

Human Trafficking and Mixed Migration in Sub-Saharan Africa

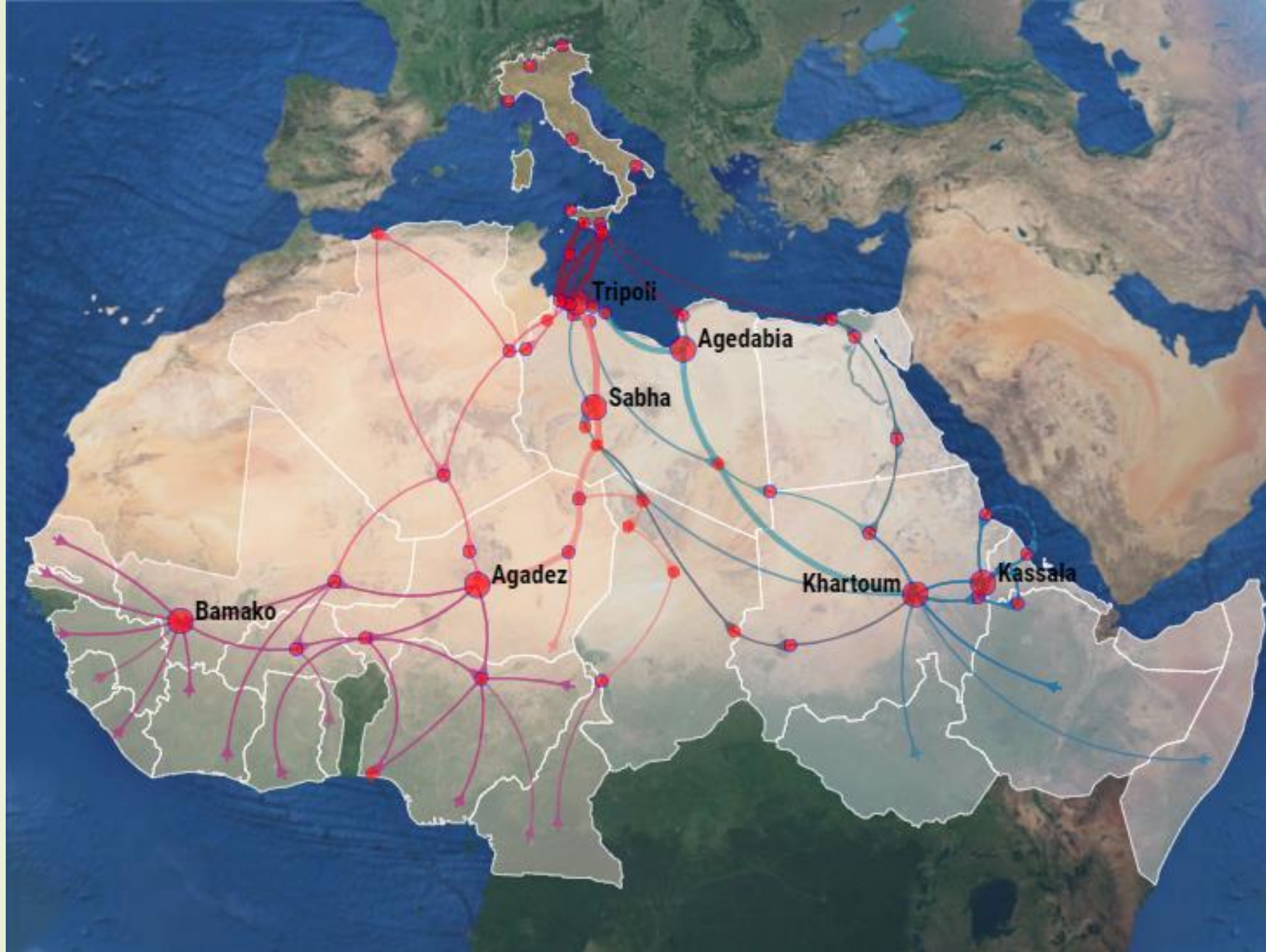


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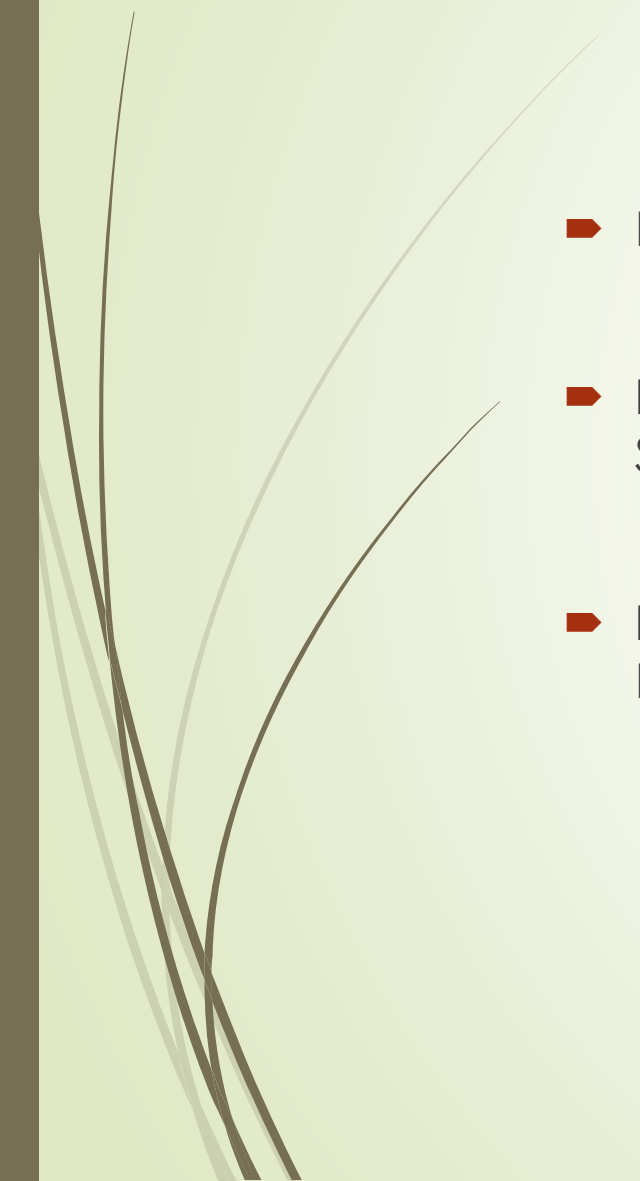




➤ Source: <http://esodi.mediciperidirittiumani.org/>



Numbers

- Numbers of Eritreans fleeing the country remain high
 - In Ethiopia, the UNHCR has registered 163,281 Eritrean refugees as of September 2017 → includes those officially registered only
 - In Europe, IOM reports that in the first quarter of 2018, 25% of arrivals were Eritrean out of a total of around 19.000 arrivals.
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Dangers on route

There is a widespread perception that the region is not safe for Eritrean refugees, due to experiences that relate to the following:

- (sexual) violence
- Kidnapping, detention and human trafficking for ransom with severe torture practices
 - Spread from Sinai, to o.a. Libya and Chad
- Payments demanded resulting from irregular status of migrants/refugees
- Destruction of ID cards
- Police campaigns (giffas) in urban areas in Sudan
- Persecution through intelligence
- Collaboration between different agencies/government authorities in Sudan
- Impunity for crimes of human traffickers
- Lack of responsiveness for protection by authorities
- Refoulement to Eritrea
- Tensions between refugee and host communities
- Disappearance/drowning
- → Human trafficking transferring to host communities



Situation in the camps

- Lack of safety
- Infiltration by intelligence
- Insufficient water and Insufficient food calories
- Inadequate schooling
- Inadequate health facilities
- Lack of fuel and access to cooking fuel and electricity
- Lack of connectivity
- Lack of Out-of-Camp opportunities
- Lack of perspectives on work and legalisation




Research



- ▶ What are the regional dimensions of human trafficking and mixed migration in the broader Horn context?
 - ▶ How do situations in one place connect to situations in another place?
- ▶ What are the local dynamics between migrating refugee communities and host communities?
- ▶ Objective: to identify what conditions would positively encourage youth refugees and migrants to seize opportunities in the region and to identify alternatives to the dangerous trafficking routes
- ▶ Looking at support for refugees in the region



Trauma

- high levels of impact of trauma in the refugee communities
 - Research tested a low-resource approach to offering support to highly traumatised persons and found a positive relation with increased levels of social-economic resilience; an effect that did not occur as a result of livelihood-related support.
 - Trauma and lack of security encourage risk-taking; information on dangers on route not a deterrent.
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Recommendations



- Great need for livelihood programmes in camps
- Great need for out-of-camp policies
- Importance of positive information for refugees – negative information inspires fear, increases trauma
 - Resulting in 'flight response'
- Trauma



Positive information approach

Information-approaches to youth in both migrant/refugee and host communities should take into account:

- Channels of trust used by youth in low connectivity areas and build up interactive channels of communication
- Fluidity of human trafficking risks exposing migrant/refugee communities and host communities
- Development of positive information strategies, including opportunities in sports, work and other community perspectives within and between migrant/refugee and host communities
- Ensure information on risks is integrated in 'positive feelings' to ensure processing
- Ensure credibility of information on policies and avoid contradictions (instruction to 'stay' combined by repression and impunity)
- Enhance measures to combat human trafficking at top level and provide clear information on this to strengthen sense of rule of law and protection
- Strengthen digital connectivity of youth



Trauma relief

- Preparedness in terms of mental health is crucial for the success of livelihood-programmes
- Measure PTS among migrants/refugees communities at reception points
- Collaborate with local authorities and protection agencies to inventories
- Integrate Self Help Low Cost PTS programmes to relief trauma and mentally
- prepare the migrant/refugee communities to strengthen their resilience
- Ensure targeting and cost benefit of action by strengthening evidence based research to provide evidence of cost benefit balance of approaches



Livelihood and out-of-camp policy

- Needs for livelihoods in high migrant/refugee density areas
 - Strengthen upscaled livelihood programmes focused on basic needs and work opportunities as well as legalisation of status and work permits and out-of camp policy
 - Facilitate legal support by diaspora communities through remittances for small business investment and opportunities
 - Strengthen mutual support programmes to help integration of migrant/refugee communities and host communities
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Combat human trafficking

Create a coherent and credible set of actions to combat Human Trafficking

- Build up understanding in host countries and international community of common values to the need to combat human trafficking at the source
- Strengthen rule of law based approaches to the combat of human trafficking,
- Agree clear messages to fight impunity of criminal Human Trafficking networks from the top and the need to ensure there is no Eritrean government infiltration in such networks
- Enhance a coherent strategy and information campaign on a policy to root out Human Trafficking from the top of the Human Trafficking organisations
- Strengthen coherent messages with faith-based and local organisations on value driven approach to building a conducive environment for integration of migrants and refugees in the region and the desirability to combat human trafficking
- Set up exchange programmes at decentralised level between protection agencies, local authorities and local universities and knowledge institutes to share experiences and create information flows between locations that connect routes of mobility and human trafficking