



# MHUB The North Africa Mixed Migration Hub Information Sheet

[www.mixedmigrationhub.org](http://www.mixedmigrationhub.org)

March 2015

MHUB works on behalf of the **North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force** consisting of [DRC](#), [IOM](#), [OHCHR](#), [RMMS](#) and [UNHCR](#). It promotes a human rights-based approach to ensuring the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows to, through and from North Africa.

MHUB supports governmental and non-governmental organizations including policy makers agencies, donors, public, academia by **producing knowledge** regarding the human rights protection issues faced by people moving in these flows.

It **fosters collaborative approaches among key stakeholders** to develop innovative policies and programmes, specifically, it holds the secretariat of the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force.

Human mobility in North Africa is characterized by complex movements originating within the region, as well as in other parts of Africa and the Middle East. They involve regular and irregular migrants, including those escaping poverty, discrimination and other human rights violations, those in search of a more dignified life and better opportunities, refugees and asylum seekers, those looking to reunite with family abroad, smuggled migrants, victims of trafficking and unaccompanied minors.

People travelling along these routes often experience severe human rights violations. Refugees and migrants are smuggled, trafficked and held hostage for ransom, thereby being subjected to extortion, forced labour, sexual exploitation, slavery-like practices, servitude and torture, sometimes resulting in death. Migrants and refugees are stranded in transit or get caught up in conflicts and remain in situations of increasing vulnerability. State practice and actions of state authorities can include mandatory detention, inadequate conditions of detention, violence and discrimination by border authorities and unlawful and disproportionate use of force.

To address the rights, needs and vulnerabilities of the people moving in these mixed and complex flows, further insight is needed into the circumstances of their movements.

Through innovative research and knowledge management activities, and by facilitating inter-agency collaboration, MHUB aims to promote a human rights-based approach to ensuring the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows along the North African migratory routes.

## MHUB is:

**A go-to place for knowledge, data and research.** MHUB collects, analyzes and disseminates relevant data among North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) member agencies and concerned stakeholders. It produces regular newsletters and fact sheets, undertakes innovative research and organizes expert discussions.

**A platform for inter-agency exchange and coordination.** MHUB provides the secretariat for the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force with a view to

**Pooling expertise:** North Africa MMTF members regularly share their expertise and identify good practices and lessons learnt. MHUB collects this expertise and re-disseminates it through its information channels

**Disseminating innovative and good practices:** MHUB and the North Africa MMTF members share lessons learnt with governments and concerned actors to promote more effective and efficient protection of migrants' rights.

**Establishing priority areas for cooperation and potential joint programme responses:** Exchange and Cooperation among North Africa MMTF members and with national governments, inter-regional bodies and other UN agencies can promote synergies, define new interventions, and minimize duplication.

**Advocacy:** MHUB provides a collective means for Task Force members to highlight pressing policy and programmatic concerns.

## CONTACT

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## Current and Upcoming Outputs and Activities

In the first half of 2015 MHub will deliver a range of innovative outputs:

- The first issue of the **monthly trend bulletin** is disseminated to interested people. It contains up to date information on mixed migration trends in, to and through North Africa.
- In May, we will publish the **Migrants and Detention in North Africa** study, closely followed by a study on the **North East African Migration Route**. (see below)
- The **Footprints** database will continue to be developed and rolled out to include data at the regional level.

- The **North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force**, consisting of a range of agencies working on mixed migration, gathers bi-monthly to share information and discuss policy and programming.
- An **expert symposium** on mixed migration in the region is being held in Cairo to discuss knowledge gaps and policy recommendations.
- MHub's social media channels provide regular updates on news and updates on mixed migration in the region

All this and more can be found on our website: [www.mixedmigrationhub.org](http://www.mixedmigrationhub.org)

## Ongoing Research

### Migrants and Detention in North Africa

*Asmita Naik*

This research project contributes to a better understanding of the issue of migrants and detention in North Africa, with a special focus on unaccompanied and smuggled minors and young people. The research applies a region-wide perspective with a focus on Libya, Egypt and Sudan.

The study maps out the scope and prevalence of the issue and the experiences of migrant detainees. It analyses the context of laws and policies on detention in the region and identifies international standards and best practices.

A review of existing policies by governments, multilateral institutions and civil society is aimed at informing the development of policy and programme responses to the needs of migrants in detention.

To be published in May 2015

### North East Africa Migration Route

*Sussex Centre for Migration Research, University of Sussex:*

*Dr. Michael Collyer, Vanessa Iaria, Markus Breines, Elisa Pascucci.*

This research project maps out current movement of mixed migratory flow along the North East Africa migratory route, with a focus on flows into, through and out of Sudan.

Applying a migrant focused perspective, it identifies the principal risks to migrants' safety and human rights, migrants' coping strategies to avoid violence. Special attention is given to the activities of local and transnational criminal gangs and non-state agents.

The research analyzes the efforts of governments and non-governmental and international organizations to reduce the security risks migrants face. It the role of institutional actors, including states' migration policies, border management activities, detention facilities and practical support and advocacy.

To be published in May 2015

