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المنظمة الدولية للهجرة



MIGRATION IN EGYPT, MOROCCO AND TUNISIA

**OVERVIEW OF THE COMPLEX
MIGRATORY FLOWS
IN THE REGION**

WITH THE SUPPORT OF



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ABBREVIATIONS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AGDM	Age, gender and diversity
AMAPPE	Moroccan Association to support the promotion of small businesses
AMERA	Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights - Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance
ANETI	National Agency for Employment and Independent Work
CBO	Community - based organizations
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CMW	Convention for Migrant Workers
CNDH	Human Rights National Council in Morocco
CRT	Tunisian Red Crescent
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EC	European Council
FNUAP	United Nations Population Fund
FRONTEX	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection
HLD	High Level Dialogue
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
IGA	Income Generating Activities
INL - USA	Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IRW	Islamic Relief Worldwide
J/TIP - USA	Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (United States of America)
MSF	Doctors without borders
MTF-NOAH	Migration Coordination Task Force for the Eastern African Migratory Route and North Africa
MTM	Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration
NCCM	National Council of Childhood and Motherhood
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OHCHR	UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OTE	Office of Tunisians Abroad
PSTIC	Psycho-social Services Training Institute in Cairo
RAMED	Special Assurance Assistance for Vulnerable people in Morocco
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SEMTE	Secretary of State for Migration and Tunisians Abroad
STD	Sexual Transmission Diseases
TB	Tuberculoses
UMC	Unaccompanied Migrant Children
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USAID - USA	United States Agency for International Development
VOT	Victim of Trafficking
WFP	World Food Program

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SUMMARY

Migratory flows in North Africa are characterized by their complexity: the varied typology of migrants moving to the region, the varied nature of push and pull factors, the changeable migratory routes and migrants' objectives, expectations and plans in addition to the political, social and economic differences between countries, play a role in the structure and nature of migratory flows in the region. Its geographical position between Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, and its own political situation - particularly after the Arab Spring in 2011 - have made migratory flows in North Africa more complex in nature. Hundreds of thousands of people have moved to, through and from the region over the last few years, for different purposes and needs.

It is possible to witness origin, destination and transit movements in all three countries targeted by the research - Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia. However, all three are mainly 'de facto destination countries'. Both Egypt and Morocco were mainly transit countries that became destination countries, in part because of the arrival of migrant workers, but mainly due to irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees not being able to continue their route towards Europe, and therefore having to stay. Over the last decade, migration in Tunisia has been characterized by the emigration of its population and the arrival of regular migrants to work for the African Development Bank since 2003, or to study in Tunisian Universities. However, over the last three years other types of migrants have started to arrive to the country, especially those fleeing instability in surrounding countries such as Libya and Syria, or in stranded boats coming from Libya.

Accurate numbers about the number of migrants in Egypt are difficult to obtain, and estimates vary between 250.000 and 8.000.000 people. The UN department of Economic and Social Affairs estimated that there were about 250.000 foreign people in Egypt in 2010 (UN 2009). According to the latest numbers, a vast proportion of the migrant population in Egypt is composed by refugees, as migratory structures in Egypt are largely characterized by the arrival of refugees fleeing conflict in countries such as Eritrea, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and more recently Libya and Syria.

According to UNHCR data, there were 109,419 refugees and asylum seekers in the country in 2010. Their number increased from 92,588 in 2002 to 179,762 in 2013.

In Morocco, the number of irregular migrants is estimated to be between 25.000 and 40.000, according to the Moroccan Ministry of Interior. In addition, 608 refugees have been recognized recently by the Moroccan Government, due to changes in the country's migratory law.

Tunisia experienced an upsurge in immigration when the Libyan crisis started in early 2011, after which nearly 350,000 people fled Libya over the course of a few months, including 97,000 Tunisian returnees. Before the crisis in Libya, migratory populations in the country mainly consisted of Sub-Saharan students (their total estimated to be between 8,000 and 10,000) and African Development Bank (AfDB) employees, 960 of whom arrived to the country between 2003 and 2004 together with their families and domestic service. During 2013 and until February 2014, six boats trying to reach Italy from Libya were rescued at sea by the Tunisian coast guard with 844 migrants on board.

The different migrant groups that compose the complex migratory flows in the region choose their migratory routes to reach North-African countries based on many different factors, such as their country of origin, their destination, their possibilities to migrate regularly or irregularly (depending on entry requirements) and their financial capacity to pay for their travels. In general, migrants coming from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan follow the so called "North-Eastern African Migration Route", with the aim of reaching Egypt (mainly Cairo), Libya, Israel or Europe through Egypt. The so called "North-Western African Migration Route" is mainly used by migrants from DRC, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, and Nigeria, amongst others, to reach Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia or Europe.

In all three countries irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers face similar barriers to access basic public services such as education, healthcare, employment and justice. For refugees and asylum seeker, the lack of access to these services is bridged by services provided by UNHCR, which are highly subsidized.

Legal barriers limit the access to healthcare and education migrants. Coupled with their lack of documentation, elements such as cultural and language differences, lack of knowledge about national education and healthcare systems, fear of being detained if approaching public structures (in the case of irregular migrants) and stigmatization and discrimination, act as barriers for migrants to access services.

In addition to this, in all three countries, irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are not able to work unless they have a legal contract, which is only possible in cases where the position cannot be filled by a national. These conditions make it difficult for migrants to find livelihoods and access services that require payment. The main sources of revenue for migrants are salaries from informal jobs in construction or the service sector, help from family and friends, and charity. Their access to justice is also limited. The core, controversial issue that limits the exercise of rights is the criminalization in all three countries of irregular migration, which causes migrants in irregular situations who are victims of criminal acts (such as labor exploitation, trafficking or sexual abuses) to be scared of reporting these because of their fear of being deported.

All these barriers limit migrants' social integration due to the impossibility of incorporating themselves into local socialization spaces, which supposes, in general, discrimination and right violations for them. Furthermore, the migratory experience is likely to be shaped by vulnerability factors that can be detrimental to migrants: nationality, health conditions, sex and age. In addition to this, there are specific risks related to migration such fraud and trafficking in persons that make migrants more vulnerable, and that seem to be increasing in frequency.

The situation forces the governments of all three countries to face the challenges associated with the management of migration flows and the integration of migrants into their societies. Some policy changes are currently taking place; Morocco is the country in the region leading this adaptation to the new situation, as it is undergoing a process to change its entire migratory policy. The political situation in Egypt and Tunisia makes for change to be slow, but some efforts are being made to better deal with the new migratory context.

In this new context, regional dialogue is imperative so as to allow for the sharing of information between countries and to better understand migration phenomena in the region, which in turn may foster the development of innovative and shared responses to better manage migratory flows. The similarities in migration phenomena and the associated challenges in all three countries mean that a common approach would be favorable to all.

1. INTRODUCTION

Population movements have existed since the beginning of mankind's history, and after centuries of changes and human progress, migration continues to be a phenomenon inherent to human beings. Even if the reasons for migration and the ways in which it happens may change, the transfer of people from one place to another is continuous. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society. In this sense, migration is seen as a phenomenon to manage and not a problem to avoid. The management of migration in a way that guarantees the protection of migrant rights, and makes migration as beneficial as possible for migrants and societies, is a challenge that governments, international organizations and societies all around the world have to face.

North Africa is a region significantly shaped by such migratory dynamics because of its geographical position near Europe and its sociopolitical history. At present, the events that started in 2011 in the Arab world and continue to this day, in combination with the current conditions in Sub-Saharan countries make for unprecedented movements being witnessed within the region. The main characteristic of these movements is the complex nature of the flows. Push and pull factors vary, as do the objectives of the migratory process. Therefore, migratory dynamics are composed by migrants that may be difficult to categorize into the traditional migrant profiles (economic migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, smuggled migrants, unaccompanied migrant children, stranded migrants, migrants moving for environmental reasons, etc.). Furthermore, the region continues to be one of origin and transit movements, but is also becoming a destination at the same time.

This complex migratory context coupled with the lack of safe and regular means to migrate cause for migrants to be exposed to exploitation and abuse at the hands of smugglers and traffickers, and difficulties in accessing basic services and in finding livelihoods when transiting to, through or from North Africa. The abuse and loss of life of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers on board of the boats that during the last few years have failed in their attempts to reach mainly Lampedusa or the Algeciras coast has been particularly substantial.

In collaboration with the governments of Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia, IOM is implementing the project “Empowering Governments to address complex migratory flows and protect Migrants transiting to, through and from North Africa”, funded by the IOM Development Fund, which aims to better understand and address the dynamics and challenges of complex migratory flows in the region.

The proposal for this research was conceived with the main goal of enhancing contextualized knowledge on these flows, and of the living conditions, vulnerabilities and backgrounds of migrants stranded in or leaving from North Africa, with a particular focus on Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia, where the research was conducted. Due to the unstable situation in Libya at the time, information was collected through electronic means and interviews with key respondents were conducted through conference calls¹.

The conclusions obtained by the research are meant to serve as a basis for regional dialogue to be held between origin, transit, and destination countries, to collectively consider innovative approaches to address complex migratory flows, in order to promote regular migration and ensure a more coherent response to the challenges faced, and a better protection of migrant rights in the target countries of the project. This is timely not only because of the increased protection needs signified by the continued irregular crossings; but further, in recognition that the research gives voice to the needs and responses of origin, transit and destination countries, complementing the European Council recent responses².

¹ The inclusion of Algeria into the study was not possible since IOM does not have an office, and therefore official presence, in the country.

² After the Tragedy of Lampedusa in October 2013 when more than 350 migrants lost their lives trying to reach Italy from Libya, the Task-Force for the Mediterranean was established with the aim to bolster European policies and tools in the short to medium term (europa.eu 2014).

Under the umbrella of the IOM's Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa recently established Migration Coordination Task Force for the Eastern African Migratory Route and North Africa (MTF-NOAH), this research is one of a number of planned pieces of research on migration flows in the region, which are meant to provide national and international development partners with the necessary knowledge on irregular migration flows and migrants' vulnerabilities to carry out and support relevant advocacy, policy development and programming (IOM, 2012).

Indeed, in line with the goals of the MTF-NOAH, the outcomes of this research and its accompanying recommendations will be shared with migration policy makers in Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt to develop new policies and programs that will aim at significantly reducing the exploitation, abuse and trafficking of migrants along the migratory routes within these countries and in the broader region.

The research was based on a comprehensive sociological approach intended to better understand the multifaceted factors that influence migratory flows and migrants' living conditions in each country. The migratory context in the area was thus analyzed, taking into consideration vulnerability factors such as age, sex, nationality, legal status, health condition and how these relate to each other. The research was conducted taking a broad approach, with information collected from different actors and sources (governmental, non-governmental, civil society organizations and migrants), and a variety of instruments for social research (the revision of relevant documents, focus groups, questionnaires, interviews and life-stories), in order to obtain a balanced vision of the issues at hand³.

In the first section of the document, the definitions of the main concepts used in the research are presented. The second section includes a revision of the complexity factors that shape migration in the region as well as a variety of statistical data concerning migration by country. Section three presents the main findings and conclusions obtained by the research through a comparative approach between the following: i) routes of migration, ii) legal and political frameworks, iii) conditions for migrant access to services and integration, iv) main migrant vulnerability factors,

³ A further description of the methodology of the research can be found in appendix 1.

v) the main criminal networks operating within migration flows, vi) service providers for migrants in each country and donors for actions in migratory issues, and vii) innovative responses. To conclude, this paper offers recommendations to governments, civil society and international organizations for managing complex migratory flows while guaranteeing migrant rights.

2. CONCEPT FRAMEWORK



Asylum seeker

A person who seeks safety from persecution or serious harm in a country other than his or her own and awaits a decision on the application for refugee status under relevant international and national instruments. In case of a negative decision, the person must leave the country and may be expelled, as may any non-national in an irregular or unlawful situation, unless permission to stay is provided on humanitarian or other related grounds (IOM, 2011a).

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration

Administrative, logistical, financial and reintegration support provided by IOM to rejected asylum-seekers, victims of trafficking in human beings, stranded migrants, qualified nationals and other migrants unable or unwilling to remain in the host country who volunteer to return to their countries of origin (IOM, 2011a).

Complex migratory flows

Complex flows comprised of asylum seekers; victims of trafficking; smuggled and stranded migrants; unaccompanied (and separated) migrant children; those with specific health needs or subjected to sexual, physical, and/or psychological violence (including gender-based violence) during the migration process; and, family members seeking to re-unite with their families. In addition, these flows may include migrant workers and/or

migrants moving for environmental reasons (IOM, 2013a).

The complex composition of flows is based on the mixed causes of migration. Traditionally, policy regimes tend to classify migrants by exclusive categories according to a single motive for migration. However, migration is often not the cause of a single reason, but a combination of them: to search for means of livelihood, safety, to escape conflicts, persecution, to join family members, education, search of a new life, get to know other countries, etc.

(Van Hear, 2011).

Destination country

The country that is a destination for migratory flows (regular or irregular) (IOM, 2011a).

Economic migrant

A person leaving his or her habitual place of residence to settle outside his or her country of origin in order to improve his or her quality of life. This term is often loosely used to distinguish from refugees fleeing persecution, and is also similarly used to refer to persons attempting to enter a country without legal permission and/or by using asylum procedures without bona fide cause. It may equally be applied to persons leaving their country of origin for the purpose of employment (IOM, 2011a).

Horizontal flows

In this research the term horizontal flows will be used to refer to the migration flows happening within the region of North Africa, or flows of migrants coming from other Arabic countries such as Syria.

Irregular migrant

A person who, owing to unauthorized entry, breach of a condition of entry, or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country. The definition covers inter alia those persons who have entered a transit or host country lawfully but have stayed for a longer period than authorized or subsequently taken up unauthorized employment (also called clandestine/undocumented migrant or migrant in an irregular situation).

The term “irregular” is preferable to “illegal” because the latter carries a criminal connotation and is seen as denying migrants’ humanity (IOM, 2011a).

Migrants

The United Nations defines migrants as individuals who have resided in a foreign country for more than one year irrespective of the causes (voluntary or involuntary), and the means (regular or irregular) used to migrate. Under such a definition, those travelling for shorter periods as tourists or for business are not considered as migrants. However, common usage includes certain types of shorter-term migrants, such as seasonal farm-workers who travel for short periods to work in the planting or harvesting of farm products (IOM, 2011a).

In this document, when the term migrants is used it will refer to all people moving in the context of complex migratory flows: asylum seekers, refugees, victims of trafficking, smuggled and stranded migrants, economic migrants, unaccompanied (and separated) migrant children and irregular migrants. Regular migrants are not included in this group and they will be referred to as 'regular migrants'.

Migration

The movement of a person or a group of persons, either across an international border, or within a State. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants, and persons moving for other purposes, including family reunification (IOM, 2011a).

Migratory route

Itinerary followed by migrants from their origin countries to their destination countries.

Migratory System

Mabogunje (1970) is the creator of the notion of a migration system as a set of places linked by flows and counter-flows of people, goods, services, and information, which tend to facilitate

further exchange, including migration, between the places (de Haas, 2010a).

North Africa

The United Nations' definition of North Africa includes six countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. This research focuses on three of these countries; Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

Origin country

The country that is a source of migratory flows (regular or irregular) (IOM, 2011a).

Push factors - Pull factors

Migration is often analyzed in terms of the “push-pull model”, which looks at the push factors, which drive people to leave their country (such as economic, social, or political problems) and the pull factors attracting them to the country of destination (IOM, 2011). These push and pull factors tend to be mixed and interchangeable, and no lineal causality can be observed.

Refugee Determination Status

A process (conducted by States and/or UNHCR) to determine whether an individual should be recognized as a refugee in accordance with applicable national and international law (IOM, 2011a).

Refugee

A person who, "owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinions, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country" (*Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, Art. 1A.2 modified by the 1967 Protocol*).

Regular migrant

A migrant who entered a country lawfully and remains in that country in accordance with its admission criteria.

Resettlement

The relocation and integration of people (refugees, internally displaced persons, etc.) into another geographical area and environment, usually in a third country. In the refugee context, the transfer of refugees from the country in which they have sought refuge to another State that has agreed to admit them. The refugees will usually be granted asylum or some other form of long-term resident rights and, in many cases, will have the opportunity to become naturalized (*IOM, 2011a*).

Secondary movement

When people who have secured UNHCR protection in one state move on to another country, or when asylum seekers move through a number of different countries (*Van Hear, 2011*).

Separated children

Separated children are children who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members, (*article 1 Convention on the right of the Child of 20 November 1989*).

Sex - gender system

Sex - gender system refers to the established types of relations between men and women in a society. It analyses relations in a power system that assign different roles to different persons depending on their position as a subordinate person or one with power over resources (*Aguilar García, T., 2008*).

Smuggling

The procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, for the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national

or a permanent resident (*Art. 3 (a), UN Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000*).

Stateless person

Person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law. As such, a stateless person lacks those rights attributable to nationality: the diplomatic protection of a State, no inherent right of sojourn in the State of residence and no right of return in case s/he travels (*Art. 1, UN Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954*).

Trafficking in persons

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation (*Art. 3 (a), UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention Against Organized Crime, 2000*).

Transit country

The country through which migratory flows (regular or irregular) move (IOM, 2011). This term tends to be ambiguous as migrants may stay in a country for several months or years waiting for the possibility to move on (organizing next steps, trying to pass in a clandestine way without success, etc.). In these cases, although considered to be a transit country, from practical point of view the country is a 'de facto destination country'.

Unaccompanied migrant children

Persons under the age of majority who are not accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other adult who by law or custom is responsible for them. Unaccompanied migrant children present special challenges for border control officials, because detention and other practices used with undocumented adult persons may not be appropriate for minors (IOM, 2013b).

Vertical flows

In this research the term vertical flows will be used to refer to the flows of migrants heading towards North African or European countries from Sub-Saharan countries.

Visa

An endorsement by the competent authorities of a State in a passport or a certificate of identity of a non-national who wishes to enter, leave, or transit the territory of the State that indicates that the authority, at the time of issuance, believes the holder to fall within a category of non-nationals who can enter, leave or transit the State under the State's laws. A visa establishes the criteria of admission into a State. International practice is moving towards issuance of machine-readable visas which comply with ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) standards, printed on labels with security features (IOM, 2011a).

3. NORTH AFRICA: A COMPLEX MIGRATION REGION

3.1 OVERVIEW

When speaking about migration in North Africa, what often comes to our minds is the widely-spread image of Sub-Saharan migrants arriving to European coasts on precarious boats, fleeing misery in their countries and trying to establish themselves in the continent. However, the complexity of migratory flows in North Africa and even more so in the Mediterranean, exceeds this lineal

and alarming idea. In North Africa, different migratory systems converge and the nature of push and pull factors is varied and changeable, as are migratory routes and migrants' objectives, expectations and plans. The varied typology of migrants moving to the region, and the political, social and economic differences between countries also play a role in the structure and nature of migratory flows in North Africa.

Its geographical position between Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, in addition to its own political situation, particularly after the Arab Spring in 2011, have made migratory flows in North Africa more complex in nature. Hundreds of thousands of people have moved to, through and from the region over the last few years, for different purposes and needs. According to IOM, about 800,000 people fled Libya during the conflict in 2011 (IOM, 2011b). Most of them travelled into Egypt (30%) and Tunisia (23%)⁴ and to other neighboring countries such as Chad, Niger or Algeria. Libyan refugees travelled mainly to Tunisia and Egypt, and 58,000 arrived in European states (CEAR; 2013), 27,000 of them in Malta and Italy (IOM, 2011b). At the same time, conflict in Syria has caused for the displacement of about 2,298,000 Syrian refugees since it started in 2011 (Syria Regional Refugee Response 2013). Most of them moved to nearby countries such as Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon and Iraq, but a large number of them opted for a secure place in North Africa. According to UNHCR, the number of registered refugees in North Africa in 2013 amounts to 144,625, of whom 127,486 are in Egypt (Syria Regional Refugee Response 2013). However, most Syrian refugees in North Africa are not registered with UNCHR⁵.

According to IOM data, more than 45,000 migrants risked their lives in the Mediterranean to reach Italy and Malta in 2013, the highest number since 2008 with the exception of 2011 (IOM press briefs notes 2014). Amongst them, the number of refugees and asylum seekers was significant – 32,000 according to UNHCR data (IRIN 2013), and so was the number of unaccompanied minors (UCM) - 5,200 according to IOM. According to FRONTEX data the number of migrants trying to reach Europe through illegal border-crossings to Central and Western Mediterranean coasts increased in 2013, reaching its highest level in five years, according to the number of migrants detained during these attempts. After the sudden increase of detentions following the

⁴ In both cases data includes nationals and third-country returnees.

⁵ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

Arab Spring in Tunisia and Libya in 2011, detentions decreased. In 2012, 16,776 migrants were detained, 74% less than in 2011 when the number of people intercepted was 66,933 (FRONTEX, 2013). However, the number of detentions increased in 2013; there were 42,618 detentions in the third quarter of the year only. Most of them were Syrians, Eritreans, Somalis, Nigerians and Egyptians arriving at the Italian coastline (FRONTEX, 2014).

The lack of safe and regular means to migrate within the region and towards Europe have as a consequence that the attempts by migrants to travel to Europe involve a significant amount of risk, with migrants likely to be exposed to exploitation, abuse and the systematic violation of their rights (RMMS, 2012). The externalization of European border control policy since 1990 has reinforced this situation, as North African countries have been pressured to control irregular migration and to sign readmission agreements in exchange for special trade treatment, financial support or work permits (De Haas, 2008). The figures of migrants who have died at sea over the last few years are especially dramatic. According to IOM data and other sources of information, it is estimated that more than 20,000 people have died in the Mediterranean since 1993⁶ (IOM press briefing notes 2013).

In addition to these recent flows, it is also necessary to consider the number of students, merchants, migrant workers and some refugees that have been arriving to North Africa for several decades. Available evidence suggests that between 65,000 and 120,000 Sub-Saharan Africans enter the Maghreb region yearly (De Haas, 2008). The role of Libya as a destination country in the area has been particularly relevant because of its continuous need for immigrant labor⁷. As a consequence, there are large numbers of migrant workers and their families from Chad, Sudan and Niger in the country.

⁶ When resorting to statistical data we are at risk of trivializing the importance of these deaths which break families, leave orphaned children, widowed women and parents without their children. In most cases families do not have a body to bury.

⁷ Migration in Libya has become increasingly irregular as a consequence of its restrictive immigration regime, especially since the

99/2010 law.

Within the migratory flows, there are specific emigration phenomena that exist in each country, as is especially the case for youth and UMC. This can be explained due to the lack of opportunities for youth in their origin countries, the idealization of the 'European dream' and the restrictions in getting visas to migrate regularly. The fact that European countries facilitate the process for UMC to obtain residency permits seems to be a pull factor (Hend A. F. H., 2010).

When looking at the countries targeted by the research - Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia - it is possible to witness origin, destination and transit movements in all of them. However, all three are mainly 'de facto destination countries'. Both Egypt and Morocco were mainly transit countries that became destination countries, in part because of the arrival of migrant workers, but mainly due to irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees not being able to continue their route towards Europe, and therefore having to stay. In Tunisia, over the last decade migration has been characterized by the emigration of its population and the arrival of regular migrants to work for the African Development Bank since 2003 or to study in Tunisian Universities. However, over the last three years other types of migrants have started to arrive to the country, especially those fleeing instability in surrounding countries such as Libya and Syria, or in stranded boats coming from Libya. Generally speaking, the majority of migrants do not consider Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia as their destination country, since the living conditions they find there do not satisfy the expectations they have of their migratory project, and the desire to continue with their migratory route is in most cases still present. From a practical point of view, they can be considered 'de facto' destination countries, as migrants are often forced to stay several years because of the impossibility of regular migration towards Europe or North America (by obtaining a visa or resettlement in the case of refugees) and/or the difficulties and risks in crossing the Mediterranean in an irregular way.

These situation forces governments in all three countries to face the challenges associated with the management of migration flows and the integration of migrants into their societies. Some policy changes are currently taking place as will be further explained in this paper. Morocco is the country in the region leading this adaptation to the new situation, as it is undergoing a process to change its entire migratory policy.

The political situation in Egypt and Tunisia makes for change to be slow, but some efforts are being made to deal with the new migratory context.

On a macro level, it is possible to categorize flows in the area by dividing them into vertical and horizontal movements. The first refers to flows of people coming from the South (West-African countries such as Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Conakry, Ivory Coast, Mali, Nigeria or Senegal, amongst others, and East-African countries such as Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South-Sudan and Sudan) and heading either to North African or Mediterranean countries (mostly Italy and Spain as entry countries to Europe). Horizontal movements refers to flows of people who move within the region - mostly from countries in the region where the political and/or economic situation is fragile, towards other countries in the region (mainly from Libya and Syria towards Egypt and Tunisia), but also for work purposes (from Egypt to Libya and Algeria, and Tunisia to Libya). It includes the movements of migrants who move from one country to another, such as from Morocco to Libya, in order to find the easiest way to reach Europe.

However, the migratory project of a person or family may pass through different flows as routes and plans are changeable. Therefore, the analytical value of push-pull factor models may be limited (De Haas, 2010b). Different push factors may be present simultaneously, as inequality, poverty and conflict often co-exist and motivations to migrate can be mixed and impossible to untie since a combination of contextual circumstances with psychological factors such as fears, hopes and aspirations influence in this decision making (Van Hear, 2011).

3.2 MIGRATION IN EGYPT, MOROCCO, AND TUNISIA

3.2.1 EMIGRATION OF NATIONALS

North-African countries have witnessed significant emigration movements, especially during the 90's. According to governmental data in all three countries, Egyptians, Moroccans, and Tunisians living abroad represent 8%, 11% and 12%⁸ of their populations, respectively. Most of the Moroccan and Tunisian population living abroad is based in European countries, while Egyptians have a larger presence in Arabic countries such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Life for many North-African citizens in destination countries is not easy, and they are at risk of suffering fundamental rights violations and difficulties to integrate socially (FRA, 2011).

In the case of **Egypt**, data from government sources and from countries of residence of Egyptian emigrants vary greatly. The number of nationals living abroad increased from 2,736,729 in 2000 (IOM, 2010) to 6,475,517 in 2011 (MPC, 2013), according to estimates based on Egyptian consular statistics, which represents 8% of the total population. However, according to the Migration Policy Center's population census (MPC, 2013), population register and household surveys, statistics of destination countries estimated the total number of Egyptians abroad to be 2.093.758 (3% the total population). Most of them are male (64.5%) and live in other Arab countries (about 33% in Saudi Arabia and 12% in Libya), which have traditionally been the main destination countries for Egyptian labor migrants. Increased supply of Asian workers in these countries in addition to high unemployment in Egypt has contributed to the

⁸ Author's calculations based on the data mentioned in the same section.

emergence of a major wave of Egyptian emigration to Europe.

Table 1. Number of Egyptian migrants in the main destination countries according to destination country data and Egyptian consular statistics.

DESTINATION	DESTINATION COUNTRIES' STATISTICS 2011	EGYPTIAN CONSULAR STATISTICS 2009
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	1,015,124	1,300,000
Libya	332,600	2,000,000
United states	162,232	635,000
Jordan	112,392	525,000
TOTAL	1,622,348	4,460,000

Sources: MPC, 2013

Table 2. Number of Egyptians abroad, according to Egyptian consular statistics (2000).

DESTINATION	NUMBER	%
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA	923,600	33,70%
LIBYA	332,600	12,20%
JORDAN	226,850	8,30%
KUWAIT	190,550	7%
UAE	95,000	3,50%
IRAQ	65,629	2,40%
QATAR	25,000	0,90%
YEMEN	22,000	0,80%
OMAN	15,000	0,50%
LEBANON	12,500	0,50%
BAHRAIN	4000	0,10%
TOTAL IN ARABIC COUNTRIES	1,912,729	69,90%

CANADA	110,000	4%
ITALY	90,000	3.30%
AUSTRALIA	70,000	2.60%
GREECE	60,000	2.20%
THE NETHERLAND	40,000	1.50%
FRANCE	36,000	1.30%
UNITED KINGDOM	35,000	1.30%
GERMANY	25,000	0,90%
SWITZERLAND	14,000	0,50%
AUSTRIA	14,000	0,50%
SPAIN	12,000	0,40%
TOTAL IN NON-ARAB COUNTRIES	824,000	30.10%

Source: CAMPAS, 2001 cited in IOM, 2010

According to the Ministry of Interior of **Morocco**, about 11% of the Moroccan population lives abroad. This figure increased from 1,662,870 in 1998 to 2,549,215 in 2002, and to 3,556,213 in 2011. Most of them (84%) reside in European countries, especially in France and Spain (CMW, 2012). Even though the number of Moroccans in African and Arabic countries is not significant in terms of percentages, over the last few years more than 20,000 Moroccans have been repatriated because of the instability in countries such as Libya, Tunisia, Egypt and Ivory Coast (CMW, 2012).

Table 3. Moroccans living abroad, 2011.

<i>DESTINATION</i>	<i>%</i>
TOTAL IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	84%
FRANCE	36%
SPAIN	17%
ITALY	12%
BELGIUM	10%
THE NETHERLANDS	10%
GERMANY	4%
TOTAL IN ARAB COUNTRIES	7%
AMERICA	4%

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of **Tunisia**, the number of Tunisians abroad was 698,208 in 2000 and 1,223,271 in 2012, which represents 12% of the Tunisian population. In the same time period, this figure rose by 4.8%, while the Tunisian population increased by 1%, which highlights the significance of recent emigration movements in the country. Most emigrants are male (68.8%) and live in France (over 50%), but the number of Tunisians in Maghreb countries (mainly Libya) is also noteworthy at 91,584 (AfDB and IOM; 2012). Recently, Tunisian migrants are also reaching Gulf countries, Turkey and Lebanon, and the presence of women in flows is increasing⁹.

In the aftermath of the fall of the Ben Ali regime, more than 25,500 Tunisians took to the sea and migrated irregularly with the hope of finding work or joining their families and/or friends in Europe. Despite the tight border control by Tunisian authorities, which is reflected by the low number of departures from the country, the temporary decrease of surveillance at the time saw a rise in Tunisians taking to the sea in 2011, demonstrating that push factors are still present, but conditions for emigration are difficult.

Table 4. Tunisians living abroad, 2012.

DESTINATION	NUMBER	%
Total in European countries	1,032,412	84.40%
France	668,668	54.70%
Italy	189,092	15.40%
Germany	86,601	7.10%
Others	88,051	7.20%
Total in Maghreb countries	91,584	7.50%
Total in Arab countries	59,911	4.90%
Others	39,364	3.20%
TOTAL	1,311,322	100%

Source: Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

⁹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Tunisia in November 2013.

3.2.2 BECOMING “DE FACTO DESTINATION COUNTRIES”

Available statistical data about the number of migrants in the area is limited as data collection is not systematic and databases are not developed. In addition to this, the nature of migration implies that border-crossings often happen in an irregular way. This prevents us from having accurate information about the number of people who arrive in North Africa. Nevertheless, it is possible to affirm that their rates of emigration are still much higher than those of immigration. Analyzing data over a prolonged period of time provides us with information about the general trends in migratory flows, and help clarify what kind of processes are happening in each country and thus what direction these trends are moving in. As flows are mixed, the global study of the number of refugees allows us to estimate general trends in the region.

According to the UNHCR database, the number of refugees and asylum seekers in all countries has risen between 2000 and 2012. In addition to this data, visual evidence in cities such as Rabat, Tanger, Tunis and Cairo, where migrants are a noticeable part of the population, as well as estimates from NGOs and governments, point to the increase in the presence of migrants in these countries.

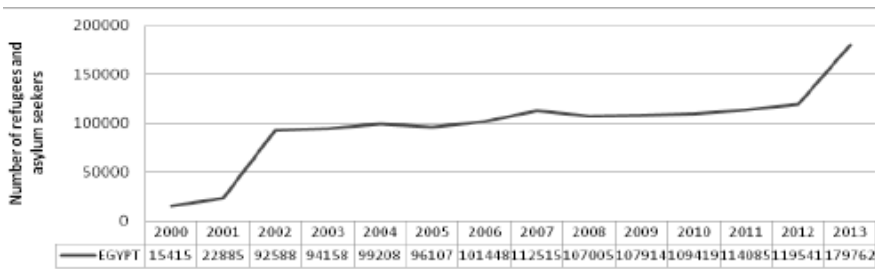
3.2.2.1 EGYPT

Different factors converge in the configuration of the migratory structure and flows in Egypt, making migration a complex issue in the country. The geographical location of the country, and instability in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa are at the core of this complexity (Humphris, R., 2013).

Accurate numbers about the number of migrants in Egypt are difficult to obtain, and the available estimates appear to be unreliable, as they vary between 250,000 and 8,000,000 people (Paton W., 2011). The more dependable numbers coming from leading scholars in the field of migration estimate the number to be between 250,000 and 500,000 (Paton W., 2011). The UN department of Economic and Social Affairs estimated that there were about 250,000 foreign people in Egypt in 2010 (UN 2009).

According to latest numbers, a vast proportion of the migrant population in Egypt is composed by refugees fleeing conflict in countries such as Eritrea, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and more recently Libya and Syria. According to UNHCR data, there were 109,419 refugees and asylum seekers in the country in 2010. Their number increased from 92,588 people in 2002 to 179,762 in 2013.

Graph 1. Number of refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt.



Source: UNHCR database 2013.

According to official UNHCR data for 2013, the refugee population in Egypt is composed mostly by Syrians (128,468) followed by Sudanese (13,203), Somalis (6,359) and Iraqis (5,536)¹⁰. 51% is composed by men (21% children and 30% adults), and 49% by women (20% children and 29% adults).

Table 5. Refugees and asylum seeker in Egypt by country in 2013.

ORIGIN	REFUGEES	ASYLUM SEEKERS
South Sudan	298	1,494
Syria	128,468	0
Sudan	13,203	13,135
Somalia	6,359	1,739
Iraq	5,536	1,445
Eritrea	1,302	1,520
Ethiopia	1,033	2,026
Others	1,379	829

Source: UNCHR, 2013c

Syrian refugees make up the largest refugee population in Egypt. As of December 2013, official UNHCR data sets the number of Syrian refugees in Egypt at 128,468. These figures underestimate the number of non-registered refugees, and thus the actual numbers are expected to be much higher (according to the Egyptian government and UNHCR, the number of Syrians in Egypt is around 300,000¹¹). The arrival of Syrians seems to have decreased in the second half of 2013. Nevertheless, between December 2013 and February 2014, the number of registered Syrian refugees increased to 137,726, showing that refugees staying in Egypt continue to register in order to get a legal status in the country and protection services provided by UNCHR.

The crisis in Libya resulted in significant migratory movements between the 20th of February and 3rd of November 2011 specifically, and which continue to date. According to IOM data more than 263,554 people arrived from Libya to Egypt, including 173,873 Egyptians (66%) and 89,681 third-country nationals (34%).

As a consequence, the Salloum Refugee Camp was opened and

¹⁰ Apart from these refugees, a significant amount of the Palestinians refugees (70,000) are present in the country. They are officially under the mandate of UNRWA and not UNCHR. However, UNRWA has no representation in the country.

¹¹ This group includes Palestinian refugees who were established in Syria and do not have the possibility of registering with UNRWA as it is not active in the country.

has been operating for three years. The population of the camp is currently composed by 596 refugees; most of them from Sudan (558). The camp is expected to close in august 2014.

Besides refugees or asylum seekers (registered by UNHCR), many types of migrants can be found in the country, but accurate data on them are not available. Some of them are: i) regular labor migrants' ii) migrants in irregular situation but working in the informal sector, ii) students coming to study in Egyptian universities such as the Al Azhar university where students from countries such as Senegal, Mali and Indonesia are enrolled iii) migrants who are in Egypt as a transit country hoping to migrate onwards to Europe via the Mediterranean Sea or via Libya or to Israel. Most migrants originate from Eastern Sub-Saharan countries¹² in addition to migrants from Western Sub-Saharan countries; iv) asylum seekers whose applications for refugee statuses have been rejected by UNHCR (most of them South-Sudanese¹³); and, v) refugees that are installed in the country but have not approached UNHCR for assistance (mostly Sudanese nationals¹⁴ and Syrian refugees who didn't start registration with UNHCR until the second half of 2013).

In Egypt, migrant profiles differ according to nationality. In general, Eritreans and Ethiopians migrate individually without their families and most of them are single men and women, including a high number of UMC - especially Eritreans fleeing military conscription. Sudanese and Syrians usually travel in families and the presence of children and elderly people is more common¹⁵.

Most of the migrant population is concentrated in Cairo where UNHCR, IOM, NGO service providers, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and other agencies providing assistance are located. Due to the high cost of living in the capital, refugees live in the poorest neighborhoods alongside less affluent Egyptians.

¹² Mixed migration groups from Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and occasionally Somalia, who attempt to cross Egypt's Southern border irregularly, are often detained by Egyptians authorities. IOM provided assistance to 559 migrants in detention between April 2013 and October 2013, most of them from Sudan (367) and Eritrea (132).

¹³ Before the independence of their country, South Sudanese used to get refugee status from UNCHR, but this situation has changes since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the North and the South in 2004.

¹⁴ Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army - North (SPLM-N/SPLA-N) have fought the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and their aligned militia the Popular Defense Forces (PDF).

¹⁵ Information gathered in interviews carried in Egypt in November 2013.

However, some refugees have opted to live in other major urban areas outside Cairo, such as Alexandria and Giza, because it is relatively easier to find work and cheaper accommodation. Syrians are concentrated in the smaller Mediterranean governorates of Alexandria, Damietta and Ismailia because of cheaper living costs, personal networks and better possibilities of finding employment (Save the children; 2013). The presence of Sudanese people in the South is also noteworthy, due to the geographical proximity to their country¹⁶.

UNHCR, in collaboration with implementing partners, provides services to registered refugees and asylum seekers, but these populations continue to face challenging living conditions mainly due to the difficulties that they face finding sustainable livelihoods. For undocumented migrants, the possibility to access basic services is more restricted. The political changes in 2011 and again in 2013, in addition to the economic crisis, have caused for increased instability, negatively affecting to migrants living conditions in the country (FIC, 2012).

3.2.2.2 MOROCCO

Evidence points at the role of Morocco as a destination country for a high number of migrants (regular and irregular). According to the Ministry of Interior, the number of foreigners who reside in Morocco regularly reached 75,147 in 2010. Most of them live in Casablanca (21,121) and Rabat (10,166). This figures rose to 79,241 in 2012. At the same time, the provision of work permits increased from 6,236 in 2004 to 8,972 in 2011 (CMW, 2012). Most of these migrants are from European countries (especially France) and Arabic Countries (especially Algeria). Another significant group of migrants is that of Sub-Saharan students. According to the Moroccan Ministry of Higher Education, in 2011, 8,127 foreign students were enrolled in Moroccan Universities (ENSSUP 2011).

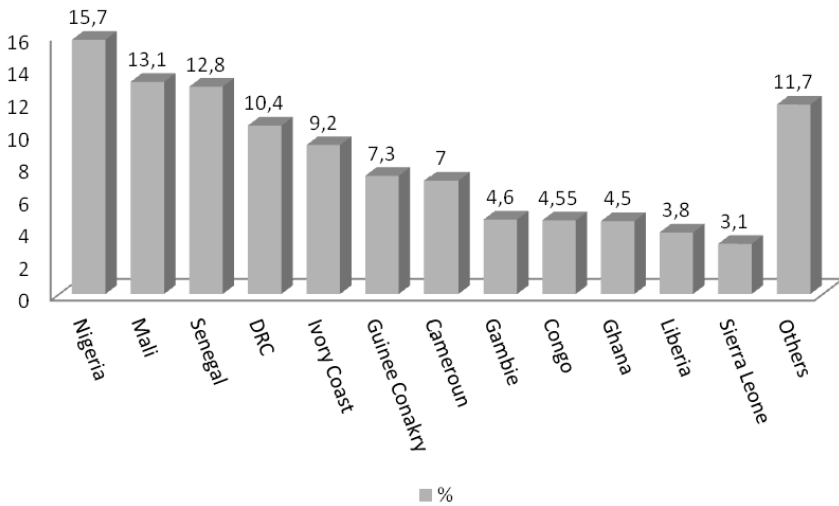
Even though regular migration is a fact in the country, priorities concerning migration are related to irregular migration from West-African countries. The number of irregular migrants in Morocco is estimated to be between 25,000 and 40,000, according to the Moroccan Ministry of Interior. They are concentrated in

¹⁶ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

big cities such as Casablanca, Rabat and Tangier, and near the border, especially in Nador and Oujda where they live in settlements set in the forest, outside of the cities.

According to a survey conducted by AMERM in 2007 and published in 2008, most migrants are from Nigeria (15.7%), Mali (13.1%), Senegal (12.8%), DRC (10.4%) and Ivory Coast (9.2%). Most of the migrants are male (79.7%) between 17 and 47 years of age (66.1% between 26 and 35 years old) (AMERM, 2008).

Graph 2. Irregular migrants by nationality in Morocco.



The number of registered refugees in the country recognized by the Moroccan government is 608. According to UNHCR data, the number of refugees that benefit from resettlement every year is between 60 to 100. Most of them stay in Morocco for several years (sometimes as much as 14 years) before their resettlement becomes possible.

Table 6. Refugees and asylum seekers in Morocco, by country in 2013.

ORIGIN	TOTAL	
	REFUGEES	ASYLUM SEEKERS
Ivory Coast	289	427
Democratic Republic of Congo	121	475
Iraq	101	20
Palestine	37	13
Cameroon	15	311
Senegal	9	18
Congo - Brazaville	5	85
Nigeria	5	605
Syria	0	846
Mali	0	481
Central Africa Republic	3	67
Sudan	3	60
Guinea	4	100
Others (<5)	16	364
TOTAL	608	3872

Source: UNCHR official data (personal communication).

Table 7. Refugees and asylum seekers in Morocco by sex and age group (2013).

	SEX	MINORS	ADULTS	TOTAL
REFUGEES	FEMALE	78	248	326
	MALE	77	205	282
ASYLUM SEEKERS	FEMALE	303	957	1260
	MALE	448	2164	2612

Source: UNCHR official data (personal communication).

Migrant living conditions vary greatly and are influenced mainly by two factors; their administrative situation and their country of origin. Regular migrants from European countries do not express having severe problems concerning access to services or integration. For Sub-Saharan students, access to services is possible but they may face problems with integration and discrimination as mentioned in interviews with key actors. The most vulnerable migrants are those in irregular administrative situations, refugees and asylum seekers as they lack access to public services such as health and education, struggle to find sustainable livelihoods and may be victims of discrimination. Living conditions near the borders, mainly in Oujda and Nador are especially difficult since migrants live in the forest without the possibility of housing, and they often face direct physical, sexual and psychological violence (MSF, 2013).

The Syrian community has had a regular presence on Moroccan territory for a long time. They tend to work in an administratively regular way as merchants, often running their own businesses. As of late, many Syrian refugees fleeing the civil war in their country are arriving in Morocco. Information from Syrians already set up in the country and the vision of Morocco as the country of more stability in the area may act as pull factor for Syrians fleeing the conflict. In Morocco, there are 950 Syrians registered by UNHCR as asylum seekers. Since January 2013 (with a brief interruption in fall 2013) UNHCR has not been able to register Syrians as asylum seekers, as it had been asked by the Moroccan Government to stop new registrations in order for them to start the process of regularization of previously registered Syrians by granting them a temporary protection status, before taking over the registration of new cases. However, this situation prevents Syrian refugees from benefiting from international protection, as for now they have not been granted any national protection status. This situation has an adverse effect on their rights, such as access to basic services¹⁷, as happened during 2013, when registration with UNCHR was also not possible for the same reason, and has lately led to the expulsion of a group of Syrian refugees to Turkey¹⁸.

Many of them live from begging, and it is common to see them

¹⁷ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in October 2013.

¹⁸ Information gathered in interviews with UNHCR in March 2014.

around supermarkets and mosques. According to the interviews conducted, this group of Syrians is Kurd and they lack networks with Syrian communities already established in the country¹⁹. Those with personal contacts work in restaurants, factories, in the agricultural sector or in commerce and are spread all around the country.

3.2.2.3 TUNISIA

The migratory profile of the country is varied, and comparing absolute data on migrants with the other countries may result in the conclusion that the presence of migrants is not relevant. However, taking into consideration the total population of the country (about 11,000,000 inhabitants), the proportional presence of migrants is considerable, especially if Libyans are taken into consideration.

Tunisia experienced an upsurge in immigration when the Libyan crisis started in early 2011, after which nearly 350,000 people fled Libya over the course of a few months, including 97,000 Tunisian returnees. Tunisian authorities estimate that about 1,000,000 Libyans are currently residing in the country, mainly in Medenine and Sfax regions.

Before the crisis in Libya, migratory flows in the country mainly consisted of Sub-Saharan students, North African migrant workers, and, since 2003, African Development Bank (AfDB) employees. Estimates by the association of African foreign students and volunteers in Tunisia (AESAT) range between 8,000 and 10,000²⁰ Sub-Saharan students currently in the country who are enrolled in public and private universities. Employees of the AfDB have been present in Tunisia since the emergency evacuation in 2003 and 2004 of bank workers from the Ivory Coast, and the subsequent decision to move it to Tunis, which saw more than 960 highly qualified employees arrive in the country together with their families and domestic service (Boubakri, H. and Mazzella, S., 2005)²¹.

Besides Sub-Saharan students and AfDB workers, there has

¹⁹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in November 2013.

²⁰ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Tunisia in November 2013.

²¹ At the end of 2013 ADB is being moved back to Ivory Coast, which will affect the presence of migrants in Tunis.

been a significant presence of migrants from other Maghreb countries in Tunisia for several years now. According to the National Institute of Statistics (cited in Bel Hadj Zekri, A., 2009), more than 35,200 migrants were in the country in 2004 (9,610 from Algeria and 6,363 from Morocco). The presence of Italians and Asians was also considerable (4,612 and 2,408 respectively).

Due to the crisis in Libya in 2011, the Choucha refugee camp was opened and more than 3,350 refugees fleeing the conflict in Libya benefited from resettlement (to Northern countries such as USA, Sweden, Germany, etc.). Furthermore, IOM assisted 116,000 migrants who benefitted from the AVRR Program to go back voluntarily to their country of origin. The camp closed in June 2013 and at that time, about 540 refugees and asylum seekers stayed in the South of the country, 162 of them waiting for resettlement. Among the rejected asylum seekers, 19 were supported in 2013 by IOM's AVRR program to go back voluntarily to their countries. The rest of the refugees from this group could not benefit from the special resettlement program because they arrived to the country after the process closed, and did not want to stay in Tunisia despite the solution offered by UNHCR and the Tunisian government - which was to grant them residency permits, and they started a sit-in campaign close to the UNHCR office in Tunisia. A solution to their situation has yet to be found.

Estimates regarding the number of Syrians who entered the country irregularly from the Algerian border while fleeing the conflict in their country lie at 10,000, but only 299 were registered with UNCHR in 2013. The main areas of residence for the latter are Kairouan, Tunis, Sousse and Sfax²².

²² Information gathered in interviews carried out in Tunisia in November 2013.

Table 8. Refugees and asylum seekers in Tunisia in 2013.

ORIGIN	TOTAL	
	REFUGEES	ASYLUM SEEKERS
Somalia	129	13
Sudan	143	40
Iraq	52	16
Eritrea	71	64
Others	39	30
Palestine	45	6
Ethiopia	22	29
Algeria	20	1
Chad	13	0
Ivory Coast	14	197
Syrian Arab Republic	4	245
TOTAL	552	651

Source: UNHCR 2014.

Table 9. Refugees and asylum seekers in Tunisia by sex and age group in 2013.

	MINORS	ADULTS	TOTAL
FEMALE	123	260	383
MALE	161	659	820

Source: UNHCR 2014.

During 2013 and until February 2014, six boats trying to reach Italy from Libya were rescued at sea by the Tunisian coast guard with 844 migrants on board (UNCHR 2014). Some of them went back to Libya voluntarily, others benefitted from IOM's AVR program and some of them are still in the country waiting for solutions. Of the total number of people assisted by IOM through the AVR program for humanitarian assistance in 2013, 152 were male and 16 female, most of them from Nigeria (74 men and 15 women), and the rest from other African countries

(29 from Gambia, 24 from Morocco and 12 from Ghana) and Asian countries (4 from Pakistan and 1 from Nepal). The variety of nationalities found in these boats shows as complex are flows in this moment and how varied is the assortment of nationalities and type of migrants transiting or leaving from the Region.

Concerning transit migration (i.e. Sub-Saharan migrants trying to reach the European coast), Tunisia is not a main point of departure. Even if exact figures do not exist, difficulties to leave from Tunisia and the rigid control of the coast mean that only a small number of migrants arrive in Tunisia in order to reach Europe (François Crépeau, 2012).

Of all the different migrant profiles, the most vulnerable groups are refugees, asylum seekers, UMC, single mothers, and migrants rescued at sea after departing from Libya (some victims of trafficking have been identified amongst them in Tunisia). However, all migrants may face problems such as barriers to access legal statuses and residency permits, which almost always results in them going from a regular situation to an irregular one by default, as they go over their legal stay in the country without the possibility of extending it. This supposes a problem for them when trying to access services such as health and education, in addition to the imposition of fines to those who have overstayed their permitted time to stay in the country. Furthermore, irregular migration can be punished with incarceration, mainly in those cases where entry into the country happened in an irregular manner. Problems of discrimination based on race were also reported by interviewed key actors.

4. ROUTES OF MIGRATION



The different migrant groups that compose the complex migratory flows in the region choose their migratory route to reach North-African countries based on many different factors, such as their country of origin, their destination, their possibilities to migrate regular or irregularly (depending on entry requirements) and their financial capacity to pay for their travels.

In general, migrants coming from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan follow the so called “North-Eastern African Migration Route”, aiming to reach Egypt (mainly Cairo), Libya, Israel or Europe through Egypt. The so called “North – Western African Migration Route” is mainly used by migrants from DRC, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, and Nigeria, amongst others, to reach Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya or Europe.

Migrants coming from other Arab countries will either arrive by plane directly to their destination if they have documents and do not need a visa to enter a country, or they will arrive in a regular way to a point in the mentioned routes and continue their travels in a clandestine way. Syrians traveling to Morocco or Tunisia first fly to Algeria from Damascus or from other countries such as Jordan or Turkey. Once there they enter Morocco or Tunisia in an irregular way, following the same route as Sub-Saharan migrants.

In recent years, migrants from Asian countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh have started to arrive to North-African countries via Saharan routes (De Haas, 2008). The number of Asians who have joined Africans in crossing to Malta and Italian islands has also increased, even if the number of migrants from Sub-Saharan countries remains larger. They normally reach North-African countries by plane, since they can often enter as tourists.

The number of routes is multitudinous, but some points have been identified as interconnection hubs from where routes bifurcate, as deduced from interviews and mentioned in other studies (Smaïn Laacher, 2010; De Haas, 2008; Women link's worldwide, 2005). In the Western route, most migrants pass Agadez and from there the route bifurcates to Sebha in Libya (sometimes via Djanet in Algeria) or to Tamanrasset in Algeria. From Tamanrasset they move to North Morocco where they enter by the border in Oujda, after passing some time in Maghnia - a clandestine camp near the border with Morocco where they wait for the best moment to cross the border. Other migrants, especially those coming from Senegal, arrive to the country in the South, at the border with Mauritania, as they can go through without a visa. In the case of Tunisia, flows arriving by this route are less numerous since most migrants arrive directly by plane, by land from Libya (especially during the crisis) or by sea (rescued from boats trying to reach Italian shores).

In the Northeastern route, Khartoum acts as a merging point for people coming from Southern countries. From there they enter Egypt by Kazala and then go to Sharq Al Oweinat, West of Aswan. They can then continue to Cairo, Israel by the Sinai or Libya through the South.

Migrants from the Horn of Africa and West-Africa mainly enter Libya by using land routes across the desert from southern Egypt, Sudan, Chad, Niger or Algeria (DRC, 2013). Lately, another route has been identified where migrants coming from Cairo enter Libya by Saloom, on the Northern border²³.

Western and Eastern routes are separated, and in accordance with the number of migrants living in each country, the Eastern route is more active than the Western one in terms of number of people traveling through it. Libya acts as the only merging point between them as nowadays the country is drawing migrants who either want to stay and look for opportunities there or want to reach Europe. Inadequate border management mechanisms and the work of smugglers facilitate the entry into Libyan territory (DRC, 2013).

Migratory flows and routes can be altered suddenly due to situations in the countries of origin of migrants or the modification of relevant laws. The conflict in Syria is causing hundreds of thousands of displacements, and Syrians are using new routes to access Morocco and Tunisia. Over the course of the last few months, a shift in migratory routes in Egypt has been identified by professionals working in IOM and other humanitarian organizations and confirmed by reports such as the recent report on migration routes to Europe (IRIN 2013; Humphris R., 2013; IOM, 2013c). While in recent years the Eastern route heading towards Israel was active, nowadays it is the Western route going through the Southern border of Egypt towards the border with Libya in the West which has become more important in terms of the number of migrants and smugglers using it to reach Libya or Europe. Several reasons are assumed to be behind this shift in migration flows from the Horn of Africa, such as; the construction of border fences along the Israeli border with Egypt and the Saudi border with Yemen; the change of migration policies in Israel and the decision to deport all undocumented migrants to Uganda, in addition to detaining the so called 'infiltrators' who manage to cross the border, and the lack of security in Libya's southern regions.

²³ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

The classification of routes presented here includes routes from migrants' origin countries to Spain and Italy. All countries along the way can be considered origin, transit and/or destination countries simultaneously and in some cases 'de facto destination countries' (when the continuation of travel is not possible for a prolonged period of time because of physical or economic barriers). For example, Tunisia can be considered a destination country for students coming from Sub-Saharan countries, for some migrant workers, or for asylum seekers fleeing the Ivory Coast, while for Tunisians wanting to reach Europe, it is an origin country. In the case of Morocco and Egypt, even if migrants maintain the desire of continuing their way to Europe or North America, difficult conditions to continue the journey result in these countries becoming de facto destination countries. Even in Europe, countries such as Spain and Italy can be considered as transit countries as migrants' final aim is to reach Northern European countries²⁴.

Conditions along the migratory routes are usually hard for migrants since the time needed for them to arrive to their final destination is often long and travel conditions are difficult (Planes-Boissac V., André M., Guillet S. and Sammakia N., 2010). The worst conditions are associated with irregular ways to enter some countries in a clandestine way. When regular entry to the countries is not possible, smuggling, trafficking, kidnapping, corruption and violence are more likely to happen, representing a risk to migrants' rights, their physical and mental health, and even their lives.

Characteristics of the journey differ from one route to the other. The journey to North-African countries can take up to several years. On their way, migrants stay in migratory hubs in order to work in the informal sector (often in commercial activities) and save money to pay for the next stretch of their journeys. Means of transportation usually consist of pick-up trucks in the Western route or land-cruisers and crowded buses in the Northeastern route.

Prices for the journey vary according to the type of transportation used, the number of people traveling together, capacity of negotiation with smugglers and/or bribes paid. In the Western route, the amount paid from Agadez to Tamanrasset is about

²⁴ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

\$90²⁵, and from Tamanrasset to Maghnia, depending on the mode of transport, the price is around \$70²⁶. Some parts of the journey are completed overland, such as the trip to Oujda from Maghnia. To cross the border to Oudja, prices range between \$20 and \$60²⁷.

Abuse and violence is common in the Western route. In some areas law enforcement does not exist and robbers and criminals assault groups of migrants who travel together. In addition, there is an abuse of authority by corrupted members of the police and military forces of transit countries. During most of these situations migrants are victims of physical and/or sexual abuse. In general, travel conditions may threaten the health of migrants, whether physically or mentally, as experiences can be traumatic, and the possibilities of accessing health services and specialists are very limited.

In the Northeastern route, Sudanese migrants tend to travel directly from Khartoum to their destination point, which is generally Libya. Migrants from Eritrea and Somalia usually spend a few months or years in Sudan where they work in order to earn money for the first time since they left their homes. Migrants from Ethiopia tend to go directly to Khartoum, which takes them 2 or 3 days. Khartoum is the main hub in the Eastern route and where migrants contact smugglers.

The trip from Khartoum to Libya takes about 10 to 15 days, and smugglers that take migrants to the border with Egypt tend to be Sudanese, while those who take migrants from there to Libya tend to be Libyans. A trip from Khartoum to Libya with a smuggler usually costs between \$3,000 and \$3,500 per person, after which they either stay in Libya, remain in the country as a transit point to cross to Italy, or cross to Italy as another transit point from which they head to Northern Europe. People will generally travel in pairs (couples, friends, brother and sister, etc.) and women are often in the company of relatives. For Sudanese and Eritreans coming from Cairo and wanting to travel to Israel, fees are between \$500 and \$3,000 (IOM; 2013d).

²⁵ These numbers reflect the prices paid for transportation and not prices paid to trafficking networks.

²⁶ *Idem.*

²⁷ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in December 2013.

The travel fees are paid upon arrival by the migrant or by someone waiting at the destination with the money. When migrants cannot pay at their destination, they risk becoming victims of trafficking or suffering from violence. They may also be kidnapped and their families asked to pay a ransom by the smuggler²⁸. Besides the risk of being victims of trafficking, as explained in section 7, the main dangers of the trip are related to aggressions by smugglers, shootings between police and smugglers and the hazardous conditions of the transportation methods used.

Table 10. Characteristics of the two main migratory routes in North Africa.

ROUTE	CONNECTION HUBS	TRANSPORTATION METHODS	COST	MAIN RISKS IDENTIFIED
North - Western African migration route	Agadez - Niger Tamanrasset - Algeria Djanet - Algeria Sebha - Lybia Oujda - Morocco	A pie Trucks	\$200	-Sexual and physical violence - Trafficking -Hazardous transportation means - Loss of life
North-Eastern African migration route	Khartoum - Sudan Sharq Al Oweinat - Egypt Aswan - Egypt Cairo - Egypt Sinai - Egypt	Land-cruisers Buses	\$3,000 - \$3,500	-Trafficking -Kidnapping -Violence -Hazardous transportation means - Loss of life

²⁸ Some of these cases have started to be identified recently and two of them have arrived at the IOM office in Cairo in the last months of 2013.

5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The legal framework that regulates migratory flows in these countries is determined by international conventions, protocols and agreements signed by the country, and national laws concerning the entry and residency of foreigners, irregular emigration and immigration, and migrants' access to basic services. It is also influenced by bilateral agreements with other countries such as those signed with the EU, or the agreement between Egypt and Sudan.

5.1 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

The main international conventions regulating migratory issues are the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its additional protocol of 1967²⁹, and the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families³⁰. The refugee convention has been signed and ratified³¹ by all three countries, but Tunisia has not signed the Migrant Worker Convention^{32 33}.

The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and the Palermo Protocols concerning trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants have also been signed and ratified by all three countries³⁴.

²⁹ Key legal document in defining who is a refugee, their rights and the legal obligations of states. The 1967 Protocol removed geographical and temporal restrictions from the Convention.

³⁰ Key legal documents governing the protection of migrant workers and families.

³¹ When a State signs a Convention it expresses its interest in becoming part of the Convention. Ratification involves the legal obligation to apply the signed Convention.

³² At the moment of writing, the new government is preparing its signature.

³³ In addition to this, all ILO Conventions signed by the countries apply for migrants as they refer to all people regardless of their nationality and administrative situation in the country. These conventions include salary protection.

³⁴ In 2003 three Protocols were adopted by the United Nations in order to supplement the 2000 Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: i) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; ii) Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and iii) Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms,

Table 11. List of the main International Conventions concerning Migrant Rights.

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION		
	EGYPT	MOROCCO	TUNISIA
1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1981	1956	1957
1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness	N/R	N/R	2000
1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1967	1970	1967
1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1982	1979	1969
1969 African Union Convention Governing Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa	1980	N/A1	1989
1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1981	1993	1985
1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	1986	1993	1988
1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child	1990	1993	1992
1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	1993	1993	N/R2
2003 Protocol to prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2004	2011	2003

Source: UN Treaty Collection 2013 and ACHPR 2013

Despite the signing and ratification of these conventions, the actual implementation of all international agreements still presents challenges for all countries. In reality, none of them counts with an asylum law, and UNHCR has come to be responsible for the processing of asylum claims and conferring refugee status to those seeking asylum, rather than the

governments of the target countries. In the case of Morocco, this situation has started to change in September 2013, when the Government decided on a new migration policy, as it will be further explained. It is expected that, after conclusion of a preliminary period and the adoption of an asylum law, the Government of Morocco will take over the responsibility for the processing of asylum claims.

Concerning the provision of legal statuses for refugees, in Egypt and Morocco refugees are provided with residency permits. In Egypt, after the recognition by UNCHR, refugees are issued with a yellow card which allows residency, but not the right to work. In Morocco, recent changes in legislation have allowed refugees to start the process of regularization in order to obtain residency permits. Before these changes, refugees were considered migrants in irregular administrative situation, something which still happens in Tunisia. Even if none of the three countries have reservations regarding the articles 17 and 18³⁵ of the Refugee Convention, refugees are still finding it difficult to access employment. Concerning access to services, which is also limited, Egypt is the only country with reservations to the articles 20, 22, 23 and 24³⁶. Legal limitations and other challenges to the implementation of international agreements ratified by the target countries result in greater vulnerabilities for refugees and asylum seekers³⁷. However, a new asylum law is currently being elaborated in both Morocco and Tunisia.

Concerning the implementation of the Migrant Worker Convention, a follow-up mechanism was set up to monitor its implementation by State parties. To date, Morocco is the only country of the three that in July 2012 presented the required report to be submitted to the CMW. As mentioned in the report, the country faces challenges in guaranteeing migrant worker rights considered in the Convention such as the right to security, employment, health, education and justice (CMW, 2012).

Morocco and Tunisia are also part of the agreements that apply to the context of the Arab Maghreb Union, which stipulate the free circulation for nationals of these countries in Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, and access to employment equivalent to nationals. However, the real implementation of the agreement

³⁵ Article 17 concerns age-earning employment and article 18 self-employment.

³⁶ Article 20 concerns rationing systems, 22 public education, 23 public relief, and 24 labour legislation and social security.

³⁷ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

is still a challenge and migrants from these countries sometimes face problems when applying for residency and work permits due to the denial of their applications by the national authorities in each country³⁸.

5.2 NATIONAL LAWS CONCERNING MIGRATION

In general, national laws concerning migration in the three target countries focus on controlling the entry, residence and exit of people, and are overall based on a security approach. These laws tend to have an emphasis on the fight against irregular immigration - implementing severe sanctions for a vast assortment of violations. Most of them concern the irregular entry into their territory and irregular exits (even in the case of nationals, as is the case in Tunisia), or the lack of adequate documentation, which in some cases can be punished with a fine and/or a prison sentence, as in Tunisia (Planes-Boissac, V., André, M. Guillet, S. and Sammakia, N; 2010). These laws were passed in the beginning of the 21st century (2003³⁹ in Morocco, 2004⁴⁰ in Tunisia and 2005⁴¹ in Egypt) and highlight the focus that European governments have on irregular migration to Europe from North-African countries, as evident in the European policy concerning migration, asylum and border management. This focus on irregular immigration has also been incorporated into the general framework of bilateral cooperation policy of the EU (Barcelona Process and European policy of neighborhood, operational cooperation and bilateral agreements of readmission of nationals and other migrants having left from the country), (DCR, 2013 and Planes-Boissac, V., André, M. Guillet, S. and Sammakia, N; 2010).

³⁸ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Tunisia in November 2013.

³⁹ Loi n° 02-03 concerning the entry and stay of foreigners in the Kingdom of Morocco and regular and irregular migration.

⁴⁰ Decree Law 89 for 1960 concerning Entry and Residence of Aliens in the Territories of The United Arab Republic and their Departure Therefrom.

⁴¹ Law 88/2005 on Entry, Residence, and Exit of Foreigners, originally law 89/1960.

The detention of irregular migrants, victims of trafficking, asylum seekers and even refugees happens in all three countries, and is one of the most controversial aspects concerning migratory law (IDC, 2013). In Egypt, migrants are put into detention before being expelled, which can take several months as migrants find the means to pay for their return ticket - a difficult undertaking for many. Return is not always a viable option: some migrants come from countries where their life is in serious danger, as is the case of Eritreans. When aware of the situation, UNHCR advocates to gain access to its population of concern (refugees and asylum seekers), but possibility of access is very limited^{42 43}.

Moroccan law includes a description of the conditions for the stay in the country and the application for the regularization of the situation. For migrants in irregular situation it stipulates with precision the modalities of administrative detention (maximum period of detention, right to benefit from the services of a lawyer, periodic judge control, access to defense, etc.) and repatriation or expulsion at the border, where applicable (Planes-Boissac, V., André, M. Guillet, S. and Sammakia, N; 2010). However, as mentioned in the report by the CNDH (2013) and by interviewees, over the last years, migrants have been transported to the borders in violation of national legislation. As highlighted by the National Council for Human Rights (CNDH, 2013), in cities as Oujda and Nador, persecution of migrants by the police and their indiscriminate detention and expulsion (i.e. not taking into consideration special characteristics such as refugee status, pregnancy, age, health conditions, etc.) were common until recently:

“The increased control of borders is accompanied by regular operations targeting identity checks and arrests in various urban centers or in the forests surrounding the enclaves of Sebta and

⁴² Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

⁴³ Police detention centers exist all over the country and irregular migrants stopped by the police are put into these. The only way to get out is repatriation in coordination with their embassies, and paid by migrants. When aware of stranded migrants in detention who wish to return to their country of origin and are deprived of means, IOM intervenes by providing Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration services. The situation for foreigners seeking asylum, especially Eritreans, is more difficult since they are at risk in their country if they are repatriated, so they spend a prolonged amount of time in detention waiting for UNHCR access for RSD or Resettlement purposes. For Syrians, the Egyptian government allows them to go to other countries such as Jordan, Lebanon or Turkey. According to IOM staff, problems associated with these camps are overcrowding, physical violence or lack of food. However, systematic violence has not been reported.

Melilla, followed by campaigns of expulsion and return to the Algerian or Mauritanian borders. These campaigns have given rise to numerous violations of the rights of migrants irregular situations (arrests of refugees, violence and mistreatment, rejections without referral to justice, etc.)". (CNDH, 2013:3)

Detention camps for migrants do not exist and no penal sentences have been registered because of the irregular administrative situation of the person, according to governmental information. However, some of those interviewed mentioned that over the summer of 2013, migrants living in the forest were transported to three different centers near Nador and Oujda and detained there for several days. The Moroccan government has committed to the respect of migrant rights as a basis for the migration policy, and transportation of migrants to the border has no longer happened over the past months. Challenges remain in particular in the Northern regions of Morocco, which is in most time related to the arrest of migrants trying to reach Europe by crossing the border of Ceuta and Melilla and transporting them to central and southern Morocco, mainly Rabat and Casablanca.

In Tunisia irregular migrants are often put into detention to be identified and then repatriated to their countries in the 13 centers referred to as 'Reception and Orientation Centers'. The main Center is situated at El Ouardia, South of Tunis. Punishments for irregular migration, which include fines and prison sentences, are stipulated by the Law. However, no Law stipulates with precision the modality of detention and repatriation. As stated by the Special Reporter on the Human Rights of Migrants and UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), these measures are not clear and may be against the principle of proportionality of the law.

In all three countries, national laws do not differentiate between smugglers, traffickers and those who provide humanitarian assistance to migrants, since they penalize anyone helping people enter, stay or leave the country irregularly. In broad terms, it poses a threat to the work of humanitarian organizations do (Planes-Boissac, V., André, M. Guillet, S. and Sammakia, N; 2010). In the case of Egypt, the existence of a law to combat trafficking (law 64) allows for the prosecution of traffickers and the provision of protection to VOT, although its implementation

is still a challenge. Morocco is currently elaborating the same law, and in Tunisia it has already been written and awaits parliamentary approval. For the moment, in both of these countries existing mechanisms for prevention, protection and prosecution are very limited.

Generally speaking, the legal frameworks concerning migration in the three target countries are influenced by the externalization of Europe's border control system, which pressures North-African countries to apply very restrictive migratory laws that lack protection instruments for migrant rights (De Haas, 2008). While directives concerning the control of migration are developed, the target countries lack laws concerning the integration of migrants in legal, economic, social and cultural terms. In most cases, migrant access to health, education, justice and employment is subject to the regulation of migratory movements, which essentially supposes the denial of rights for most migrants, especially those who are more vulnerable. Nevertheless, some programs and initiatives exist, which will be discussed further in next sections.

5.3 MIGRATION AND RECENT POLITICAL CHANGES

5.3.1 EGYPT

The Government of Egypt is concerned with both the Egyptian diaspora as well as migrant communities in Egypt. Over the last few months, several projects between the Egyptian government and IOM have been started in order to introduce the diaspora into their internal development projects. Concerning trafficking, the government with its partners has been working on the implementation of law 64 since it was passed in 2010. Under the framework of this law, the government protects the rights

of victims of trafficking in line with the Palermo Protocol. Furthermore, with the support of IOM, the government of Egypt has established a national referral mechanism led by the National Coordinating Committee to combat human trafficking, that involves different ministries and actors. The actions of this committee have led to some significant developments such as the establishment of a shelter for women and children who are victims of trafficking as well as the designation of a public hospital to provide them with healthcare. IOM continues to work with the Egyptian government to build capacities in the areas of prosecution, protection and prevention of human trafficking. The government has also been engaged in dialogues on migration and development, with the collaboration of IOM. In addition to this, the National Council against Trafficking is developing a new law concerning irregular migration and a High Migration Commission has been created in order to implement policies concerning Egyptians abroad.

5.3.2 MOROCCO

Constitutional changes in 2011 have been followed by other legislative changes. The country is currently undergoing a deep transformation of its migratory policy, which has become a priority since September 2013, when the CNDH published its report on the living conditions of migrants and refugees in Morocco. Based on the information it gathered, the CNDH called on public authorities, social actors and state partners of Morocco to take note of *“these new realities and to act together to develop and implement a genuine public policy that protects human rights, based on international cooperation and integrating civil society. By raising this challenge, Morocco could provide a positive example for many countries of the South faced with similar problems”* (CNDH, 2013: 3). After the publishing of this report, King Mohamed VI requested the government to develop and implement a new migration policy, based on the promotion and protection of human rights.

To date, four commissions have created in order to implement these reforms:

i) Commission to perform changes in national laws concerning migration in order to align them with international conventions

signed by Morocco. Until now, three projects have been elaborated concerning: asylum, trafficking and migration,

ii) Ad hoc Commission to verify files of refugees recognized by UNHCR in order to regularize their situation (which has resulted in the recognition of 608 refugees by the Moroccan government and the expedition of residency permits),

iii) Commission for the exceptional regularization of migrants (the regularization process has been operating since 01 of January, 2014 and will do so until December 2014), and

iv) Commission for diplomatic consulting in order to collaborate with other international partners in the implementation of the new policy.

In addition to this, the Ministry of Moroccans Abroad is now in charge of migratory affairs and its nomenclature has therefore been changed to 'Ministry of Moroccans Abroad and Migratory Affairs'.

In March 2014, a conference concerning the integration of migrants in Morocco was organized by the Government and IOM, during which different workshops took place in order to formulate recommendations that could benefit the integration of migrants through access to healthcare, education, employment, justice and their integration at social, cultural and linguistic levels. This initiative represents an important step in the creation of a policy promoting migrants' integration into a host society in the region. In the same way, projects carried out by the Ministry of Justice in collaboration with IOM and UNWOMEN in order to improve access to justice for VoT are also fundamental for these changes.

Concerning migration and development, the Moroccan Government and IOM are working together on a number of projects aiming at maximizing the positive linkages between migration (both Moroccans residing abroad and immigrants in Morocco) and development.

5.3.3 TUNISIA

Migration has become more important in Tunisian policy since

after the revolution, especially in relation to Tunisians abroad. During the elections after the revolution, Tunisians residing abroad were elected to be representatives in parliament for the first time (National Constituent Assembly) (Boubakri, H., 2013). In addition to this, the new Constitution - approved in January 2014 - consists of several articles that promote the universality of human rights without making distinctions between nationals and foreigners in Tunisian territory, including article 2.4, which stipulates the freedom of movement within the country, and the right to leave and return freely (François Crépeau, 2012). During this period the Secretary of State for Migration and Tunisians Abroad (SEMTE) was also created. It was dissolved after the January 2014 elections however, and plans are to create a new General Direction within the Ministry of Social Affairs as the entity responsible for migratory affairs in the country. A project also exists for the creation of a High Council on Migration in Tunisia that would be conformed in two thirds by Tunisian migrants living abroad and in one third by persons appointed by the President of the Republic and the President of the Government. Tunisia also created a National Observatory for Migration in January 2014.

The project 'Mainstreaming Migration in Tunisia' is a government initiative supported by UN agencies such as IOM and UNDP that demonstrates the government's interest in this issue. Furthermore, the Office of Tunisians Abroad (OTE) and the National Agency for Employment and Independent Work (ANETI), under an IOM funded Project, have put in place three 'Resource Centers for Migrants' in order to inform people on migratory conditions for those wanting to leave or return to Tunisia, as well as for foreign migrants residing in Tunisia.

It is evident that all three countries are in a process of transition that is seeing changes being made to their migratory policy, and thus may affect migrants and migrant rights to a greater or lesser degree. Tunisia and Egypt have been engulfed in a process of political transition since 2011, and initiatives concerning migration that could affect migratory laws are being taken into consideration. These changes may however not be implemented in the short term. Morocco is also experiencing deep changes to its migratory policy, which will be completed over the next few months.

Changes may serve to adapt legal frameworks to the complexity of migratory flows in the region. International dialogues such as

the Rabat Process, MTF-NOAH or the HLD, and the creation of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) could act as a foundation for the development of these processes of adaptation, so as to implement international law to the new migratory contexts and to better address the protection of migrant rights. The conception of common agreements between countries in the region would be a good step forward in addressing these challenges. The globalized nature of migration and migratory flows requires an open dialogue between origin, transit and destination countries and the reinforcement of a common ground of countries in the region since migration phenomena in all three countries present similar characteristics and are often interconnected

6. ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND INTEGRATION



6.1 ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

Irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers face barriers to access basic services such as education, healthcare, employment and justice in all three countries. However, situations differ between them, depending on the type of services and factors such as the nationality, sex and age of migrants trying to access it.

IOM provides direct medical assistance to the most vulnerable migrants, including VOT, often on a case by case basis. UNCHR provides refugees and asylum seekers with facilities through its implementing partners, but barriers exist nevertheless and in general all migrants, especially those in an irregular situation

experience lack of access to basic services, which significantly deteriorates their quality of life. These barriers also limit the social integration of migrants due to the impossibility of incorporating themselves into local socialization spaces such as schools in the case of children, and work environments in the case of adults. By and large, being a migrant in North Africa involves a level of discrimination which threatens their human rights, as all interviewees agree on.

6.1.1 ACCESS TO EDUCATION

In Egypt, Sudanese and Syrians⁴⁴ are the only migrant children officially allowed to attend public schools. However, school attendance is limited for all migrants, especially those whose families cannot afford the fees of a private school. Some factors contribute to migrant non-attendance in schools in Egypt such as bureaucratic requirements and difficulties for integration. In addition to this, the stay of migrant families in Egypt is often considered as temporary by parents who believe that their children can proceed with their studies in their final destination country. This situation acts as a barrier to access education. .

Refugees recognized by UNHCR tend to attend community schools such as the African Hope, St Andrews, and Al Azhary Schools in Sheikh Zayed (FIC, 2012). These schools, which are known as ‘refugee schools’ and are supported by NGOs, normally follow the Sudanese curriculum which does not allow students access to higher education in Egypt. This factor influences parents’ perceived value of education (Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S. 2013). In different focus groups carried out by the FIC in their study “Refugee Livelihoods in Urban Areas: Identifying Programs Opportunities” (2012), some participants mentioned other problems concerning these schools such as *“long waiting lists to access refugee schools - particularly nursery school, difficulties*

In 2012 a presidential decree allowed Syrians access to the Egyptian education system with the exception of Palestinian Syrians. The actual government instituted in June 2013 declared that the decree will remain for the next academic year (Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S., 2013). In the case of Sudanese, this situation is based on the bilateral agreement between the two countries. ٤٤

covering school fees, and long distances from schools” (FIC, 2012:27). In addition to this, the existence of separate schools for refugees may create significant problems of integration, as community divisions between nationals and foreigners is reinforced by the isolation of migrants, which prevents their learning of the language and local culture, resulting in potential for further marginalization.

NGOs also offer, in collaboration with UNCHR, courses in computing skills, welding, cleaning and interpreter programs. In the same study carried out by FIC, in which they interviewed migrants taking these courses, participants said that the training had allowed them to acquire skills that may be useful for them in finding jobs in their origin countries or in their future destination country. However, the problem was for them to find employment in Egypt (FIC, 2012). The reasons those interviewed gave for not taking any of the courses available or continuing with their education were: financial difficulties; lack of time (difficulties balancing work, family duties and other education); lack of information; not being psychologically ready to do so, and; the belief that the courses do not provide skills that could increase their possibilities of employment while in Egypt (FIC, 2012).

In Morocco, access to education for migrant children has recently become possible due to the decree published by the Ministry of Education in September 2013. Before this date, access to schools was facilitated by UNHCR, who presented a list of migrant children (elaborated by the agency and other NGOs) to the department of education in the region, in order for children to be accepted. In total, 100 children were integrated into schools in Rabat and another 25 in Casablanca. The implementation of the new decree still faces some challenges related to the sharing of information between parents and schools in order to spread awareness of the new rule, and the type of initiatives in school programs that will be applied to guarantee the adequate integration of new children, as NGOs working in the field advice⁴⁵. Integration and adaptation issues identified by these organizations should be taken into consideration to reinforce access for children to schools and guarantee their right to an education.

The language barrier is one of the main issues associated with the attendance of children to schools, as even when children speak the Moroccan dialect, they are also required to attend to classes

⁴⁵ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in October 2013.

in Arabic. Furthermore, the lack of knowledge of the language by parents supposes a problem for communication between them and teachers, and prevents them from being able to help their children with their homework.

In regards to parental attitudes towards their children's education, thinking of Morocco as a transit country in their migratory project, even when stays in the country surpass 5 years, may influence their sense of value of education. Other factors which may discourage non-Muslim parents from sending their children to school are the obligatory attendance to religious Islamic classes in the public education system (even if it is not taken into consideration in migrants' academic records), their fear of racism, rejection and discrimination, difficulties associated with legal and administrative procedures, the payment of tuition fees (mostly for parents who have more than one child) and problems in the Moroccan educational system such as overcrowded classes and the lack of an inclusive program.

In Tunisia, access to schools for children migrants is limited to those in possession of residency permits, which makes it impossible to enroll irregular migrants into schools. Refugee children can access public schools (UNHCR, 2013a) due to an agreement between UNHCR and the Tunisian Government after the closure of the Choucha camp. Children refugees who have studied French in their country of origin also have access to the International School in Tunis, managed by the Ministry of Education. The possibility of enrollment into schools for all migrant children is nevertheless still a real challenge that the new government needs to face.

Foreign students enrolled in public and private universities in the country may also face problems in getting their residency permits. Sometimes the procedures take a long time and they are forced to stay in the country in an irregular way, which supposes the payment of a fine when wanting to leave the country.

In conclusion, in all three countries access to education is a challenge for irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. The three main issues identified are; i) lack of documentation as an obstacle in administrative procedures for the enrolment into public schools, ii) lack of parental motivation to prioritize the enrolment of children into schools, as they consider their stay in the country as temporary and they wait for resettlement or the continuation of their travels to Europe or other Northern

countries in order to do so⁴⁶, and iii) challenges faced by national education systems that affect both migrants and nationals, and act as barriers for the inclusion of migrant children in classrooms⁴⁷.

6.1.2 ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

Generally speaking, access to national healthcare systems in all three countries is difficult for migrants in irregular situations. For refugees and asylum seekers, these difficulties are bridged by UNHCR, who provides healthcare through its partners in civil society and public institutions to its population of concern. Current changes in legislation may also facilitate the access to healthcare services for migrants in Morocco.

In general, the health conditions of migrants are good, as the migrant population consists mostly of young people in good health conditions, which allowed them to start the long migratory journey. However, many migrants can face physical and psychological problems resulting from the precarious living conditions in their host countries, and the highly traumatic experiences suffered by them during the migratory journey (Carrión, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseskou, K., 2013; MSF, 2013; FIC, 2012). In addition to this, their difficult living conditions in host countries and barriers to access prevention programs can boost the spread of some contagious diseases such as tuberculosis, or sexually transmitted diseases.

Interviewees in all three countries agree about the main services in demand by the migrant population; prenatal, natal and postnatal control, vaccination programs for children, care for people with chronic illnesses such as hypertension, psychological and psychiatric troubles, problems related to sexual violence and disabilities (especially in the cases of migrants who have escaped an armed conflict, as is the case of Syrians recently arrived in Egypt).

In Egypt, irregular migrants have to cover their own healthcare

⁴⁶ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

⁴⁷ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

costs independently. IOM provides direct medical assistance to the most vulnerable migrants, including VOTs, and UNHCR subsidizes healthcare costs for refugees and asylum seekers. Agreements made by the Egyptian government regarding Syrian and Sudanese nationals allow for access to medical care for these nationalities at the same price as Egyptians.

In Morocco, access to healthcare for migrants is regulated in the same way as for nationals, since a residency permit is not required to access healthcare services. First level services are free for everyone, and second and third level are free only for people who have health insurance (regular workers, civil servants, retirees, etc.). Since 2011, Moroccans in distress who cannot access insurance are protected by the RAMEL system, and can therefore access second and third level medical care for free. As the RAMEL system is not accessible to migrants, no second or third level medical care is free unless they are suffering from contagious diseases such as Tuberculosis or HIV. In most of these cases it is NGOs who take care of medical expenses for migrants (Carrión López, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseksou, K., 2013).

In Tunisia, the situation is comparable to Morocco. Access to healthcare is similar for foreigners and for Tunisians, but in cases where services are not free, the possibility of accessing these services for free or a reduced fee is reserved for nationals in distress, their partners and their legally recognized children. Local NGOs and IOM also provide healthcare services to migrants in irregular situations, especially those who are more vulnerable (UMC, stranded migrants, VOT, etc.). Agreements with public institutions in order to provide this assistance are in place, but the implementation of the agreements is still a challenge. UNHCR also provides healthcare services to their population of concern in collaboration with the public health system (UNHCR, 2013a). Many hospitals are still reluctant to attend irregular migrants; moreover, a national law demands that all public institutions inform the police when they assist an irregular migrant, including hospitals, which deters migrants from using these services.

As shown, additional barriers to healthcare exist for migrants in all three countries. These barriers are related, as in the case of education, to the context of the migrant population and the challenges faced by national healthcare systems. The most common barriers faced by migrants when attempting to

access healthcare services mentioned by interviewees are; i) linguistic barriers, ii) lack of knowledge on how the healthcare system functions, iii) lack of documentation which limits access to healthcare systems, iv) the fear for irregular migrants of being detained if approaching public structures, v) difficulties paying for transport to reach healthcare structures, especially in large cities such as Cairo and Casablanca, vi) socio-cultural misunderstanding between doctors and patients, and vii) stigmatization and discrimination.

6.1.3 ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT

Access to employment to a large extent depends on the legal situation of migrants and whether or not they possess a work permit in the country where they reside. In all three countries, irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are not able to work unless they have a legal contract, which is only possible in cases where the position cannot be filled by a national. These conditions make it difficult for migrants to find livelihoods and access services that require payment, as has been mentioned before. The main sources of revenue for migrants are salaries from informal employments, help from family and friends, and charity (Johnston, L.G. 2013; FIC, 2012). Some migrants enroll for seasonal employment in the informal sector, which is highly developed in countries such as Morocco and Egypt and is not exclusive to migrant workers, as nationals work informally too. Although informal employment gives migrants some form of an income, it can also make them more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation as they are not protected by a legal contract and their productivity in this sector does not directly contribute to the host country tax receipts.

In Egypt, both male and female migrants tend to work in the service sector⁴⁸. Men often work as drivers and security guards and women as cleaners and child-care providers for middle- and

⁴⁸ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

upper-class Egyptian families and some foreigners (FIC, 2012). Egyptian labor law does not protect domestic workers - nationals and foreigners alike - more vulnerable to exploitation (EIPR 2010). Many men are also employed in factories and some of those with a higher level of education are employed by NGOs. According to the focus groups carried out by the Feinstein International Center with refugees in Cairo, some of the barriers in finding a job are: *“inability to find a job with a competitive salary, Egyptians unwilling to hire foreigners, physical/psychological inability to work, lack of documentation to start a business, resettlement process pending”* (FIC, 2012:28). In addition to salaries, migrants live from remittances sent by family members who live abroad (outside of their country of origin) and financial assistance from organizations that provide aid to migrants, and community sources (FIC, 2012).

In Morocco, male migrants living in cities often work as construction workers or in the agricultural sector. Others, especially from Senegal, work as merchants. Women tend to work as domestic workers. Migrants are also supported by the money sent by their families and from charity, especially those living in the forest that cannot access jobs.

Finding employment is not easy and work conditions can in some cases be considered as exploitation. The retention of passports, low salaries and even failure to receive their salary are some of the problems faced by migrants⁴⁹. Some refugees benefit from the UNCHR program that promotes the implementation of income-generating activities in collaboration with AMAPPE. Through this program refugees set up their own businesses in small affairs such as shoe-makers, hairdressers, cooks, etc.

The process of regularization of migrants will facilitate - for those getting their residency permits – access to employment. The government has committed to adapt current procedures to allow migrants access to employment without having to prove that no national is available to do the same work.

In Tunisia, migrants work in the service sector (shops, restaurants, etc.), the tourism industry (waitress, gardener, cleaner, etc.), as merchants or in construction. One of the most common jobs for women is housekeeping or other domestic

⁴⁹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in October 2013.

work⁵⁰. Finding employment is not easy, and the report of the AGDM survey carried out by UNCHR states that most refugees in Tunisia are unemployed (UNHCR, 2013b). Work conditions can in some cases be considered as labour exploitation and many migrants are threatened by their employers if they complain.

6.1.4 ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Migrant access to justice is one of the biggest challenges faced by governments, civil society and international organizations in all target countries. The core controversial issue that limits the exercise of rights is the criminalization in all three countries of irregular migration. Since irregular migration is considered a criminal act, migrants in irregular situations who are victims of a criminal acts (such as labor exploitation, trafficking or sexual abuses) are scared to report these because of their fear of being deported⁵¹. For example, in the case of Morocco, the law stipulates the universal access to justice for any person and the equal treatment for the victim independent of the administrative situation. Nevertheless, effective access for migrants to justice is difficult and barriers are multiple as mentioned in interviews and explained later⁵².

Even if some efforts are being made by the governments in collaboration with civil society partners and IOM to deal with these issues (as is the case of the special program against trafficking and the training of lawyers, judges and public prosecutors, that promote the access to justice for migrants regardless of their [lack of] documentation), the reality is that migrants are unprotected when they are victims of crime and that they do not resort to justice in host countries⁵³. The real implementation of these efforts has proven to be challenging, especially at regional and local levels.

Other barriers that prevent the access to justice for migrants

⁵⁰ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Tunisia in November 2013.

⁵¹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

⁵² Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in October and November 2013.

⁵³ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

besides the formal ones also exist, such as language and communication barriers (even if the law stipulates the right to use an interpreter when a person immersed in a judicial process does not talk or it is suspected that he or she cannot understand, as in the case of Morocco), and the lack of knowledge on how the justice system functions in their host countries. Another barrier as mentioned by Smaïn Laacher (2010) is the “*cultural interdiction of transport to the foreign public space (host country) disputes and conflicts which occur inside the own community or with other foreigner communities (migrant communities)*” (Laacher, S., 2010:53). As confirmed through interviews with migrants, when a conflict arises within the migrant community or between communities, leaders are often those in charge in dealing with it and reaching solutions. Everybody in the community will respect this procedure, even if the ‘justness’ of decision could be questioned, as in the case of women victims of sexual violence.

6.2 SOCIAL INTEGRATION

One of the main ways to analyze the capacity of a country to host immigrants and to manage migratory flows is measuring the level of social integration of migrants, understood as the level of mutual interactions between migrants and local society at political, economic and social levels. Societies living immigration processes tend to see the arrival of foreigners to their country as a threat to internal stability, security, economy, employment and culture. On the other hand, migrants may see integration with host country nationals as difficult due to real and imagined barriers. These barriers in addition to their fear of losing constituent elements of their own identity (language, culture, religion, etc.) can act as impediments to their integration into the host country. Even in an unconscious way, the fears felt by ‘host’ and ‘guest’ communities translate into mutual rejection, which can be more or less explicit depending on factors such as an individual’s level of education, knowledge of other cultures and other personal experiences of people. When cultural exchange and mutual knowledge of each other is promoted, inter-

culturality (understood as the coexistence and mix of different cultures) becomes a real possibility.

According to the information obtained during the research, the social integration of migrants in all three countries presents a vast number of challenges. The word 'discrimination' was used in most interviews when asking about the issue. Both Sub-Saharan and Arabic migrants seem to be victims of discrimination. In general, Arabic refugees feel disappointed regarding the quality of their reception, as mentioned by the professionals working directly with this population who were interviewed⁵⁴.

In the study carried out in 2009 by the Moroccan Association of Migratory Studies (Alami M'Chichi, H. and Khachani, M., 2009) on the relations between Moroccans and Sub-Saharan migrants, 49% of Moroccans interviewees stated that they have contact and/or relations with Sub-Saharan migrants, and 63% accepted the idea of living in the same neighborhood as migrants. However, when asked about the option of shared housing with migrants, positive responses were reduced. Only 30% stated they would be open to this scenario. Amongst the reasons to reject said situation, racism was mentioned by only 2.3% of interviewees, religion by 20%, living customs by 40% and security by 33%. The fear of illnesses and avoiding problems with the police was mentioned by 14% of interviewees each. Other reasons such as lack of hygiene and noise were mentioned by 42%, which highlights the existence of clichés and prejudices. When speaking about the possibility of getting married with a Sub-Saharan migrant, only 23.9% of those interviewed answered positively. The main reasons to reject this possibility were nationality (79%) and religion (68%) (Alami M'Chichi, H. and Khachani, M., 2009).

According to the authors, the general idea concerning the presence of racism in Morocco was not widely confirmed by the study, which shows a vast discrepancy between the perceived discrimination reported by migrants and the perceptions of Moroccans regarding their discriminatory behavior and the rejection of the other. Either way, some data from the survey identified cases of direct verbal and physical aggression.

⁵⁴ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

According to the study, the attitude towards relations with the other becomes less positive as the relation becomes more intimate. When asked about the possibility of living in the same area, positive responses are higher than when asked about the possibility of sharing a house with immigrants or getting married to them. Integration might be possible for migrants living in cities, but as mentioned, many migrants live in the forest, which restricts any possible interactions with local society.

In Egypt, less affluent Egyptians and migrants tend to live in mixed communities in Cairo and, as mentioned in the interviews, some Egyptians may feel reservations about the presence of this foreign population in their traditional spaces, especially regarding acceptance of migrants and the tolerance for services provided exclusively to them. This is a common factor in developing countries where restricted financial capacities mean governments struggle to guarantee basic services for their own population. In this context, special programs targeting migrants have a negative reception by the local population, as mentioned in different interviews in all three countries.

The lack of social networks within local society complicates living conditions for migrants, as many of the resources needed by them are therefore not accessible. This affects not only migrants' economic situation and access to basic services (which as mentioned is severely reduced), but also their psychological state and internal well-being. Community support is a source of well-being for migrants as they share a common social and cultural identity. In most of the cases the community is also the main source of financial support when needed. This is possible where communities are large, as is the case in Morocco and Egypt. In Tunisia, where the number of migrants in distress is smaller, isolation is an added difficulty (UNHCR, 2013b). Community support is especially needed in the cases of UMC and migrants living alone, which represents the majority in terms of percentage.

Discrimination and abuses faced by migrants are expressed in different ways, often depending on their sex, and in general women suffer more from mistreatment and biases. Gender-based (sexual) violence is regularly used as an instrument of abuse against women.

One of the most important elements of integration in societies is education, as schools act as spaces of socialization, exchange and

interaction between children. Restrictions to access education act as a barrier for the integration of minors and for the creation of an intercultural society that embraces the different cultures that are a part of it. Access to schools allows for the creation of networks and personal relations between ‘host’ and ‘guest’, increasing levels of integration and collective well-being. This idea is reflected in interviews realized by FIC in Egypt, where refugees studying in Egyptian universities feel better integrated. All Sudanese and South Sudanese students who participated in the study stated that they relate well with other students and have friends in their universities (FIC, 2012).

The media is also an important instrument to spread information about migration and to promote inter-culturality. The role of the media in the creation of a ‘positive’ or ‘negative’ image of migration and migrants in North Africa will affect in similar ways the integration and relations between communities (i.e. a positive image of migrants in the media may lead to positive integration and vice-versa). Currently, the media in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia does not seem to engage in the distribution of balanced messages about migration, and the use of stereotypes about migrants and negative aspects of migration are common. In the CMW report for Morocco concerning the application of the Convention for migrant rights, this aspect was also reflected, as the Committee expressed its discomfort with the distribution through the media of discriminatory and racial manifestations (CMW, 2012). However, information concerning migration in the country seems to be more balanced since the legal changes started in September 2013⁵⁵.

The facts about the current situation show that civil society, international organizations and governments face a considerable challenge in order to guarantee the better integration of migrants in the target countries, through the creation of (and facilitation of access to) spaces of exchange (employment, schools and neighborhoods), from which ultimately both local and migrant communities could benefit. Some effort has already been made concerning integration as in the case of Morocco, where the current process of change of the penal code includes punishment for racism and xenophobia. In addition to this, civil organizations carried out a campaign against racism during 2014 called: “my name is not black”.

⁵⁵ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in October and November 2013.

Countries in the region have shifted from situations of emigration to situations of immigration in a short space of time. It is thus not surprising that they all currently face challenges concerning the legal, social and cultural integration of a new population into their country. It is crucial for these countries to strengthen and develop integration policies at all levels so as to ensure the protection of migrant rights, and avoid the unsustainable situations resulting in the creation of parallel societies.

Dialogue between countries and between governments, civil society and migrants needs to be promoted in order to adapt policies in the region to the new situation and to tackle problems such as the difficulties that governments face in guaranteeing basic services for local populations, which can result in nationals rejecting special programs targeting migrants. Common notions regarding the ‘transitory nature’ of migrants by both guest and host populations in the region may negatively affect integration. Therefore, involving migrants in these dialogues as active agents in fostering integration is essential. Integration processes in all three countries can benefit from an increased awareness across national and migrants populations, and the cooperation and coordination between governments and civil society in order to implement common responses and mainstream migration into development plans and programs.

7. MAIN VULNERABILITY FACTORS



Besides the legal situation and the specific vulnerabilities that affect the migrant population as a whole, it is important to note that these populations are varied and composed of a vast assortment of individuals. Complex flows are characterized by this wide range of different migrants using the same routes (economic migrants, refugees, labor migrants, etc.), all of which present very different conditions that influence their living situations, access to services and the exercise of their rights.

There is an immeasurable number of elements that can influence the situation of each person such as the causes of the migratory process, the length of their stay in a host country, the existence of stable networks, their capacity to access employment, their economic situation, their levels of education or knowledge of certain trades, marital status or other personal factors related to personality and leadership capacity, etc. There are however, four specific vulnerability factors that are consistent in the significant effect they have on the experiences of all migrant populations; i) nationality (influences language, religion, culture and physiognomy), ii) health conditions (influences physical and mental capacity) iii) sex (influences gender roles), and iv) age (influences levels of autonomy).

7.1 NATIONALITY

Nationality can be a factor of vulnerability for migrants due to its influence in the configuration of the relations between local and migrant populations. This relation, based on elements such as language, culture, religion and bilateral relations between countries will contribute to making it easier or harder for migrants to incorporate themselves into the society of a destination country. When migrants share elements such as language and religion with local people, integration and the creation of social capital is generally easier than when migrants come from countries with very different cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds. Physical differences can also foment stigmatization and discrimination, while a similar physiognomy could facilitate the process of integration.

In the case of the three target countries, Muslim migrants and Arabic speakers have been identified in the interviews as being more likely to integrate. The identification by the host society of common elements with migrants makes it easier for newcomers to be accepted, while the capacity for migrants to understand the host culture facilitates their access to information and resources. However, the process of integration is often difficult and problematic, as is the case of Syrians in Egypt.

In Egypt, migrant communities are generally segregated and differences between nationalities are deep. In addition to the particular conditions of their origin countries and the bilateral relations these have with the Egyptian government, culture, religion and language significantly influence migrants' 'chances of success' of their migratory process in Egypt. In fact, integration is generally easier for Sudanese migrants as they share language, culture and a common history with Egypt (especially in the South, where Egyptian and Sudanese populations have more in common), but it is also facilitated by the bilateral relations between Egypt and Sudan which, for example, allow them to access health and education.

In the case of Ethiopia, ethnic differences between Oromo and Amhara continue to cause rifts between community groups in Egypt. Eritreans are extremely vulnerable because of the political situation in their country⁵⁶, which affects them even when staying in Egypt, as they are afraid of approaching the Eritrean Embassy and therefore struggle to get a passport or other documentation, including identification documents. As a result, the vast majority of Eritreans seek asylum in Egypt. For Syrians, conditions in their country of origin and the current political situation in Egypt have affected their capacity for integration.

In Morocco and Tunisia, migrants from Anglophone countries have more problems with integration than those from Francophone countries, as communication with local society is more difficult. A common language can positively influence the integration of migrants into host societies, while the lack of a shared language acts as a significant barrier. For instance, in Morocco, according to the HIV integrated behavioral and biological surveillance surveys for irregular migrants in Rabat, carried out by Johnston L. G. (2013) for the Health Ministry, 35.4% of Francophone migrants in the capital are employed compared to 28.8% of Anglophone migrants. 34.9% of Anglophones stated charity to be their main source of income while for Francophone migrants this percentage is just 3.5%. Regarding access to healthcare, 47.3% of the Francophone migrant population received medical care since

⁵⁶ A militarized regime which allows no political space for opposition, dissent, the obligation of indefinite military service under harsh conditions, poverty and lack of economic opportunities in the country are behind the escape of hundreds of thousands of young people from Eritrea (ICG, 2010).

their arrival to Morocco, compared to 33% of the Anglophone migrant population (Johnston, L. G.; 2013).

7.2 HEALTH CONDITIONS

The health conditions of migrants are likely to influence their living conditions in their destination country for several different reasons. First of all, difficulties accessing the healthcare system can suppose a threat to the lives of migrants with health problems, especially those with severe illnesses. Secondly, bad health conditions limit their capacity to access employment and therefore their capacity to find sustainable livelihoods. Thirdly, migrants with physical problems that reduce their ability to travel are likely to see their possibilities of employment affected, as well as their social lives, decreasing their capacity for social integration. Fourthly, migrants suffering from contagious diseases have a higher risk of being victims of direct discrimination and social exclusion, as is the case of migrants with HIV⁵⁷. Finally, migrants suffering from mental disorders and psychological problems see their capacities of getting a job reduced and can be victims of stigmatization. In general, health problems can result in added discrimination and in the re-victimization of the person.

7.3 GENDER

Being a man or a woman is one of the most significant factors influencing the entire migratory project. The general configuration of the sex-gender system - characterized by its patriarchal structure which is in part manifested in the existence of barriers for women to access economic and social resources - is reflected along the migratory processes. The traditional division in sex roles, which attribute reproductive responsibilities to women and productive work to men, results in differences in education, financial autonomy and social capital, which tend to be lower for

⁵⁷ In Egypt, law criminalizes migrants in an irregular situation, students or tourist having HIV and allows for their deportation. However, no deportations for this reason have taken place in 2013.

women than for men. These differences enhance structural and direct gendered-based violence and reduce the social, economic, political and juridical insertion of women in their origin countries (Laacher, S., 2010; CEDAW 26 Declaration 2008). As a consequence, gender inequalities can act as push factors for women in their decisions to migrate and, most importantly, they influence the way in which they do so.

In most cases, women leave their country in the company of a man or their children. This company may protect them from abuses as the presence of family or children discourage criminals from assaulting women⁵⁸. This is a common factor in both the Northeastern and Western African routes. However, the presence of company does not always prevent violence, and there are cases of violence against an entire group traveling together. Along the journey, women are especially vulnerable to suffering from different kinds of verbal, physical, but mainly sexual violence practiced by gangsters in transit and destination countries, members of security forces, other male migrants or members of the host population (MSF, 2008; Planes-Boissac, V., André, M. Guillet, S. and Sammakia, N., 2010; Women link's worldwide, 2010). Violence is often used to force control and domination upon women, and their coercion to exchange sexual favors in order to pass borders, or for food and water during the journey are often reported, especially in the Western route (Laacher, S. 2010).

In a study realized by Women link's worldwide (2010) where 130 Sub-Saharan migrant women were interviewed in Spain and Morocco, a male figure referred to as their 'journey-husband' was mentioned as a measure of protection used by women. This man can protect them from other men and thereby save their lives. This protection, however, is not free and is paid by being sexually available to him, and the realization of domestic work (Laacher, S. 2010; Women link's worldwide, 2010; Freedman, J. and Jamal, B. 2008).

The high index of sexual violence suffered by women has a direct impact on their reproductive health conditions. Women suffering from sexual violence are more vulnerable to STDs and undesired pregnancies (Women link's worldwide; 2010). Furthermore, their psychological and mental state can be significantly deteriorated. Some psychological issues identified in victims of sexual violence

⁵⁸ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

are; sleeping problems, feelings of guilt and shame, anxiety and depression, which can lead to suicidal thoughts and actions (Laacher, S., 2010). This psychological vulnerability often goes hand in hand with social isolation, rejection by the community and stigmatization mostly associated with the loss of their virginity.

The particular vulnerability of single women is maintained on arrival to their destination country. Barriers to access a greater diversity of employment are higher in women, who are usually forced to choose between merely two types of jobs; domestic or sex work. Domestic workers can be victims of abuses such as exploitative work conditions and physical and sexual harassment (Laacher, S., 2010; Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S., 2013; Save the children, 2013). These cases are especially serious when concerning minor girls (Save the children, 2013). Sex workers can suffer from isolation and rejection from the community, since prostitution is not socially accepted (FIC, 2012).

An interesting element of the sex-gender system in the migratory process is how this system can be changed through the migratory experience. Reproductive roles attributed to women have traditionally reduced their activities and social relations to the private living space (their home and close family and friends). The migratory process may signify the opening of this space and the integration of women in public spaces, as tangibly reflected in women traveling and getting to know other people and countries. This transformation can be reinforced in the destination country, as the new life of a woman can be radically different to their previous one. This situation is highly exemplified in the case of women refugees in Egypt. The overall higher possibilities for women to find a job as domestic workers than men, make for the superior employability of women. In situations where the woman works outside of the house and the man stays home, the roles played by women and men in their houses, communities and relationships change. These situations represent this change in the sex-gender system.

Access to employment outside of the house is one of the main sources of empowerment for women all around the world, as it can increase their financial independence and autonomy. This is more evident however, in single female migrants. It is often the case for married woman that, even if money is earned by

them, the men decide on how to use it. The empowerment of women together with the unwillingness of some men to accept the new situation can result in instability in the relationship and potential gender-based violence⁵⁹. Women may also have trouble accepting this new role as the breadwinner, since unexpectedly assuming a new role can cause stress and unhappiness. This is more often the case in women from Arabic societies, where the separation of roles between women and men is more significant (FIC, 1012; Save the children, 2013).

Concerning their social integration, women sometimes suffer from additional gender-based discrimination. In most of the interviews realized, migrant women and professionals working in the field highlighted the additional discrimination suffered especially by Sub-Saharan women in all three countries, which is in part based on the discriminatory and stereotyped idea that relates black women with prostitution (Laacher, S., 2010).

7.4 AGE

Age is another considerable vulnerability factor. Unaccompanied and separated migrant children are especially vulnerable to the violation of their rights during the migratory process. Measures stipulated by the Convention on the right of the Child of November 20th 1989 to protect children rights include the obligation to develop national legislation, establish administrative structures, carry out research and data compilation and provide comprehensive training about the issue in all of the signatory countries (IML, 2011). These measures should include all children since they are universal and are particularly important in the protection of the rights of unaccompanied and separated children. Some of the requirements for the protection of migrant children, as stipulated by international migration law are: accommodation arrangements; access to quality education and healthcare; legal and practical measures to address the particular vulnerability of UMC; impossibility of detention of juvenile offenders; employment in appropriate conditions for children able to work according to national laws; and, the training of personnel dealing with UMC (IML, 2011).

⁵⁹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt in November 2013.

The application of these measures is still a challenge for the governments of all three countries, and the special needs of UMC are not taken into consideration. They are, in general, treated as adults, especially when it comes to accessing basic services. Furthermore, protective measures are not applied during detention and deportation processes, as has been widely reported by Human Rights organizations, especially in Morocco and Egypt (IDC, 2013).

This lack of protection by institutions, in addition to the lower self-protection mechanisms and isolation of UMC, means that children are particularly exposed to the risks associated with migration. Furthermore, UMC may suffer from traumatic experiences that increase feelings of hopelessness, depression and despair (Cone and Tjia, 2012 cited in Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S., 2013). According to Cone and Tjia (2012), these experiences can be related to the loss of family members, past difficulties in origin countries such as conflicts, and the high expectation of a better life in destination countries, which have not been accomplished due to difficulties faced during the migration process.

In Egypt UMC are often in bad health conditions due to poor nutrition and the traumas they have faced, which are sometimes expressed psychosomatically through physical pain. Some of the more common symptoms include: headaches; insomnia; back pain; anemia; renal/urological disorders; and, gastro-intestinal problems (Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S., .2013). These problems may be extrapolated to the other countries, as UMC likely suffer from the same vulnerable conditions and may have faced similar traumatic situations. Interviews realized in Tunisia and Morocco with UMC confirmed this hypothesis as all of them expressed loneliness, lack of expectations about their future and being incapable of dealing with their current distressed situations.

UMC mentioned the impossibility of accessing education and work as causes for their situation. The isolation and lack of opportunities felt by children are reinforced by their restricted access to schools, and they generally do not participate in informal or leisurely activities. They are often more interested in working than in school as they struggle to meet their basic needs, but they are unable to access employment.

Safety and security concerns are cited by Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S. (2013) in their study carried out for IOM as a factor that influences the daily activities of children. The dangers children perceive are related to the general lack of security, especially in poor areas and neighborhoods, where UMC tend to live, and to specific violence and discrimination directed towards UMC.

Safety concerns and an environment of mistrust, also mentioned in interviews in Morocco, affect girls in particular, as it causes their capacity for movement to be reduced due to the fear of being assaulted. Cases of sexual violence against children in general and against UMC in particular are especially alarming, and special protection mechanisms for them do not exist (Save the children, 2013).

As already mentioned, communities can be an important source of support for migrants. In the case of children, the community is of an even greater importance. However, according to Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S. (2013), this support is not always provided and children sometimes lack opportunities to integrate into their host community. In Egypt, their low levels of participation in community groups are a sign of this lack of support by the community. In Morocco and Tunisia, some of the factors identified as limiting to the inclusion of UMC into host communities are related to the inexistence of a large number of nationals from the same country living near the children, or a lack of resources by community networks⁶⁰.

This ensemble of vulnerabilities, traumas and violations of UMC rights, together with the lack of durable solutions and protection measures for children, negatively impacts their development and well-being. In Egypt, this situation may be acting as a push factor for UMC to move onward to Europe in an irregular way (Mayer, R. and Larribeau, S., 2013). The migration of minors leaving directly from the Egyptian coastline or Libyan villages on the coast has become an increasing phenomenon over the last few years. This situation is of concern, not only for UMC coming from the Horn of Africa, but also for young Egyptians living in poorer areas (Hend A. F. Hafez, 2010).

⁶⁰ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

8. CRIMINAL NETWORKS WITHIN MIGRATION FLOWS

Besides the uniqueness of every person's background and context, the migration project is shaped by a diversity of push and pull factors. Migrants with common characteristics (vulnerability factors such as age, sex and nationality, and push and pull factors) are likely to face similar migratory experiences. Some of these characteristics may result in particular risks associated with criminal networks that take advantage of the migratory context. As a result of the research, a number of migrant profiles have been identified who are the victims of fraud, crimes and a series of serious violations of their rights by these networks. These are; i) young West-African men expecting to become football players; ii) Asian women victims of trafficking as domestic workers; iii) Nigerian women victims of trafficking for sexual purposes and iv) Eritrean young men and women kidnapped and trafficked. The presentation of these profiles does not mean that migrants with different characteristics do not suffer from the same vulnerabilities and/or abuses, nor does it mean that all migrants of the cited nationalities, age and sex fall under these profiles.

8.1 FOOTBALL PLAYER PHENOMENON (AND ITS ASSOCIATED FRAUD)

During the research realized in the three target countries, the 'football player phenomenon' has emerged as one of the common push factors for young men (often underage) to migrate. The idealization of the football player figure as a rich and famous man (such as Cristiano Ronaldo or Messi), who is idolized by

young African men who dream of a similar life, serves as a push factor for many of their migration projects. Even if at first sight this factor may seem trivial, the information gathered during the research shows that this is an important element to take into consideration when studying the configuration of migration in the region. Similarly to how the idealization of the European Dorado (De Haas, 2008) affects many migrants, the 'football player dream' seems to play a significant role, particularly in young West-African men. Even if accurate statistical data are not available, research points to a significant number of young men leaving their houses with the hope of becoming famous football players in the most famous teams.

According to cases identified by IOM staff in all three countries, most of these young men come from West-African countries⁶¹. In Egypt, for example, where the number of West-African migrants is relatively small in comparison to the number of migrants from other East African nationalities, out of the 116 West-Africans assisted through the AVRR program in 2012 and 2013, 19 were 'football players'. IOM has interviewed a total of 32 'football player cases', some waiting for assistance at the time of data collection. By going through the interviews of these players, an additional 21 peers stranded in Egypt were mentioned: the total of stranded football players in Egypt in 2012-2013 brought to the attention of IOM is thus 53. The average age of the known caseload of 32 migrants under this profile is 22 or 23 years old, and their main countries of origin are, in order: Cameroon, Senegal, Ivory Coast and Ghana.

These cases can be divided into two different scenarios. The first sees men leaving their houses in search of opportunities as football players in what they consider as transit countries (North Africa) first, and later in countries where the most important football clubs are set up (Europe, in the cases identified in Morocco and Tunisia, and mostly Gulf countries in the cases identified in Egypt). The second scenario involves the contact with a person in their origin country who offers young men a contract as football players in North Africa (in the case of Sub-Saharan men) or in Arab countries of the Middle East (in the case of Egyptian men). To finalize the contract an amount has to be paid that can reach \$6.000. This contract tends to be either false or of less duration than promised. When these children arrive to the transit or

⁶¹ This phenomenon was observed through the lens of the AVRR program. No in-depth questionnaires have been carried out by IOM with migrants of this profile.

destination country they often find themselves alone, without any contact with the person of reference.

These young men who are victims of this fraud can be traumatized by the experience. In Tunisia, some minors were found who had spent several months locked in houses after being left stranded in the country. In Egypt, the agent usually receives them at the airport, drops them off at a hotel and then disappears from the picture. There are cases where the agent procures a couple of trial sessions with teams, and then something 'goes wrong'. Out of the 32 young men identified, 14 players explicitly mentioned deception by agents. Some of them become stranded migrants, since even if they entered the country legally (with a visa from an Embassy) they do not count with the necessary resources to go back to their homes, and their visas eventually expire (which in the case of Tunisia means that they have to pay a fine to leave the country). Most of them arrive by plane, which is not the case of those who migrate without having been contacted by an agent. Some of them may try their luck in other North African countries such as Libya, Morocco or Tunisia, and even Ethiopia or UAE, which is the case in 8 of the 32 cases identified in Egypt.

In both cases, young men and children tend to receive the moral and financial support of their families, as their migratory project is a family project that could see the entire family benefitting from it. Migrants who travel alone expose themselves to the risks of the migratory process, and when they arrive to their destination they face the harsh realities of leaving home and the difficulties in starting their dreamt-of football career. The failure of their initial migratory project does not necessarily discourage them from pursuing their dream. In Egypt, out of the 28 young men who were asked about this, more than half declared to be willing to keep on playing football in Cairo and perhaps look for agents that could help them go abroad.

8.2 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The impact of trafficking can be devastating to the health, development and living conditions of victims, and it embodies a serious violation of human rights that needs to be addressed in order to protect victims and prosecute traffickers. More often than not, however, the lack of protection mechanisms and institutional capacities to fight trafficking leaves victims completely unprotected.

Overall, it appears that trafficking has been increasing over the last few years, since more cases are being detected. According to FRONTEX data, the number of VOT detected in Europe (who have mostly passed through North African countries on their way there) increased by 27% between 2008 and 2009. This increase may signify that trafficking is on the rise, but also that the instruments used to identify victims are improving and that there is a greater awareness about the phenomenon (FRONTEX, 2011).

The nature of the crime makes it impossible to know the exact number of VOT in North Africa and the percentage of the migrant population that is a victim of trafficking networks. Real figures are likely to be much higher than those of VOT identified by IOM and other actors. It is evident that there is a relation between trafficking and migration, and an analysis of these networks is therefore necessary when trying to understand the context of migratory flows. However, it would be detrimental to think of most migrants as linked to trafficking (whether as VOT or members of criminal networks).

8.2.1 STATISTICAL DATA

Official data does not exist regarding the number of VoT, as already mentioned. Nevertheless IOM data provides some key information concerning the phenomena. According to IOM databases in the three target countries, the number of VOT assisted by IOM is; 262 in Egypt in 2013, 61 in Morocco in 2013, and 14 in Tunisia during 2012 and 2013. Most VOT across all three countries are adult women.

Table 12. VOT identified by IOM in 2013 in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

COUNTRY	TOTAL	SEX		AGE	
		FEMALE	MALE	<18	>18
Egypt	262	136	126	53	209
Morocco	61	60	1	1	60
Tunisia	14	12	2	2	12

Source: IOM statistics

In Egypt, the type of trafficking and VOT profiles are mostly related to the kidnapping of young Eritrean men and women in Sudanese refugee camps, who are then trafficked through Egypt being victims of all kinds of abuses. It is common for family members to be contacted to demand a ransom to enable the victim's release. The number of people assisted by IOM in 2013 who were victims of these slave-like conditions by traffickers is 162, an increase from the total of 117 victims who were assisted by IOM in 2012. The second most common VOT profile in Egypt is that of domestic workers from Sri Lanka, The Philippines and Indonesia, which are similar to the cases detected in Morocco. IOM Cairo assisted a total of 50 cases in 2013, most of them from originating from Indonesia.

In Morocco, trafficking is mostly associated with female Nigerian migrants who are victims of trafficking networks with prostitution purposes that operate in origin, transit and destination countries (mainly Europe and more specifically Italy) (Carling, J., 2006). Of the 61 victims of trafficking who were assisted with their return by IOM in 2013, 94% met this profile. The second most common VOT profile is that of women from the Philippines and Indonesia who are exploited as domestic workers (6% of VOT identified by IOM in 2013). Trafficking is not exclusive to foreigners, however, and cases of Moroccan women exploited for work and prostitution in Arabic or European countries also exist (Claire Lautier (Coord.) et. al, 2009). Statistical data about the phenomenon is not available due to its nature, the difficulties in detecting trafficking networks and the challenges faced by institutions in detection, prevention and protection.

In Tunisia, trafficking is also associated with Nigerian women (9 out of 1414 cases identified by IOM). It is important to note that 7 of the 9 cases involving Nigerian women were identified during the AVR program to provide assistance to hundreds of migrants stranded at sea on their route to Italy from Libya. They were identified as having been trafficked into domestic servitude in Libya. However, there is evidence that suggests these women could be victims of prostitution networks in Italy (IOM, 2013c). Other cases detected include young Sub-Saharan girls exploited as domestic workers whose passports were retained⁶². They do not have holidays or even the possibility of leaving the house of the employer. Cases of Tunisian women who are sexually exploited in other countries such as Lebanon were also detected. In such cases, travel takes place in a regular way, but on arrival their passports are retained to avoid the victim from escaping (IOM, 2013c). As in the case of Morocco, there is no existing statistical data from official sources. It appears however, that cases of trafficking related to migrants are less frequent in Tunisia than in Morocco and Egypt, mainly due to the comparatively lower number of irregular migrants and different migrant profiles there.

⁶² Another woman from the Philippines was identified by IOM, but it is currently not possible to state whether or not this kind of exploitation is prevalent in the country.

8.2.2 COMMON VOT PROFILES AND CASES

8.2.2.1 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN NORTH-EASTERN ROUTE.

Eritreans are a particularly susceptible refugee population since the situation in their country makes them particularly vulnerable. Hundreds of thousands of Eritreans have fled their country looking for protection in nearby countries such as Ethiopia and Sudan, where refugee camps exist under the protection of UNHCR. The difficult living conditions in the camps and the limited opportunities for their residents act as push factors for the young who try to migrate onwards via human smugglers. In many occasions the conditions agreed on for the journey are not respected, changes in fees are made (higher amounts than initially stipulated) and migrants suffer abuses, violence and exploitation, effectively changing the nature of the migratory experience from smuggling to trafficking (IOM, 2013d).

Most of the cases (80%) identified in Egypt are reported kidnappings in Eastern Sudan, near the She Grab refugee camp (IOM, 2013d), by criminal groups operating through Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt (AI, 2013)⁶³. The victims are transferred and sold from one group to another. They are held captive while their family is contacted and threatened into paying a ransom in exchange for their freedom.

⁶³ Deteriorating security conditions have caused a rise in kidnappings in last few years. According to UNCHR data, 396 people were kidnapped in Eastern Sudan in 2012 (IOM, 2013d).

The ransom can range between \$16.000 and \$40.000 (Humphris, R. 2013 and AI 2013). Collecting such a large amount is not easy, taking into consideration that generally the families of VOT are economically vulnerable, and thus victims can be retained for several months before their freedom is bought. The main sources of money for these families are remittances from family members in Europe and community contributions.

Although VOT in these kidnapping cases consist mostly of Eritrean nationals, there is also a vast number of Ethiopian VOT. These are usually smuggling cases that end up as trafficking cases. For both nationalities the experience is similar. In 2013, 52% of the total VOT assisted by IOM in Cairo were Eritrean and 41% Ethiopian.

All studies and reports that describe this kind of trafficking highlight the extreme violence and inhuman treatment of VOT during the journey and while waiting for the ransom to be procured and paid by their families. Beatings with various objects such as metal chains, sticks and whips; burning with cigarette butts, heated rubber and metal objects; suspension from the ceiling and suspension in contorted positions for prolonged periods of time; pouring gasoline over their bodies and setting them on fire; being forced to stand for extended periods of time in the desert heat; electric shocks; rape of both men and women, and other unscrupulous ways of sexual violence are also often reported (AI, 2013; IOM, 2013d; Humphris, R. 2013).

Once free (because of the payment of the ransom or escape) the outlook for VOT is not always good. Possible scenarios include; in the worst case, death due to the injuries and health consequences of the dramatic experience (malnutrition, dehydration, skin burns and problems resulting from sexual violence - especially in the case of women) (IOM, 2013d); detention by the Egyptian army and retention in a detention center; reaching Cairo, followed by their return to their country of origin (in the case of Ethiopians) or crossing to Israel. The latter seems to be the most frequent (AI, 2013).

8.2.2.2 NIGERIAN WOMEN TRAFFICKED WITH PROSTITUTION PURPOSES

Victims trafficked into sexual exploitation often have a very similar profile: Young Nigerian women (often from the State of Edo), with low levels of education and from poor families (Carling, J. 2006; Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009).

Girls are sought after in their communities by a trafficker who establishes a relationship with the victim and gains her trust, and offers her the possibility of going to Europe in order to get a job. Even if in some cases women suspect that they may work as prostitutes, they are not aware of the conditions in which they would do so. When women accept, victims are put in contact with the 'madame', who is usually the most important woman of the network in Nigeria who may also act as a sponsor for the journey (Carling, J., 2006). The actual travel costs to get to Europe range from \$1,500 to \$12,000, according to different sources of information (Carling, J., 2006; Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009), depending on the mode of transportation used (by plane or by land) and the need to falsify documents. Normally, VOT from Nigeria that reach North Africa use the same land routes as other irregular migrants in the Western route. However, the women indebted themselves for a significantly higher amount that ranges between \$40,000 and \$100,000 in exchange for a safe passage to Europe (Carling, J., 2006). Women promise the repayment through a religious engagement sealed by an '*ohen*' - a priest of the indigenous religious traditions. Often is not only the victim, but also her family, who sign the contract with the sponsor (Carling, J., 2006).

From that moment the woman becomes property of the network, until the debt is repaid through sexual exploitation, which starts along the journey and in transition countries such as Morocco, and continues in the destination country. When they refuse,

they suffer from physical and sexual abuses and other inhumane treatment. They are usually forced to prostitute themselves every day in devastating conditions that endanger their health and personal safety. Pregnancy is common and it is only during these months that they can stop working. However, forced abortions are also common (Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009). This situation will last throughout the entire experience, until the payment of the debt, which normally takes between 3 and 5 years.

In Morocco, women are retained in houses in Casablanca, Rabat or in the forest in Nador and Oujda, under the control of a chairman (Lautier, C., (Coord.), 2009), who is the man in charge of their 'protection' along the way, and essentially the guardian of the victim (Laacher, S., 2010). Women live in apartments of 30 or 40 people, waiting for the best moment to try to reach Europe or to be sold to other networks with the same characteristics (Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009). While they wait for this moment to arrive, they are forced to prostitute themselves or to beg in the streets of cities in company of children (their own, or other victim's children).

Exiting the network normally takes place after the payment of the debt, the detention of the traffickers or contact with a humanitarian organization that detect the VOT (Laacher, S., 2010). The religious engagement to pay the debt and the traffickers' determination to obtain it are some of the motives that prevent women from leaving their situation of exploitation (Women link's worldwide, 2010). Upward mobility within the network and becoming a 'madame' is one of the more common options opted by women after paying the debt. They will start recruiting other women, changing their role from victim to trafficker, and perpetuating the existence of the network (Carling, J., 2006).

8.2.2.3 ASIAN WOMEN TRAFFICKED INTO DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

The VOT exploited through domestic servitude assisted by IOM in Egypt and Morocco display similar profiles and similar ways in which they get involved in trafficking networks. Victims are generally women looking for job opportunities in North Africa who contact job agencies on the internet. They are hired by a man who offers them a salary of about \$1300 per month in Morocco (Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009) and between \$200 and \$300 in Egypt⁶⁴. In the case of Tunisia, only one Asian woman (from The Philippines) has been detected by IOM in recent years. However, according to Consulates from countries such as The Philippines and Indonesia, there could be thousands of migrant Asian women in domestic servitude in Tunisia. Very little information is available on their work conditions and profiles.

Asian women can enter all three countries without a visa or with a tourist visa, and it is therefore possible for them to arrive to these countries as tourists. Once they reach their destination and start to work, their passport is taken away and the job conditions differ to what was previously agreed. They work without getting their salary as the employer tells them his/her obligation is to pay back the sponsor or the agency who contacted the women for their travel costs. In Egypt the average time after which the victim starts to get their salary is 30 months, and the amount they receive then is significantly lower than what was initially offered.

In general, the women who become victims to this kind of trafficking experience all kinds of abuses, such as excess working hours, bad accommodation and living conditions, detention in the house without the possibility of leaving, and/or physical,

⁶⁴ Information gathered from IOM case record.

psychological and sexual violence⁶⁵. The main factors that make it difficult for women to report the exploitation and that allows the employer to control their employees are; the irregular administrative situation of the victim after the expiration of their tourist visa, the inexistence of a work contract and the lack of control by governments regarding work conditions, the lack of money to go back to their country and /or linguistic and cultural barriers (Lautier, C., (Coord.), 2009).

8.2.2.4 TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN

Over the last few months the Spanish press has pointed out the involvement of trafficking networks operating from Morocco that exploit Sub-Saharan migrants, in the trafficking of children. News published over the last few months (El País 2013) and the report of the Spanish ombudsman in 2012, "Human trafficking in Spain: Invisible victims", highlights the arrival to Spain of women in the company of children supposedly theirs, but who are in fact used as 'human passports'⁶⁶. Information also points to the kidnapping of children by trafficking networks in order to force migrant mothers into prostitution (El País 2013).

This information coincides with the report coordinated by Lautier, C. for IOM "*Transnational Trafficking in Humans, analysis of the context and responses in Morocco*" (2009), in mentioning the possibility of cases where trafficking networks kidnap and sell children for pedophile acts or for the removal of their organs (Lautier, C. (Coord.), 2009). During the research near the border with Spain, women mentioned the use of children as human passports by Nigerian networks and even the possibility of them being trafficked into illegal international adoption networks⁶⁷. The high number of children born in transit and in Morocco, and difficulties in obtaining birth certificates leave many migrant children without official identities and completely unprotected against this kind of trafficking and abuse.

⁶⁵ Information gathered from IOM case record.

⁶⁶ According to the Spanish immigration law, the possibility to get legal residency in Spain when arriving with minors is higher.

⁶⁷ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in November 2013.

Further research needs to be conducted at a transnational level in order to discern how significant the information provided is, and how and where these networks operate. Dialogue and common responses from all countries in the region needs to be facilitated.

9. SERVICE PROVIDERS AND DONORS



9.1 SERVICE PROVIDERS

When mentioning service providers, reference is made to all organizations with programs designed to improve the living conditions and promote the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and irregular migrants. Organizations working in the prevention of emigration or integration of returned migrants, and regular migrant organizations are not considered. For the identification of service providers in each country, three types of actors have been taken into consideration: local non-governmental organizations, CBOs and international actors.

The non-governmental group of organizations includes all civil society associations, whether they are international or national, who have as an objective the promotion of migrant rights and the improvement of their living conditions. Some of them form part of the local society of the country or are international organizations based there, and others are community-based organizations (CBOs), founded by migrants. CBOs have a high outreach capacity in migrant communities and they often act as a connection point between migrants and other service providers. Local organizations that target the local population do not usually have programs that focus on migrants. It is important to

note the role of the churches in promoting the coming together of migrants around them, and in providing humanitarian support (which sometimes happens in the case of extreme vulnerability) in a sporadic way.

UN agencies working directly with migrants are considered as international actors. The agencies specialized in migration are IOM⁶⁸ and UNHCR⁶⁹. UNHCR is mandated to protect refugees, asylum seekers and stateless person rights. IOM works with migrants in general, including regular and irregular migrants, regardless of their reasons to migrate. Other UN agencies develop activities in the field of migration indirectly, but these cannot be considered as service providers for migrants as they are described here.

The mapping of service providers carried out in this research is based on the revision of documentation and the analysis of networks. UNHCR and IOM usually work in collaboration with partner NGOs and CBOs in order to implement their programs for refugees and/or migrants. Analyzing the directory of organizations working with them allowed for the identification of these service providers. Contacting these actors and analyzing their partner-networks resulted in the successful collection of information on a large number of organizations. However, the list of organizations and the information related to it is not expected to be exhaustive, as other organizations that work with migrants directly or indirectly may exist outside of these networks. In this document, the main service providers for migrants will be considered according to their outreach capacity.

The assortment of activities carried out by the identified actors is vast, and it is therefore difficult to accurately categorize the field of activity of each organization, as they sometimes work in many different areas. Furthermore, organizations can have different target groups, which makes their classification more challenging. The different fields of activity on which

⁶⁸ IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental body, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants. To know more about IOM visit its website <http://www.iom.int>. <http://www.iom.int>.

⁶⁹ The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country. It also has a mandate to help stateless people. To know more about UNHCR visit its website <http://www.unhcr.org>. <http://www.unhcr.org>.

organizations focus their work are classified into six groups, in accordance with the most common activities identified namely: healthcare, education, humanitarian assistance and livelihood support, justice, advocacy and capacity-building. The objectives and activities of each field are described in table 13.

Table 13. Objectives and activities carried out by service providers.

Healthcare: Improving migrants' access to healthcare services for physical and psychological ailments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prevention, detection and treatment of diseases. ● Psychological support. ● Financial support for medical costs.
Education: Improving migrants' access to formal and informal education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Financial support for the costs of education. ● Language courses. ● Professional Training ● Management of schools for refugees (only in the case of Egypt). ● Raising awareness in parents.
Humanitarian assistance and livelihood support: Improving the economic situation of migrants by facilitating access to housing, employment or other economic activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribution of food and clothes. ● Income-generating activities. ● Financial assistance for people in detention. ● Availability of shelter for more vulnerable migrants (trafficking victims, migrants in distress, etc.).
Justice: Improving migrants' access to justice and the promotion of equal treatment for nationals and migrants

- **Legal support for migrants needing to regularize their situation.**
- **Support for refugees and asylum seekers in UNHCR procedures.**
- **Monitoring of migrants' administrative problems: marriage, birth certificates, etc.**
- **Support for migrants needing to go to the police to report stealing, violence or other abuses suffered by them.**

Advocacy: Promoting migrant rights at a political level

- **Question the way policy is administered.**
- **Participate in the agenda-setting of relevant issues.**
- **Propose policy solutions.**
- **Facilitate spaces for public discussion.**

Capacity-building: Improving capacities of organizations

- **Support the strengthening of operational and managerial capacities of NGOs and migrant organizations.**
- **Offer training courses in technical and financial management.**

The number of organizations providing services to migrants is high, especially in Egypt and Morocco, and activities are carried out in many different fields. However, in most cases, their budget is limited and so is the organizations' real capacity to reach a large number of migrants. Even if activities carried out by NGOs have a significant impact on the lives of beneficiaries, the needs of migrants are vast and real solutions to their situation require policy changes. Non-governmental organizations cannot provide all necessary services to migrants as their capacities are limited and overwhelmed, and they cannot offer durable solutions. The main challenges faced by these organizations are related to the durability and sustainability of their actions as they depend on external funds, the recruitment of qualified workers (in North African countries immigration is a recent phenomenon and social studies curricula lack depth in terms of migration and inter-cultural studies) and the lack of coordination between organizations (Carrión López, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseksou, K., 2013; FIC, 2012 and Boubraki, H., 2013).

9.1.1 EGYPT

The number of migrants in Egypt is higher than in Morocco and Tunisia, and accordingly the number of organizations providing services for migrants is the highest of the three. A recent study carried out by the Feistein International Center (2012), identified 442 organizations in the country with livelihood programming, 77 of which have refugee-specific programming. These organizations are mostly concentrated in the Middle Egypt, especially in Cairo and Giza governorates, with secondary concentrations in Alexandria and the Delta area. Other organizations develop their activities in other fields such as health, education or economic support. The BOSLA website⁷⁰, implemented by IOM in Cairo, provides detailed information of the services that are available to migrants in Egypt by these organizations.

The main organizations identified are listed in table 14, and their description can be found in appendix 2. Organizations with larger capacities are implementing partners of IOM and UNHCR, and they realize different activities according to their target groups and their needs as identified by international organizations (for example, general refugees vs. Syrian refugees who have arrived recently and in large numbers). The number of organizations in Egypt that specialize in advocacy for migrants is limited, and only 6 of them have been identified.

In Egypt, service providers are characterized mainly by their role as UNHCR implementing partners and their support to community-based organizations. CBOs offer a range of services (language classes, information on legal processes, assistance with access to basic services, workshops, etc.), even if they lack in funding and have limited resources. They can be crucial partners for NGOs working in the field, since referrals can be coordinated between them in order to provide services to migrants.

NGOs in Egypt tend to be larger than in Morocco and Tunisia. They have a higher number of employees and, therefore, reach a greater number of beneficiaries⁷¹. Their job presents some risk, and they can even face problems (including suspension of

⁷⁰ <http://www.bosla-egypt.info>

⁷¹ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

activities) when advocating for the defense of irregular migrants. Concerning International organizations, in addition to the work of IOM and UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF carry out activities for Syrian refugees including direct assistance and the creation of child-friendly spaces.

Table 14. List of organizations in Egypt.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS IN EGYPT

- *Abshir Cultural Association*
- *African Hope Learning Center*
- *Arab Council Supporting Fair Trial*
- *Ared El Taybeen*
- *Caritas*
- *Catholic Relief Services -CRS*
- *Egyptian Foundation for Refugees Rights & Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance - AMERA*
- *Egyptian Law Center*
- *Egyptian Initiative for Development*
- *Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights - EIPR*
- *El Nadim Center for the Management and Rehabilitation of victims of violence*
- *Ethiopian Community Refugee in Egypt*
- *FARD*
- *Islamic relief Worldwide*
- *Nuba Association for Development*
- *Nuba Mountains*
- *Oromo Self-help Refugee Association - OSRA-Egypt*
- *Psychosocial Services & Training Institute in Cairo - PSTIC*

- *Refugee Egypt*

- *RESELA*

- *Save the children*

- *Sawa*

- *Sina Network*

- *Somali Association for Women and Children - SAFWAC*

- *Somali Community Development in Hadayek el Maali*

- *Sons of Fur Charity Association*

- *Sons of Kordovan*

- *St. Andrew's Refugee Services*

- *Surial GAD*

- *Tadamon Council*

Source: Bosla 2013.

9.1.2 MOROCCO

In Morocco, most of the organizations that provide services for migrants started working at the start of the XXI century, at a time when migratory flows in the country became more numerous and the needs of the migrant population increased⁷². There is currently a total of 28 organizations working directly with migrants. Some of these are present in multiple parts of the country, increasing the number to 43. Their distribution in the country is uneven: 19 in Rabat, 5 in Casablanca, 6 in Tanger, 3 in Nador, 6 in Oujda and 4 in Fez (Carrión López, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseksou, K.; 2013). Most of their activities are aimed at supporting migrants with healthcare costs (medication, analyses, hospitalizations, etc.); livelihood support

⁷² In 2005, after the attempt of migrants to enter the Spanish cities of Ceuta and Melilla by jumping the border fence, fights between migrants and Spanish and Moroccan police took place, causing the death of 14 migrants. Many migrant organizations and service providers were established after these events.

(distribution of clothes, support with housing costs in more urgent cases, implementation of income-generating activities); education (promotion of professional education options and children's access to public schools), and; advocacy (reporting and condemning of migrant rights violations, promotion of migrant access to healthcare and education). Advocacy actions have been a priority for these organizations, which might have influenced the changes in policy led by the State at this moment.

There are not many local organizations that provide services for migrants in Morocco. Some of reasons for this are the lack of information these organizations have about migration in the country, language barriers, misunderstandings about the legal conditions of migrants in order to provide services for them, limited budgets, the requirement of documents to be able to benefit from services, etc⁷³.

The UN agencies working directly with migrants in the country are IOM and UNHCR. UNAIDS and UNWOMEN work with them indirectly through projects that aim to facilitate their access to healthcare and justice, respectively.

UNFPA has contributed funds to the Households International Migration Survey that is currently being carried out in Morocco and Egypt, which is meant to collect data in Mediterranean countries on emigration, return migration, forced migration, intentions to migrate, circular migration, migration of highly-skilled persons and irregular migration, amongst others.

⁷³ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in November 2013.

Table 15. List of organizations in Morocco.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS IN EGYPT

-
- *Mediterranean association meeting for Immigration and Development - ARMID*
-
- *Caritas - CAM - SAM - TAM*
-
- *Tamkine Migrant Centre: Oum El Banine / Terre des Hommes - TdH*
-
- *International Assistance Committee - CEI*
-
- *Moroccan Association of Childcare in Difficult Situations - AMANSD*
-
- *Emergency Action*
-
- *Association fighting against AIDS - ALCS*
-
- *Migration Delegation*
-
- *Pan-African Organization against AIDS - OPALS*
-
- *Moroccan Association to support the promotion of small business - AMAPPE*
-
- *East West Foundation- FOO*
-
- *Democratic organization of immigrant workers in Morocco - ODTI*
-
- *Association of Women for Equality and Democracy*
-
- *Association light on illegal migration in the Maghreb - ALECMA*
-
- *Voice of Women*
-
- *Sub-Saharan council of migrants in Morocco*
-
- *Group of sub-Saharan communities in Morocco*
-
- *Casabarata Association for Human Development*
-
- *Antiracist group of advocacy and support for foreigners and migrants - GADEM*
-
- *Better future for our children Association - AMANE*
-
- *Moroccan Association for Human Rights - AMDH*
-

-
- *Alternatives forum Morocco - FMAS*
 - *Moroccan Organization for Human Rights - OMDH*
-

Source: Carrión López, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseksou, K.

9.1.3 TUNISIA

In Tunisia most organizations working directly or indirectly in the field of migration were established after the fall of the Ben Ali regime. Before the revolution the only organizations working in migration were not specialized in the field and only included migration in their actions sporadically. Some of these organizations are: LTDH (Tunisian League for Human rights), UGTT (General Tunisian Union of Labour), ARFD (Tunisian Association of Democratic Women), AFTURD (Association of Tunisian Women for Research and Development) and AESAT (education and inter-cultural issues) (Boubakri, H., 2013).

A total of 13 organizations have been identified as currently working with migrants, most of which are set up in the capital, and a few others in Choucha. IOM and UNHCR are important actors in the country, and the coordination between them, NGOs and government is considerable. Most organizations in the country work in the field of advocacy (migrant rights, a new migration policy in Tunisia, the manner in which irregular migration is dealt with or Tunisians who disappeared at sea, amongst others) (Boubakri, H., 2013). Only three of them offer direct services to the migrant population in collaboration with IOM and UNHCR: CRT, Caritas and IRW.

Table 16. List of organizations in Tunisia.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS IN TUNISIA

- Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR)

- Article 13

- Association of African Students and Volunteers in Tunisia-AESAT

- Caritas

- CIMADE

- Euro-Mediterranean Network for Human Rights

- France Terre d'Asile - House of Migrant Rights in Tunis

- Islamic Relief Worldwide - IRW

- Tunisian Association of Democratic Women

- Tunisian Council for Refugees and Migrants - CETUMA

- Tunisian Forum for Social and Economic rights - FTDES

- Tunisian League of Human Rights

- Tunisian Red Crescent-CRT

Source: Interviews carried out during the research in Tunisia in November 2013.

9.2 DONORS

The work carried out by the organizations mentioned in section 8.1 in all three countries and by IOM and UNHCR, is in most cases financed by external international donors that prioritize migration as an issue of concern in their agendas and policies (for example, the European Union or Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation). Others prioritize actions against trafficking in persons, such as J/TIP, which provides support for most projects related to this issue. The main donors identified in each country are:

Table 17. Main Donors by country.

MAIN DONORS BY COUNTRY		
EGYPT	TUNISIA	MOROCCO
European Union	European Union	Dutch Government
Finnish Government	German Government	European Union
German Government	IOM Development Fund	German Government
INL - USA	Italian Government	IOM Development Fund
Italian Government	J/TIP - USA	Italian Government
J/TIP - USA	SDC	SDC
SDC		
USAID - USA		

Source: Interviews carried out during the research in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October and November 2013.

10. INNOVATIVE RESPONSES

The migratory scene in North Africa as described in this document highlights the need for challenges concerning migration to be faced by governments, civil society and international organizations, in order to guarantee migrant rights and an appropriate management of migratory flows. New actions and initiatives that are effective, sustainable and impactful (in terms of both quantity of migrants reached and quality of the impact) need to be thought of and implemented. Although migratory contexts differ in the target countries, there are common challenges that need to be faced by all three of them. A revision of the best responses to these challenges in each country could be a good first step in the rethinking of migratory policies and initiatives in the region.

Actions carried out by different actors are often good responses with a significant impact on migrants' lives, even if the circumstances for their implementation are not always favorable (limited budget, legal obstacles, difficulties in reaching the target population, etc). Through the interviews, some initiatives have been considered as positive practices because of their innovative nature and higher rates of success.

Regional processes

Regional processes such as the Rabat process and the IOM Task Force are innovative responses to the coordination and provision of a common response to migratory challenges in the region. Migration is a global process that needs global and coordinated responses between origin, transit and destination countries in order to achieve a greater respect for migrant rights and the contribution of migrants to development.

As was emphasized during the 10th coordination meeting on international migration, complicated and sensitive issues such as the collection of reliable data on migration, sustainable return, social protection at national and international levels, the integration of migrants, visa policies, irregular migration, civil registration, vulnerable populations (women, children and UMC), document security and diaspora contribution to development, need common approaches and a global reflection is therefore necessary (UN, 2012).

Policy changes in Morocco

The policy changes taking place in Morocco after the CNDH report and the royal instructions, are an innovative response in the region since it contributes to the implementation of a rights-based approach into the migratory policy of the country. Initiatives such as the process of regularization, workshops concerning the new migration policy, the creation of an Action Plan to promote migrants' access to healthcare services in the country and the provision of residency permits for refugees are some of the actions that have already been implemented as a consequence of the changes, and demonstrate a growing respect of migrants' rights.

Protection of VOT in Egypt

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) provide support to VOT in Egypt by facilitating access to legal representation, shelter, counseling and medical care. The SOPs is coordinated by IOM and UNCHR and implemented in collaboration with the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Health, NCCM and NGOs (PSTIC, AMERA, MSF and Caritas). Procedures include:

1. *Emergency assistance provided by IOM, the Ministry of Health, NCCM and PSTIC:* PSTIC handles community and local orientation, as well as an emergency shelter for male VOT. IOM provides medical and social assistance for the first two months in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and coordinates a shelter in collaboration with NCCM for female VOT.

2. *Refugee Status Determination* after being identified, VOT are registered with UNHCR as asylum seekers, through which they are entitled to social, medical and protection services provided throughout the agency's network of implementing partners. EFRR-AMERA provides legal aid to VOTs undergoing the RSD process with UNHCR.

3. *Financial aid* is provided to VOT by IOM, UNHCR and Caritas for 12 months, after which they are expected to be self-reliant.

Special initiatives for victims of gender-based violence

Gender-based violence indexes throughout the entire migratory process and in destination countries represent a real threat to the lives and rights of women and children. Actions taking into consideration the particular vulnerability of women victims of GBV (especially sexual violence), are considered good practices and innovative responses since they support women in overcoming aggressions while including a gender approach in their interventions⁷⁴.

The inclusion of GBV as a vulnerability factor in special programs for migrant protection are considered as very innovative response. Three of the most remarkable are:

⁷⁴ Even though in general victims of violence are women, cases of men, especially minors, are also detected and healthcare is provided.

- Considerations for victims of sexual violence (rape, female circumcision, forced sterilization, prohibition of abortion, etc.) in the eligibility criteria for refugee status by UNCHR, even though this is not explicitly mentioned in the 1951 Convention.
- Considering being a victim of GBV as a vulnerability in order to facilitate the resettlement of refugees in Egypt.
- NGO programs that promote the detection of cases and the provision of psychological support to women victims of violence in Morocco and Egypt.

Capacity-building for local institutions in Tunisia

UNHCR in Tunisia works in collaboration with the Ministries of Health and Education, in order to guarantee refugees and asylum seekers access to basic services such as education and healthcare. Even though some challenges are still present in guaranteeing efficient access to services, improving public system capacities and the coordination of actors, the reinforcement of these institutions through the provision of medications and other materials has allowed refugees from the Choucha camp access schools and healthcare structures in the area. The improvement of the services provided does not only benefit the UNHCR population of concern, but the entire Tunisian population.

Migrant Resource Centre in Tunisia

Three “Migrant Resource Centres (MRC)” were created and implemented by the Tunisian government during the first months of 2014, with the aim to facilitate the access to personalized information to the returnees, potential migrants and foreign migrants staying in Tunisia (in transit or permanently). These centers have been implemented in the framework of the “Development of resource centers & services online information for migrants (CRM)” project, supported by IOM in partnership with the Office of Tunisians Abroad (OTE) and the National Agency for Employment and Independent Work (ANETI).

The Centers are based in three regions in Tunisia (Tunis, Sfax and Kef) and provide different services related to migrants (employment, health care, education, visa procedures,

family reunification, legal assistance, etc.) through three main communication means: individual consultations, phone consultations or through the MRC website (<http://www.centresmigrants.tn/>). From December 2013 until September 2014 a total number of 425 migrants were assisted.

The Centers are considered as a very good practice, since they provide information to migrants, contribute to the promotion of legal migration, the protection of migrants, prevention of irregular migration as well as the promotion of sustainable return and strengthening links between migration and development.

Income Generating Activities (IGA) for refugees in Morocco

Access to the employment market and self-employment in order to have livelihoods and be able to access basic services is an essential part in the integration of migrants in host societies. Therefore, activities that promote the economic integration of migrants are considered as good practices. UNHCR offers vocational training to refugees and asylum seekers in the three target countries, which has been effective in improving their skill-sets. Still, access to employment is a challenge, mainly because of the legal situation of UNHCR populations of concern, which does not allow for their legal employment.

UNHCR Morocco is the only office that promotes an IGA program, in partnership with AMAPPE. Interviewed actors, including beneficiary refugees of the program, have commented on its success in promoting the creation of solid IGA projects that are adapted to refugee needs. Through the realization of economic activities, refugees have not only gained livelihoods, which increases their quality of life, but also personal and social skills which have increased their well-being and social integration⁷⁵. Expanding IGA activities to all migrants (not only refugees) would be a good method for improving the living conditions of these populations in host countries, as the case of refugees in Morocco has demonstrated.

⁷⁵ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in November 2013.

Advocacy

Civil society organizations working in the field of migration and the defense of human rights, especially in Morocco and Tunisia, are very active in the realization of advocacy activities that report migrant rights violations and promote changes in migratory policies to protect these rights. Research, public speaking, the publication of articles and the direct approach of decision-makers are some of the initiatives taken by these organizations. Advocacy promotes civic engagement and collective action, and is particularly important when the population of concern lacks visibility due to their difficulties in accessing networks and in integrating into the political, economic and social spheres of a host country, as is the case of migrants.

Civil society advocacy, in addition to the work of International Organizations such as UNHCR and IOM and independent institutions such as CNDH, has played an important role in the positive political changes in Morocco concerning migration. As mentioned in interviews by different actors, advocacy by ONGs over the last years influenced the writing of the report by CNDH which in turn resulted in the Royal instructions⁷⁶. In Tunisia and Egypt, the impact of advocacy is not as evident. However, the advocacy by civil society as representatives of migrants is considered a good instrument to achieve legislative and policy changes that help guarantee migrant rights.

Networking

Collaboration between organizations has been highlighted as being extremely positive due to two main reasons. Firstly, because organizations networking in advocacy activities multiply their impact, since information is shared more widely and its distribution is more effective. Secondly, service providers networking through referral systems of beneficiaries improve their community outreach, the effectiveness and efficiency of activities and their impact on the living conditions of the populations of concern.

As an example of the first, the Migrant Platform in Morocco, conformed by 11 member organizations⁷⁷ and an additional

⁷⁶ Information gathered in interviews carried out in Morocco in November 2013.

⁷⁷ ALCS, AMANE, CEI, CISS, Caritas Morocco, FOO, GADEM, Oum el Banine, SAM, TdH

number of observer organizations (IOM, UNHCR, UNAIDS, some governmental departments, etc.), has played a remarkable role in the positive impact of advocacy activities. The coordination between these organizations has allowed for the gathering and sharing of knowledge on the situation of migrants in Morocco, and the creation of the dynamic of change that is evidenced today. In addition, this collaboration between NGOs has contributed to the improved quality and effectiveness of services provided to migrants, as each organization focuses on working and filling the gaps in their field of expertise. Some challenges have been faced by organizations, such as the referral of beneficiary migrants from one organization to other due to the right to privacy of personal data.

In Egypt, the referral system is more developed between IOM, UN agencies, NGOs and CBOs. UNHCR ensures coordination between actors, and its implementing NGO partners enable the distribution of assistance. This has had a positive influence on cases involving refugees and asylum seekers, however, with funding cuts pending these services will have to be cut back, resulting in the need for increased networking to fill service gaps. Coordination also takes place under the framework of the “Victim of Trafficking Inter-agency working group”, coordinated by IOM and UNHCR in order to administer emergency protection and assistance to victims of trafficking.

In Tunisia, networking is characterized by the close collaboration, especially in the case of emergencies (such as the Libyan crisis and sea rescues), between actors at three levels; Government (Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Social Affairs), International Organizations (IOM and UNHCR) and civil society organizations (CRT, IRW, FTDA, and IADH). In the case of sea rescues, the Ministry of Interior has referred cases of vulnerable migrants to UNHCR or IOM in order for them to benefit from services provided by them in partnership with civil society institutions (UMC protection, refugee status or AVRR program for people wanting to return voluntarily to their countries). Concerning refugees from the Choucha camp managed by UNHCR and civil society partners, IOM opened a special AVRR program for migrants wanting to go back to their origin countries. In terms of the provision of services, partnerships between UNHCR and public institutions were highly successful in promoting the

integration of refugees in urban areas and increasing their levels of autonomy.

Inter-agency coordination was often highlighted by interviewees in all three countries as a positive factor in the provision of rapid and effective responses to protect migrant rights. According to interviews and direct observations, the collaboration, sharing of information between actors and distribution of roles according to the objectives and capacities of different organizations has prevented the repetition of services and allowed for the filling of gaps in the services provided. The creation of platforms as spaces of coordination has contributed to the effectiveness of this strategy. The collaboration between government, international organizations and civil society is a very positive initiative for improving the management of migratory challenges.

Community-based organizations

The establishment of organizations formed by migrants in order to defend their rights is good practice as it increases migrant involvement in local societies and in democratic civil action, which is an important step in terms of their integration into the host country. Additionally, they create an essential space for migrants to share information, experiences and support each other. CBOs are greatly needed for their invaluable contribution to the work of other organizations in the migratory context.

Service providers, especially in Egypt, usually carry out their activities in collaboration with CBOs and community volunteers. This is an important element in guaranteeing the outreach to a population of concern and the wider spread of services. This collaboration strengthens the capacities of CBOs and at the same time promotes the active participation of the beneficiary population, which is essential in guaranteeing more effective and impactful services to improve migrant living conditions.

The inclusion of CBOs in the decision-making processes concerning the provision of services, and in obtaining feedback, evaluations and suggestions, are other possibilities offered by partnerships with CBOs that are always considered as positive.

11. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The complexity of migratory flows in North Africa is based on the diversity of migrant profiles moving to, through and from the region, the shifts in these countries from emigration to immigration in a short space of time and their changeable political situation over the last few years. Evidence suggests that the current migratory dynamics in the area will continue, as unstable situations in Sub-Saharan Africa (resulting in a significant lack of opportunities for the population) seem to continue instead of improving, and the political climate that has been characteristic in most Arab countries is likely to endure over the next months or years. Either way, stability and development may not result in less migratory movements. Take-off development in the least developed countries is likely to lead to take-off emigration as the potential and inspiration that increases human development is generally associated with higher levels of emigration and immigration (De Haas, 2010b).

The present reality of migratory flows in the region mean that countries need to face the challenges associated with them, that concern the management of complex flows, the protection of migrant rights and their integration in society. In this new context, regional dialogue is imperative so as to allow for the sharing of information between countries and to better understand migration phenomena in the region, which in turn may foster the development of innovative and shared responses to better manage migratory flows. All three target countries were mainly emigration countries up to only a few years ago and thus implemented programs and policies in accordance with this context, in order to prevent emigration, promote the rights of their citizens in destination countries and to support the reintegration of returned migrants. In their participation in regional dialogues such as the Rabat Process or the Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue, the roles of countries who have seen a shift in their migratory context (from origin and transit countries to

destination countries) need to be adjusted to these new realities. The similarities in migration phenomena and the associated challenges in all three countries mean that a common approach would be favorable to all.

The recently established MTF-NOAH in the North Eastern African Migration Route could be a good space for the coordination of efforts of target countries and an increased dialogue amongst origin, transit and destination countries. The exchange of information and joint analysis of data could help harmonize the politics in the region, and foment collaboration when facing similar issues such as trafficking in persons, the exploitation of migrant labor, lack of access to basic services for migrants and integration policies for newcomers. Dialogue will be more beneficial for all actors if not only open to countries in the region, but also to other origin, transit and destination countries of migrants connected by the same flows, and to local civil societies and migrants. International organizations such IOM and UNCHR could also play a key role in dialogue processes.

To this end, recommendations are offered as suggestions to strengthen the response to the challenges presented by complex migratory flows in North Africa, as identified through the research.

Recommendations are based on the information collected and its analysis, suggestions from interviewed actors and observations. They are presented according to the actors responsible for their implementation and the main challenges that need to be addressed (orientation of policies, access to basic services, social integration and trafficking in persons).

1. Recommendations Concerning The Orientation Of Policies For:

a) Governments

- Ensure that policies take into consideration the positive factors and contributions of migration to development in the country. Mainstreaming migration in development plans and programs will also help to improve migrant access to services.

- Adapt national laws concerning migratory issues to adhere to International Law standards, and stop all practices not in accordance with the principle of proportionality between crime and sentence.
- Accelerate the changes in legislation currently ongoing.
- Adapt policies that focus on the migrant's rights to facilitate their access to justice, health and education, in accordance with international law and respecting human rights.
- Include special measures of protection for particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children and UMC in policies.
- Establish mechanisms for the development of regional cooperation in the area of migration management.
- Promote dialogue at a North-African level regarding common challenges of migration in these countries, and in the negotiation of agreements with the European Union.
- Strengthen the capacity of national authorities in the ports of entry and exit in order to improve data collection and analysis systems concerning migration, to obtain better statistical data and comprehension of complex migratory flows (include sex and age variables).
- Improve the establishment of a data collection and analysis system, to obtain credible data with the support of international organizations.

b) International Organizations

- Support national governments in the in the process of acceleration of policies for improving the approaches based on human rights.
- Promote the implementation of protection sensitive border management in all countries in order to detect those in need of protection, and ensure an appropriate reception and response in order to meet the basic needs of migrants.
- Improve data collection concerning beneficiaries' number of services provided to migrants, which include sex, age and other vulnerability factors variables.

c) Civil society

- Advocate in order to achieve better migratory policies that protect migrant rights. It is important to create a constructive dialogue between civil society and governments and create partnership between them to improve skills in the protection of human rights.
- Improve data collection concerning beneficiaries' number of services provided to migrants, which include sex, age and other vulnerability factors variables.

2. Recommendations Concerning Migrant Access To Services (Healthcare, Education, Justice) And Employment.

a) Governments

- Strengthen the capacity of the law enforcement officials in order to increase the guarantee of the implementation of new laws and in order to ensure the principle of non-discrimination when providing services to migrants.
- Facilitate the registration of new births and deaths of migrants that occur in the national territory.
- Create migrant resource centers in order to offer a space of reference to migrants and increase the quality and quantity of information for target populations about available services, rights and responsibilities.
- Promote regional cooperation regarding the services provided to migrants and exchange experiences and information on best practices in this field.

- Create or improve inclusive policies, curricula and methodologies in public schools in order to promote migrant integration in schools and better relations with national pupils.

b) International organizations

- Raising awareness in origin, transit and destination countries about migration in North Africa, migratory conditions and challenges.
- Support governments in the mobilization of financial resources and capacities improvement in order to improve migrant's access to basic services.

c) Governments, international organizations, civil society

- Improve or create courses on migratory issues, especially at universities that offer sociology, social work, psychology or law degrees. Offer such courses to government workers and organizations that work in the field of migration.
- Continue reinforcing service programs for migrants, especially humanitarian services for more vulnerable migrants: shelters, emergency healthcare, medical missions in more deprived areas, psychological support, etc. The creation of shelters for VOT and more vulnerable migrants in Tunisia and Morocco is especially important.
- Ensure adequate screening for vulnerabilities and legal status determination to ensure adequate referrals are made to best meet migrant needs.
- Seek feedback from the beneficiary population about the quality of, and level of satisfaction with the service provided.
- Guide the level of vocational training towards income generation activities and employment according to skills of the beneficiary migrants.

- Promote migrant participation in initiatives in order to meet migrant needs as active actors and not passives ones. To this end, the participation and capacity-building of CBOs needs to be reinforced.
- Strengthen partnerships between governmental entities, international organizations and NGOs involved in the provision of services for migrants.

3. Recommendations Concerning Social Integration Between Migrants And Host Societies

a) Governments, international organizations, civil society

- Provide language courses for migrants. In these courses it is important to include cultural aspects of the host society.
- Promote cultural exchange activities in neighborhoods and schools where the presence of migrants is higher.
- Promote migrants to be within the target populations of local organizations.
- Promote networking and partnerships between CBOs and civil society organizations in host countries.
- Raise awareness amongst media about the importance of the distribution of information on migration in a constructive manner, and the dangers of using racist and stereotyped messages.

4. Recommendations Concerning Human Trafficking For:

a) Governments

- Strengthen prosecution and judicial cooperation in order to protect victims and strengthen sanctions against criminals.
- Advocate for the approbation of a law against trafficking in the case of Morocco and Tunisia and for the development of mechanisms to guarantee its implementation.

b) International organizations

- Raise awareness in origin countries about human trafficking and how to avoid risks.
- Increase scientific research about child trafficking.
- Enhance cooperation between origin, transit and destination countries in order to tackle human trafficking in the region.

c) Civil society

- Increase capacities to detect VOTs and provide appropriate services and responses for them in coordination with governments.

d) Governments, international organizations, civil society

- Support national authorities in Implementation and/or strengthening referral procedures in order to provide assistance to VOT.

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13. APPENDIX

13.1 METHODOLOGY

The methodology used for this research was based on qualitative instruments for social research in order to acquire deep information about migratory flows and their main characteristics in North Africa. Special attention was given to statistical data collection in order to average the number of migrants who transit or stay in each target country and measure the volume of their needs. Five kinds of instruments were used in the research: review of secondary information sources, interviews, focus group and life-stories.

Several documents have been reviewed in order to capitalize existing migratory information in North Africa and to get statistical data about the quantity, sex, age and origin of migrants in each target country. The main documents that were reviewed are: International conventions signed by the country, laws and policies on migration issues, migratory programs and projects lead by the government, reports and studies already conducted in North Africa about migration, migrant behavior and migratory flows, governmental, IOM and UNHCR statistical data about migratory flows.

Interviews were conducted in order to get information from government representatives and from UN agencies such as IOM and UNHCR. Semi-structured interviews were also conducted with the most important service providers for migrants. Information from migrants was collected through the realization of life-stories and complemented with the information obtained from anonymous OIM case records.

In total, 6 government representatives, 10 service provider members and 23 members of UNHCR and OIM staff have been interviewed. Concerning migrants, interviews were carried out in Morocco and in Tunisia. In Morocco, 5 women, 2 men and 3 UMC participated in the field research. In Tunisia these numbers were 3 women, 2 men and 1 UMC. Anonymity and confidentiality practices were adhered to all times, and participants were informed and consented in all interviews.

Limitations of the research

The main limitations in carrying out the research are related to political conditions in the area. In Egypt, meeting governmental actors was not possible due to the political context in the country. Similarly, meeting migrants and service providers around Cairo was challenging due to protests taking place on the streets of the city, which limited mobility.

The situation in Libya did not permit its inclusion in the research, which supposed a challenge because of the importance of the country in the region in terms of complex migratory flows. Nevertheless, information about the country to better understand the global context of migratory flows has been obtained through the use of secondary source and Skype interviews with OIM staff in the country.

In Morocco, a shift in migratory policy was taking place during the implementation of the field-work, so it is assumed that after the publication of this report, some changes in the Moroccan legal framework will have happened. A similar situation applies to Tunisia and Egypt, where currently are living political changes in their political system.

Taking into consideration all these factors and that the available time for the research did not allow for visits to all service providers in each country, questionnaires were designed and sent by mail to service providers (NGOs in Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia), in order to get accurate information from a large number of them. Unfortunately, only a few organizations answered it.

Despite these constraints, enough precise information was obtained through the revision of several studies concerning migrant populations that have been carried out in all three countries. Furthermore, anonymous interview records from beneficiary migrants of IOM were used as primary sources of information.

13.2 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

13.2.1 EGYPT

NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION
ABSHIR CULTURAL ASSOCIATION	Somali community-based organization that provides training courses and workshops, and promotes cultural exchange.
ARED EL TAYBEEN	Sudanese youth established the Ared El Taybeen community centre in 2006 in Cairo in order to provide courses and activities to children and adults, and in some cases, material assistance to community members.
CARITAS	Caritas Egypt works with a number of international partners (UNCHR, OIM, etc.) on social assistance programmes that focus on children, women, refugees, people with physical and learning difficulties, addicts and those at risk from HIV/AIDS. It works in healthcare, education and livelihood support.
AFRICAN HOPE LEARNING CENTER	African Hope Learning Centre is a refugee school that offers education possibilities to Sub-Saharan children in Egypt.
ARAB COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL	The Arab Council's main goal is to promote refugee, asylum seeker and immigrant rights in Egypt, through fair and just trials based on national and international laws. The Arab Council provides protection and legal aid for refugees in the framework of its partnership with UNCHR.
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS)	CRS is based in Alexandria. It supports local organizations, carries out civic engagement activities for young people, helps in the creation of economic opportunities for women and other marginalized groups, and provides education to refugees and protection for VOT.

EGYPTIAN FOUNDATION FOR REFUGEE RIGHTS - AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST REFUGEE ASSISTANCE (AMERA)	The EFRR is a non-governmental organization that provides legal assistance to refugees and migrants who are in detention and/or are victims of crime. AMERA-Egypt is a leading refugee rights organization providing legal aid and psychosocial support to refugees in Cairo and across Egypt.
EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS	The Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) is an independent rights organization. It has worked since 2002 on strengthening and protecting basic rights and freedoms in Egypt, through research, advocacy, and litigation in the fields of civil liberties, economic and social justice, democracy and political rights, and criminal justice.
EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT	Non-governmental organization aiming to promote social and economic rights, spread democratic practices, and guarantee social justice for all members of society. To this end, it carries out training and education programmes on human rights and civil education.
EGYPTIAN LAW CENTER	Local Egyptian organization that promotes human rights.
ETHIOPIAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY IN EGYPT	The Ethiopian Refugee Community is a community-based organization for Ethiopian Refugees aiming to create mutual understanding and tolerance within the Ethiopian community. It offers financial aid for healthcare, shelter and housing for VOT, educational materials for children, and trainings for community members in collaboration with other service providers.
FARD	Local Egyptian local organization that promotes human rights and advocates for migrants rights.
ISLAMIC RELIEF WORLDWIDE	IRW in Egypt runs projects that support the vocational training of young people, and offers healthcare and education to disabled children and their families.
EL NADIM CENTRE FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE	The Nadim Centre is an independent Egyptian organization providing psychological rehabilitation, medical and legal support to VOT and women victims of GBV in the North of the country. It also works in the publishing, campaigning and the mobilization of different societal sectors against these practises.
NUBA ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT	Nuba Association for Development is a Sudanese community-based organization that offers nursery services and courses for adults in Arabic and English.
NUBA MOUNTAINS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION	Nuba Mountains' main goal is to assist the members of the Nuba Community in Cairo by providing support to families, counselling and emergency aid (food and housing) for refugees in distress.

**OROMO SELF-
HELP REFUGEE
ASSOCIATION
(OSRA-EGYPT)**

OSRA is a registered refugee association whose main objective is to advocate for the rights of refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt, with a particular focus on the Oromo community. It provides English and Arabic courses to help members improve their livelihoods in Cairo.

**PSYCHO-SOCIAL
SERVICES
TRAINING
INSTITUTE IN
CAIRO (PSTIC)**

PSTIC provides mental health services, psycho-social support, referrals, protective housing and other assistance to refugees, migrants and asylum seekers in Greater Cairo. It also has a special team of Emergency Responders available to provide support in Alexandria, Damietta and Obour. PSTIC also provides training, supervision and support to the network of trained Psycho-social Workers (PSW) who are refugees from all nationalities, and to NGOs and CBOs.

REFUGE EGYPT

Refuge-Egypt helps people from Sudan and other African countries living in Egypt with medical services, family support, education and livelihoods.

RESELA

RESELA offers social and financial support for refugees in the North in the framework of its partnership with UNCHR.

SAWA

Sawa is a Sudanese community centre that was founded by Sudanese women. Sawa's mission is to assist refugees and migrants and help them in finding medical aid, emergency assistance or education.

**SAVE THE
CHILDREN**

Save the children carries out a project for Syrian children under a comprehensive and geographical based approach that includes work in education, health, gender based violence and protection for all children (migrants and nationals) in the area of Kilo 4.5

**SOMALI
ASSOCIATION
FOR WOMEN AND
CHILDREN (SAFWAC)**

Safwac is a community-based organization that aims to improve the conditions of Somali women and children living in Cairo. To this purpose it carries out courses and trainings to develop their skills.

**SOMALI
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT IN
HADAYEK EL MAALI**

The Somali community-based organization in Hadayek el Maadi provides a safe space for support, learning and relaxation for young and adult Somalis within the community. The main activities carried out by the organization are related to education and the development of artistic skills and support to parents to send their children to school.

**ST. ANDREW'S
REFUGEE SERVICES**

STARS provides education, psycho-social, and legal support to refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in Cairo.

SINA NETWORK

The network aims to help refugee communities by providing them with essentials such as medicine, food and clothes. They focus on the less serviced areas in Cairo. It also works in the promotion of cultural exchange between Egyptians and refugees.

**SONS OF FUR
CHARITY
ASSOCIATION**

The Sons of Fur Charity is a community centre for the Sudanese community from Darfur in Egypt that provides educational activities, family support, health and legal information, and cultural activities.

**SONS OF
KORDOVAN**

Sons of Kordovan is a Sudanese community centre supporting migrants and refugees in Egypt through activities such as: computer courses, health awareness activities, support for families with children with special needs, drawing and music classes for children, and discussion groups to solve common problems.

SURIAL GAD

Local Egyptian organization that promotes human rights.

**TADAMON
COUNCIL**

Tadamon is an independent, non-political network of civil society organizations working to promote the welfare of refugees and their mutual co-existence with Egyptians through networking and coordination of common efforts.

Source: BOSLA website.

13.2.2 MOROCCO

**NAME OF THE
ORGANIZATION**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE
ORGANIZATION**

**MEDITERRANEAN ASSOCIATION
FOR IMMIGRATION AND
DEVELOPMENT – ARMID**

Association based in Tanger that provides basic social services and legal assistance to migrants.

CARITAS – CAM – SAM - TAM

Caritas has three centres in Morocco (Casablanca, Rabat and Tanger) where the following services are offered to all migrants: reception, social care, healthcare and education.

**TAMKINE MIGRANT CENTRE
(OUM EL BANINE – TERRE DES
HOMMES)**

The Tamkine Migrant centre is managed by ‘Oum el Banine’ and ‘Terre des Hommes Espagne’ in the framework of a project with the same name that aims to reduce the vulnerability of migrant women and children in Morocco through the improvement of their access to healthcare, education and justice.

**INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE
COMMITTEE - CEI**

The CEI is the Diaconal service of the Protestant Church in Morocco and offers livelihood and healthcare support for migrants. It is present in most cities of Morocco where migrants are concentrated.

**MOROCCAN ASSOCIATION
FOR CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT
SITUATIONS – AMANSD**

AMANSD is a social and humane association working for the protection of children, families, and foreign communities living in the territory of Mesnana (Tanger).

EMERGENCY ACTION

Emergency Action is a charity and non-profit organization providing aid and relief to poor people in Morocco. They offer healthcare services for refugees and asylum seeker in Morocco in the framework or its partnership with UNCHR.

ASSOCIATION AGAINST AIDS - ALCS

ALCS is a community and advocacy organization that has 19 offices and 28 centres for information and anonymous screening. Its main objectives are the prevention of HIV/AIDS, access to treatment, care and advocacy for people living with HIV, including all migrants. The organization also provides psychological assistance for migrants who are victims of sexual violence in Morocco.

MIGRATION DELEGATION

The Migration Delegation depends on the Diocese of Tanger in Morocco and works to improve of the physical, mental and social health of migrants established in the province of Nador.

PAN-AFRICAN ORGANIZATION AGAINST AIDS (OPALS)

OPALS' main objective is to fight against AIDS and it carries out projects in order to reach out to migrant populations for preventative actions, and treat migrants living with HIV.

MOROCCAN ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT THE PROMOTION OF SMALL BUSINESSES (AMAPPE)

AMAPPE is an organization that fights against poverty by promoting the socio-economic integration and development of poorer people. It carries out two main kinds of activities: i) The creation and development of economic activities, ii) Strengthening the capacities of local development actors. It works with migrants in the framework of its partnership with UNCHR.

EAST-WEST FOUNDATION (FOO)

The East-West Foundation strives to provide structures where everyone can learn, play and share in the poorest areas of the country. Since 2007 the foundation has worked in partnership with UNHCR to improve access to education for refugees.

DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION OF IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN MOROCCO (ODTI)

ODTI is the only trade union of irregular migrants in the North Africa and is associated to the Democratic Organization of Workers (ODT). Their main activities are; defense of work conditions for migrants and the orientation of undocumented migrant workers and their families to facilitate their access to healthcare, the legal education system and justice.

ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN FOR EQUALITY AND DEMOCRACY

Organization that works in collaboration with ODTI, addressing specific services to women in order to improve their work conditions, health and education.

ASSOCIATION LIGHT ON ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN THE MAGHREB (ALECMA)	Organization of migrants who work to improve the situation of people who come to Morocco by facilitating housing, access to healthcare and education, through collaboration with other international NGOs and conducting advocacy to denounce violation of migrant rights.
VOICE OF WOMEN	Organization of migrant women who work in advocating for the improvement of access to healthcare, education and income generating activities for women and minors.
SUB-SAHARAN COUNCIL OF MIGRANTS IN MOROCCO	Organization of migrants advocating for the respect of migrant rights in Morocco, in collaboration with other migrant organizations.
GROUP OF SUB-SAHARAN COMMUNITIES IN MOROCCO	Association of migrants who work for the promotion and defence of human rights of migrants, and fight injustices against them.
CASABARATA ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	The Casabarata Association for Human Development is an association that works since 2008 on the following: i) the environment, ii) social solidarity, iii) sport iv) education, culture and awareness. They include migrant populations in their activities.
ANTI-RACISM GROUP FOR ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT FOR FOREIGNERS AND MIGRANTS (GADEM)	Organization involved in the effective implementation of the rights of foreigners and migrants through advocacy, legal protection and promotion of inter-cultural activities.
BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR CHILDREN ASSOCIATION (AMANE)	AMANE is an association whose mission is to fight sexual violence against children, including migrants.
MOROCCAN ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (AMDH)	Association that works for the preservation of human dignity, respect for all human rights and their inclusion, protection and promotion.
ALTERNATIVE FORUM MOROCCO (FMAS)	Association aiming to defend and promote economic, political, social, civic and cultural rights of groups and individuals, without racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or sexual distinctions.
MOROCCAN ORGANIZATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (MOHR)	MOHR is an organization aiming to promote the exercise of fundamental human rights and individual and collective freedoms, without any discrimination, on the basis of universal legislation.
FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY	Association whose main goal is to support migrant people in Morocco, victims of conflicts, oppression and violations of human rights.

RIF HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

Organization based in Nador that advocates for the respect of human rights in the country.

BENI ZNASSEN ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE, DEVELOPMENT AND SOLIDARITY (ABCDS)

Association aiming to defend the rights of Moroccans and migrants in accordance with international conventions, and to provide humanitarian support and legal assistance to those in distress.

Source: Carrión López, A., Kheireddine, A. and Kousseksou, K., 2013

13.2.3 TUNISIA

NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

TUNISIAN ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Organization whose main goal is to defend the rights of women in Tunisia

ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS IN TUNISIA (AESAT)

AESAT is an association created by Sub-Saharan students and Volunteers in Tunisia that promotes the unification and integration of African students in the country, and the promotion of their culture.

ARTICLE 13

Taking its name from the 13th article of the Declaration of Human Rights, this organization advocates for the free of movement of migrants.

CARITAS

The main mission of Caritas Tunisia has been to support Tunisian non-governmental organizations working in the fields of education, care for the disabled and the elderly, support for the most vulnerable women, and rural development assistance. Over the last year, the organization has started its work for migrant people.

CIMADE

CIMADE is an association of active solidarity with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and works in partnership with organizations in developing countries in order to support their activities in the promotion of migrant rights.

**TUNISIAN COUNCIL FOR
REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
(CETUMA)**

The Tunis Centre for Migration and Asylum (CeTuMA) is a scientific, non-profit organization specialized in the realization of research on migratory issues.

**TUNISIAN FORUM FOR
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
RIGHTS (FTDES)**

**TUNISIAN RED CRESCENT
(CRT)**

It belongs to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and in Tunisia works in partnership with UNHCR and OIM to provide emergency aid (housing and healthcare) to migrants and refugees in distress.

**FRANCE LAND OF ASYLUM-
HOUSE OF MIGRANTS›
RIGHTS IN TUNIS**

France Land of Asylum is an association of French solidarity, whose main purpose is to support asylum seekers and to defend the asylum right in France. Over the last few months it has started to carry out activities in Tunisia, where they developed a project to support local organizations working in the defense of migrant rights.

**TUNISIAN LEAGUE OF
HUMAN RIGHTS**

Organization whose main goal is to promote the respect for human rights in Tunisia, and that has worked in the promotion of migrant rights.

**ISLAMIC RELIEF WORLDWIDE
(IRW)**

IRW in Tunisia works in partnership with UNCHR providing services for refugees in the Sousa camps and in the South of the country.

**ARAB INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS (AIHR)**

The Arab Institute for Human Rights is an independent Arab non-governmental organization based in Tunisia whose main goal is to promote human rights.

**EURO-MEDITERRANEAN
NETWORK FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS**

A network of more than 80 human rights organizations, institutions and individuals based in 30 countries in the Euro-Mediterranean region, including Tunisia. This organization promotes human rights principles and the value of cooperation and dialogue across and within borders.

Source: Interviews carried out during the field research in Tunisia in November 2013.

Migratory flows in North Africa are characterized by their complexity: the varied typology of migrants moving to the region, the varied nature of push and pull factors, the changeable migratory routes and migrants' objectives, expectations and plans in addition to the political, social and economic differences between countries, play a role in the structure and nature of migratory flows in the region. Its geographical position between Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, and its own political situation - particularly after the Arab Spring in 2011 - have made migratory flows in North Africa more complex in nature. Hundreds of thousands of people have moved to, through and from the region over the last few years, for different purposes and needs...

...The different migrant groups that compose the complex migratory flows in the region choose their migratory routes to reach North-African countries based on many different factors, such as their country of origin, their destination, their possibilities to migrate regularly or irregularly (depending on entry requirements) and their financial capacity to pay for their travels...

...Regional dialogue is imperative so as to allow for the sharing of information between countries and to better understand migration phenomena in the region, which in turn may foster the development of innovative and shared responses to better manage migratory flows. The similarities in migration phenomena and the associated challenges in all three countries mean that a common approach would be favorable to all.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM)
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