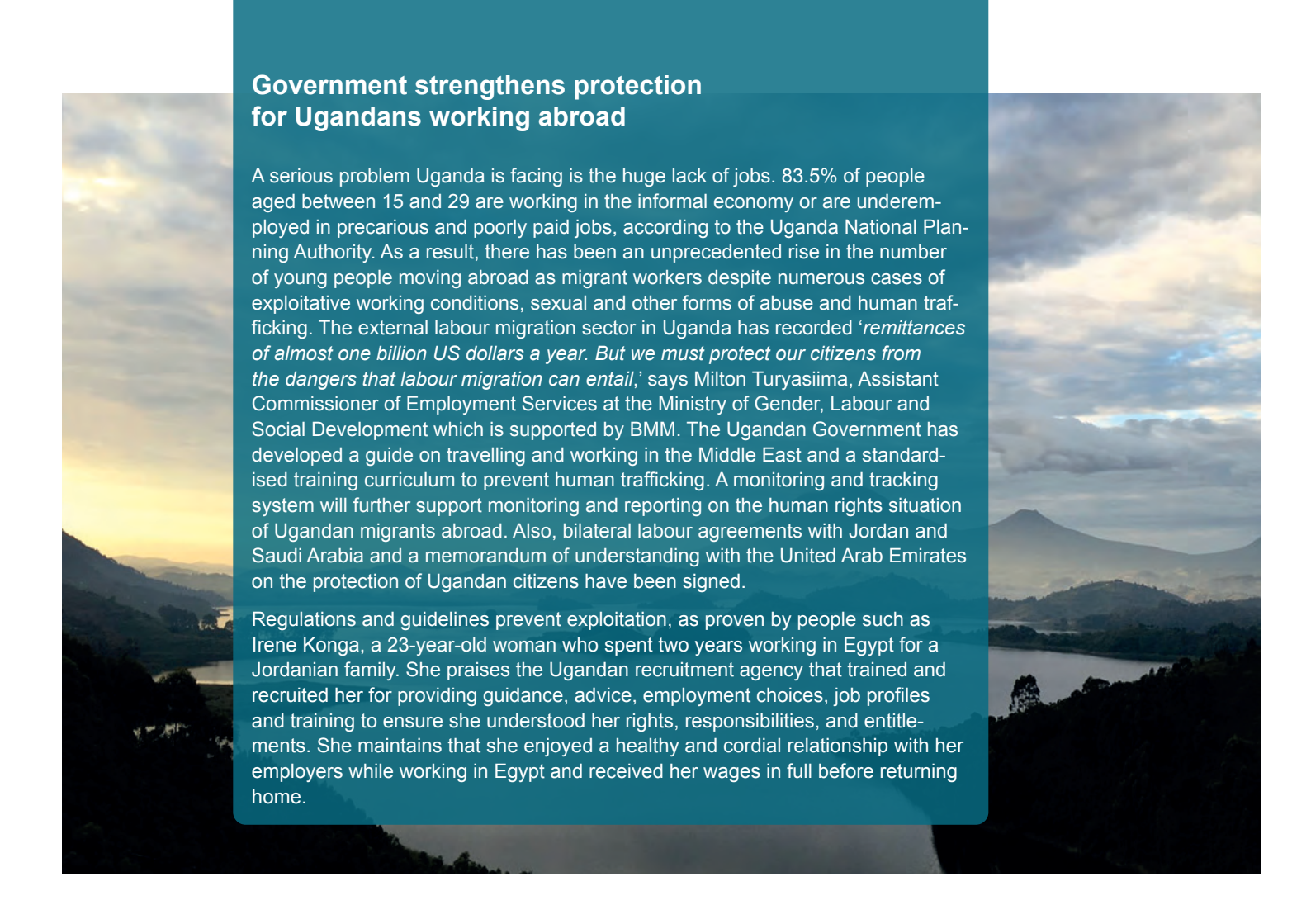


Addressing the needs of migrant women in Djibouti

As one of the smallest states in Africa, Djibouti is also a key transit country for migratory flows mostly from Ethiopia, and most of them go to the Middle East in search of better livelihoods. Female migrants are particularly at risk to be exposed to economic exploitation and physical abuse and face psychosocial stress and trauma, as well as health complications – especially for pregnant women.

The National Union of Djibouti Women (UNFD) is a major player in providing assistance and protection to migrant women in Djibouti: *'We make migrant women aware of their rights and their possibilities to get help,'* says Roukia Ali Djama, UNFD's project coordinator. Those in need receive psychosocial support through counselling sessions to help them overcome the trauma of their journey.

'We also offer literacy courses for migrant women and have started training programmes in sewing and embroidery. The women also receive hygiene kits consisting of towels, soaps, clothes, and other accessories necessary for their well-being,' explains the coordinator. BMM supports UNFD staff members and other civil society organisations in Djibouti with training to better identify and assist vulnerable migrant women and girls and provide counselling.



Government strengthens protection for Ugandans working abroad

A serious problem Uganda is facing is the huge lack of jobs. 83.5% of people aged between 15 and 29 are working in the informal economy or are underemployed in precarious and poorly paid jobs, according to the Uganda National Planning Authority. As a result, there has been an unprecedented rise in the number of young people moving abroad as migrant workers despite numerous cases of exploitative working conditions, sexual and other forms of abuse and human trafficking. The external labour migration sector in Uganda has recorded *'remittances of almost one billion US dollars a year. But we must protect our citizens from the dangers that labour migration can entail,'* says Milton Turyasiima, Assistant Commissioner of Employment Services at the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development which is supported by BMM. The Ugandan Government has developed a guide on travelling and working in the Middle East and a standardised training curriculum to prevent human trafficking. A monitoring and tracking system will further support monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation of Ugandan migrants abroad. Also, bilateral labour agreements with Jordan and Saudi Arabia and a memorandum of understanding with the United Arab Emirates on the protection of Ugandan citizens have been signed.

Regulations and guidelines prevent exploitation, as proven by people such as Irene Konga, a 23-year-old woman who spent two years working in Egypt for a Jordanian family. She praises the Ugandan recruitment agency that trained and recruited her for providing guidance, advice, employment choices, job profiles and training to ensure she understood her rights, responsibilities, and entitlements. She maintains that she enjoyed a healthy and cordial relationship with her employers while working in Egypt and received her wages in full before returning home.

Somalia: Coordination is the key to improving migration processes

Somalia is a country of origin, transit and destination for migration, dealing with a huge number of movements. Many migrants transit through Somaliland and cross the Gulf of Aden. Due to irregular and not adequately monitored migration, they are exposed to threats such as human trafficking.

Since 2007 the Mixed Migration Taskforce (MMTF) has been coordinating the engagement of the Somaliland authorities in improving migration management and the coordination among stakeholders. The Taskforce consists of representatives from different ministries and institutions dealing with migration. With the support of BMM, in 2019, the MMTF established a national referral process helping to better identify and protect vulnerable migrants, including children and victims of trafficking. Abdullahi Mohamed Jama, Director of Women's Action for Advocacy & Progress Organization (WAAPO), a local non-governmental organisation that is also coordinated within the MMTF, reports about the successes: *'Now we know which agency specialises in which service, and so do the officials at police stations, border officers and desk officers within the authorities. Now, if a child is identified as a victim of trafficking, it is much easier to refer them to the nearest safe house for shelter, food and protection or to provide legal services.'*

In 2022, the MMTF in Somaliland launched its new extensive strategy for 3 years (2022–2025), including concrete goals such as the development and revision of migration laws and existing policies to enhance the management and protection of migrants, victims of trafficking, refugees and returnees, according to international standards and human rights. The MMTF strategy foresees the collection of reliable data on mixed migration to identify trends and capacity needs in migration management, supported by BMM.





Ethiopia: Supporting unaccompanied children in their best interest

Demeku was only 13 years old when she was repatriated to her home country after being trafficked. She had been raped and left traumatised in a forest where the local police found her. They took her to a shelter run by Mahibere Hiwot for Social Development (MSD), a local civil society organisation (CSO) dealing with child protection and migration.

In the North and West Gondar Zones, close to the Ethiopian-Sudanese border, child trafficking is widespread. Due to the seasonal work in Metema for example, children like Demeku migrate there to find jobs to support themselves or their families. Hundreds of children migrate via Metema every year. *'Demeku's case is not an exception,'* explains Abebaw Teshome, MSD manager. False promises are made, luring them away from home and eventually exposing them to extreme labour exploitation.

With the support of BMM a Best Interest Committee was established, composed of representatives of all relevant actors concerned including for instance the Bureau of Women and Social Affairs, the police and CSOs, such as MSD. It seeks to balance all relevant factors in a child's case to identify and decide on the best option for referring the child to protection services or reuniting them with their family.

Worku Tilahun, a police officer from West Gondar Zone reports that *'public transport hubs are the usual places where we find young migrants trying to figure out how to return home. We also find children stranded in the middle of nowhere crying and not knowing where to go after running away from farms and houses where they had been held captive and exploited. We report the cases to our departments and hand the children over to the nearest CSO or the Bureau of Women and Social Affairs, who then refer them to the nearest shelter which provides services including food, a place to sleep and counselling in a safe environment.'*

Once the child has settled, the Committee members evaluate the situation to determine what is in the child's best interest. They trace the family and assess its status, including economic and behavioural issues and the attitude of family members towards the child. Abebaw is proud of the results: *'In 2021 alone, MSD managed to reunite some 200 trafficked children with their families through the best interest process.'*

Awareness campaigns for the public transport sector

It was already late in the afternoon when Rashid, a bus conductor, spotted a distressed-looking young girl standing alone at the bus station on Mombasa Island. When Rashid's shift ended at night, he was startled to find that girl still at the very spot where he had left her. Carefully, the bus conductor initiated a conversation and it turned out the 13-year-old girl from Lunga Lunga had been promised a job in Mombasa, but her would-be employer had not shown up. Rashid assumed the 'job offer' was part of a human trafficking scheme and called Trace Kenya, an organisation active in combating human trafficking and assisting victims.

Supported by BMM, Trace Kenya had published a report on Kenya's human trafficking routes, revealing that human traffickers often ask their victims to use public transport. Consequently, Trace Kenya together with the Candle of Hope Foundation started to sensitise actors from the public transport sector in Nairobi and Mombasa: Bus conductors were trained on how to help possible victims and in addition, messages about a helpline were posted on head-rests in buses, at bus stations, booking offices, and on passenger tickets and receipts. To good success: the number of people calling for more information, as well as the number of victims of trafficking referred, has tripled. With the campaign's extension, Trace Kenya and Candle of Hope Foundation are broadcasting radio spots on the buses in Swahili and other local languages such as Somali and Giriama.

'We used to book passengers regardless of their documentation, not knowing that we were facilitating human trafficking,' says Jamal Mohammed, operations manager at Dayah Bus Company. 'Our drivers are now better informed about what to do to help possible victims of human trafficking.'





South Sudan: Towards countering transnational organised crime

In 2000, the United Nations adopted a resolution for an international treaty against organised crime across borders. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) regulates the prevention and fight against organised crime globally, and provides the legal basis for international legal aid, extradition and police cooperation.

The aim is to harmonise national laws, set uniform standards for domestic law, and to intensify cooperation between states in the fight against organised crime. It also includes internationally recognised definitions and procedures to identify and protect victims of trafficking and smuggling.

So far, the convention has been signed by 147 states worldwide. With the support of BMM, South Sudan made the first steps towards accessing the convention. In several workshops and discussions to outline policy solutions, representatives of the government and civil society discussed case studies on international cooperation with relevant UN protocols in the context of South Sudan's experiences on the subject, drafted policy recommendations and created a road map for regional and migration route country cooperation. In 2022, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ruben Madol said South Sudan needs more time to ratify the UNTOC, but strategically it is set as the next step to improve the safety of the people in South Sudan.

OUR CHANGEMAKERS



The protagonists of our achievements and success stories are our national partners. They are committed to making change and development – towards safe migration and better prospects. Meet some of them on the following pages.

'Without figures, you cannot support the development of policy. By capturing data and information on trafficking trends, we will be able to identify where more effort is needed and where resources should be allocated to prevent crime more effectively.'



TWINOMUJUNI JULIUS, National Coordinator, Coordination Office for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (COPTIP), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA), Uganda

COPTIP is responsible for formulating a comprehensive and integrated programme to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons, to develop measures and policies to protect, assist and support victims of trafficking, and for other functions. First achievements are the National Action Plan and National Referral Guidelines, developed by COPTIP and the MoIA with support from BMM. Another important step is the national database on trafficking in human beings that has been developed. It will help to capture data and information which shall be used to develop measures and policies to prevent trafficking in persons and protect victims of trafficking in a targeted manner and according to existing trends.



'The platforms allowed the voices of common people about policies and practices to be heard by government officials. This was a great start.'

GIZACHEW ASMAMAW, Community platform member, Ethiopia

In a unique approach, BMM established community platforms in collaboration with the civil society organisations ANPPCAN-Ethiopia and EDA Ethiopia. The platforms bring together migrants, returnees, host community members and local government officials and aim to systematically engage them in discussions on migration governance. Gizachew and the other members participated in training on facilitation skills, migration policies and laws and advocacy. As a main result, policy recommendations have been formulated bringing the perspectives of those affected by migration into development processes for a comprehensive migration management.



'The well-being of the victim must be at the centre of prosecution processes.'

RACHEL BIKHOLE, Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Uganda

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has prioritised handling and managing trafficking in persons cases (TIP) through setting up a special division in the International Crimes Department (ICD). All TIP cases in the country are managed and coordinated at the ICD. As deputy head of ICD and head of the TIP division, Rachel Bikhole ensures that TIP cases are investigated and charged accurately and prosecuted successfully. She is determined that this is done in a victim-centered approach. In collaboration with BMM and Uganda Police Force, the ODPP developed standard operating procedures (SOP) that *'have greatly enhanced cooperation with the police, making it easier for us to work together right from identification, investigation and prosecution of TIP cases.'* The ODPP has also introduced the Trafficking in Persons Mobile App Platform (TIPMAP), Uganda's first database to collect and share data about TIP investigations and prosecutions which also considerably helps to track offenders. Given that Uganda is a country with a high number of citizens going abroad for work, proper checks are also crucial, such as verifying the legitimacy of recruitment companies through the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD).



'We strive to do work that is worthwhile and focus on marginalised communities throughout Ethiopia to bring sustainable and durable change – just like our name reflects: Timret Lehiwot – Alliance for Life!'

WENDMAGEGNEHU NIKU, Deputy Director of Timret Lehiwot Ethiopia (TLHE)

Since 2004 the charity organisation Timret Lehiwot has been working in the field of Migration Management, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health, Water & Hygiene, Women Empowerment, Environment Protection and Youth Socio-Economic Empowerment in the Amhara Region. BMM supported the implementation of a referral system at regional level and trained the staff of Timret Lehiwot which *'enabled us to carry out reintegration activities and reunification support for an increased number of migrants and victims of trafficking.'* Wendmagegnehu Niku emphasises that cooperation and coordination, also across borders, as reinforced by the referral system, are essential to respond to the needs of migrants.

*'One girl at a time –
One life saved
is our motivation
to do what we are doing.
We bring sunshine
into the dark corners
of human trafficking.'*



DR. ANNETTE KIRABIRA, Director of Rahab Uganda

Rahab Uganda rehabilitates and reintegrates girls and women survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in human beings. Director Annette Kirabira who is a counselling psychologist dedicating her life to promoting safe migration, highlights that *'community engagement is the key element'* to combat human trafficking. *'This is why we are going directly into communities to raise awareness.'* In its shelter, renovated with BMM's support, Rahab Uganda is providing protection and assistance to victims of trafficking through psychological support, education programs, family reconciliation and other services. BMM training on topics ranging from child protection to funding strengthened the capacities of Dr. Annette and her team and enabled them to train others as well.

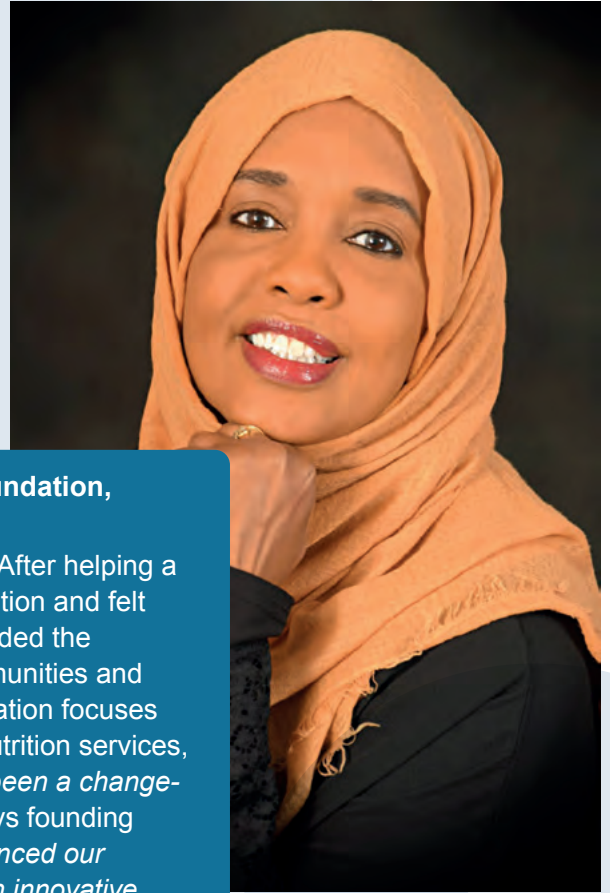


'We have created a Safe House to support vulnerable migrants from Ethiopia, give them medication, food, psychosocial support and legal aid.'

NEGASI TEREFE, Founder of a safe house, Sudan

Negasi Terefe fled from Ethiopia to Sudan in 1984 because he did not want to fight in a war that is against his values and in which he would have risked dying or having to kill others. In his host country, he and others founded a Tigray Community, allowing migrants and refugees to engage with each other. A safe house provides protection and assistance to men, women and children. BMM supported the safe house for example by the provision of essential drugs, medical equipment and trauma care support and direct assistance during the Covid lockdown which was crucial for the welfare of the safe house residents.

'By improving and anchoring legal support, economic opportunities and social protection and integration we can ensure dignified inclusive migration.'



NIMO ALI, Founding member & director of Candle of Hope Foundation, Kenya

With the birth of a child, the Candle of Hope Foundation was born: After helping a young mother who had been internally trafficked for sexual exploitation and felt hopeless after being rejected by her family, a group of women founded the organisation that is now dedicated to empowering vulnerable communities and individuals through a range of community-led initiatives. The foundation focuses on promoting resilience, good governance, access to health and nutrition services, supporting education and combating human trafficking. *'BMM has been a change-maker for our work to combat human trafficking and smuggling,'* says founding member and director Nimo Ali. *'Their training has significantly enhanced our capacities to deliver essential services to those in need. Through an innovative approach to capacity building and awareness-raising, we have jointly created a more robust, effective anti-trafficking network and safety net for vulnerable migrants.'*

OUR WORK IN IMAGES











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