

# PROTECTION

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



The IOM protection staff prepare the Voluntary Humanitarian Return flight to Addis Ababa for returning migrants before they leave Sana'a Airport. © IOM 2022/ Rami Ibrahim

### PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS 2022



**42,123**

Migrants received humanitarian assistance by IOM and its partners



**4,087**

Migrants supported to voluntarily return to their countries of origin through the Voluntary Humanitarian Returns (VHR) programme



**9,741**

People received dedicated protection case management and referral support



**20,035**

IDPs supported with integrated protection services

IOM works to protect and promote the rights of all people on the move, including conflict and displacement affected Yemenis and migrants. The Organization aims to strengthen access to protection services, pursue avenues for redress, build a more protective environment for vulnerable groups, and work alongside communities to prevent and respond to violations of their fundamental human rights. Recognizing that access to protection services remains extremely limited in Yemen, IOM seeks to bolster services provision, strengthen referral pathways, and identify innovative and safe ways to support and work with community-based structures. IOM's protection activities are focused on supporting wellbeing, and improving living conditions for migrants, IDPs and conflict-affected communities, through the delivery of lifesaving protection and assistance. It furthermore conducts ongoing protection monitoring to better inform programme responses and for evidence-based advocacy. The organization adopts a holistic approach, mainstreaming protection across all multisectoral programming, and training staff on safe identification and referral of protection cases.

## VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURNS

IOM assists migrants with safe, voluntary, and dignified returns from Yemen to their countries of origin from Aden, Ma'rib, and Sana'a. Migrants using VHR services can also receive case management, pre-movement health services, medical escorts during air travel, awareness-raising sessions and re-integration assistance upon arrival. With the majority of stranded migrants in Yemen being Ethiopian, close coordination with the Government of Ethiopia is key in this process. Priority is given to the most vulnerable such as unaccompanied and separated children, women at risk, older persons, medical cases, and persons who have been subjected to serious human rights violations.

## CASE MANAGEMENT AND REFERRAL SUPPORT

IOM provides direct protection assistance through Migrant Response Points (MRPs) and Mobile Teams and Community Response Points (CRPs). Through static MRPs in Aden, Sana'a and Ma'rib, IOM provides protection case management and referrals for migrants and Yemenis at risk with protection needs – including survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and victims of trafficking. IOM also provides in-kind and cash support, health assistance and referrals, including for specialized services including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Mobile teams provide on-the-spot lifesaving assistance to people on the move along the migratory routes in Yemen.

## MONITORING, RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

IOM undertakes ongoing protection monitoring, in coordination with partners, to track protection trends, monitor human rights violations, and support analysis to inform evidence-based advocacy for an effective protection and wider humanitarian response, and to promote avenues for redress. Furthermore, protection monitoring allows IOM to undertake a protection response to mitigate and/or reduce the identified protection risks and threats by supporting most at risk populations to use positive coping mechanisms. The trends are analyzed on a quarterly basis and IOM leverages on its leadership in various coordination meetings to ensure salient protection issues are brought to light.

The Organization supports strategies that enhance regional dialogue and cooperation, such as IOM's Regional Migration Response Plan for the Horn of Africa. The UN Migration Network, established early 2022, is another catalyst for enhanced engagement on migrant protection issues. It is an active member of the National Protection Cluster and sits on its Strategic Advisory Group.

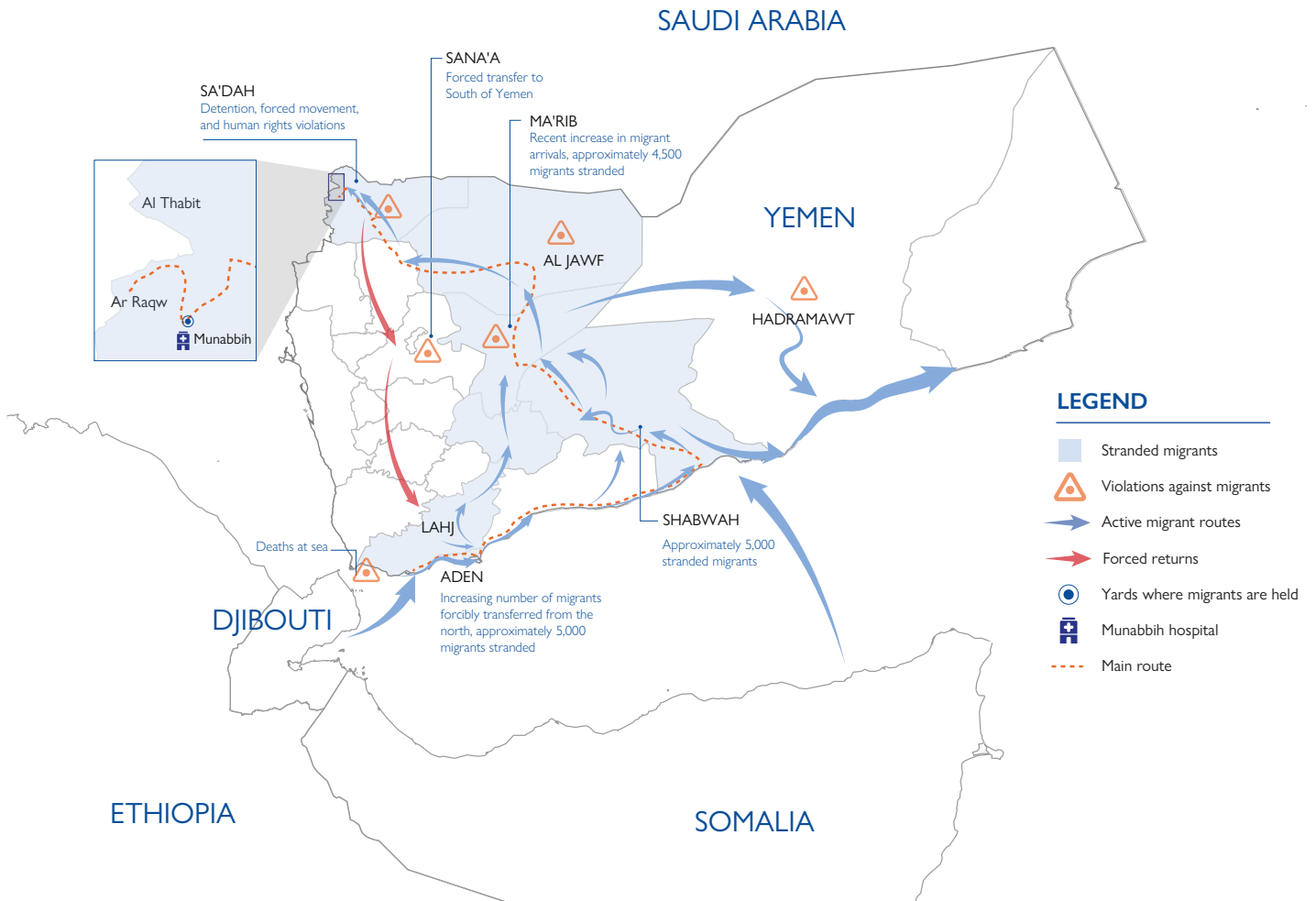
## MAINSTREAMING PROTECTION

IOM adopts a comprehensive approach, mainstreaming protection across all multisectoral programming, and training staff on safe identification and referral of protection cases. IOM conducts regular protection mainstreaming audits of key service areas that include health centers, water points, food distribution sites, protection centers, and other registration points to identify if there are any structural barriers to meaningful access to services. Furthermore, when it comes to food and non-food distributions, IOM fast tracks Persons with Specific Needs to ensure the overall safety and dignity is preserved. To complement this, the IOM Protection team further engages with various vulnerable groups as part of participation and accountability to affected populations.



Stranded migrants prepare to embark on IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return flight to Ethiopia from Aden. © IOM 2022/ Rami Ibrahim

# OVERVIEW OF MIGRATION TRENDS IN YEMEN



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