



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

# The Middle East and North Africa

ANNUALREPORT2014

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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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**Cover photo:** Young Syrian refugees perform a traditional dance for International Women’s Day at Basirma Camp, Iraq. © IOM 2014.

# **The Middle East and North Africa**

**Annual Report 2014**



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

# The year in review: Migration in the Middle East and North Africa in 2014

The migrant boat adrift in the Mediterranean has come to symbolize the complex migration dynamics characterizing the Middle East and North Africa in 2014. More than 170,000 migrants landed in Italy alone throughout 2014,<sup>1</sup> almost four times the figure for 2013. Approximately a quarter of those arriving in Italy were Syrian refugees, followed by Eritreans as the second largest group; however, migrants originated from many parts of the region including Egypt and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as well as from sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. The year also saw a dramatic increase in the number of minors migrating on their own. At least 3,500 migrants died in shipwrecks, making the Mediterranean the world's deadliest border.<sup>2</sup>

The men, women and children on the boats embodied the conflicts, crises, and political and economic instability afflicting the region and its neighbourhood. The war in the Syrian Arab Republic, then in its fourth year, continued unabated with dire humanitarian consequences: 7.6 million people were internally displaced at the end of 2014, while more than 3.7 million Syrians had fled across the border, principally to Lebanon,

Jordan and Turkey.<sup>3</sup> In addition, non-Syrians continued to leave the country, in particular Lebanese nationals who struggled to reintegrate into already overburdened Lebanon. Further complicating the situation in the Levant, violence blighted Iraq for most of the year following advances by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), which displaced more than 2 million people within Iraq by the end of 2014.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> According to statistics collected by the Government of Italy's Ministry of Interior; see IOM Press Briefing Note, available from [www.iom.int/news/migrant-arrivals-sea-italy-top-170000-2014](http://www.iom.int/news/migrant-arrivals-sea-italy-top-170000-2014) (16 January 2015).

<sup>2</sup> IOM, *Fatal Journeys: Tracking Lives Lost during Migration* (Geneva, 2014).

<sup>3</sup> See <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php> (accessed 20 January 2015).

<sup>4</sup> According to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix; IOM Iraq Situation Report No. 12 (7 December 2014). See <http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page>

Internal displacement and the return of internally displaced persons continued in parallel in Sudan, which also felt the repercussions of conflicts in its neighbourhood: Sudanese migrants fled fighting in the Central African Republic, Chad, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic, while by the end of 2014, nearly 120,000 South Sudanese had crossed the border into Sudan.<sup>5</sup> Meanwhile, Yemen's migration situation was shaped by internal displacement, return of Yemenis from Saudi Arabia who numbered close to 500,000 at the end of the year<sup>6</sup> and arrival of migrants from the Horn of Africa. Migrants from the Horn, mainly Ethiopians and Somalis on their way to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, totalled more than 91,000, representing a 40 per cent increase compared with the numbers in 2013. At least 250 migrants perished in the Gulf of Aden.<sup>7</sup>

Libya, which had not regained stability since the 2011 conflict, saw renewed violence and a disintegration of political authority. Although not comparable in scale to the events

of 2011, IOM estimates that at the end of 2014 more than 150,000 migrant workers remained in Libya, many of whom were highly vulnerable.<sup>8</sup> The insecurity in Libya also facilitated the work of people smugglers and traffickers, evident from the fact that most boats attempting to cross the Mediterranean reportedly departed from the Libyan coast. Tunisia and Morocco also witnessed irregular, mixed migration, whether of Libyans and foreigners fleeing neighbouring Libya, in rescuing boats departing from the Libyan coast, or in responding to the thousands of stranded migrants in the north of Morocco as they tried to reach the Spanish enclaves. Migration in the region, however, cannot be explained by crises alone: demand for labour and the search for livelihoods, jobs and opportunity continued to propel regular and irregular movements to, within and from the region. Countries have also pursued new migration policies, among them Morocco, which launched an unprecedented set of reforms and a year-long regularization campaign which granted residence permits to over 17,000 migrants (from 27,000 applications) present in the country.<sup>9</sup> ■

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<sup>5</sup> IOM Situation Report: Regional Response to South Sudan Crisis (4 January 2015) and IOM Sudan Humanitarian Summary 2014; available from [www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IOM-Sudan-Humanitarian-Summary-2014.pdf](http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IOM-Sudan-Humanitarian-Summary-2014.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> IOM Yemen, Yemeni Migrant Snapshot (November 2014 update), figure for 2014 only.

<sup>7</sup> RMMS map (January 2015); IOM Press Briefing Note (14 November 2014), available from [www.iom.int/news/thousands-yemeni-migrant-workers-return-saudi-arabia](http://www.iom.int/news/thousands-yemeni-migrant-workers-return-saudi-arabia)

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<sup>8</sup> IOM Libya Situation Report (8 January 2015). Available from <https://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IOM-Libya-Situation-Report-08-January-2015.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> I. Martin, "Ten years afterwards, is Morocco an immigration trailblazer again?" (Migration Policy Centre, 25 February 2015). Available from <https://blogs.eui.eu/migrationpolicycentre/ten-years-afterwards-is-morocco-an-immigration-trailblazer-again/>



## IOM in brief

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM works with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, and uphold the well-being and human rights of migrants. The IOM Constitution gives explicit recognition to the link between migration and economic, social and cultural

development, as well as to the principle of freedom of movement of persons.

Globally, IOM has 157 Member States and 10 Observer States, as well as close to 9,000 staff working on over 2,300 projects in more than 480 offices. In the Middle East and North Africa, IOM has offices in Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen. IOM's Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa is based in Cairo.



Country staff at IOM Yemen celebrate International Migrant's Day by participating in the #MigrationMeans social media campaign. © IOM 2014

For this boy, migration  
means travelling.  
© IOM 2014

Across the region, IOM implements its full programmatic spectrum, including movement and resettlement; emergency preparedness and response; post-crisis transition and recovery; migration health; labour migration and migration and development; counter-trafficking and migrant assistance, including return and reintegration assistance for stranded migrants; immigration and border management; and migration policy and research.

IOM's objectives in the Middle East and North Africa are to:

- enhance capacity, knowledge and dialogue on migration, migration management, and migration policymaking among States, civil society and other stakeholders in the region;
- contribute to safe, protected and regular migration, in full respect of the human rights of all migrants, and with a view to improving development outcomes of migration for migrants and societies in countries of origin and countries of destination;
- improve preparedness for and responses to the migration dimensions of humanitarian crises, with a focus both on vulnerable mobile populations and affected communities.■



# MIGRATION MEANS  
# LA MIGRATION SIGNIFIE  
# الهجرة تعني  
VI AJAR  
(VOYAGER)

# 1. Responding to migration crises and providing durable solutions

Acute and protracted political crises as well as natural disasters and environmental degradation are the key drivers of forced migration to, from and within the Middle East and North Africa region. Those crises have increasingly prompted risky, irregular migration as evidenced, for example, by the complex migration across the Mediterranean in 2014.

By the end of 2014, about 7.6 million Syrians had been internally displaced in the Syrian Arab Republic, and over 3.7 million Syrians had registered for international protection in neighbouring countries, threatening to overwhelm national and international response capacities.

Following years of relative instability, Iraq's security situation deteriorated significantly as a result of violent clashes between the Iraqi Security Forces and armed groups, including ISIL. Violence resulted in more than 2 million internally displaced individuals identified by IOM's rapid response teams in 2014.

Meanwhile, over 600,000 Yemenis returned from Saudi Arabia between June 2013 and December 2014, while an estimated 91,000 individuals arrived in Yemen in 2014 from the Horn of Africa and more than 200,000 formerly displaced people returned to their homes, with a remaining caseload of over 300,000 internally displaced persons in 12 Governorates in Yemen.

Despite ongoing peace efforts, the humanitarian crisis in Sudan was further aggravated in 2014 due to the continuing conflict and resulted in over 550,000 new displacements. Additionally, almost 120,000 South Sudanese were registered as they came north into Sudan either fleeing conflict or as part of seasonal migratory patterns. A number of climatic and environmental challenges such as annual flooding resulted in loss of livelihoods and damage to shelter, infrastructure and community services.

In Libya, the tenuous political situation erupted into renewed violence in mid-2014, leading to internal and cross-border displacement, once again, affecting international migrant workers in the country. An often overlooked aspect of crises is in fact their impact on international migrants; renewed instability in Libya, for example, left migrant workers of different nationalities vulnerable and stranded, often in need of humanitarian assistance including humanitarian evacuation. Their sudden return home would likely have repercussions in their countries and communities of origin, for instance, due to a loss of remittances, and also create challenges to their reintegration.



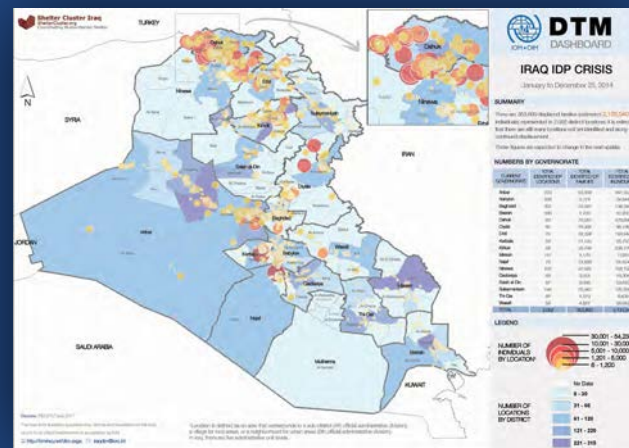
## IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is an information management tool developed by IOM to gather baseline information on displaced populations and their conditions in locations they have temporarily settled.

DTM is adaptable to diverse situations, responsive to changing information needs and receptive to external feedback from other agencies. The methodological concept of DTM in each mission remains the same; however, implementation and operations are adapted according to the situation at hand. After each round of DTM implementation, there is a period for evaluation to allow for continual improvement. Information is disseminated through the arrangement of results that can be downloaded from IOM websites, as well as viewed through interactive maps.

DTM was first implemented in Iraq in 2006 to track the movements of internally displaced persons during the wave of sectarian violence. It has been applied in over 30 countries including Haiti, Mali, Pakistan, the Philippines and South Sudan.

In coordination with governments and other stakeholders, IOM tracked and monitored over 4 million internally displaced persons in Iraq and Sudan in 2014, while DTM implementation is foreseen in Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen in 2015. Through DTM, IOM supported the humanitarian community in identifying needs and gaps and in providing assistance based on the information produced, such as raw data, site profiles, statistical reports, thematic maps and GIS products.



Source: <http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page>

The Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF), developed by IOM in 2012, was designed to capture the complex human mobility patterns that emerge from crises in order to help governments, as well as IOM and its partners, adopt structured and coherent approaches in preparing for, during and after crises. Another added value of the MCOF is its focus on non-traditional humanitarian sectors of assistance, such as humanitarian border management or counter-trafficking in emergency situations. The MCOF therefore combines humanitarian tools within a broader migration perspective, contributing to a more coherent and strategic approach to humanitarian crises that have implications for mobility. In 2014, training sessions on the MCOF were conducted for government officials and local implementing partners in Iraq, Kuwait and Tunisia, and for IOM staff in Sudan.

In 2014, the regional migration crisis management and transition/recovery programming in the Middle East and North Africa aimed to provide immediate assistance to displaced people, refugees, forced migrants, vulnerable people (especially women and children), as well as address the root causes of the migration crisis through various community stabilization initiatives.

## Operations, emergencies and post-crisis response

Of the four ongoing Level 3 emergencies globally, two are in the Middle East and North Africa, and one is in South Sudan which has had substantial repercussions on this region. As a result, IOM has had to significantly increase the scale of its response through system-wide mobilization to improve its overall effectiveness in delivering humanitarian assistance and in responding to the rapidly changing needs of affected populations.

Based on systematic and continued needs assessments, IOM delivered a wide range of critical services to different types of populations, including migrants, internally displaced persons, refugees/asylum-seekers and host communities. Through capacity-building, IOM also supported governments to increase their effectiveness in delivering emergency assistance and responding to crises. In particular, IOM delivered non-food items, hygiene kits, and winterization items to displaced populations and to migrants in detention centres; provided shelter assistance to over 2.4 million beneficiaries; and provided water, sanitation and hygiene assistance to over 1 million people affected across the Middle East and North Africa region.

## Noury's story

Noury Hamokan's family had little more than the clothes on their backs when they first arrived in Erbil on 6 August 2014, having left behind a comfortable life in Qaraqosh.

"We were just going to sleep when we heard yelling and cars pulling away. We looked out of the window of our home and saw our neighbours packed in cars and leaving town."

Rumours that armed militants were drawing closer to the city spurred large-scale displacement of Christians and other minorities from Qaraqosh.

"We heard terrible stories about these terrorists, and as minorities, we did not want to stay. We do not know what has become of the families who stayed behind," Mr Hamokan told IOM staff. "I could never imagine we would be living under such conditions."

Noury Hamokan said their family had been in Qaraqosh for generations. "We want to go back to Qaraqosh if the situation improves. We had a big house in Qaraqosh. We have money in the bank there but can no longer access it. We have the keys with us here, but people can still take everything."



Noury and his family receive an NFI kit in Erbil after being displaced from their home in Qaraqosh. © IOM 2014

"We appreciate the aid IOM has given us, but it is not enough. There are displaced people in front of the school, and we want them to receive kits also."

Source: <http://iomiraq.net/article/0/nourys-story>

As in all major crises, those who witnessed atrocities bear mental and emotional scars, leading to feelings of stress, depression and insecurity. In 2014, IOM reached almost 100,000 individuals with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions, including capacity-building, formal education programmes and direct interventions in Lebanon, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Resettlement assistance to refugees is a key pillar of IOM's work in the region. IOM's resettlement assistance in 2014 benefitted a total of 31,380 refugees and included activities such as processing legal documents to facilitate the safe departure of refugees accepted for resettlement; medical assessments and counselling to ensure that refugees are fit to travel as well as arrangement for medical and non-medical escorts; pre-departure orientation to inform refugees about the life and culture that await them in their destination countries; movement assistance in coordination with authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and others; and transportation of refugees from their current locations to their future host communities, usually through air travel. IOM has been actively engaged in resettlement of refugees to a number of countries, including Australia, Canada, the United States and many European countries.

Transition and recovery initiatives are designed to promote dialogue and boost local economies after a crisis by facilitating trade and income generation, constructing or rehabilitating key infrastructure, and through other activities to foster peace. The active participation of beneficiaries is a key principle of IOM's intervention in this area, which stresses the importance of peace for development and whose sustainability is best ensured when communities assume responsibility for the projects within a framework of cooperation with government institutions.



A Syrian mother and child seek assistance from a member of an IOM health team in Za'atari Camp. © IOM 2014

In conflict-affected areas of Sudan, for example, IOM delivered training and improved community infrastructure to enhance local authorities' capacities in mitigating conflict through social cohesion. For instance, to reduce tensions over land use, IOM assisted in the demarcation of over 100 km of livestock migratory routes. In order to enhance livelihoods and promote income generation, IOM also distributed seeds and tools in South and West Kordofan states to over 10,000 individuals.

## Humanitarian border management

The humanitarian crises afflicting the region have sharpened the focus on the need and capacity of countries to provide rapid border management responses to mitigate the consequences of sudden mass movements of people.

Within the MCOF, IOM developed the humanitarian border management (HBM) sector of assistance, which ensures the effective management of large-scale population movements in an emergency scenario while putting in place safeguards at the border to monitor any threats that could undermine migrants' safety or national security.

In Jordan, HBM methodology enhanced the overall implementation of the humanitarian operations in response

to the Syrian crisis. Border guards received new transportation and operational equipment to better monitor the borders and organize convoys to safely transport Syrian refugees arriving in Jordan to refugee camps. As complementary capacity-building measures, border officials were trained on HBM-specific topics, including countering terrorism in crisis situations, which was tailored to the Jordanian border authorities' operational context.

IOM also promoted HBM as a system to better respond to the particular challenges of a health crisis. In the wake of the Ebola outbreak and subsequent rise of restrictive measures on international flights to contain the infectious disease, IOM facilitated two international workshops for government representatives from a total of 25 African countries to present HBM as the recommended approach to ensure border security while addressing the health-related needs of migrants.

## Trafficking in crisis

Complex and protracted humanitarian and migration crises, such as armed conflicts, increase vulnerabilities and, in some cases, have led to an increase in human trafficking. The drivers of conflict may even lead to the emergence of specific forms of crisis-related trafficking in persons, requiring enhanced and





A young boy stands by an IOM tent in a camp in al-Fasher, Darfur. © IOM 2014

adaptable interventions. In Libya and Yemen, for example, continued insecurity has rendered migrant workers ever more vulnerable and there are persistent accounts of trafficking for forced labour or slavery and slavery-like practices. In the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq, too, women and girls remained at risk of trafficking for sexual exploitation and forced labour. In refugee movements or secondary onward movements, individuals may start out being smuggled, which, given their heightened vulnerability, can easily turn into trafficking or trafficking-like situations.

In line with the MCOF, IOM offices worked to ensure that anti-trafficking mechanisms are mainstreamed during all phases of a crisis response: preparedness, emergency response and longer-term solutions. Even where trafficking in persons does not manifest immediately, proper planning in the short, medium and long term helps reduce vulnerabilities and gaps that traffickers may later exploit even when the emergency phase has passed. In 2014, IOM initiated field research to gather lessons learned on trafficking responses during crises, which will be made available in 2015. ■

# A livelihoods assessment of Lebanese returnees from the Syrian Arab Republic



Ahmed is a Lebanese returnee from Syria struggling to establish a new life in Lebanon. © IOM 2014

In 2014, the Syrian crisis continued to weigh heavily on Lebanon. Among those affected are Lebanese families who had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic but fled as a result of the conflict. Most of these Lebanese returnees had been residing in the Syrian Arab Republic for

decades and now face challenges similar to those of refugees. Though they enjoy legal status in the country, returnees often face barriers when accessing institutions, employment and services, and remain, on the whole, an under-assisted group.

Ahmed left Tripoli with his family as a boy during the Lebanese civil war and settled in Aleppo. As a young factory worker, he lost his arm in an accident but went on to compete in international sporting events for the disabled. Ahmed and his family have now fled back to Tripoli, where they live in a small room above a warehouse. He complained that while his Syrian relatives had received support, he and other Lebanese had not. “My house and work are in Syria,” Ahmed said. “We’re just waiting for the situation to improve so we can go back.”

IOM commissioned a study on the socioeconomic situation of returnee households, targeting a sample of 313 households across Lebanon, with a concentration on Akkar and the northern Bekaa. Based on the findings of the survey, a set of recommendations were made to further assist Lebanese returnees from the Syrian Arab Republic:

- Strengthen the system for referral and registration of Lebanese returnees, ensuring urgent life-saving assistance for the most vulnerable;
- Improve coordination of assistance through data sharing – where appropriate – and issuance of proof-of-registration cards to returnees;
- Facilitate access to Lebanese institutions and services, for instance those provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs;
- Facilitate access to or provide more livelihood support through emergency job creation schemes, job placement programmes, microfinance/in-kind grant projects and vocational training programmes.

Source: [www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IOM-Lebanon-LH-Assessment-November-2014.pdf](http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IOM-Lebanon-LH-Assessment-November-2014.pdf)



## 2. Addressing complex irregular migration and protecting migrants' rights

Migrants fleeing conflict or in search of better economic opportunities risked their lives on a daily basis transiting in mixed and complex flows to, through and from the region, and onward across the Mediterranean Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the Sahara desert or the diverse terrains of the Middle East. Whether at the hands of human traffickers or migrant smugglers, migrants are frequently exposed to severe human rights violations. The conditions of the journey also mean that migrants can become stranded en route, which increased their risk of destitution, detention, becoming victims of trafficking, or suffering from other abuses or forms of exploitation. 2014 also witnessed a sharp increase in the number of minors on the move across the Middle East and North Africa, many of whom were unaccompanied.

Migrant workers across the region also continued to suffer from multiple abuses of their human rights and labour rights, including human trafficking for sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery and slavery-like practices. Others still found themselves caught in countries in crises and in need of assistance, including returning to and reintegrating into their countries of origin.



Displaced children and their families improved their living conditions through shelter repair and rehabilitation in As-Sweida, Syria. © IOM 2014

## A migrant's story – taking risks, pursuing hopes

Aged 21, Fartuun,\* a high school graduate and young mother, left her hometown in Somaliland in 2013 and set off on a migratory journey to reach Europe, where she hoped to find work to eventually pay for an education and realize her dream of becoming a teacher. Instead, her ordeal took her from her village to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and, eventually, Libya.

At first, things seemed to go according to plan, and Fartuun was smuggled by a group of men from Somaliland to Saudi Arabia. From there, over the course of many days and nights, she crossed the Arabian Desert and eventually reached Libya two weeks later. Once there, her original agreement with the smuggler unravelled and Fartuun was forced to work odd jobs to pay for her onward travel to Europe. It was at this point that her experience turned from one of smuggling to human trafficking. Fartuun's identity documents were confiscated, she was held against her will for six months, repeatedly abused by those who had trafficked and were now exploiting her, and she eventually fell seriously ill.

Back in Somaliland, Fartuun's mother listened to an IOM radio programme on the risks and dangers associated with irregular migration and decided to contact IOM. It took IOM in Libya over a month to find Fartuun in a crowded hospital. Her health condition was extremely serious and she also found herself unable to pay the large medical bill she had incurred. At Fartuun's request, IOM offices in Libya and Somaliland, together with respective national authorities, organized her return to her family in Somaliland a year and a half after she had left. She has since been able to benefit from specialized reintegration assistance.

\*Name changed to protect her identity.

## Providing direct assistance and sustainable solutions to migrants in need

In 2014, IOM continued to provide direct assistance to abused, exploited and trafficked migrants. Promoting an individualized, case-by-case approach to assistance and protection, services included medical care, psychosocial counselling, shelter, legal aid, voluntary return and reintegration support. Throughout the year, 411 trafficked persons were assisted after having experienced multiple forms of exploitation in North Africa, the Middle East and Gulf countries. Navigating the many crises across the region, life-saving support to trafficked persons in Iraq, Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen often came at critical times and under constraining environments.

Complementary to ongoing programming, IOM was able to work with its partners to continue to make a regional direct assistance fund available for the most vulnerable and at-risk cases of stranded migrants. Under the fund, assistance can cover medical care, shelter, legal assistance, socioeconomic support, and assisted voluntary return and reintegration for those who do not have international protection concerns. For example, in Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen,

through assisted voluntary return and reintegration, IOM was able to offer sustainable and comprehensive solutions to several thousand stranded, irregular and trafficked migrants in need of assistance, including those rescued at sea, as well as to individuals returning home from other regions, such as Europe and the Gulf.

A notable trend across the region was the heightened level of abuse occurring both in human trafficking and migrant smuggling contexts, with irregular migrants moving in mixed flows increasingly at risk of physical and psychological abuse, various forms of exploitation and other human rights abuses. Correct and timely identification of migrants' vulnerabilities together with functioning mechanisms for victims to reach assistance remained critical. One noteworthy success in 2014 was the commitment to equal assistance measures to both trafficked persons and abused smuggled migrants in the Declaration on African Union–Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, adopted by eight countries of the Horn of Africa and North Africa in Khartoum, Sudan, in October 2014.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, Sudan, South Sudan and Tunisia.



Young ambassadors take part in filming a video in Tunisia as part of the SALEMM project. © IOM 2014



Immigration detention also remains prevalent across the Middle East and North Africa, and while IOM continued to promote alternatives to detention, the Organization further worked to find humanitarian and sustainable solutions to migrants in detention in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Libya. In particular, IOM programmes – such as the delivery of assistance packages, visits by physicians, and timely referrals of sick individuals to health-care services and other relevant institutions – ensured that migrants in detention had greater access to health care.

## Mitigating risks

While protection is a core pillar of humanitarian response, events in the region demanded innovative approaches to prevention of human trafficking and other forms of exploitation, and to prosecution of perpetrators, to ultimately uphold the rights of migrants.

Pursuing a child rights-based approach, the initiative Solidarité avec Les Enfants du Maghreb et Mashreq (SALEMM)<sup>11</sup> in Morocco and Tunisia worked with diverse stakeholders to

provide alternatives to the risky, irregular migration of minors and youth from the Maghreb. In Tunisia, for example, young Tunisians were empowered through media training, and produced innovative audiovisual awareness materials on migration issues. In December 2014, 20 young Tunisians were named “ambassadors of the SALEMM project” for their films on irregular migration.<sup>12</sup> As part of its global focus on the situation of youth and children in migration, at the end of 2014, IOM signed a global memorandum of understanding with Save the Children, outlining the potential for future partnerships.

In Egypt, IOM launched the interactive, multimedia platform Crossroads,<sup>13</sup> telling the stories of six migrants in Cairo. Focusing on the challenges faced by countries of origin, transit and destination, Crossroads further depicts the complexities of irregular and mixed migration.

In Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, IOM worked with national and international humanitarian counterparts to raise awareness of the risks of human trafficking among displaced and refugee populations affected

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<sup>11</sup> See [www.salemm.org/](http://www.salemm.org/)

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<sup>12</sup> SALEMM videos are available here: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCXCT8RZL3Kue3yDBKRpICg/feed](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXCT8RZL3Kue3yDBKRpICg/feed)

<sup>13</sup> See [www.egypt.iom.int/Crossroads/index.html#Home](http://www.egypt.iom.int/Crossroads/index.html#Home)

# Crossroads

# مفترق طرق



Mahmoud travelled across the Mediterranean to France in December 2013, but his boat sank near the Greek coast. After his return to Egypt, IOM provided reintegration assistance by helping him set up a business. © 2014 (Photo by: Alberto González Farran)



by the crisis in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. In Iraq and Jordan, this also included capacity-building for crisis-response actors, enabling them to better understand and detect human trafficking and protect and assist victims.

Under a multi-country project to protect and assist vulnerable and exploited migrant workers in the Middle East and North Africa, IOM launched a regional campaign to inform migrant workers of their rights: “Are we working or are we exploited?”<sup>14</sup> The campaign was complemented by a number of training for labour attaches from key labour-sending countries (Indonesia, Philippines and Sri Lanka) to further empower embassies and ministries to protect the rights of their nationals working in the Middle East and North Africa.

In Kuwait, IOM convened a regional meeting of media actors as key allies in the fight against human trafficking and migrant exploitation, and to promote correct and factual reporting on migration issues. The training was supported by the Gulf Cooperation Council Joint Program Production Institution, with whom IOM signed a memorandum of understanding in 2014, to continue joint work on accurate, fair and balanced representation of migration in the media.

Early 2014 also marked the adoption of Sudan’s anti-trafficking law, signalling progress in the regional fight to combat human trafficking. With similar laws pending in Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, more and more countries in the region will be in line with their international obligations under the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. IOM continued to support countries across the region to ensure correct implementation of national anti-trafficking legislation, build the capacity of frontline actors and foster prosecution of traffickers. One particular success relates to 29 court cases in Egypt on the charge of trafficking in persons in 2014. A number of countries in the Middle East and North Africa further lifted overstay fines for trafficked persons to ensure their safe return home. Nonetheless, greater efforts are needed regarding compensation schemes for victims. ■

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<sup>14</sup> See [www.facebook.com/pavemena?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/pavemena?fref=ts)

## Promoting dialogue, cooperation and knowledge: The North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force and the Mixed Migration Hub

Throughout 2014, IOM continued to be an active member of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force, which IOM helped found, and supported the research and knowledge management efforts of the Mixed Migration Hub (MHub).

The North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force is an inter-agency initiative by the Danish Refugee Council, IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat in Nairobi and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It promotes a human rights-based approach to ensuring the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows to, through and from North Africa.

MHub works on behalf of the Task Force, as go-to source for knowledge, data and research, and a platform for inter-agency exchange. With a view to fostering collaboration and informing policy, advocacy and programming, MHub and the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force support policymakers, agencies, donors, the public and academia by producing knowledge on the human rights protection issues faced by people moving in mixed and complex flows. Two research pieces on complex flows in North Africa by the North Africa Mixed Migration Task

Force are forthcoming: a report on migrants and detention in Libya and a study on the north-east Africa migration route.

For more information, see: [www.mixedmigrationhub.org](http://www.mixedmigrationhub.org)





### 3. Promoting safe and regular migration and coherent migration governance

One of the central objectives of good migration governance is to ensure that migration takes place in safe and regular ways, protective of the human rights of migrants, governed by the rule of law and respectful of the sovereign integrity of States. IOM promotes good migration governance in all areas of its work by facilitating dialogue, supporting sound policies and legislation, and enhancing migration management through capacity-building and technical assistance. Migration touches on and is influenced by a range of policy domains; therefore, migration policy needs to be reconciled with objectives in other realms, such as labour, health, development and national security, to maximize synergies and minimize contradictions.

Any approach to migration governance must be underpinned by strong partnerships within States, among States at bilateral, regional or intraregional levels, and with civil society partners: for example, throughout 2014, IOM supported the European Union-led Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process) and the Africa Union–Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, which brought together countries in the Horn of Africa, northern Africa and Europe to coordinate actions on tackling irregular migration, migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

The challenge of complex, mixed migration also remained high on the agenda of policymakers in North Africa. Technical assistance, knowledge-sharing and dialogue enabled Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia to better respond to mixed flows, in an initiative supported by the IOM Development Fund. Research conducted as part of this initiative provided insights into the drivers of mixed flows and migrants' living conditions in each country. Participating governments are committed to developing comprehensive migration policies consistent with international law and based on international cooperation.

Launched in 2013, the regional project “Protecting and assisting vulnerable and exploited migrant workers” brings together officials from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia on issues of human trafficking and migrant exploitation. In addition to direct assistance to migrants, in 2014 the project made progress towards creating a regional framework for the protection of victims. It also encouraged peer-learning among governments through regional dialogue and training on victim identification and protection, as well as a study tour to Brussels to discuss best practices with Belgian counterparts and delegates from the European Commission. In addition to government officials from participating countries, the training also targeted civil society actors, journalists and embassy personnel of migrants' countries of origin.



## Fostering sound migration policies and laws

To assist governments throughout the region in devising sound migration policies and laws in line with international standards, IOM consistently built knowledge and capacities on all dimensions of migration and the interactions of migration with other policy areas. For example, in collaboration with the League of Arab States, IOM and UNHCR trained officials from around the region on international migration, migration management, and refugee and displacement issues; while the inter-agency regional working group on international migration in the Arab region, which IOM co-chairs, organized a workshop on migration and development for government representatives from nine Arab countries. The latter was

based on a set of training modules on international migration and development produced by IOM and available in Arabic.<sup>15</sup>

At national levels, in 2014, IOM also trained officials in Egypt on the basics of international migration law, while in Kuwait, IOM reached out to journalists, media personnel, NGO and civil society representatives, and government officials from Kuwait and other member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on a range of migration issues. In the context of Moroccan reforms to its migration policy, participants from a range of ministries completed training on migration, human trafficking and border management.

Since 2013, IOM has been supporting the Government of Iraq in addressing the dual priorities of responding to the humanitarian crisis in the country and developing its migration and border management capacities. The European Union-funded project HIJRA AMINA (Iraq-EU-IOM Jointly Run Advanced Assisted Migration Initiative) has promoted and supported an integrated approach to migration issues. Both the central government and the Kurdistan Regional Government have committed to creating a joint border management training strategy in Iraq.

<sup>15</sup> The International Migration and Development Training Modules are available here: [http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=47&products\\_id=1070](http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=47&products_id=1070)

In Libya, IOM supported the establishment of a Legislative and Policy Task Force within the Government to improve existing migration-related legislation and policies. While this task force was meant to come into effect in June 2014, all activities have been suspended due to ongoing political instability.

## Facilitating regular migration

Regular migration channels must not only be available but also supported by fast and accurate mechanisms to process visa applications. To facilitate visa processing, in September 2014, IOM opened a new Visa Application Centre (VAC) in Erbil, Iraq, which enables Iraqi nationals and foreigners residing in the country to apply for a temporary visa for Canada without having to travel to the Canadian consulate in Jordan or Turkey, which require entry visas for Iraqi nationals. Three months after opening, the VAC had already assisted over 100 applicants.

Elsewhere in the region, the VAC in Amman, Jordan, assists Palestinians and Syrians in addition to Jordanian nationals, with over 4,000 applications received in 2014. Meanwhile, due to the deteriorating security situation, the VAC in Tripoli, Libya, had to close temporarily in July 2014. Applicants from Libya are assisted by the VAC in Tunisia, which received over 6,500 applications throughout 2014.

An elderly lady told the Client Service Assistant in Erbil: “I am so pleased that IOM has opened a Visa Application Centre for Canada. Now I can apply from my home and I do not have to go to Amman for my visa anymore, so it is easier to go visit my daughter in Toronto. Thank you, IOM!”

## Building capacity to curb transnational crime

Effective border management plays a crucial role in countering all forms of transnational crime, particularly in a context as complex and transitory as the one in the Middle East and North Africa, where border agencies need to be equipped with the necessary human and material resources.

Gaps in the current border control systems are exacerbated by the lack of effective cooperation among border agencies. This contributes to fostering transnational crime and creating a lucrative environment for criminal organizations that play an increasing role in the smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings, which often feed prostitution, forced labour and slavery.



IOM has been supporting governments in the region to address the challenges facing border agencies through contextualized capacity-building initiatives in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Sudan and Tunisia, as well as by providing equipment to support the governments' efforts in detecting false travel documents.

After benefitting from training of trainers on passport examination procedures, a pool of more than 70 Iraqi, Lebanese and Sudanese trainers are now familiar with the features of genuine travel documents and the most common techniques used by forgers; they are also qualified to pass their knowledge on to colleagues in their respective countries. In Iraq, further training has enhanced other critical skills such as investigation techniques and passenger profiling while always safeguarding human rights when countering irregular migration.

Terrorist networks tend to exploit weak border management systems to destabilize both national and regional peace and security. In the framework of the cooperation with the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, IOM shared experiences on validating the security of travel documents, identity management solutions, and data collection and analysis system at a workshop entitled "Strengthening Border-related Counter-terrorism Capacities in the Sahel and the Maghreb through International Databases and Enhanced Cooperation, Coordination and Information-Exchange", held in Algeria. This included information on technological solutions such as the IOM-developed Biometric Information Management System (BIMS) and Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS).



## Promoting integrated border management

IOM promotes cooperation among border agencies, both within countries and between countries. Such an approach avoids duplications and overlaps in managing borders, leading to faster processing procedures and minimizing the risk of loopholes in the overall border management system. It requires a well-functioning information exchange mechanism to be in place to coordinate communication between participating agencies.

In Egypt, IOM delivered a regional training to enhance the communication and information-sharing capacities of border officials from countries in North Africa and the Sahel and to promote regional coordination in countering crimes related to human mobility such as human trafficking and migrant smuggling. In Jordan, the integrated border management approach was discussed in the framework of the “Middle East Dialogue on Strategic Border Management” among Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.



Lebanese border officials take part in an exercise during a “training of trainers” session on passport examination as part of IOM’s border management programme.  
© IOM 2014





- **Evidence-based immigration and border management assessments**

IOM capacity-building and technical assistance initiatives take place at the request of countries, are grounded in evidence acquired through assessments and are tailored to each country's situation. For example, to improve the response to migratory pressures and to mitigate the security threat emanating from the Syrian Arab Republic, IOM conducted repeated technical field visits in Lebanon at border crossing points with the Syrian Arab Republic. Through the assessment of the Aboudiyeh border crossing point at the northern Lebanese border, IOM experts identified the most urgent infrastructural and operational needs to ensure protection of Syrian refugees fleeing the crisis and border communities. Throughout the year, IOM provided passport examination equipment and office refurbishment to the Lebanese General Directorate of General Security and the Lebanese Armed Forces.

Following on from recommendations made during a joint assessment by IOM, UNHCR and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development in Tunisia, IOM continued its long-term engagement in supporting the security sector reform. A technical evaluation of the current border management information system is ongoing, with the aim to identify the most appropriate border technology solution.



An Iraqi delegation meets officers at Pristina Central Police Station for a discussion on the benefits and challenges of integrating Community Policing into their daily duties. © IOM 2014



- **Standard operating procedure**

IOM assessments address regulatory and procedural frameworks that guide border authorities' work. A coherent set of standard operating procedure assigning clear functions and responsibilities to different entities involved in migration management is a crucial tool to harmonize border officials' daily tasks. In 2014, IOM initiated the development of the standard operating procedure on humanitarian border management for Jordanian border officials deployed at the borders with the Syrian Arab Republic, and for the Libyan Department to Combat Illegal Migration (DCIM) to ensure fundamental rights and due process to irregular migrants during identification and repatriation procedures. The standard operating procedures for Libya include an instructions guide for the newly developed BIMS, installed in six of the DCIM-run holding facilities to assist officials in registering migrants and addressing their vulnerabilities.

- **Peer-to-peer exchanges on immigration and border management**

Peer-to-peer exchanges among government officials – exposing them to international best practices – have proven an effective means of enhancing knowledge. Throughout the year, IOM promoted study visits to allow officials to gain first-hand experience with migration management systems worldwide, which in turn will enhance the effectiveness of national systems.

Egyptian and Sudanese officials visited Italy, where they learned about the difficulties of managing migration in situations of emergency at sea, countering migrant smuggling, detecting cases of identity fraud and best practices of integrated border management. Participants had the opportunity to interact with Italian counterparts on best practices in the identification and repatriation of irregular migrants in line with internationally recognized standards.

IOM supported representatives from Egypt and Lebanon on learning about state-of-the-art border management technology during an international conference organized by IOM in Thailand. This event offered an opportunity to observe cutting-edge border management solutions used by governments, immigration and border management agencies, airlines and airport authorities.

IOM continued to promote the role of community policing to enhance cohesion between the police and civil society. Given the potential contribution of community policing to the establishment of responsible governance in the security sector, IOM sponsored a study visit to UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo for nine senior Iraqi officials, during which the Kosovan Police shared lessons learned and best practices identified under its community policing programme. ■

## 4. Connecting migration and human development

There is a growing understanding within the region and globally of the so-called migration–development nexus, recognizing that the two phenomena are often intimately connected as both cause and effect of one another. This recognition has been accompanied by renewed interest among government and other stakeholders in the region to build their capacity, develop policies and implement programmes that take into account the migration–development nexus. The aim is to mitigate the challenges migration flows may pose to migrants and societies, and harness the social and economic benefits that can be gained from migration.

### Forced migration and human development

Ongoing political instability and conflict in several countries in the region have continued to result in large-scale forced migration and protracted displacement. The scale and duration of these displacements can place considerable strain on the social and economic fabric of host communities, as well as challenge the longer-term social and economic prospects of those displaced.



Chokri Houidi, a blacksmith in Jbeniana, Tunisia, takes part in a community project as part of his assisted reintegration.  
© 2014 (Photo by: Fabio Donofrio)



Host communities have struggled not only in attending to the basic needs of displaced populations but also with the impact such large movements have on local labour markets, housing costs, and demand for other essential goods and services. Recognizing these challenges and the possibility for growing tensions between displaced and host communities, IOM's response, in addition to meeting humanitarian needs, has increasingly incorporated components designed to enhance community resilience and build human capital. Such activities include supporting livelihood and community development initiatives that benefit members of both the host community and those displaced, as well as the availability of health services and psychosocial interventions, and education and training for youth.

## Labour migration and human development

Labour migration continues to play an important role in the region's development both for the major countries of destination such as the Gulf States and Jordan, and for the principle countries of origin such as Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, which rely on labour migration as a way of easing unemployment pressures at home and for the economic benefits of the inflow of financial remittances. In 2014, over



Young Egyptian women learn to make traditional handicrafts as part of a sustainable livelihoods project. © IOM 2014





Hammadi ben Kalfaha and Houcine Besbes construct fishing boats in Sfax, Tunisia, as part of an assisted reintegration project. © 2014 (Photo by: Fabio Donofrio)

USD 80 billion were remitted from the GCC countries,<sup>16</sup> making the region the source of nearly one fifth of the world's remittances. Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia continued to be among the largest recipients of remittances globally, receiving USD 19.6 billion, USD 8.9 billion, USD 6.9 billion and USD 2.3 billion, respectively. At the same time, a recent IOM–Gallup Poll survey looking at perceptions of migration across the world noted that the GCC countries had some of the most positive views of migration globally, with the vast majority of participants recognizing the positive role migrant workers have played in their countries' economic development.

Despite the positive perceptions and large contributions of labour migration to development in countries of origin and destination, challenges relating to exploitation and extortion within the recruitment process as well as the protection of domestic workers and other vulnerable migrants in countries of destination persist, negatively impacting the value of labour migration to support sustainable development. 2014 proved to be a seminal year for IOM's engagement on these issues in the GCC with agreements signed both with Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates relating to labour migration management. At the global level, IOM continued to spearhead the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) as a means of building oversight and improving ethical practices within the international labour recruitment industry.

<sup>16</sup> Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

# International Recruitment Integrity System

The International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) is a consortium of international stakeholders committed to the fair recruitment and selection of migrant workers. Initiated by IOM, IRIS sets up an international voluntary ethical recruitment framework that will benefit all stakeholders in the labour migration process. IRIS will address unfair recruitment and bridge international regulatory gaps governing labour recruitment in countries of origin and destination. Specifically:

- IRIS aims to create a public–private alliance of like-minded governments, employers, recruiters and other partners committed to ethical recruitment.
- IRIS will develop a voluntary accreditation framework so that its members can be recognized as bona fide fair recruiters and distinguish themselves from unscrupulous intermediaries. Accreditation will be based on adherence to common principles for ethical recruitment and a code of conduct which will include the following:
  - No fees charged to job-seekers;
  - No retention of workers' passports or identity documents;
  - A requirement for transparency in their labour supply chain.
- Job-seekers will have better information regarding ethical recruitment through an information portal and publicly available roster of accredited IRIS members internationally.
- IRIS will administer a complaints and referral mechanism to assist victims of unethical or illegal recruiters to file grievances with the appropriate authorities.

In November 2014, labour ministers from the GCC countries and major countries of origin in Asia came together in Kuwait for the Third Ministerial Meeting of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue (“Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia”). The Ministerial Meeting resulted in the approval of several innovative initiatives intended to better understand and manage the complexities of the recruitment industry:

- IOM will manage a large-scale research project analysing the recruitment networks and labour supply chains between Nepal, the state of Kerala in India and the United Arab Emirates in order to better understand the institutional linkages that make up these vast networks and the conditions that result in their functioning the way they do. The study will provide concrete recommendations on policy and programme innovations to address shortcomings.
- The Philippines, in cooperation with IOM, will support a project to develop standardized and updated pre-departure orientation training and material across the major countries of origin.
- The United Arab Emirates and Kuwait will run a pilot project on skills testing and skills recognition in select occupations in the construction and hospitality industries.

Also, in November in 2014, IOM signed an agreement with the United Nations Development Programme, the International Labour Organization, and the Kuwaiti Ministry of Social

Affairs and Labour to build the capacity of the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) in the effective management and regulation of the labour market. This two-year programme will see IOM implement several research projects pertaining to labour migration and deliver training workshops and capacity-building activities on labour migration management for PAM officials.

## Arab expatriates and human development

While the financial remittances sent home by migrants tend to attract most attention by governments and the media, migrants contribute to social and economic development in their countries of origin in numerous ways, including through the facilitation of trade and investment or the transfer of technology and ideas. The Arab expatriate community across Europe and the United States, as well as Arab migrants within the Middle East and North Africa region, include countless experts and highly skilled individuals across a variety of fields who are able and eager to give back to their countries of origin. Techwadi, in Silicon Valley, connects highly successful Arab expatriates in the information technology (IT) sector with young IT entrepreneurs in the Arab region to provide advice and expertise, facilitate their access to potential investors and open new markets. The Syrian American Medical Society in the



United States, Hand in Hand for Syria in the United Kingdom and the Arab Medical Union in Europe continue to provide direct humanitarian assistance to Syrians in need both within the Syrian Arab Republic and in neighbouring countries. Their work includes delivery of medical supplies and other necessary goods, as well as temporary return of Syrian expatriates to perform medical interventions, including emergency surgery.

Throughout 2014, IOM continued its work to facilitate and leverage diaspora engagement in development by:

- building government capacity to engage with communities abroad;
- improving networking and linkages with and across Arab expatriate associations;
- developing programmes to facilitate diaspora engagement in development. Such initiatives have included, inter alia: projects for mainstreaming migration into national development plans in Morocco and Tunisia; training workshops on migration and development in Egypt; broadening IOM's network of Arab expatriate associations to include organizations across Europe and North America specializing in areas such as medicine, IT, scientific research, and business development and investment; and support for the temporary return of qualified nationals to build capacity in public institutions in Morocco and Sudan. ■

Cucumbers are grown as part of a livelihood project in Iraq.  
© IOM Iraq 2014



## Temporary return of qualified Moroccan nationals

IOM started its Temporary Return of Qualified Nationals (TRQN III) Programme in Morocco in October 2012, with the goal of utilizing the advanced skills and training of expatriates living abroad to build capacity in countries of origin. To date, over 40 capacity-building exercises have been carried out across Morocco in a variety of fields, ranging from programmatic technical support, to social development, scientific and technological research, law, advocacy, health and communication.

During the two years the project has been running, two exchange visits to the Netherlands have been organized for delegations from partner and Moroccan institutions. During the visits, participants had the opportunity to engage in a variety of topics, including transfer of expertise, networking between countries, cooperation with other institutions, and developing new areas of research and programming.



Dr Ahmed Rachid (standing) is a professor of electrical engineering and renewable energy in France, and returned to Morocco under the TRQN programme. © IOM 2014

## In focus: Dr Ahmed Rachid



Dr Rachid and a PhD student during the solar car race in Marrakech in September 2014. © IOM 2014

Dr Ahmed Rachid is a professor of electrical engineering and renewable energy at the University of Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France. He returned to Morocco as part of the Temporary Return of Qualified Nationals Programme to work at the School of Sciences and Engineering at Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech. There, he assisted in the construction of a prototype solar car, which the university entered in the national solar car race against universities from France, Australia and Turkey in September 2014.

Working over three months with a team of doctorate students and the president of the Faculty of Sciences, Dr Rachid's team built a car that won at the national level in an event organized by the Cheriffian Office for Phosphates, in partnership with the Institute of Research in Solar and Renewable Energy. While the Turkish university won the competition at the international level, the University of Marrakech's teams received a special commendation from the jury of the International Federation of Solar Cars and were invited to participate at the international level in Abu Dhabi in 2015.

Fishermen in Ahwar, Yemen, meet with IOM field teams to discuss their vulnerabilities and immediate needs. © IOM 2014





## 5. Research and publications: 2014 highlights

### Household International Migration Surveys in the Mediterranean Countries (MED-HIMS)

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IOM is a partner in the Household International Migration Survey in Mediterranean Countries programme, which conducts coordinated migration surveys at the request of national statistical offices of select countries of the southern and eastern Mediterranean. The surveys provide unique, detailed and comparable data on migration dynamics in the region. IOM supports technical activities and coordination at the regional level while also engaging at national levels in data analysis and knowledge production, for instance in Egypt in 2014.

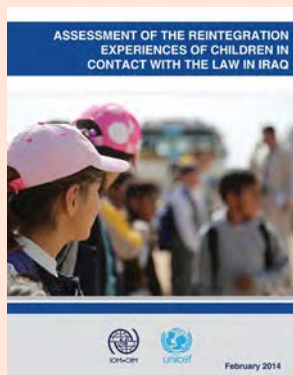


### Assessment of Priorities for the Development of Libya's Migration Policy: A Strategic Vision

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This assessment report supports efforts to develop a domestic migration policy for Libya. It analyses Libya's current rules, institutional set-up and practices relating to migration management in areas considered priorities for policy development, and formulates various options for the future development of a migration policy in relation to both legal and irregular migration, as well as on the capacities of the relevant authorities. This assessment provides an overview of key migration challenges facing Libya and suggests how these might be met through government action.





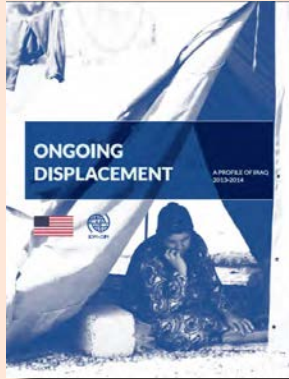
## Assessment of the Reintegration Experiences of Children in Contact with the Law in Iraq

Since 2003, protracted conflict and violence, poverty and displacement have exposed children to a higher-than-usual risk of coming into contact with the law. It is understood that official figures represent only a small percentage of all delinquency cases, with Iraqi law prescribing various non-custodial alternatives, such as fines and probation, at both the pretrial and sentencing/disposition stages. There are reports that police officers divert a considerable number of cases without formal judicial proceedings, but with limited mechanisms for follow up, little is known of the fates of these children and it is believed that many remain vulnerable to recidivism.



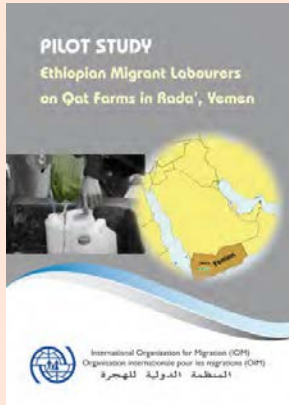
## Pilot Project: Assessment and Strategy Development to Respond to Sea Level Rise on Human Mobility in Abu Qir, Egypt

The impact of sea level rise can devastate the lives and livelihoods of people living in coastal communities and may result in a temporary or more permanent migration to areas with perceived better opportunities. This report outlines the results of research and activities assessing the impacts of sea level rise on Abu Qir, and ends with conclusions and recommendations on policy and practical options to counter the negative effects of sea level rise.



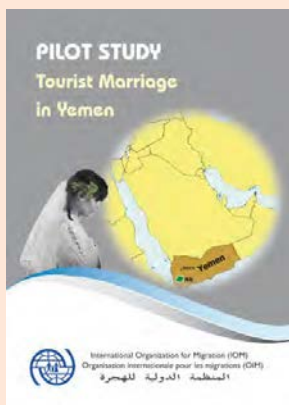
## Ongoing Displacement: A Profile of Iraq 2013–2014

Ongoing Displacement profiles the displacement trends, living conditions, needs and intentions of populations that have been displaced in Iraq since 2013. Through a series of household questionnaires, focus group discussions and supplementary data from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, this report presents an in-depth and holistic view of how the most recent crises have affected internal displacement in Iraq.



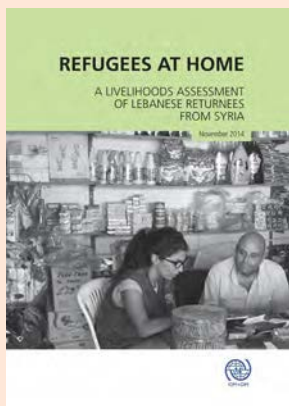
## Pilot Study: Ethiopian Migrant Labourers on Qat Farms in Rada', Yemen

This research investigates the alleged situation of Ethiopian migrant labourers being forced to work on qat farms in Rada' Governorate, Yemen. It looks at their working conditions in this unregulated sector, the domestic legislative framework and the risks associated with migrant smuggling, contextualizing it within the history of migration between Yemen and the Horn of Africa and recent socioeconomic drivers. The research found no conclusive evidence that irregular Ethiopian migrants were trafficked for forced labour, although deception was an aspect of the smuggling process. The research offers a list of recommendations for the Government of Yemen, the international community and national civil society organizations to take action and strengthen the response against labour exploitation, human trafficking and migrant smuggling.




## Pilot Study: Tourist Marriage in Yemen

This publication assesses the phenomenon of tourist marriage, defining it as a temporary, formal union between a Yemeni female and a man from an Arabian Gulf country. The pilot study explores the economic and social dimensions and consequences of tourist marriage, and highlights its impact on young Yemeni females and their families. The research identifies how tourist marriage is a form of human trafficking because the groom deceives the young bride and her parents and with the purpose to use her in the short term (e.g. one week to one month) for sexual exploitation. The research offers a list of recommendations for the Government of Yemen, the international community, and national civil society organizations to take action and strengthen the response against human trafficking.



## Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria

Displaced from residency in the Syrian Arab Republic, Lebanese returnees should have equal access to the Lebanese labour market and public services. In reality, they are often perceived as Syrians and are unfamiliar with the services available to them, while at the same time often lacking the support of friends or family. Furthermore, at the beginning of the emergency response, returnees were not targeted for humanitarian assistance in the same way as refugees and remain, on the whole, an under-assisted group. This report takes into account information gathered over 2013–2014 by the Lebanese Government's High Relief Commission and IOM to assess the socioeconomic situation of Lebanese returnee households to better inform long-term programming that seeks to improve their livelihoods.



An Iraqi woman tends her cattle as part of a livelihoods project. © IOM Iraq 2014

# Key statistics for IOM activities in the Middle East and North Africa for 2014



# Beneficiaries of IOM development and humanitarian assistance activities in 2014

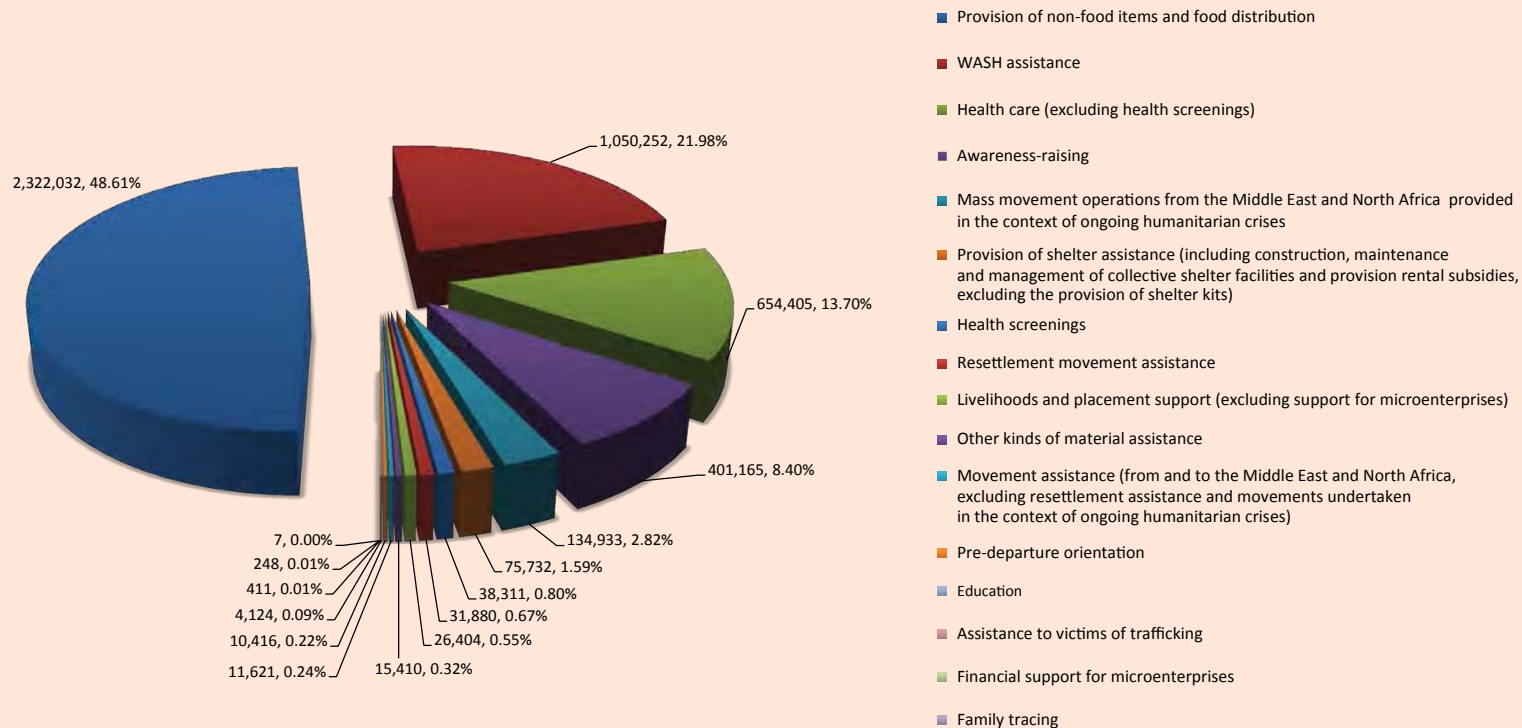
Type of programme	Number of beneficiaries
Provision of non-food items and food distribution	2,322,032
WASH assistance	1,050,252
Health care (excluding health screenings)	654,405
Awareness-raising	401,165
Mass movement operations from the Middle East and North Africa provided in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises	134,933
Provision of shelter assistance (including construction, maintenance and management of collective shelter facilities and provision rental subsidies, excluding the provision of shelter kits)	75,732
Health screenings	38,311
Resettlement movement assistance	31,880
Livelihoods and placement support (excluding support for microenterprises)	26,404
Other kinds of material assistance	15,410
Movement assistance (from and to the Middle East and North Africa, excluding resettlement assistance and movements undertaken in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises)	11,621
Pre-departure orientation	10,416
Education	4,124
Assistance to victims of trafficking	411
Financial support for microenterprises	248
Family tracing	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,777,351</b>
<b>Displacement tracking and monitoring</b>	
Cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored as of end of 2014	4,003,154
Cumulative total returnees tracked and monitored as of end of 2014	485,465
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,488,619</b>



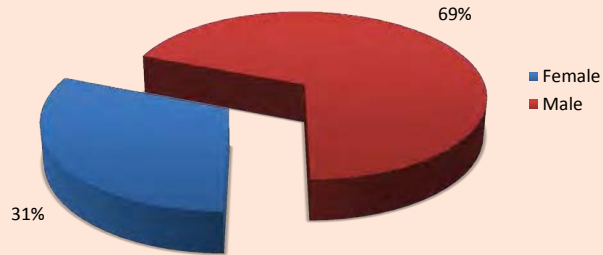
Syrian children sit in a newly constructed shelter in Rural Damascus. © IOM 2014

# Total beneficiaries of IOM development and humanitarian assistance activities in 2014: 4,777,351

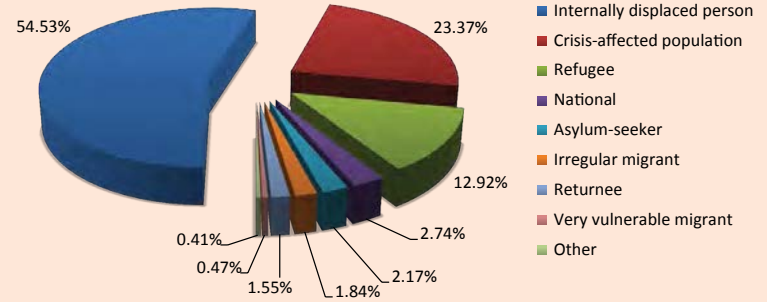
## Breakdown of total beneficiaries of IOM assistance activities in 2014, by type of activity



**Estimated breakdown of total beneficiaries, by gender**

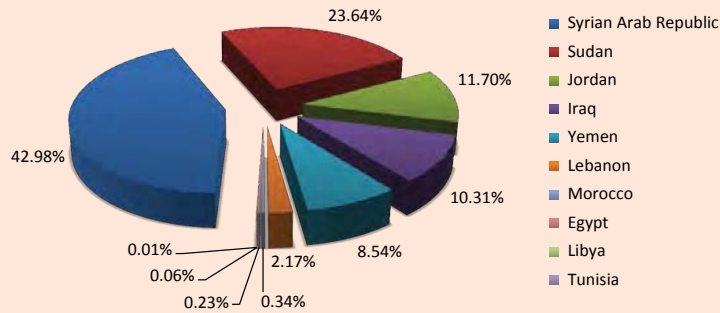


**Estimated breakdown of total beneficiaries, by type of beneficiary**

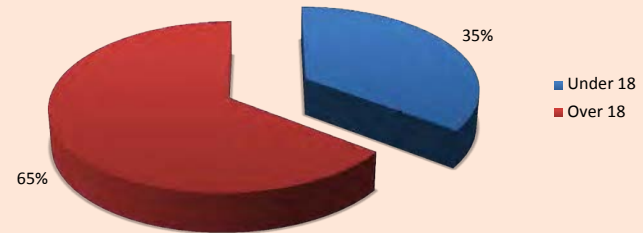


\*Other includes victims of trafficking, stranded, detainees, unknowns, unaccompanied minors, students and migrants

**Estimated breakdown of total beneficiaries, by country of implementation**

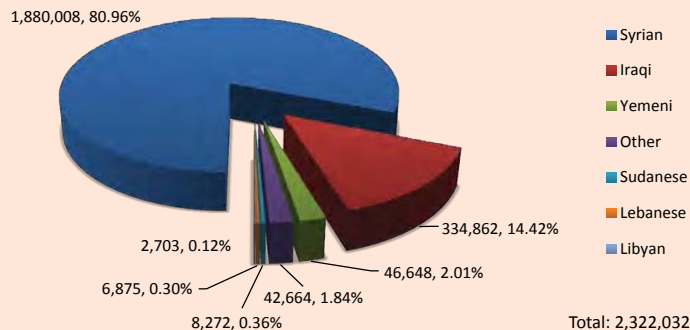


**Estimated breakdown of total beneficiaries, by age**



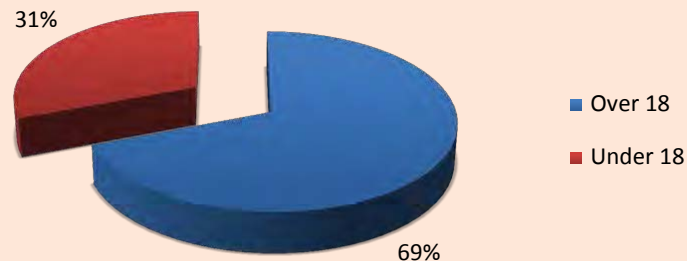
## Total beneficiaries of non-food items (NFI) and food distribution in 2014: 2,322,032

**Breakdown of NFI and food distribution beneficiaries, by nationality**

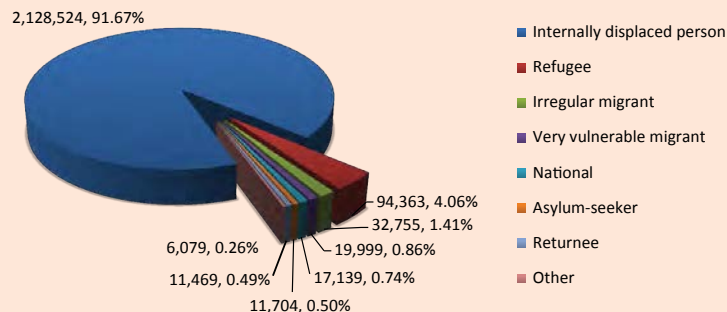


\* Other nationalities include Afghan, Bangladeshi, Burkinabe, Cameroonian, Central African, Chadian, Danish, Egyptian, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, Guinean, Ivorian, Jamaican, Jordanian, Malian, Moroccan, Nigerian, Palestinian, Rwandan, Russian, Somali, Togolese, Tunisian, unknown, Zambian

**Estimated breakdown of NFI and food distribution beneficiaries, by age**

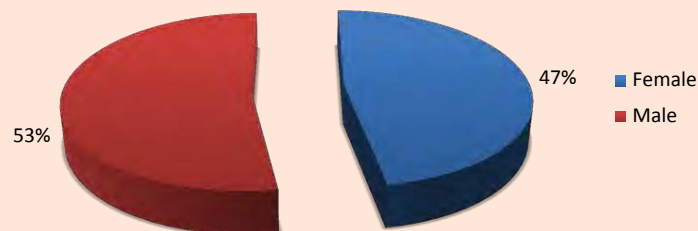


**Breakdown of NFI and food distribution beneficiaries, by type of beneficiary**



\* Other beneficiaries include detainees, migrants, stranded, and very vulnerable migrants

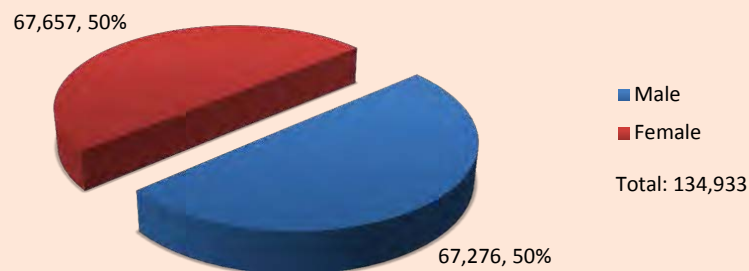
**Estimated breakdown of NFI beneficiaries, by gender**



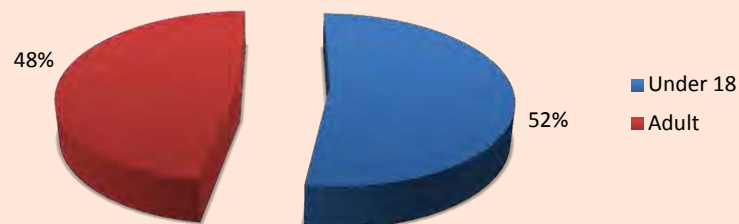


## Beneficiaries of mass movement operations from MENA provided in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises in 2014: 134,933

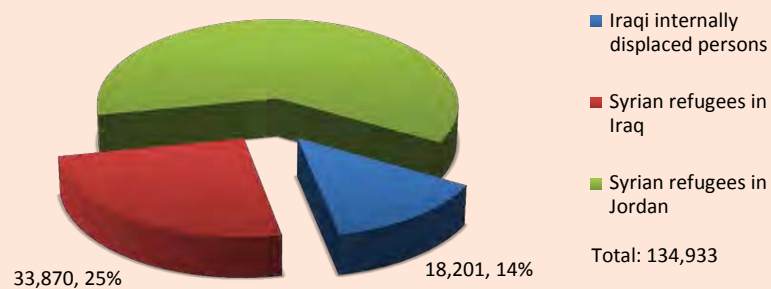
**Breakdown of emergency movement beneficiaries, by gender**



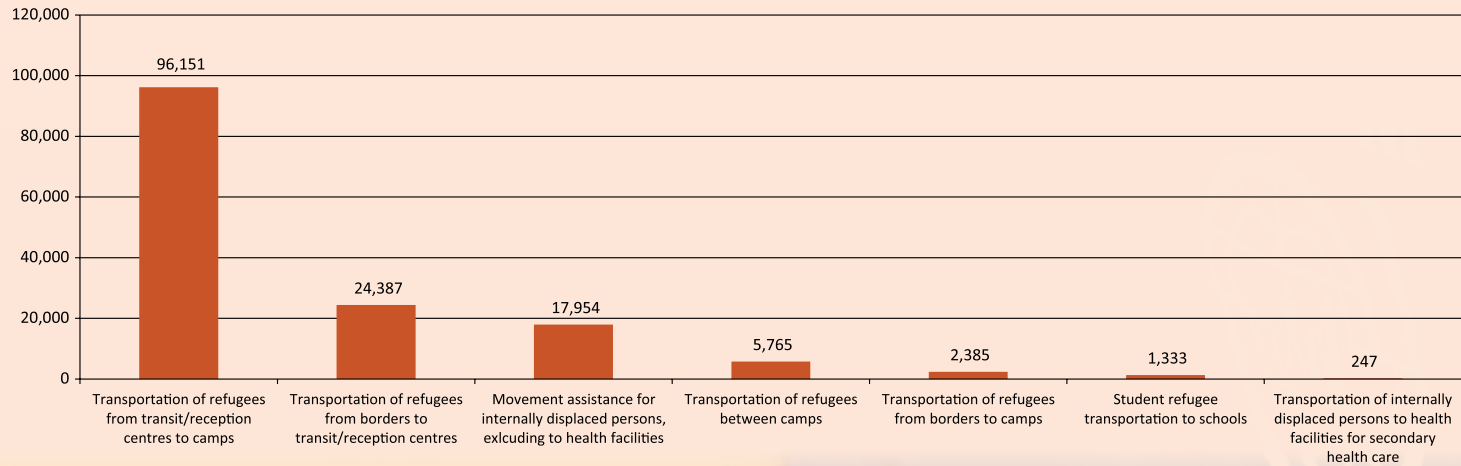
**Estimated breakdown of emergency movement beneficiaries, by age**



**Breakdown of emergency beneficiaries, by nationality and status**



## Breakdown of beneficiaries of mass movement operations from the Middle East and North Africa region, in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises, by type of movement operation



Some beneficiaries received more than one type of assistance.

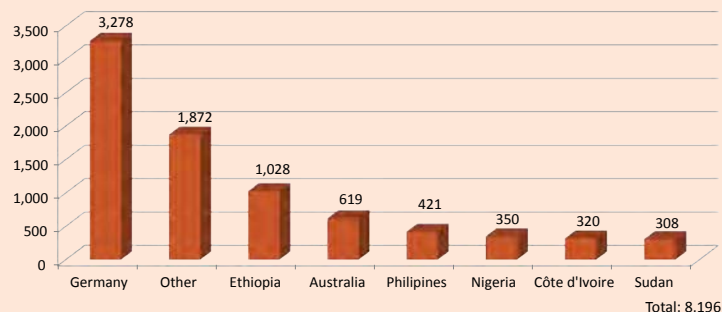
Total: 148,222

Displaced men sit along the walls of a camp in Iraq. © IOM 2014

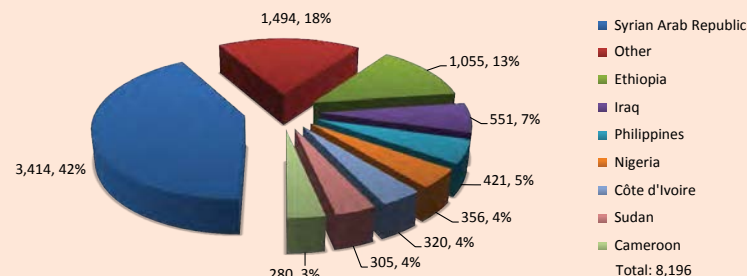


## Movement assistance provided from MENA in 2014, excluding resettlement assistance and movements undertaken in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises: 8,196

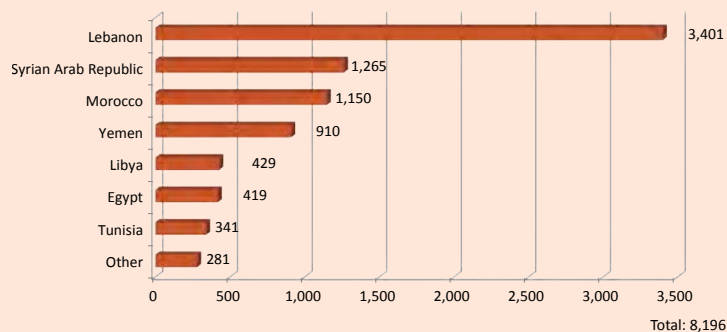
**Breakdown of movement assistance beneficiaries, by country of destination**



**Breakdown of beneficiaries of movement assistance from the Middle East and North Africa, by nationality**

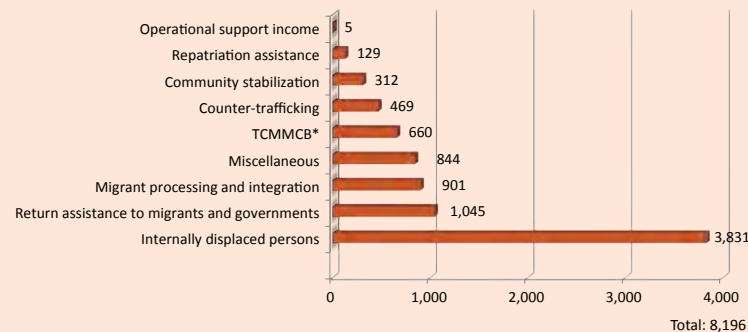


**Breakdown of movements beneficiaries from the Middle East and North Africa, by country of departure**



\*Other countries of departure include Iraq, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates

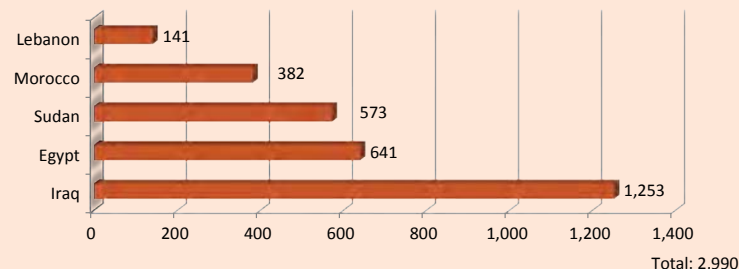
**Breakdown of all beneficiaries of movement assistance, by type of assistance**



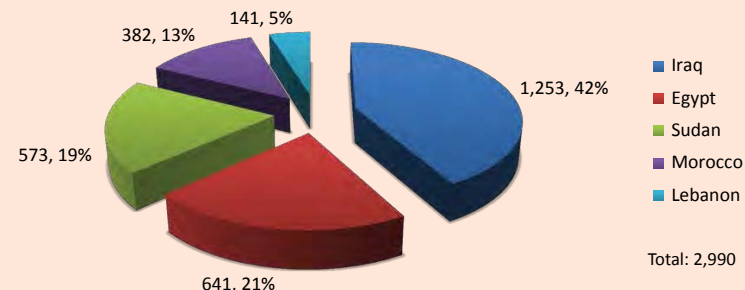
\* Technical Cooperation on Migration Management and Capacity-building

## Beneficiaries of IOM movement assistance to the MENA region in 2014, excluding resettlement assistance and movements undertaken in the context of ongoing humanitarian crises: 3,425

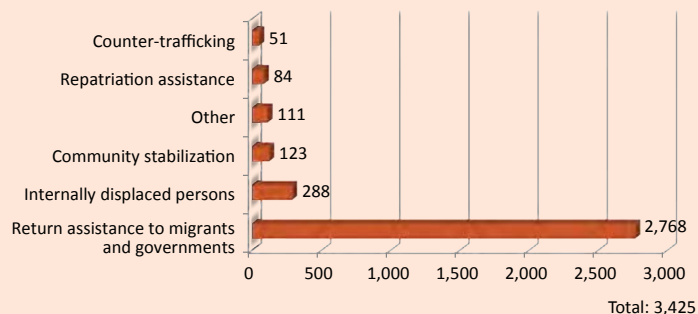
**Breakdown of movements undertaken to top five countries of destination in the Middle East and North Africa region in 2014**



**Breakdown of top five nationalities of beneficiaries of movement assistance to the Middle East and North Africa in 2014**

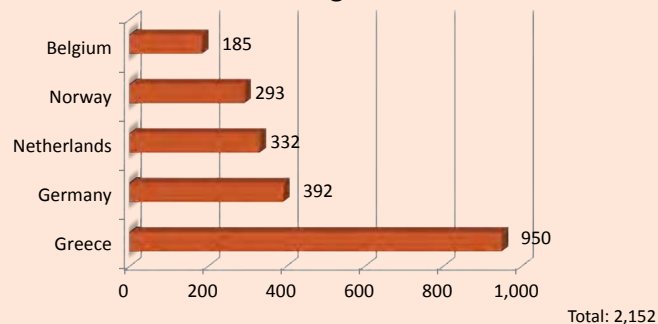


**Breakdown of beneficiaries, by type of movement**



\*Other types of movements include migrant processing and integration, TCMMCB, miscellaneous and operational support income

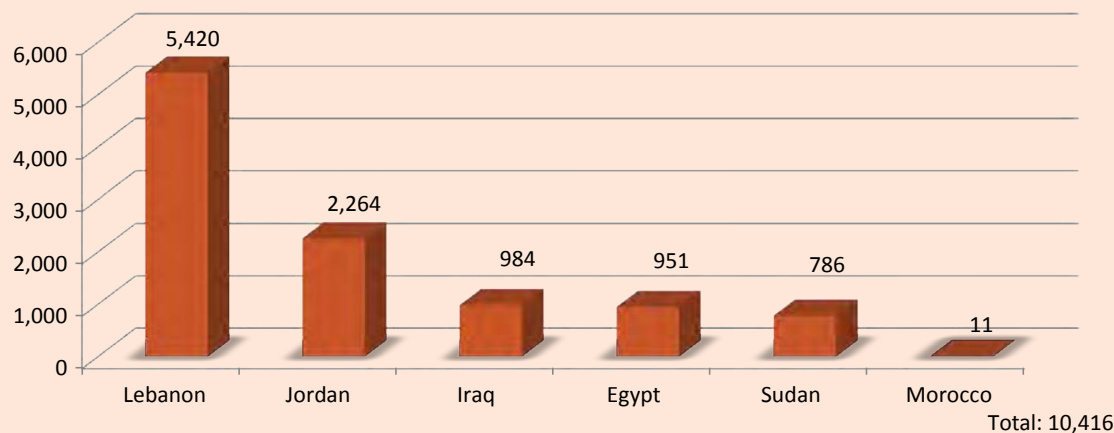
**Breakdown of movements undertaken from top five countries of departure to the Middle East and North Africa region in 2014**





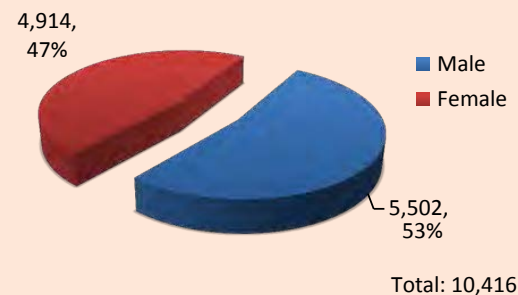
## Total beneficiaries of pre-departure orientations in 2014: 10,416

Total beneficiaries of pre-departure cultural orientation, by country of departure



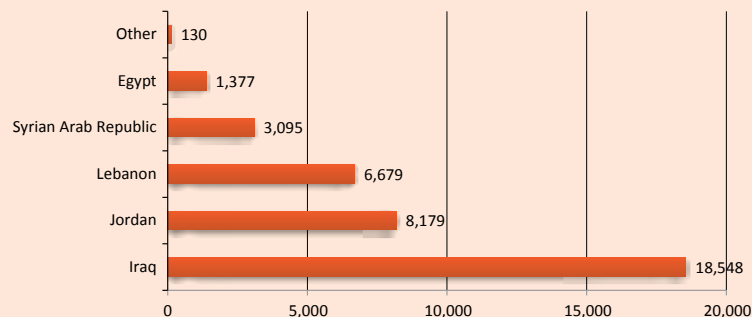
Title of programme	Number of beneficiaries
COA (Canadian Orientation Abroad)	3,378
USCO RSC Middle East and North Africa	2,845
DECO (German Cultural Orientation )	2,129
AUSCO (Australian Cultural Orientation)	1,299
NORCO (Norwegian Cultural Orientation)	371
FRCO (French Cultural Orientation)	142
UKCO (United Kingdom Cultural Orientation)	96
CHCO (Swiss Cultural Orientation)	63
NLCO III (Netherlands Cultural Orientation)	53
CO NAREIS (Dutch Orientation for Family Reunification)	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,416</b>

Breakdown of beneficiaries of pre-departure cultural orientation, by gender



## Total beneficiaries of health screenings in 2014: 38,311

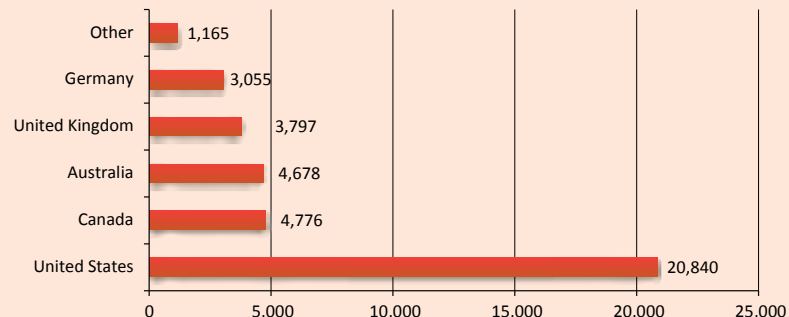
Beneficiaries of health screenings, broken down by country of implementation



Total: 38,311

\* Other countries include Algeria, Bahrain, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia

Beneficiaries of health screenings, broken down by country of destination



Total: 38,311

\* Other countries include Austria, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Uruguay

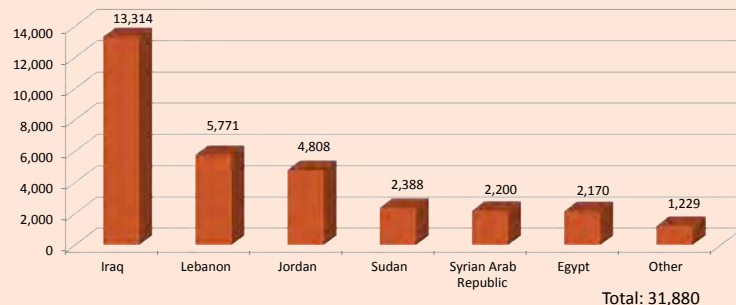


Olemba Henri, from Cameroon, works at home in Cairo, Egypt, while his wife Claire and baby Dorcas rest in the living room. © 2014 (Photo by: Alberto González Farran)



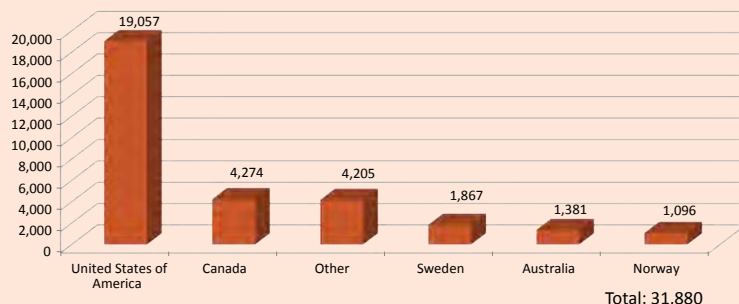
## Total resettlement beneficiaries from the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 31,880

**Breakdown of resettlement assistance beneficiaries' country of departure**



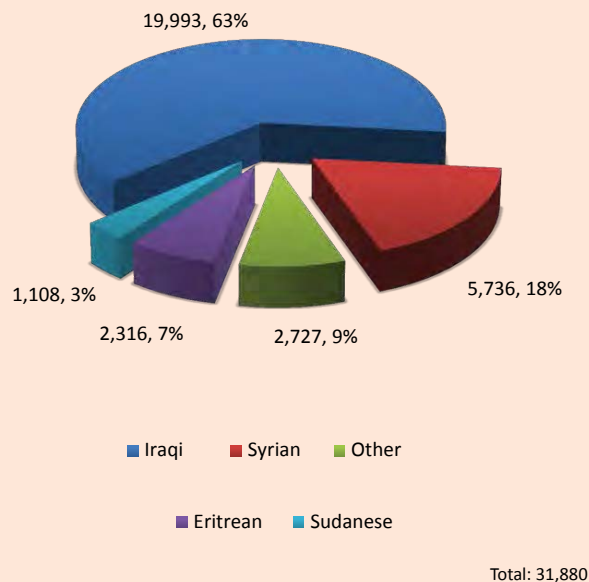
\* Other countries include Algeria, Bahrain, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen

**Breakdown of resettlement assistance beneficiaries' country of destination**



\* Other countries include Albania, Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom

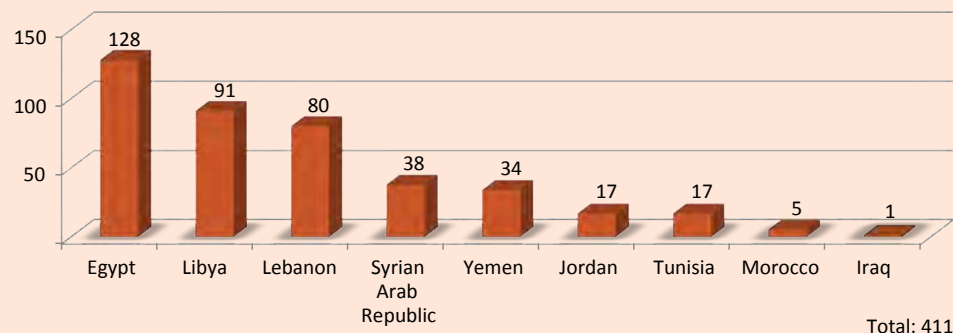
**Breakdown of resettlement beneficiaries, by nationality**



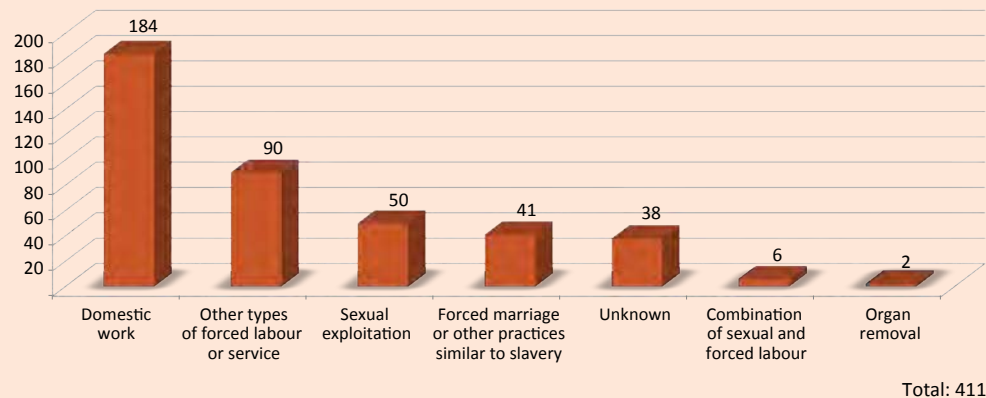
\* Other nationalities include Afghan, Algerian, Austrian, Bahraini, Brazilian, Cameroonian, Central African, Chadian, Congolese, Congolese (Democratic Republic), Danish, Egyptian, Ethiopian, Filipino, Ghanaian, Guinean, Iranian, Ivorian, Jordanian, Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Libyan, Nigerian, Nigerien, Omani, Pakistani, Palestinian, Russian, Saint Helenian, Senegalese, Somali, South Sudanese, Sri Lankan, Swiss, Togolese, Tunisian, Turkish, Western Saharan, unknown, Yemeni, Zimbabwean

## Total beneficiaries of assistance to victims of trafficking in 2014: 411

**Total victims of trafficking assisted in the Middle East and North Africa, by country of assistance**



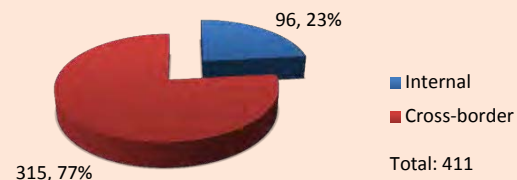
**Breakdown of victims of trafficking, by primary form of exploitation**



**Breakdown of victims of trafficking assisted, by age**



**Breakdown of victims of trafficking assisted, by geographic scope**



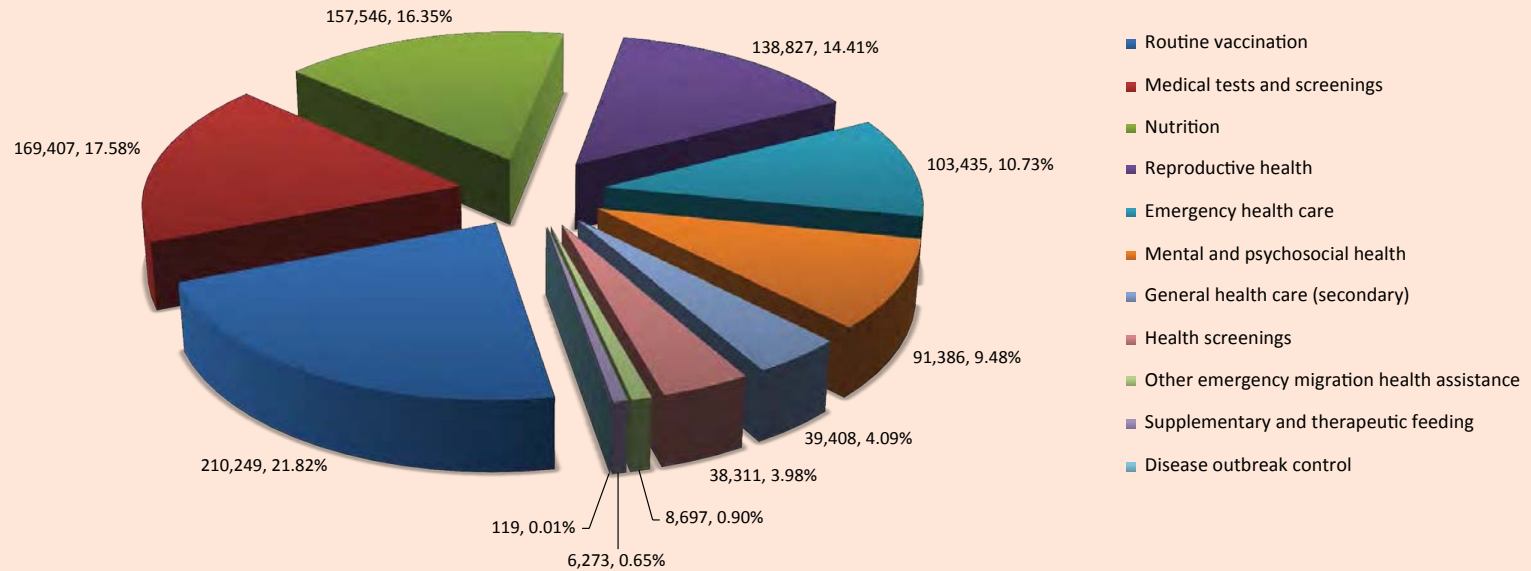
**Breakdown of victims of trafficking assisted, by gender**





## Total beneficiaries of migration health services in 2014 (including health screenings): 692,716

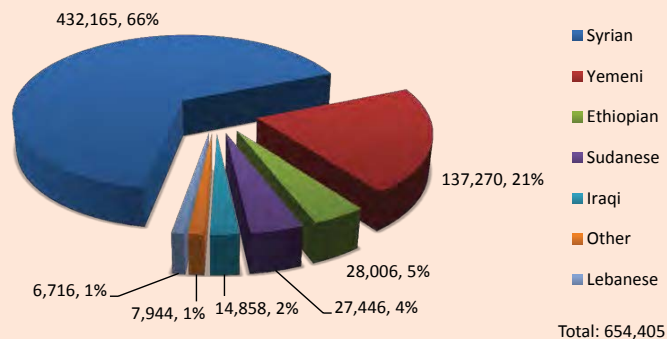
Breakdown of health-care activities, by type of service



Total: 1,514,891

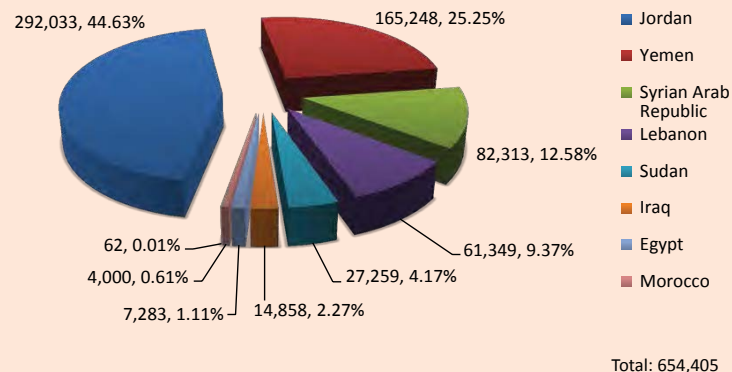
\* Some beneficiaries received more than one kind of service

### Breakdown of health-care beneficiaries, by nationality (excludes health screenings)

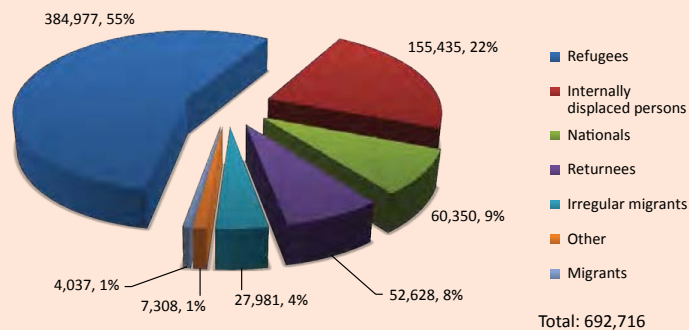


\* Other nationalities include Bangladeshi, Burkinabe, Cameroonian, Central African, Chinese, Congolese, Egyptian, Eritrean, Guinean, Ivorian, Malian, Moroccan, Somali, South African, South Sudanese, Ugandan and unknown

### Breakdown of health-care beneficiaries, by country of implementation (excludes health screenings)

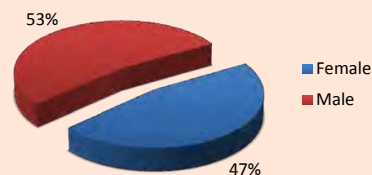


### Breakdown of health-care beneficiaries, by nationality (includes health screenings)

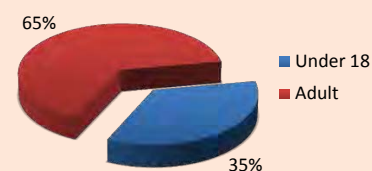


\* Other types include asylum-seekers, detainees, stranded migrants, students, very vulnerable migrants and victims of trafficking

### Estimated breakdown of health-care beneficiaries, by gender

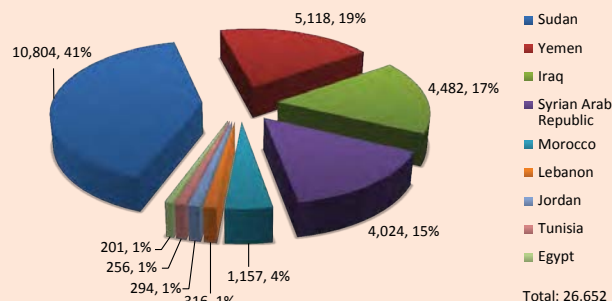


### Estimated breakdown of health-care beneficiaries, by age

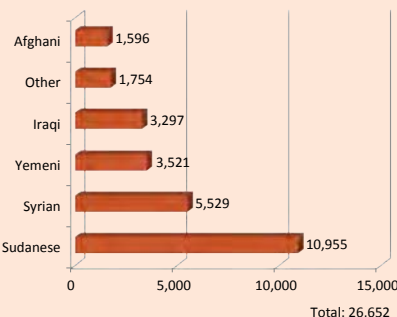


# Total beneficiaries of livelihood and placement support and financial support for microenterprises and small businesses in 2014: 26,652

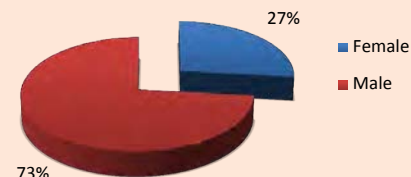
**Breakdown of livelihood and placement support for beneficiaries, by country of implementation**



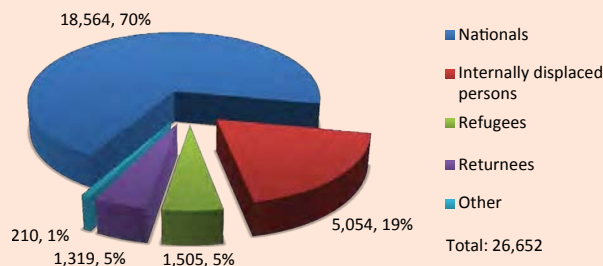
**Breakdown of livelihood and placement beneficiaries, by nationality**



**Estimated breakdown of livelihood and placement support for beneficiaries, by gender**

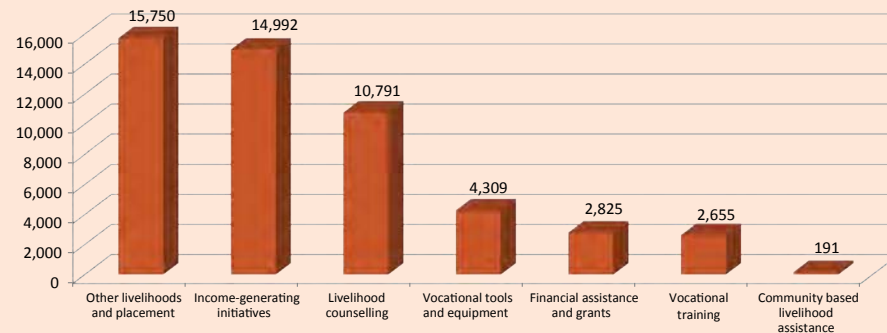


**Breakdown of livelihood and placement support for beneficiaries, by type of beneficiary**



\* Other statuses include very vulnerable migrants, unaccompanied minors and irregular migrants

**Breakdown of livelihood and placement support for beneficiaries, by type of support received**

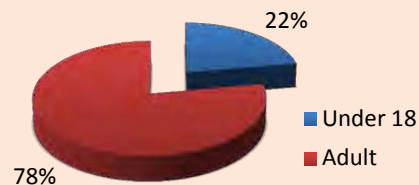


\*Some beneficiaries received more than one kind of assistance

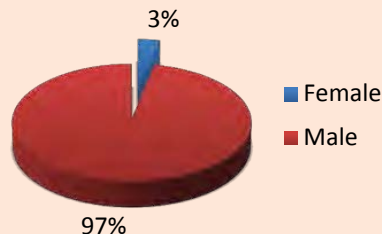
Total: 51,513

## Total beneficiaries of accommodation and shelter activities in 2014: 75,723

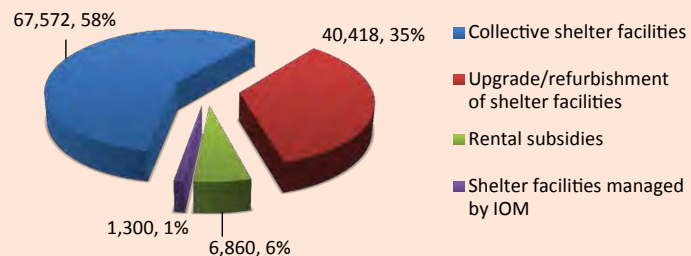
Estimated breakdown of accommodation and shelter beneficiaries, by age



Estimated breakdown of accommodation and shelter beneficiaries, by gender

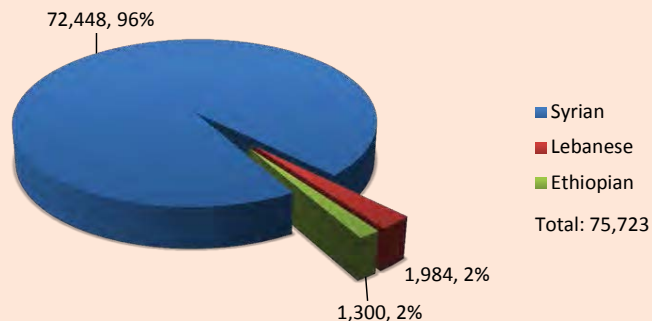


Breakdown of accommodation and shelter beneficiaries, by type of activity

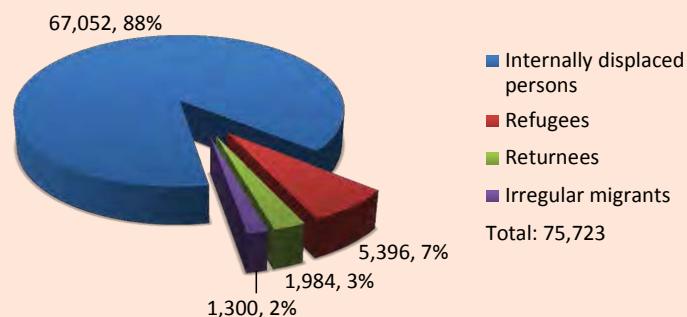


\*Some beneficiaries received more than one type of service

Breakdown of accommodation and shelter beneficiaries, by nationality



Breakdown of accommodation beneficiaries, by type of beneficiary

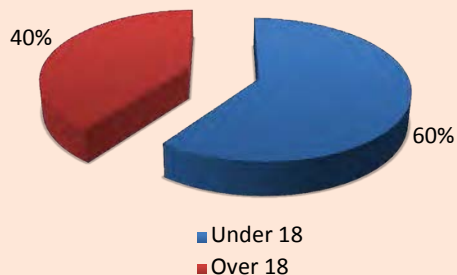




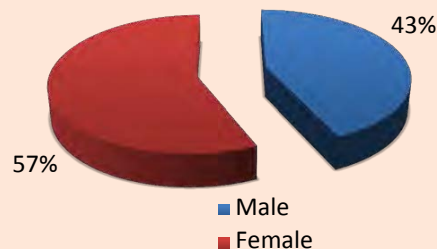
# Displacement tracking and monitoring activities in the Middle East and North Africa region as of the end of 2014: 4,488,619

Cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored in Sudan as of the end of 2014: 1,879,814

**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored in Sudan, by age**

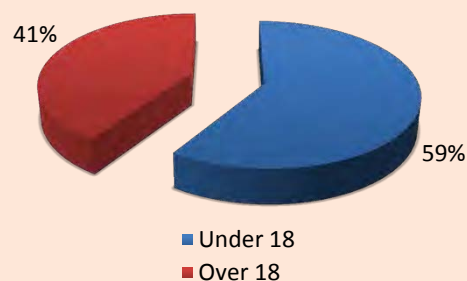


**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored in Sudan, by gender**

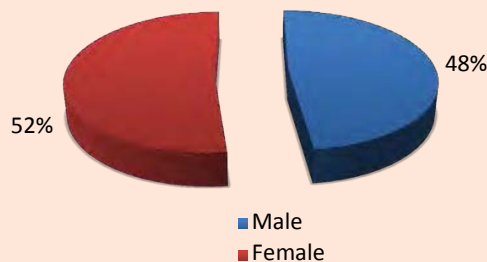


Cumulative total returnees tracked and monitored in Sudan as of the end of 2014: 485,465

**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total returnees tracked and monitored in Sudan, by age**

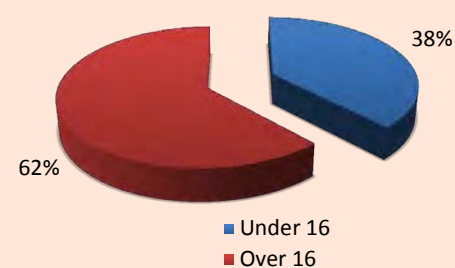


**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total returnees tracked and monitored in Sudan, by gender**

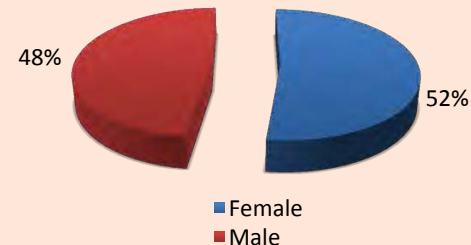


Cumulative total IDPs tracked and monitored in Iraq as of the end of 2014: 2,123,340

**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored in Iraq, by age**

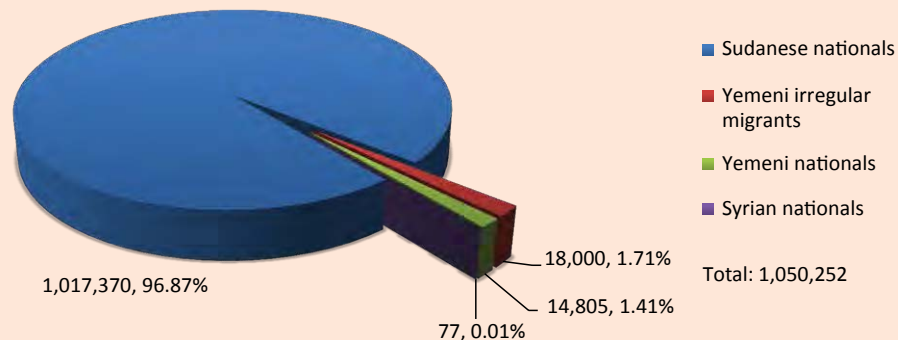


**Estimated breakdown of cumulative total internally displaced persons tracked and monitored in Iraq, by gender**

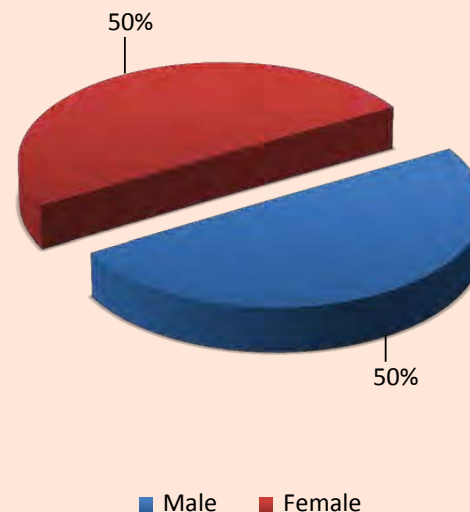


## Total beneficiaries of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) assistance in 2014: 1,050,252

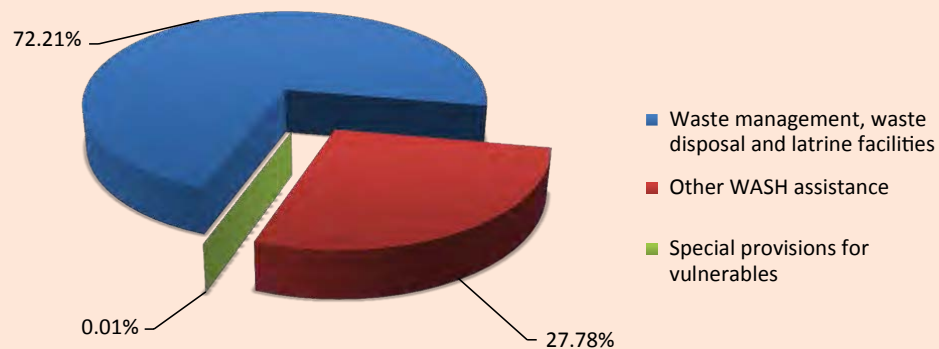
**Breakdown of WASH assistance beneficiaries, by nationality and beneficiary type**



**Estimated breakdown of WASH beneficiaries, by gender**



**Estimated breakdown of WASH beneficiaries, by type of assistance**

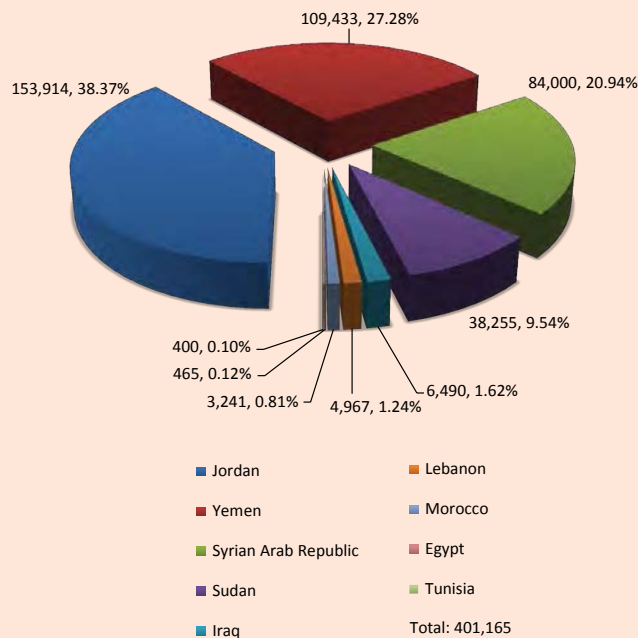


\*Some beneficiaries received more than one type of assistance

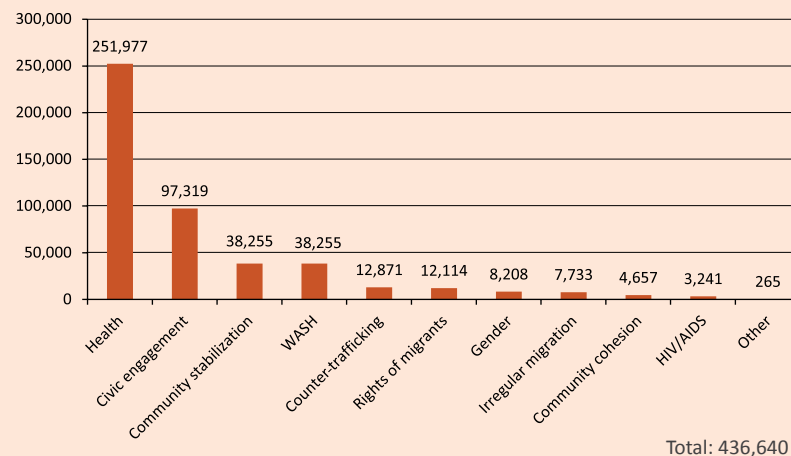
# IOM capacity-building, technical support, conference, media and awareness-raising activities in 2014

Total estimated beneficiaries of awareness-raising activities in the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 401,165

**Breakdown of estimated beneficiaries of awareness-raising activities, by country of implementation**



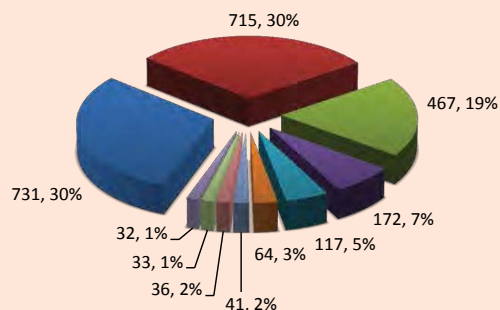
**Estimated beneficiaries of awareness-raising activities, by topic of awareness-raising campaign**



\*Some awareness-raising campaigns covered more than one topic

## Total workshop participants in the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 2,408

**Breakdown of workshop participants, by country of workshop implementation**

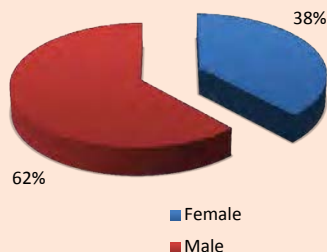


- Yemen
- Egypt
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Lebanon
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Iraq
- Other
- Libya
- Tunisia

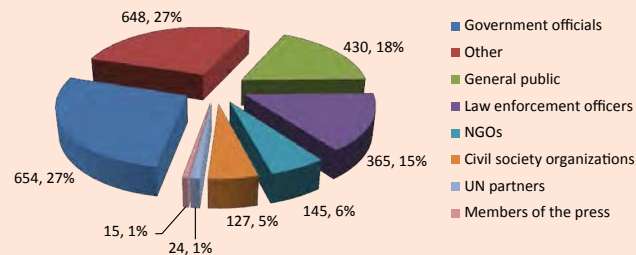
Total: 2,408

\* Other countries include Ethiopia, Italy and Moldova

**Estimated breakdown of workshop participants, by gender**

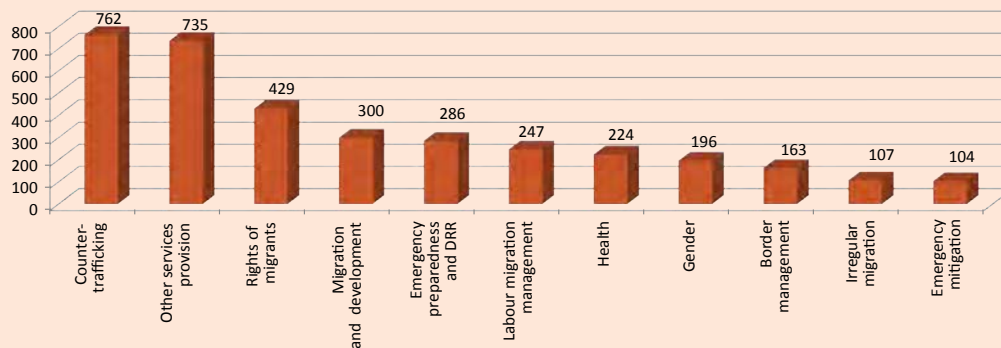


**Breakdown of workshop participants, by type of participant**



Total: 2,408

**Distribution of workshop participants, by topic of workshop**



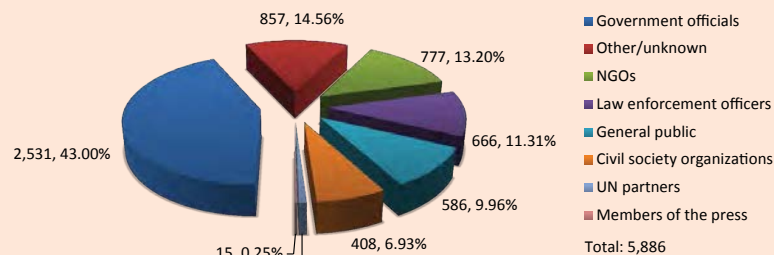
Total: 3,553

\* Some workshops covered more than one topic

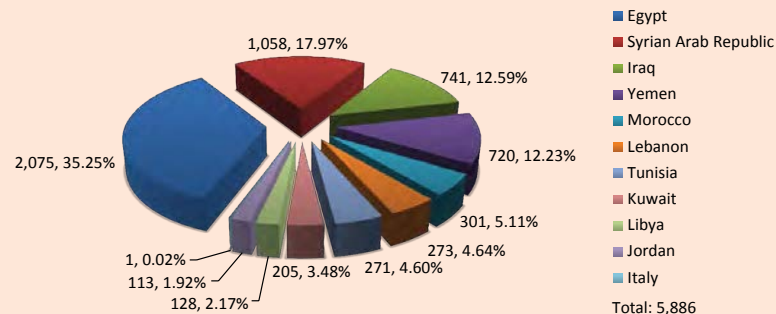


## Total training participants in the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 5,886

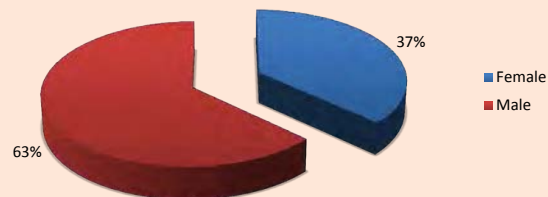
### Breakdown of training participants, by type of participants



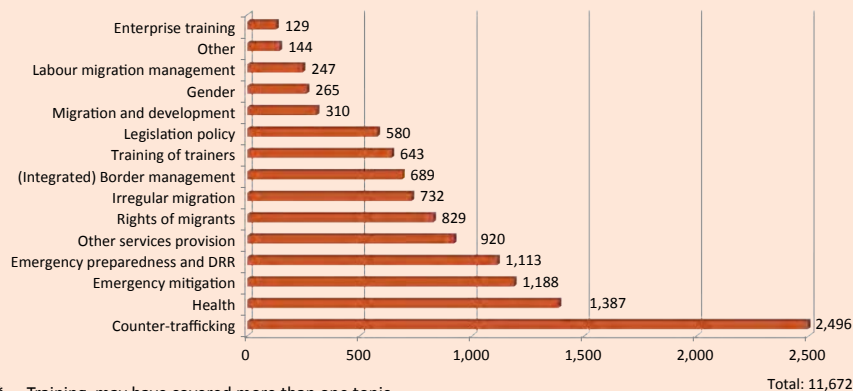
### Breakdown of training participants, by country of implementation



### Estimated breakdown of training participants, by gender



### Distribution of training participants, by topic of training

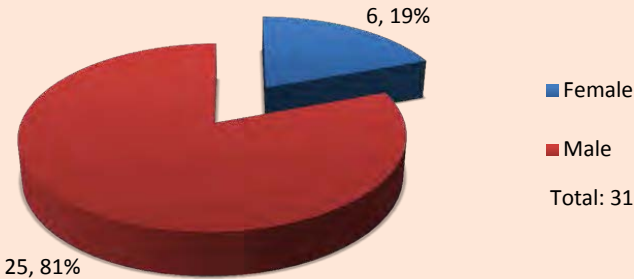


\* Training may have covered more than one topic

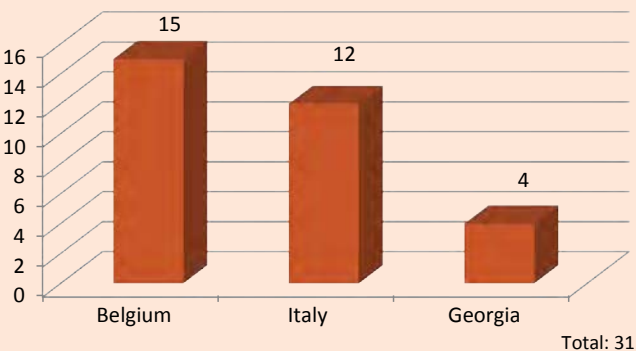
\*\* The "other" category includes community cohesion and combatting xenophobia, alternatives to irregular migration and language training

# Total study tour participants from the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 31

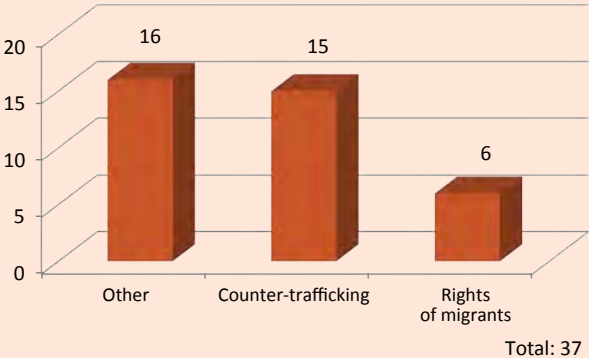
Breakdown of study tour participants, by gender



Breakdown of study tour participants, by location of study tour

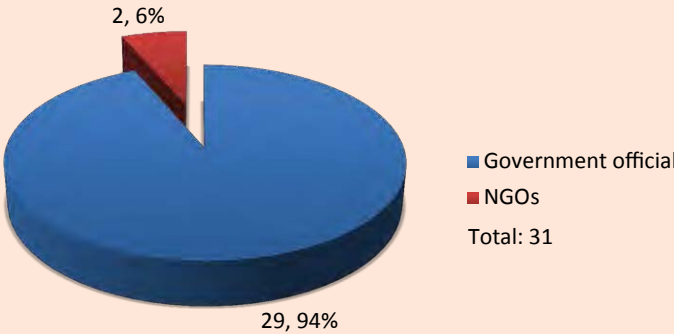


Distribution of study tour participants, by topic



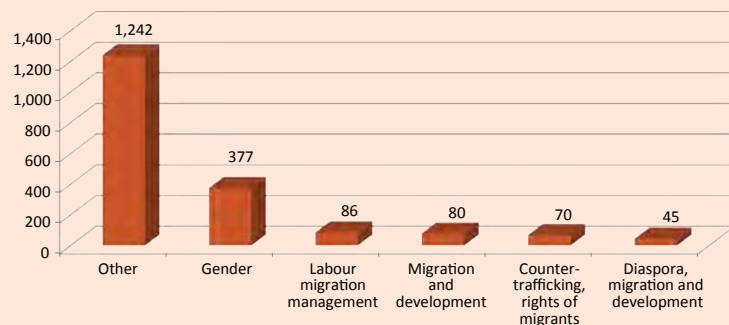
\*Some study tours covered more than one topic

Breakdown of study tour participants, by type of participant



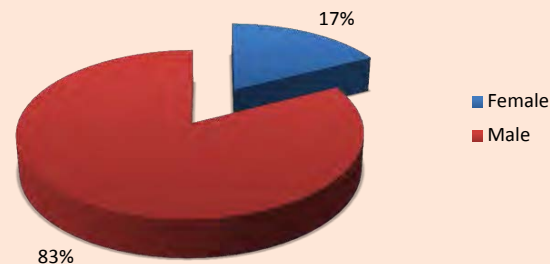
## Total conference and media activities participants from the Middle East and North Africa in 2014: 1,900

**Distribution of participants in conferences and media events, by topic**

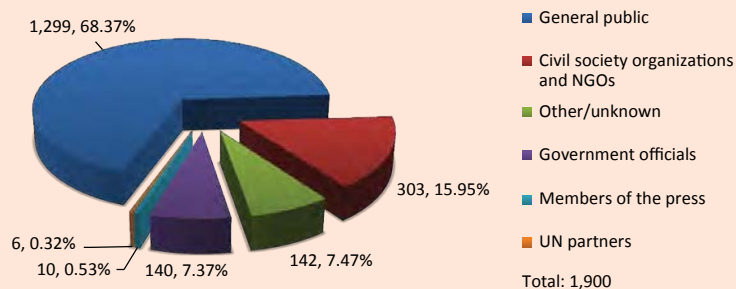


Total: 1,900

**Estimated breakdown of conference and media event participants, by gender**

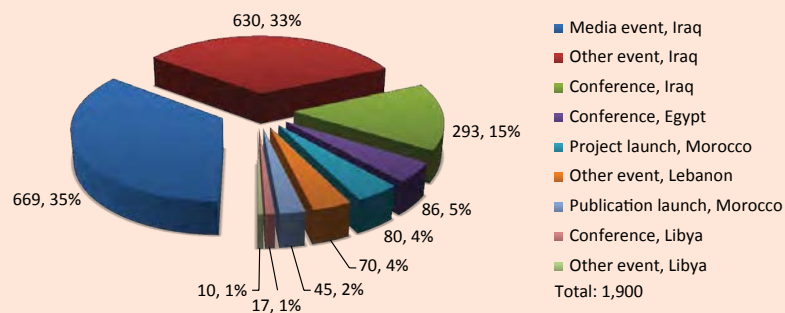


**Breakdown of participants in media event, by type of participant**



Total: 1,900

**Breakdown of participants in conferences and media activities, by type and place of activity**



Total: 1,900

## Breakdown of 2014 expenditures, by country and project sector

Country	Total expenditure (USD)
Algeria	49,402
Egypt	8,985,749
Iraq	67,835,724
Jordan	52,251,717
Kuwait	715,977
Lebanon	18,390,227
Libya	4,896,028
Morocco	4,442,399
Saudi Arabia	230,286
Sudan	15,923,458
Syrian Arab Republic	27,639,304
Tunisia	5,488,936
Yemen	31,461,072
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>238,310,279</b>

\* Some projects were executed in more than one country

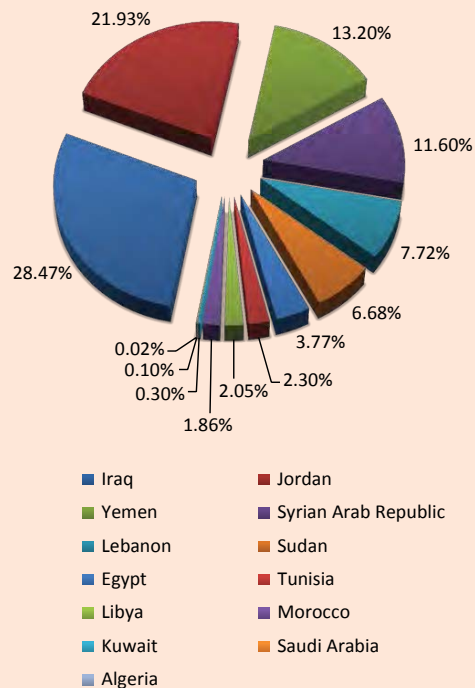
Type of project	Total expenditure (USD)	Number of projects
Emergencies	92,476,953	70
General programme support	1,063,876	18
Immigration and border management	2,849,963	11
Labour migration and human development	5,972,472	31
Migrant assistance	17,043,359	57
Migration health	13,155,167	32
Migration research and publications	98,289	5
Movements	55,788,276	33
Post-crisis	49,861,922	23
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>238,310,279</b>	<b>280</b>

Ibrahim Hassan, an asylum seeker from Darfur, holds a young relative at call centre in Cairo, Egypt as he waits to contact his family in Sudan. © 2014 (Photo by: Alberto González Farran)

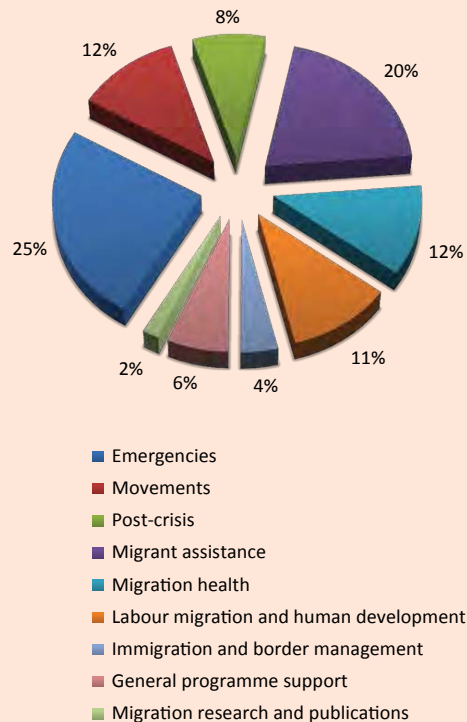


# Financial data for IOM activities in the Middle East and North Africa region in 2014

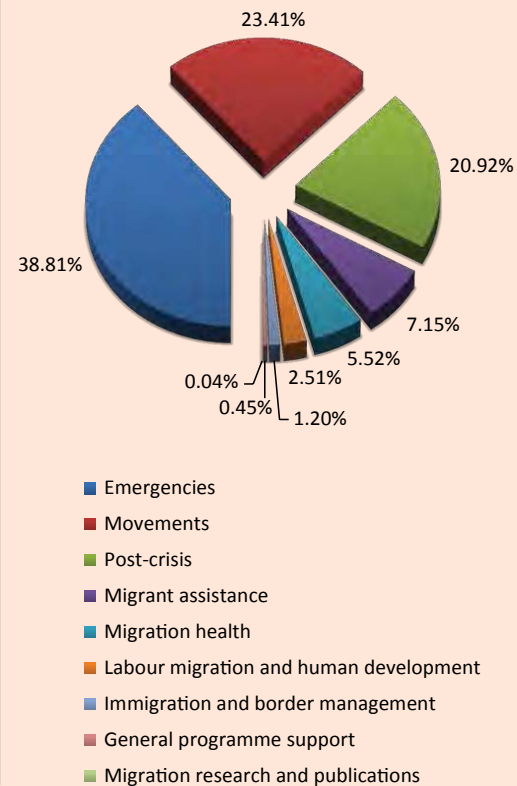
**Breakdown of total expenditures, by country**



**Breakdown of total projects, by sector of activity**



**Breakdown of total expenditures, by sector of activity**



# Thanks to our partners

These are just some of the many partners and donors of IOM in the Middle East and North Africa. We express our gratitude to all for their cooperation and support.

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