



Project funded by the European Union



Project Implemented by IOM

INTERIM NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU-IOM Initiative on Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa

Agreement Number: T05-EUTF-HOA-REG-25-01



Summary

Name of <u>beneficiary(ies)</u> and <u>affiliated entity(ies)</u> in the Action:	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
<u>Title</u> of the Action:	EU-IOM Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa Formally “Facility on Sustainable and Dignified Return and Reintegration in Support of the Khartoum Process”
<u>Agreement number</u> :	T05-EUTF-HOA-REG-25-01
<u>Implementation period</u> :	(15-03-17) – (14-03-20)
<u>Start date</u> and <u>end date</u> of the reporting period:	(15-03-17) – (31-03-18)
Target <u>country(ies)</u> or <u>region(s)</u> :	Primary focus: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan as well as other countries of the Khartoum process in the Horn of Africa region (including Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda) and key destination countries on the Northern, Western, Eastern and Southern routes
<u>Final beneficiaries</u> &/or <u>target groups</u> ¹ (if different) (including numbers of women and men):	All categories of returning migrants, including stranded migrants and asylum seekers who decide not to pursue their claims or who are found not to be in need of international protection, migrants in detention, migrants in vulnerable situations, such as victims of trafficking, elderly people, unaccompanied migrant children and migrants with health-related needs. Wider society in target countries, with particular focus on youth; Government of target countries.
<u>Total Budget</u> :	EUR 25,000,000
<u>EU contribution</u> :	EUR 25,000,000

¹ “Target groups” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and “final beneficiaries” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

Table of contents

1. ACRONYMS LIST	4
2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
3. ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION	8
4. WORKPLAN.....	23
5. GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION	25
6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION	26
7. VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION	27
8. ANNEXES	29

I. ACRONYMS LIST

Please add the acronyms as needed

AVRR	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation
EUTF	European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa
FGoS	Federal Government of Somalia
FMP	Flow Monitoring Point
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MRRC	Migrant Resource and Response Centre
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region
TWG	Technical Working Group
UMC	Unaccompanied Migrant Children

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Migration in the Horn of Africa region continues to be characterized by complex mixed migration inflows and outflows across all four major migration routes². Amongst key developments during the reporting period, there has been a sharp increase in returns from Libya. Specifically, IOM supported 735 [REDACTED] stranded migrants [REDACTED] with its Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) Assistance to their countries of origin in the Horn of Africa [REDACTED] with several hundred more migrants awaiting return assistance to the region.

Additionally, this reporting period saw an increasing demand for voluntary return assistance for stranded Ethiopian and Somali migrants on the Southern route. This includes an estimated 1,800 Ethiopian migrants [REDACTED] combined. Somali authorities were also contacted by the Government of [REDACTED]. These migrants that include women and children are particularly vulnerable under harsh conditions at detention centres.

In the first 12 months of implementation, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Horn of Africa invested in developing and strengthening partner countries and relevant stakeholders' understanding of return and reintegration procedures and identifying capacity building needs. In a joint effort with the host government institutions, the Joint Initiative began the nationalization process of the EU-IOM External Actions to Support Migrant Protection and Reintegration of Returnees: Framework Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) (hereafter called "Framework SOPs") [REDACTED] in the four target countries Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. A series of consultative discussions with potential partners to ensure a consistent approach across the regions also took place. Outreach effort was also made to explain to the EU Member States regarding the Joint Initiative and its support to forced returnees. During the reporting period, the Joint Initiative also focused on conducting initial and baseline assessments. IOM completed a report - Strengthening of IOM's Mixed Migration Data Collection and Use in the East and Horn of Africa Country Offices (including Sudan) and the Regional Office: Assessment Findings and Recommendations [REDACTED]. The operationalisation of these findings also began, leading to a production of four information products (**Annex 2, B-E**) co-funded by the Joint Initiative. Labour market assessments in Ethiopia and Somalia, as well as a research on street children in Djibouti and stakeholder mapping in Ethiopia are ongoing to provide concrete operational recommendations to inform reintegration activities under the project. Scoping missions to identify partners and assess situations concerning available services in priority locations are completed. A call for proposal for a community mapping and socioeconomic profiling was also issued in coordination with the Joint Initiative in the Sahel and Lake Chad region to ensure coherent approach.

Secondly, the Joint Initiative facilitated and enhanced safe, humane, dignified voluntary return processes for stranded migrants and migrants in detention requesting assistance. In total, the Joint Initiative supported the voluntary return of 469 (399 male, 70 female) migrants from 11 host/sending countries to their 14 countries of origin during the reporting period. [REDACTED]

² Eastern route from Djibouti, Somaliland and Puntland to Yemen, the Middle East and beyond; Western route from Sudan to Libya and onwards to Europe; Southern route from countries in southern Africa to South Africa; and Northern route from Sudan to Egypt and Israel.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] This process also involved working with governments in countries of origin in issuing travel documents, providing protection and immediate arrival assistance, and facilitating onward travel to the area of origin. A total of 1,420 (1,287 male, 133 female) migrants were provided with reception assistance during the reporting period. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Most importantly, the Joint Initiative focused on identifying operational partners towards providing sustainable economic, social and psycho-social reintegration that also benefits communities. This involved carrying out a preliminary mapping of partners and informational meetings with various actors to determine the suitability of partnerships. Cumulatively, 818 (746 male, 72 female) migrants received reintegration counselling and vulnerability assessments. Among them, [REDACTED] migrants received needs-based complementary individual reintegration support, mostly in the form of economic reintegration assistance through business start-up, as well as through medical, psychosocial, and educational support, among others. Additional [REDACTED] (all male) migrants opted to start collective economic reintegration. While the implementation of concrete community projects will begin in the next reporting period, the Joint Initiative laid the groundwork towards benefiting the host communities in Somalia and Ethiopia. To monitor and measure the impact of the reintegration efforts through the Joint Initiative, harmonized M&E tools were developed and reinforced and harmonized. Progress in terms of software development was also made in upgrading the return and reintegration data collection system.

As a cross cutting approach, the Joint Initiative fostered cooperation with government and key non-state actors involved in return and reintegration of migrants in vulnerable situations [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Joint Initiative in coordination with DG DEVCO also supported a verification mission of the Ethiopian government [REDACTED] in Tanzania, to facilitate the return and reintegration of the most vulnerable cases, amongst them children, women and migrants with health needs to Ethiopia. Moreover, IOM signed a regional memorandum of understanding (MOU) [REDACTED] and discussions were held or are ongoing to formalize partnerships with various actors to support reintegration efforts and activities.

Despite these achievements made, various challenges hindered the timely implementation of the Joint Initiative [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. It is therefore necessary to build the systems for reintegration support at national and local level with a longer-term view.



Efforts are being made to mitigate these challenges in close coordination with the relevant host institutions. The timeline of some activities was accordingly adjusted to take into account these evolving situations (see Workplan for more details).

3. ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION

A- OBJECTIVES³

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

³ [REDACTED]

B- RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES⁶

Result	Indicator	Baseline	Value at the end of reporting period	Target	Source of verification
<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	
<p>Comments: The Result 1.1 on policy reforms will focus on strengthening the migration governance processes and procedures related to return and reintegration through the nationalization of the Framework SOPs, informed by evidence. Given the evolving scope of the Joint Initiative – namely, the additional allocation by the EU for the Libya surge and the possible top-up of the Joint Initiative – the revised LogFrame which reflects the supplementary contribution, modified results and indicators will be submitted following the conclusions of the ongoing discussions.</p>					
<p>Activity 1.1.1: Support for enhanced return and reintegration data collection and tools</p>	<p>Towards setting up a coherent data collection and analysis system to better understand the complex dynamics prompting movements through centralising the analysis of information related to mixed migration flows in the region, IOM completed an assessment on IOM's mixed migration data collection and use in the East and Horn of Africa country offices (including Sudan) and the Regional Office [REDACTED]. During the reporting period, the Joint Initiative co-funded four products (Mixed Migration in the Horn of Africa and in the Arab Peninsula June - December 2017, Migration Flows in the Horn of Africa and the Arab Peninsula June – August 2017, as well as two DTM reports) (see Annex 2 B-E).</p>				

⁶ The indicators and targets included in this LogFrame are currently being revised to incorporate the IOM's institutionally revised Result Matrix for AVRR as well as the EUTF Proxy Indicators that have been revised and added after the reporting period.

<p>Activity 1.1.2: Research on the best modalities, effectiveness and impact for development of reintegration measures, scoping missions, baseline assessment in areas of return, and labour market assessments</p>	<p>In line with the methodologies and approaches used by the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Sahel and Lake Chad region, a call for proposal for the Community Mapping and Socioeconomic Profiling was published under the Joint Initiative, with the research firm selection and contracting envisaged to be finalized in May 2018. It will follow the five components of the research following the Sahel and Lake Chad region's methodologies with slight adaptation for Horn of Africa. This includes stakeholder mapping, capacity assessments, community profiling, outreach, and baseline assessment. Additionally, the Joint Initiative contracted [REDACTED] to carry out the labour market assessments starting in Ethiopia and Somalia. The draft literature review and inception reports were under review and finalization at the end of the reporting submission [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] The Sudan's labour market assessment will be conducted during the next reporting period.</p> <p>At country level, in Djibouti, the Joint Initiative supported a rapid needs assessment [REDACTED] to inform capacity needs [REDACTED]. The recommendations include: defining functions of the centre, improving quality of assistance [REDACTED], improving the infrastructure, strengthening the legal framework [REDACTED], and enhancing referrals of irregular migrants to [REDACTED] for screening and assistance. In addition, a study on street children in Djibouti City began in partnership with [REDACTED]. The qualitative data collection was finalized, indicating a large proportion of the street children in Djibouti being Ethiopian male minors, followed by Somali minors. Begging and small jobs such as washing cars and polishing shoes serve as their survival mechanisms/income source. The remaining quantitative portion of the data collection will be led by [REDACTED]</p> <p>In Ethiopia, scoping missions took place in two regions and one city administration, namely SNNPR, Amhara and Addis Ababa respectively to not only sensitize relevant government authorities, partners, returnees and their host communities about the Joint Initiative, but also to assess capacity gaps and existing development initiatives. IOM was able to understand available regional government structures which could be used for the reintegration of returnees, the capacity building needs, existing coordination mechanisms and the lack of such mechanisms and the gaps. Key government stakeholders at regional level was also identified. Key inputs were also gathered from the regions and this will be used during program implementation.</p> <p>In Somalia, a service mapping was carried out in all five target locations of reintegration in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Bossaso [REDACTED] to identify possible partners for the reintegration assistance as well as the SOP adaptation process. Based on this mapping, the Joint Initiative has operational and working directories of service providers from Somalia, which will be adjusted regularly.</p> <p>In Sudan, the planned labour market assessment will take place during the next reporting period.</p>
--	---

<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>Comments: Through a series of consultations to lay the necessary groundwork towards nationalising the Framework SOPs, IOM has been able to engage the relevant host government institutions who demonstrated a keen interest in leading the process, notably in Ethiopia and Sudan. Despite the State of Emergencies in Ethiopia and a severe fuel and cash shortage in Sudan, which has slowed down the activity implementation in these countries, progress was being made. A zero-draft was produced for Ethiopia and the Framework SOPs was being translated into Arabic to start the nationalisation in Sudan [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>					

<p>Activity 1.2.1: Capacity building and technical support to government and other relevant partners on return and reintegration and SOP implementation</p>	<p>The Joint Initiative has capacitated both the state and non-state actors to implement the Framework SOPs.</p> <p>In Ethiopia, IOM, in partnership with the [REDACTED] provided training of trainers (TOT) in psychosocial support provision techniques in December 2017 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] were trained. This training aimed at building the Ethiopian government's capacities in providing psychosocial support for returnees. This will be followed by a series of rollout trainings by the trained officials in the four main Regional States during the next reporting period. Through the Joint Initiative, IOM also supported the Ethiopian government in carrying out a verification mission in Tanzania in March 2018. The objective of this mission was to verify presence of stranded Ethiopian migrants in Tanzanian prisons and to plan their return. Through this mission, the Ethiopian authorities confirmed the existence of [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]. During the next reporting period, the AVR will be facilitated by the EU-funded Better Migration Management (BMM) programme and the Joint Initiative will provide reintegration support for the vulnerable cases [REDACTED]</p> <p>In Somalia, the Joint Initiative supported two fact finding missions of the government authorities to Tripoli, Libya in January and February 2018 involving the [REDACTED]. These missions served as an impetus to start facilitating the voluntary return of Somali nationals stranded in Libya to Somalia. Given [REDACTED], IOM worked with [REDACTED] to agree on a joint assistance process as well as roles and responsibilities of each entity to provide reception and reintegration assistance for these returnees [REDACTED]</p> <p>In Sudan, IOM facilitated a workshop for [REDACTED] in Feb 2018 to further sensitise them on the Joint Initiative and agree on the milestones on the Framework SOPs adaptation process. This included an initial stakeholder mapping and identification of relevant state and non-state actors [REDACTED]</p> <p>The Community Mapping and Socioeconomic Profiling planned to be completed in the next reporting period will further inform the capacity gaps [REDACTED] in implementing the nationalized Framework SOPs.</p>
--	--

<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>
	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	
	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	<div>[REDACTED]</div>	
<div>Comments: Within the scope of IOM’s global AVRR operations, standardized institutional tools and methodologies have been developed to carry out a range of data collection measures. This includes survey tools to assess perceptions and satisfactions of the quality of services and information provided to returnees. The field testing to set the baseline will be carried during the next reporting period. Coordination meetings with CSOs and national authorities have taken place to advance the nationalisation of Framework SOPs and establishing partnerships to provide reception and reintegration assistance under the Joint Initiative. Key government actors for the coordination include [REDACTED] for Sudan, [REDACTED] for Ethiopia, [REDACTED] for Djibouti, and [REDACTED] for Somalia.</div>					

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<p>Activity 1.3.1: Establishment of methodology and processes for identification of needs and particular vulnerabilities; identification and promotion of best practices in the area of sustainable return and reintegration (Country adaptation of Framework SOPs)</p>	<p>A number of consultations with government and non-state actors took place in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan to orient them on the SOPs and foster their buy-in to support the nationalisation process.</p> <p>In Djibouti where the Joint Initiative focuses on return (and no reintegration), IOM will engage [REDACTED] as the lead government entity to advance the nationalisation process.</p> <p>In Ethiopia IOM met with over 180 government officials representing regional States [REDACTED] several key Woredas of return combined. With the overall leadership of the [REDACTED] and based on some initial inputs by these entities, IOM drafted nationalized SOPs. IOM also organized a one-day workshop on the Framework SOPs for the members of the [REDACTED] and gathered input for the zero draft. Additional set of consultations with regional government and non-state actors will be carried out in the next reporting period.</p> <p>In Somalia, IOM sensitized the [REDACTED], as well as relevant reintegration actors such as [REDACTED] and EU Delegation, among others, on the Framework SOPs adaptation during the reporting period. An [REDACTED] IOM joint discussion has been planned on 29-30 April to work on the next steps on the SOPs. [REDACTED] a similar workshop will be repeated a week later with the [REDACTED] and also included, which will include a session with returnees to discuss their specific areas of interest. The [REDACTED] training will be formally held in mid-May 2018 to agree on the concrete way forward led by the government.</p> <p>In Sudan, IOM has been working with [REDACTED] as the lead entity representing the government that has established a Technical Working Group (TWG). The Arabic version of the SOPs is under translation. The TWG met twice to agree on the milestones and suggested the non-state actors to be consulted. [REDACTED] will be sending an invitation letter to other state actors jointly identified by [REDACTED] and IOM for the Framework SOPs' nationalisation.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.2: Inter-regional and cross-regional knowledge exchanges on the development of sustainable voluntary return and reintegration programmes</p>	<p>IOM received requests from Djibouti authorities to have learning events with the Ethiopian authorities on the return of the Ethiopian migrants stranded in Djibouti. Possible knowledge exchanges are envisaged among Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, [REDACTED] on the role of the host government in pre-departure assistance and reintegration processes and to organize exchange. Specifically, the Joint Initiative will organize a visit by the government representatives from Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Somalia to Sudan to learn from the [REDACTED] leadership in delivering the vulnerability assessments and reintegration counselling/plan development as a case study during the next reporting period.</p>

<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>
	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	
	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	
	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div>	
<p>Comments: The Joint Initiative supported the return of 469 (399 male, 70 female) migrants from 11 host/sending countries to their 14 countries of origin, which is 12 % of the target of 3,800 returns. While IOM supported the return of nearly 2,000 migrants (including the evacuees from Yemen) from March 2017 to March 2018 to Ethiopia namely, their return was financed by other projects. Given the historic trend of the returns from Djibouti, the target under the Joint Initiative will be met during the remaining project period.</p>					

<p>Activity 2.1.1: Outreach to inform migrants in need of available Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) options</p>	<p>A strategy for the community outreach is under development at the regional level. Djibouti is also developing its country specific strategy.</p> <p>The Federal level [REDACTED] in Somalia, [REDACTED] have both identified a need to work at transit and the origin community levels to promote the Joint Initiative and to fight "Tahrib" (illegal travel) although the Joint Initiative focuses primarily on the options for return and reintegration. They have used ex-returnees "roadshows" to discuss these issues, which the Joint Initiative plans to incorporate in the outreach efforts in Somalia [REDACTED]</p> <p>Between January and March 2018 following the inception period, IOM provided local authorities as well as migrants [REDACTED] Sudan with information about the Joint Initiative and its return and reintegration assistance available. The outreach team identified and counselled 248 (199 male, 49 female) migrants [REDACTED] in Sudan, among whom 63 were returned under the Joint Initiative through these visits. While additional projects financed the material costs of the awareness raising the Joint Initiative contributed to these efforts through staff costs.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1.2: Pre-return activities, such as medical assistance, counselling, family tracing, temporary shelter, food and NFIs.</p>	<p>In Djibouti, the Joint Initiative provided a range of pre-departure assistance to [REDACTED]. The support included food, accommodation, NFIs, medical assistance, and obtaining emergency travel documents. In addition, [REDACTED] Ethiopian migrants were referred to IOM Djibouti by [REDACTED]. Given their vulnerabilities, IOM stepped in to provide urgent AVRR support.</p> <p>In Somalia, pre-departure assistance consisting of temporary shelter, food, and travel document issuance was provided to [REDACTED] male [REDACTED] female) Ethiopian migrants returning from [REDACTED] (50 including 42 male, 8 female) and [REDACTED] including [REDACTED] male, [REDACTED] female) through the support by [REDACTED] in the respective locations operated by [REDACTED]</p> <p>In Sudan, outreach activities of the [REDACTED] provided immediate assistance to migrants in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the form of food [REDACTED] and / or basic medical assistance (9 female) prior to their return.</p>
<p>Activity 2.1.3: Return movements</p>	<p>During the reporting period, the Joint Initiative facilitated 469 movements from 11 countries (Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Chad, South Sudan, and Nigeria). Over 80.2% [REDACTED] of these movements were to Ethiopia, followed by Somalia 11.5% [REDACTED]. The remaining [REDACTED]</p>

Activity 2.1.4: Post arrival assistance	Reception and arrival assistance was provided to 1,420 (1,287 male, 133 female) returnees including [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Access to various services including primary healthcare, medical and psychosocial referrals, overnight accommodation, food, NFIs and family tracing was made available for all the migrants received under the Joint Initiative. Aside from a minor variation in Ethiopia where returnees received onward transportation in a form of small cash grants at EUR 44, other returnees were assisted with their onward transportation in in-kind (flights or bus). To meet additional immediate needs, cash assistance of [REDACTED] was also provided to the returnees in Sudan and Somalia respectively in line with the Framework SOPs				
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]		
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]		
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]		

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Comments: An overwhelming majority of the returnees assisted under the Joint Initiative indicated economic reintegration to be their highest priority upon return. Progress has been made to reinforce counselling and support returnees to develop sound reintegration plans. Careful planning of economic reintegration support necessarily takes time whereas many returnees face needs in the short term and are impatient to receive economic reintegration assistance. Under the Joint Initiative efforts are underway to expand partnership development with local actors for the provision of economic reintegration support and identification of short-medium term support that can be provided while reintegration plans are under development.

Activity 3.1.1: Economic reintegration activities (skills assessment, access to microfinance institutions or community-based financial initiatives, VET/entrepreneurship programmes, market-driven strategy, business development support, job placement)	Following the vulnerability assessment, the eligible returnees who qualify for complementary reintegration assistance developed their economic reintegration plan. In total, the Joint Initiative helped start 156 individual and 60 collective businesses [REDACTED]. The supported businesses included livestock, kiosks (food and other groceries), grain trade, grinding/flour mill, cloth shops (shoes and clothing), cafeteria, car wash, building and construction material shop, local spice shop, mobile phones sales, transport, iron products, entertainment centre, and video game shop, etc.				
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		

¹² In line with the other Joint Initiative and the Integrated Approach to Reintegration focusing on the three dimensions of reintegration – economic, social and psychosocial, the revised LogFrame will incorporate the justice related results, activities and associated indicators under the social reintegration.

<p>Comments: Social reintegration and access to rights and services are cross-cutting issues within the integrated approach to reintegration that the EU-IOM Joint Initiative is aiming to implement. Reintegration support can include advice and support to ensure that administrative procedures are completed after return allowing migrants to access services and exercise rights (e.g. registration with appropriate national authorities, re-documentation). Furthermore, many of the general reintegration support activities foreseen under the programme have a social and psychosocial dimension as they engage migrants in group activities. Assistance to support beneficiaries access to social protection/security schemes and safety nets such as medical insurance and benefits for sickness, employment injury, invalidity, maternity, unemployment, family, old-age and survivors. Often these schemes are put in place by or in collaboration with, government social services and related partners. In the coming period a stronger emphasis will be placed on formalizing partnerships to expand the social reintegration activities.</p>					
Activity 3.2.1: Community reintegration and outreach	In Somalia, the Joint Initiative will build on the community reintegration effort made with the support from [REDACTED] through which they have identified the priority community infrastructure to promote social cohesion in [REDACTED]. Specifically, the Joint Initiative will start with building two community halls in [REDACTED] district creating short-term job opportunities for returnees and host communities through cash for work. These priorities were identified through an extensive community consultation process under the [REDACTED]				
Activity 3.2.2: Legal assistance for returnees, training on relevant legal and institutional frameworks, and filing complaints against exploitation and abuse	In Somalia, a preliminary discussion was held with the [REDACTED] to provide a training on legal rights and assistance available to the returnees as part of the general reintegration support offered to all those who return. The implementation of this training is envisaged to start during the next reporting period.				

	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	
	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>		
	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>		
<p>Comments: Setting up a functional system of referral network and operationalising the shift from standard package to needs-based flexible approach to provide comprehensive, integrated reintegration support has proven very time-consuming and challenging. Provision of economic reintegration support at the individual and collective level as well as community reintegration will be the highest priority of the next reporting period. To cover the gaps in psychosocial needs while IOM continues to engage various partners in discussions towards formalising longer-term partnerships, IOM recruited its psychologists in Somalia and Sudan and began piloting two-day group psychosocial training in partnership with <div></div> in Ethiopia.</p>					
<p>Activity 3.3.2: General and complementary reintegration assistance, including family tracing/reunification, psychosocial support, referral to existing services, and housing (economic reintegration under Activity 3.1.1)</p>	<p>During the reporting period, IOM provided 818 (746 male and 72 female) returnees with vulnerability assessments and general reintegration counselling <div></div><div></div>. Each receiving county also ensured availability of additional assistance.</p> <p>For example, in Ethiopia, <div></div><div></div>. The Joint Initiative also supported a training of 25 staff from partner civil society organizations <div></div> in psychosocial counselling.</p> <p>In Somalia, 94 (91 male, 3 female) returnees were supported with overnight accommodation upon their arrival while they waited for their onward travel; <div></div><div></div></p> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>				

[REDACTED]

4. WORKPLAN

Period covered: 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019													
	Half-year 1						Half-year 2						
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	Implementing body
Objective 1													
A 1.1.1: Flow Monitoring													IOM
A 1.1.2: Establishment of a Regional Data Hub													IOM
A 1.1.3: Mapping and socio-economic profile of areas of return													IP (under selection)
Activity 1.2.1: Country adaptation of Standard Operating Procedures on return and reintegration													IOM and host governments
A 1.2.2: Capacity building and technical support to government and other relevant partners on return and reintegration and SOP implementation													IOM, host governments and other partners
A 1.2.3: Support to coordination platforms to exchange experiences and identify lessons learned and best practices on the development of sustainable voluntary return and reintegration programmes in the context of national and local development programmes and planning													IOM and host governments
A 1.2.4: Inter-regional and cross-regional knowledge exchanges on return and reintegration approaches and lessons learnt													IOM and host governments

Objective 2													
A 2.1.1: Outreach to inform migrants in need of available AVRR options													IOM
A 2.2.1: Pre-return assistance													IOM
A 2.2.2: Return movements and escorts													IOM
Objective 3													
A 3.1.1: Post arrival assistance													IOM, host governments and other partners
A 3.1.2: General and complementary reintegration assistance													IOM, host governments and other partners
A 3.2.1: Reintegration monitoring													IOM
A 3.2.2: Adaptation and rollout of an updated database of voluntary return and reintegration													IOM and host governments

5. GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION

Project Governance

Centrally at the Brussels level, the first Programme Steering Committee (PSC) meeting took place on 22 September 2017. The scope of the Joint Initiative was discussed in detail including the objectives, programme components, and integrated approach to reintegration [REDACTED]. Following the guidance by the EU, the planned second PSC has been postponed from February 2018 to further notice.

At the implementation country levels, the Joint Initiative formed PSCs and a Technical Working Group (TWG) in Somalia [REDACTED]. Preparatory work was undertaken in Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Sudan. In Sudan, the government focal entity, [REDACTED] has formed a technical task force for the Joint Initiative that has been taking an active and leadership role in the SOPs adaptation and returnee counselling and their reintegration plan development processes.

Cooperation and Coordination with Main Stakeholders

The Joint Initiative has been coordinating with EU Delegation in all four target countries through regular meetings since January 2018 following the inception period of six months. In **Ethiopia**, EU Delegation has been convening monthly coordination meetings with IOM, [REDACTED] the main EU partners addressing issues of return and reintegration with the funding from EU. In **Somalia**, IOM and EU Delegation meets every six weeks in addition to email correspondences on a weekly basis. The Somalia EU Delegation has been very active. For example, they opened the programme launch, jointly drafted and approved press briefing notes, as well as participated in the SOPs adaptation consultation. In January 2018, the EU Delegation also organized an informational meeting with Member States representatives who are part of the Migration Working Group for IOM to present about the Joint Initiative and specific activities for Somalia. In **Djibouti**, IOM maintained close communications with the EU Delegation through regular meetings. The Delegation also opened the programme launch and has been kept abreast about the Joint Initiative's implementation process in Djibouti. In **Sudan**, IOM has also been meeting with the Delegation regularly following the inception period to discuss programme launch, the Project Steering Committee, and its TORs.

Synergies with Other Projects

IOM has been coordinating with partners implementing other EU-funded programmes, regionally with [REDACTED] and other partners under the [REDACTED], as well as at country level, particularly in Ethiopia and Somalia.

Regionally, IOM meets with [REDACTED] at least monthly through attending the coordination meetings on the [REDACTED] activities. [REDACTED] is also another implementing partner for the [REDACTED] who attends these coordination meetings. On an ad-hoc basis, IOM meets with [REDACTED] to discuss any particular issues related to the complementary programmes to ensure synergies.

In **Ethiopia**, the EU Delegation has played an activity role in calling and chairing coordination meetings with IOM, [REDACTED] the partners addressing issues of return and reintegration with the funding from EU. These meetings took place in January and March 2018 (Notes for the File available upon request); the involved partners intend to hold these discussions on the monthly basis. Additional bilateral discussions with [REDACTED] were taking place to ensure synergies. In particular, the labour

market assessment in Ethiopia will build on the previous assessment carried out by [REDACTED] and focus primarily on the operational, scenario-based recommendations for sustainable economic reintegration. This will take into account specific recommendations made in the [REDACTED] assessment and in light of the [REDACTED] reintegration package. With [REDACTED] who will be signing a contract with EU on a programme to support reintegration of forced return cases from Europe, IOM discussed [REDACTED] extensively about the areas of cooperation and synergies. Namely, IOM will build capacity of [REDACTED] on how to conduct post arrival reception and assistance to returnees and the screening process. IOM will also consult [REDACTED] on government capacity building initiatives planned in order to avoid duplication of work. A series of meeting with potential partners also took place including [REDACTED]

In Somalia, IOM regularly meets with the EU Delegation and requested them to share the list of relevant reintegration programmes funded by EU and its partners to initiate discussions to ensure synergies. In addition, the programme launch event brought together the EU and other partners who were sensitized about the SOP adaptation process (Activity 1.2.1) and expressed their interest in taking part in the consultation processes. For example, it was agreed among these EU-funded partners [REDACTED] to participate in the consultative workshop on SOPs adaptation in early-May 2018 as a follow-up to the [REDACTED] launch event. Bilateral discussions with key reintegration actors also took place with preliminary agreement to partner in the following service provision areas:

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

While IOM does not have direct programmatic engagement with other EU-funded programmes or their partners in Djibouti and Sudan, regularly meetings with the respective EU Delegations serve to inform them of the Joint Initiative's activities and be informed about relevant coordination needs as necessary.

6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) effort, the Joint Initiative carried out biweekly calls with the country offices (COs)' focal points. Regular internal monitoring and compliance support visits by the Regional Management Team also took place. These visits often combined their participation in the country level activities under the Joint Initiative, meeting with stakeholders, and holding workshops of the country team staff on relevant topics such as operationalisation of integrated approaches and communications and visibility deliverables. An internal inception and a follow-up workshops were also held in Nairobi in March 2017 and January 2018. In Somalia, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At the time of report submission, recruitment process was at its final stage for [REDACTED] dedicated for the Joint Initiative.

To ensure a harmonized approach to monitoring and measuring the impact of return and reintegration assistance under all three regional windows of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative as well as other AVR

programmes globally, IOM developed a set of institutional Guidance Note on M&E for AVR(R)/PARA and associated tools for the data collection at the headquarters' level¹⁴. Common indicators will be incorporated in the revised M&E Plan along with EUTF Proxy Output indicators to be commonly included across other Joint Initiative projects.

The Regional Office in Nairobi collected and consolidated the relevant statistics on the return and reintegration effort as well as narrative descriptions of the progress made in the activities from each target CO, which was shared with the IOM Regional Office in Brussels. These inputs from the CO informed the contents of the monthly FLASH reports (refer to **Annex 7 A-B**).

IOM also met with [REDACTED] on several occasions to discuss Monitoring and Learning System (MLS) managed by the European Commission at the regional level. The previous sets of the EUTF Proxy Indicators were incorporated in the working draft LogFrame and used to report on the progress made for the first 12 months, in tandem with this interim report.

At the time of the report submission, however, IOM continues to have discussions with EU regarding their additional contribution to the Libya response operation and possible top-up contribution to the Joint Initiative. Given the implication of these discussions on the project activities and the results, the M&E Plan, envisaged to have been submitted with the first interim report, has not been finalized. It will be completed at a later stage immediately following the finalization of the ongoing discussions.

7. VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION

During the first year of implementation, IOM delivered the following communications and visibility outputs:

Communications and Visibility Plan

As part of the inception period deliverables outlined in the Description of the Action, IOM developed a draft Communication and Visibility Plan for the Joint Initiative [REDACTED]. This plan is for the entire programme for the Horn of Africa and its country adaptation is envisaged during the next reporting period.

Programme Launch

The programme launches took place in Somalia and Djibouti on 15 March 2018 respectively. In Somalia, [REDACTED] took part in the launch. The EU Delegation and IOM jointly developed and published a press briefing note of this event (see **Annex 9-B**), which was widely featured on national media. In Djibouti, [REDACTED] opened the event and launched the project. The event was participated by representatives from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] personnel from [REDACTED]. Banners featuring the EU and the Joint Initiative were produced for the launch events to ensure the visibility in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Communication and Visibility in EU-Financed External Actions 2018. The event was widely featured on national media including La Nation and RTD.

¹⁴ Available upon request as the guidance and tools are pending approval by the Office of the Inspector General.

Press Briefing Notes (PBNs) and Blog

In total, seven PBNs and blog entries were drafted, of which three were published featuring the program activities and launches in coordination with the respective EU Delegations. These products were widely disseminated through the IOM headquarters' global website and also through the regional and local websites for example ReliefWeb (see **Annex 9 A-C**). Initially, the approval process involved the regional office in Nairobi, the IOM Brussels and EU in Brussels, in addition to the relevant EU Delegation. In consultation with EU, it was later agreed that the approval process rests on the involved EU Delegation to avoid delays.

FLASH Report

During the reporting period, one FLASH report for February 2018 was produced and disseminated centrally coordinated by IOM Brussels. The March 2018 FLASH report was disseminated after the reporting period before the report submission (see **Annex 7 A-B**). The report featured statistics on assisted voluntary returns, as well as post arrival reception, reintegration counselling and reintegration efforts, in addition to case stories.

Video Production

During the reporting period, IOM produced three short videos featuring stranded Ethiopian migrants' migration experiences and assisted return with the support of the Joint Initiative. The videos are available through YouTube links included in the Annex.

Visual Items

In close coordination with the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Sahel and Lake Chad region, IOM developed designs of flyers and posters describing the Joint Initiative's support for the AVRR process (see **Annex 10 A-J**). At the time of report submission, these products were undergoing translation into French, Somali, Amharic, and Arabic. Once translated, IOM will place and distribute these flyers and posters both at the departure points such as [REDACTED] where the migrants are assisted with pre-departure support as well as at the reception facilities in destination countries to disseminate a consistent and harmonized message on the assistance available. Designs of some branded items for the Joint Initiative were also developed during the reporting period, such as t-shirts, caps, notepads, pens and bags [REDACTED]. They will undergo review and approval process by the EU. To support missions in assisting migrants to identify the best reintegration assistance upon return, IOM developed a Business Start-Up Toolkit and booklets. These items were distributed to missions (Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan) implementing reintegration assistance.

Social media

Updates about the Joint Initiative were shared through the IOM's social media outlets. Two Facebook post, three Tweets and three YouTube videos were developed and shared.

8. ANNEXES

Annex 2-B – *Mixed Migration in the Horn of Africa and in the Arab Peninsula June - December 2017* available through <http://www.globaldtm.info/en/mixed-migration-in-the-horn-of-africa-and-the-arab-peninsula-march-2018/>

Annex 2-C – *Migration Flows in the Horn of Africa and the Arab Peninsula June – August 2017* available through https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/IOM%20DTM_Regional%20Migration%20Flow%20Report_Nov2017.pdf

Annex 2-D – *Flow Monitoring February 2018*

Annex 2-E – *Flow Monitoring March 2018*

Annex 7 (A-B) – *FLASH Report February and March 2018*

Annex 9-A – *Press Briefing Note: 50 Ethiopian Migrants Stranded in Puntland Return Home with UN Migration Agency Assistance* available through <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/50-ethiopian-migrants-stranded-puntland-return-home-un-migration-agency-assistance>

Annex 9-B – *Press Briefing Note: EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection, Reintegration in Horn of Africa Launched in Somalia* available through <http://www.iom.int/news/eu-iom-joint-initiative-migrant-protection-reintegration-horn-africa-launched-somalia>

Annex 9-C – *Blog: Sold False Hopes: Somali, Kenyan Migrants Stranded in War-Torn South Sudan* available through <https://weblog.iom.int/sold-false-hopes-somali-kenyan-migrants-stranded-war-torn-south-sudan>

Links to the videos

- <https://youtu.be/nkGwMwB2R9Q>
- https://youtu.be/_j89bwbHzyA
- <https://youtu.be/cWmzgrvkCTg>
- <https://youtu.be/QmeYcrLt6ak>
- <https://youtu.be/paiqnbZfxAc>



Project funded by the European Union



Project Implemented by IOM