



### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 40% increase in monthly forced returns from KSA seen in the month of May 2014 compared to April 2014 cumulatively.
- ◆ IOM has partnered with Hormuud Telecom Somalia to provide forced returnees with SIM cards and airtime.
- ◆ 33,605 Somali nationals have been forcefully returned from KSA while 272 have been returned from Kenya.

Forced returnees receive Horteel SIM cards and airtime from a Horteel Representative © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Somalia)

## OVERVIEW

### *Forced Returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

In this reporting period, more than 1,913 migrants have been assisted by IOM and partners. The total number of forced returnees from KSA to Somalia has increased cumulatively to a total of 33,605 as of 27 May 2014. Notably, the number of monthly returns from KSA has increased in May (so far) by 40% compared to April (cumulatively). This may have been triggered by a number of factors, for example, the impending holy month of Ramadhan and annual pilgrimage made by millions of Muslims to Mecca (KSA).

### *Forced Returns from Kenya*

IOM assisted 26 Somali nationals who were forcefully returned from Kenya (7-27 May). IOM has already assisted 63 persons since the start of operations in mid-April. In total, 272 Somalis have been returned from Kenya (see details overleaf).

Generally-speaking, on eight separate dates in the month of May, the Somali forced returns emergency response received a total of 823 SIM-cards for mobile phones from Hormuud Telecom following successful discussions initiated in April 2014. Additionally, the company also donated USD 10 airtime to a total of 26 Somali nationals forcefully removed from Kenya and KSA. These two items were officially handed over to the migrants on different dates by the Hormuud Telcom Marketing Manager and other representatives. In light of the potential outbreak of polio and with the strong support of World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health, polio vaccinations continue to be administered for all age groups.

IOM has been receiving contradictory messages from the four Third-Country Nationals on their willingness to relocate to Ethiopia. This has been compounded by their lack of identification documents though they

claim to be Ethiopian nationals. As a result, the Ethiopian Consulate in Mogadishu has delayed the issuance of travel documents. Consequently, this has also affected discussions with the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; IOM is still engaging the different stakeholders to find an optimum solution.

## IOM RESPONSE

Further to the aforementioned, IOM continues to provide assistance to Somali nationals being deported from KSA and Kenya with the generous support of its partners and donors. The specific sections (for example food and NFIs, health etc.) refer to the both KSA and Kenya returns while the general section breaks down the data per-country. Highlights include:

### General

- ◆ Cumulatively, from KSA, IOM received and assisted 1,575 females and 3,715 males over the age of 18 in addition to 422 girls and 414 boys from KSA. From Kenya, 47 males and 10 females over the age of 18 as well as 1 boy and 5 girls have benefited from the IOM emergency response.

### Food and non-food items (NFIs)

- ◆ 6,520 individuals have received food, water and biscuits from IOM.
- ◆ More than 643 individuals have received NFI assistance comprising clothes, blankets, shelter kits and cooking items provided by IOM.
- ◆ 573 dignity kits, provided by UNFPA, have been made available to vulnerable female migrants.

### Health

With the strong support of the Ministry of Health doctors and nurses, IOM has provided basic healthcare assistance to 197 males and 200 females through consultations, providing medicines, ante/post-natal care, psychosocial support, oral polio vaccinations for all age groups and health referral assistance.

### Others (Accommodation and Transport)

- ◆ 340 males and 56 females have received accommodation assistance prior to their onward transport to their place of origin. Usually, the accommodation, provided by IOM, lasts two to four days.
- ◆ IOM provided 260 individuals with onward transport assistance by road while 395 persons received onward transport assistance by air.
- ◆ More than 4,067 persons received key awareness-raising messages on general health, sanitation and unexploded mines, provided by UNMAS and other implementing partners.

## OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND GAPS

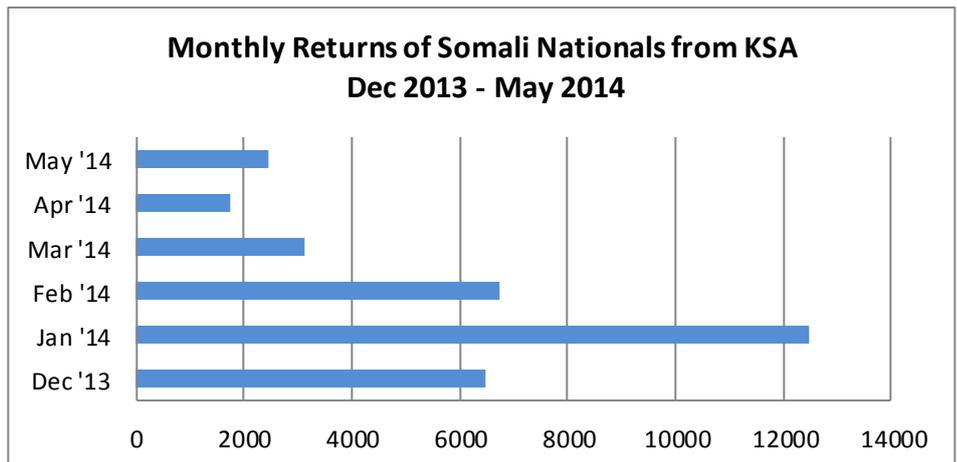
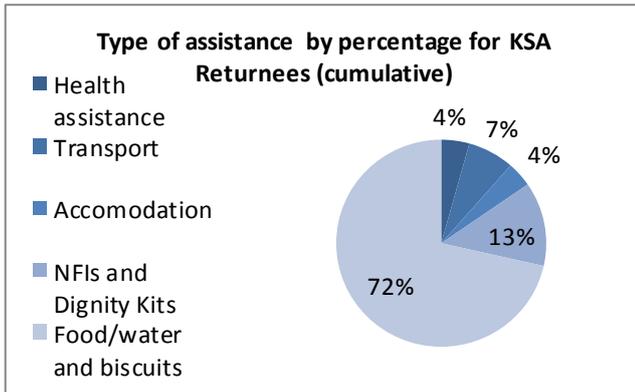
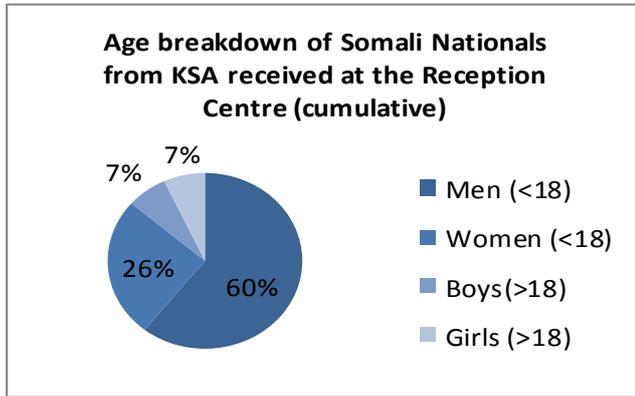
**1. Kenya returns:** Due to their unverified legal status of the returnees, IOM in partnership with UNHCR needs to conduct status verification for all upon arrival. However they are usually welcomed in an official reception ceremony attended by government officials. Due to the nature of such occasions, these ceremonies tend to be extended and not all returnees find time to access the IOM tent for the verification.

**2. Sanitation facilities:** During the registration, returnees have access to the airport toilets. The Department of Immigration has requested IOM to ensure the toilets are in good working condition. IOM is currently renovating the facilities to ensure basic health and sanitation standards are met.

**KSA ONWARD TRAVEL ASSISTANCE: NUMBER AND DESTINATION OF RETURNEES**

Destination	Number
Afgoye	9
Baidoa	37
Balcad	5
Bardhere	1
Bariire	1
Beledweyne	12
Bulahawo	7
Bulobarde	4
Bulomarer	3
Burane	1
Burdhubo	1
Burhakaba	9
Daafed	3
Diinsor	9
Garbaharey	1
Jalalaqsi	1
Janaale	1
Jowhar	6
Kansumo	1
Marka	6
Masagawaay	1
Qoryoley	22
Ufurow	1
Wanlaweyn	20
Galkayo*	24
Hargheisa*	122
Kismayu*	20

\* denotes onward travel by air.



**MIGRANT STORY**



*Widowed and Abandoned*  
 Muktar, a 48-year old Somali from Jowhar, left Mogadishu by bus 7 years ago to Bossaso. Tragedy befell his family as they crossed the Yemeni desert where his wife died. He made a living working at a car wash and had been in detention for 3 months in the KSA detention centre. While recounting the tragedy and hardship and apparently suffering from emotional distress, Muktar received psychosocial support from the IOM team. He also has other significant medical conditions for which he will likely need ongoing treatment. He was thus referred to local health personnel and given appropriate medication. Moreover, IOM also provided him with pants, a shirt, refreshments and onward transportation to his home town Jowhar. Muktar was thankful for all the support provided by IOM and partners.  
 \*Name changed to protect identity.