

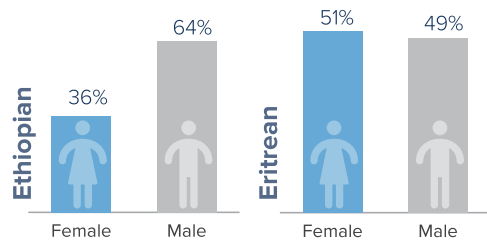
**Introduction**

Sudan is a country of origin, destination and transit on the migratory route from the Horn of Africa to Europe (mainly through the Central Mediterranean route) and other destinations. An estimated 50 per cent of refugees arriving in Shagarab move out of the camps within two months of their arrival, a trend that remains unchanged for several years. UNHCR's response focuses on persons in need of international protection who make up the majority of those moving onward towards Northern Africa and eventually Europe. UNHCR, along with other concerned agencies, supports the Government efforts to address the risks associated with irregular onward movement, including through the dedicated National Committee for Combatting Human Trafficking (NCCT). In 2020-2021, UNHCR and partners have supported the NCCT process of revising the 2021- 2023 National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (NAP).

**Unaccompanied Children (UASC) in 2021**



**Age-gender Breakdown**



Data Source: UNHCR

**New Arrivals (2020 | 2021)**



**60,296**  
Between 01 Jan to Dec 2020

**8,023**  
Between 01 Jan to Mar 2021



**22%** Suspected for irregular onward movement prior registration

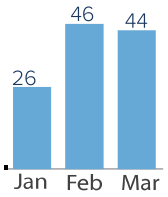


**15%** With refugee status and closed/inactive cases due to no-show

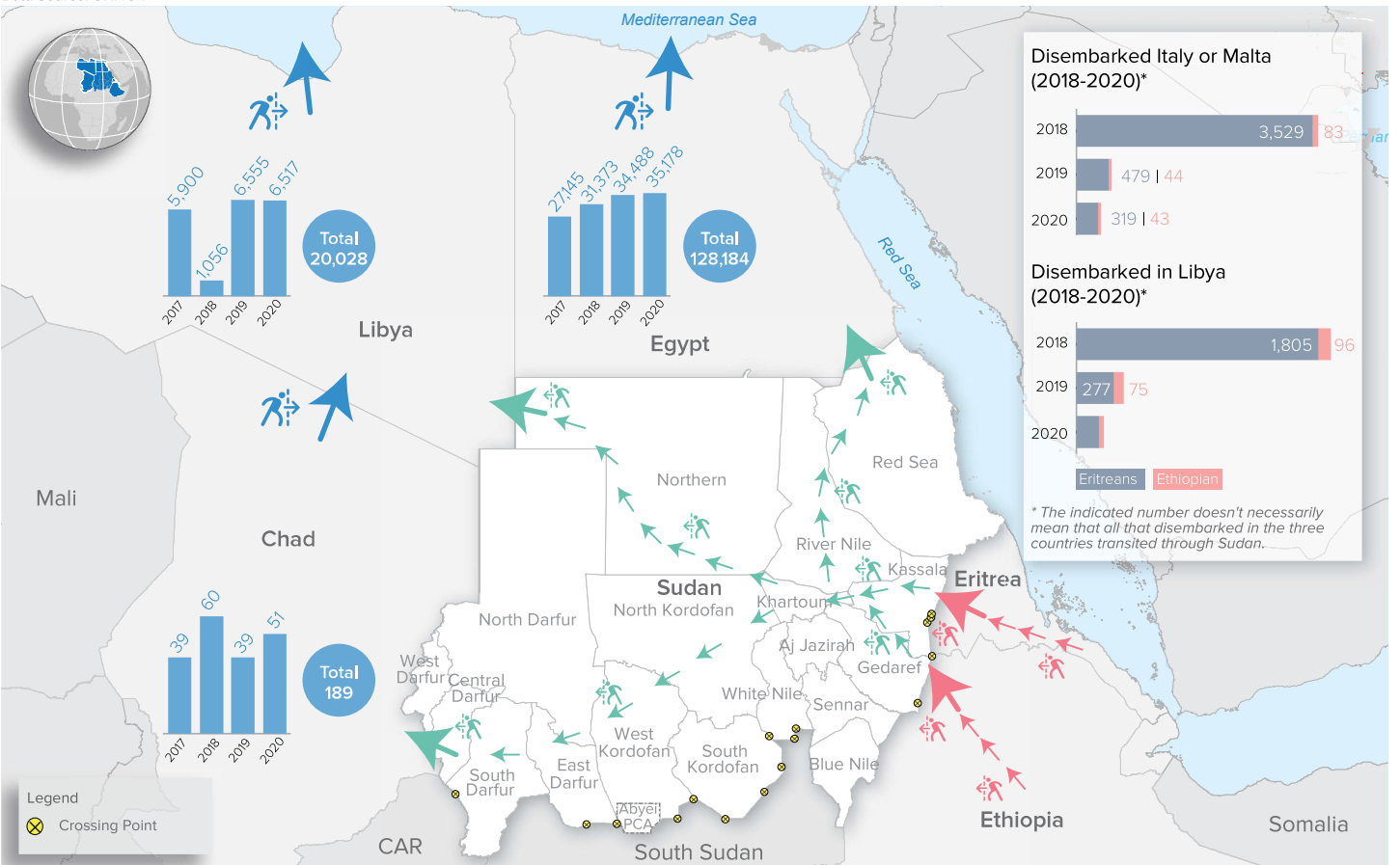
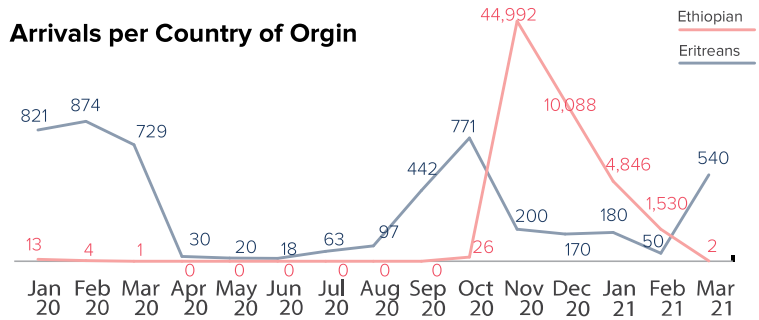
*The above estimated % based on registration process in East Sudan.*



**116** VOT (Victim of Trafficking) in 2021 assisted by UNHCR in East Sudan were accommodated in the safe house with varied assistance, including legal aid, psychosocial support, health and other services such as family reunification and access to durable solutions.



**Arrivals per Country of Origin**



## Highlights

- Refurbishment and procurement of furniture for the Kassala Special Anti-Trafficking court. The Court is now fully functional with capacity to timely respond to trafficking cases and enhancing their access to justice.
- Awareness raising: 700 copies of booklet on services and assistance available in the camps disseminated in the Shagarab Camps and in Hamdayet. Awareness raising conducted in community-run Ethiopian safehouse in Khartoum. In East Sudan: 2650 household visits conducted by community volunteers, 16 testimony gathering sessions conducted with youth, parents and guardians; 7 focus group discussions conducted with women and new arrivals; 3 discussion forums conducted with women
- UNHCR released its 2021 Strategic Action Plan and Related Funding Appeal for the response along the Mediterranean route, including a budget requirement for Sudan of 811,362 USD. The strategy seeks to increase outreach and assistance to refugees along the route, as well as to enhance access to education and livelihoods in countries of asylum.
- The first quarter of the year focused on the development of the new National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking through support to the NCCT. The NAP sets clear objectives and priority activities for concerned line ministries and with support from the international community. It is expected to be launched in early May.
- Migrants referral system validation workshop: Upon the invitation of Better Migration Management (BMM Program); UNHCR participated in a workshop to validate a Migrants Referral system which had been developed with the support of BMM. The workshop developed recommendations for differentiated procedures between Refugees and Migrants as well as a unified system for humanitarian intervention when addressing mixed flows.
- UNHCR continued to engage in the issue of ongoing expulsions of Sudanese migrants and non-Sudanese from Libya and Egypt to Northern State in Sudan. In 2021, the expulsions from Libya continued in addition to some incidents of expulsion from Egypt via Al Halfa in Northern State. In total, 467 individuals were reported to be expelled in Q1 (445 Sudanese, 15 Ethiopia, 4 Somalian, 2 Malian, 1 Eritrean). In this context, UNHCR organized an inter-agency cross border meeting between all concerned agencies (IOM, DRC, SRCS, and ICRC) in March where participants agreed to undertake a joint assessment mission in Northern State, establish an information sharing mechanism, review and assess the gaps in the state response.

## Challenges and Opportunities

- The implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Human trafficking will require significant support from the international community, both in terms of capacity building and resources. At the same time, it is an ambitious action plan within clearly defined parameters, which offers opportunities for tangible intervention from a variety of actors.
- Enhanced collaboration and information exchange is needed with agencies working on mixed movements, as well as development agencies and the private sector, to support and advocate towards access to tertiary education, employment, specialized training, and microfinancing opportunities.
- Step up awareness-raising campaigns targeting refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrants, as well as partners, the host community, religious leaders, and law enforcement entities. These should take place in refugee settlements as well as prominent gathering places in the host community, higher education institutions, and places of worship. Opportunities include using multi-media, including disseminating messages through television and radio programmes; interviews with humanitarian staff as well as refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrants who might have gone through the experience.
- Increased humanitarian access in Northern State opens opportunities to close major gaps in the monitoring of the situation and the collection of relevant information for adequate interventions in support of the Government efforts. This has also potential to increase engagement on the Western route (Darfur-Chad-Libya), as currently East Sudan and Khartoum are the main areas of intervention in Mixed Migration.
- With the opening of the IOM office in Kassala state, there is an opportunity for intensified coordination and collaboration and to develop joint procedures that create synergies for all migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers.

