

January & February 2018



Photo: Dr. Omar Khayre / UN Migration Agency (IOM) 2017



The new IOM office in Dollow, Somalia, opened in response to the large-scale displacements into the city in 2017 due to drought and insecurity. © Hillary Ngetich / UN Migration Agency (IOM) 2018

UN Migration Agency Opens Office in Dollow, Gedo Region of Somalia

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, opened an office in Dollow on 25 January 2018, in the Gedo region of Somalia. This is in response to the large-scale displacements into Dollow in 2017, due to drought and insecurity. IOM has scaled up its emergency response programming in the region. IOM currently works

IOM in Action

- On 16 January, the Federal Government of Somalia's Ministry of Planning and the EU Somalia Delegation hosted a REINTEG Programme Steering Committee in Mogadishu, supported by IOM Somalia & UNHABITAT. Over 27,000 returnees, IDP and host community members have received immediate reception assistance and reintegration support through this EU-funded programme. [Read more](#)
- With support from the EU REINTEG programme and the Government of Japan, IOM is conducting a radio awareness information campaign in Puntland, Somaliland, and South Central region of Somalia. The information campaign is designed to sensitize vulnerable communities about irregular

to meet the basic needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in settlements and affected host communities in Dollow through camp management, shelter reinforcement, water and sanitation provision, and health interventions. The work is done with a long-term perspective and an eye towards early recovery and durable solutions. Operating out of the Dollow office, IOM also implements community stabilization activities across the wider Gedo region, including the rehabilitation of schools and district administration offices.

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Dyane Epstein, IOM Somalia Chief of Mission, speaks during the opening ceremony of the renovated Garowe International Airport in Somalia. © Stephen Matete / UN Migration Agency (IOM) 2018

Renovated International Airport Opens in Garowe, Somalia with IOM Support

The newly renovated Garowe International Airport opened its doors on 8 January in the capital of Puntland state, Somalia. The airport had been closed since 2013 and now aims to make Garowe a hub for international travel. IOM, the UN Migration Agency, supported the renovation efforts led by the Puntland authorities, in full coordination with the federal government and international partners. “A well established and functioning airport in Garowe is a step in the right direction towards the vision of secure and humane migration within, from, and to Puntland and the greater Somalia,” said Dyane Epstein, IOM Somalia Chief of Mission during the opening ceremony. “With the concerted efforts of all dedicated stakeholders, including those present here today, I believe that we can look forward with optimism,” she added.

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migration, human smuggling, and trafficking, as well as services available at local Migration Response Centres. So far 8 radio shows have been aired, 21 outreach sessions have been conducted, and 3 social media sites (facebook, twitter and instagram) have been active since December 2017.

- IOM organized a regional consultation meeting (14-15 January 2018) to review Somalia’s immigration law #9, 1966. A total of 34 officials from Somalia’s departments of Immigration, Ports, Internal Security, Police, National Intelligence and Constitutional Affairs participated in the first of five regional consultation meetings planned. During the meeting, participants reviewed the current immigration law, deliberated on the perceived gaps in relation to current migration trends and brainstormed on emerging needs within the region.
- A team from the Finnish National Institute for Health and Welfare visited Somaliland from 20-25 January 2018 to support implementation of the MIDA FINNSOM Health project, Phase IV. During their mission, they participated in three field visits and hosted a consultative workshop with officials from the Somaliland Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization, IOM, and other partners. This project is designed to contribute to improved health outcomes in Somaliland, and in particular maternal and child health.
- The Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) is supporting IOM to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to drought-affected displaced populations in Somalia’s South Central, Somaliland and Puntland



IOM held a training on referral mechanism for irregular migrants and Victims of Trafficking in Somaliland from 8–11 January 2018. © Askar Dayib Abdirahman / UN Migration Agency (IOM) 2018

UN Migration Agency Holds Training on Trafficking and Irregular Migration in Somaliland

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, with support from the Government of Japan earlier in January held a training on trafficking, irregular migration and the establishment of a referral mechanism for irregular migrants and Victims of Trafficking (VoTs) in Somaliland. Thirty-two trainees were drawn from the Human Trafficking Development Agency (HAKAD), the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG), Non-Governmental Organizations and staff from the Migrant Response Centre (MRC). The training was organized with the support of HAKAD having requested IOM for capacity building for its members. HAKAD was formed to combat trafficking and irregular migration.

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regions. In close coordination with the humanitarian community and under the leadership of the Federal Government of Somalia and the regional governments, IOM is providing integrated lifesaving health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) services to vulnerable drought affected populations: [Read more](#)

- From 20-22 February, IOM facilitated a workshop on Transnational Organized Crime and Immigration Risk Analysis, bringing together senior government officials in the security sector including immigration directors, policy makers and intelligence agencies from Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania. The workshop was organized by IOM's Africa Capacity Building Centre (ACBC), the region's hub for border management expertise. Participants were provided with a wealth of experience, knowledge, and examples of real-life scenarios from the complex world of transnational organized crime. [Read more](#)
- IOM has partnered with Americares to donate more than eight tonnes of medical supplies, for distribution across IOM project locations in Somaliland, Puntland, Lower Juba, Gedo and Banadir regions. The supplies will immediately be dispatched to IOM's static and mobile clinics, to increase local access to life-saving primary healthcare services. [Read more](#)
- IOM conducted a training



IOM has scaled up its operations and capacities within Somalia in response to the recent drought and maintains a strong portfolio of multi-sector humanitarian interventions. © Muse Mohammed / UN Migration Agency (IOM) 2018

UN Migration Agency Participates in Launch of Somalia Drought Response

Since 2006, IOM, the United Nations Migration Agency, has been providing life-saving humanitarian assistance to migrants and mobile populations in Somalia – including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members. With its Head Office located in Mogadishu, IOM has a strong presence in all regions of Somalia through a multitude of projects implemented by 289 staff.

On 30 January, IOM participated in a high-level event marking the release of the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which seeks USD 1.5 billion to address the needs of 5.4 million Somalis. The Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF) outlining the way forward for recovery and resilience was also presented. The event was hosted by the Federal Government of Somalia and attended by senior dignitaries from the European Union, the United Nations and the World Bank. Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire, in his opening remarks, reaffirmed his government's commitment in moving Somalia from crisis to recovery.

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session from 19-21 February for immigration officers based at Somali air and sea ports in Garowe, Galkayo and Bossaso. The training, aimed at raising the officials' awareness on human trafficking, the risks and potential outcomes of irregular migration and migrants' rights, was organized with support from the Government of Japan.

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