

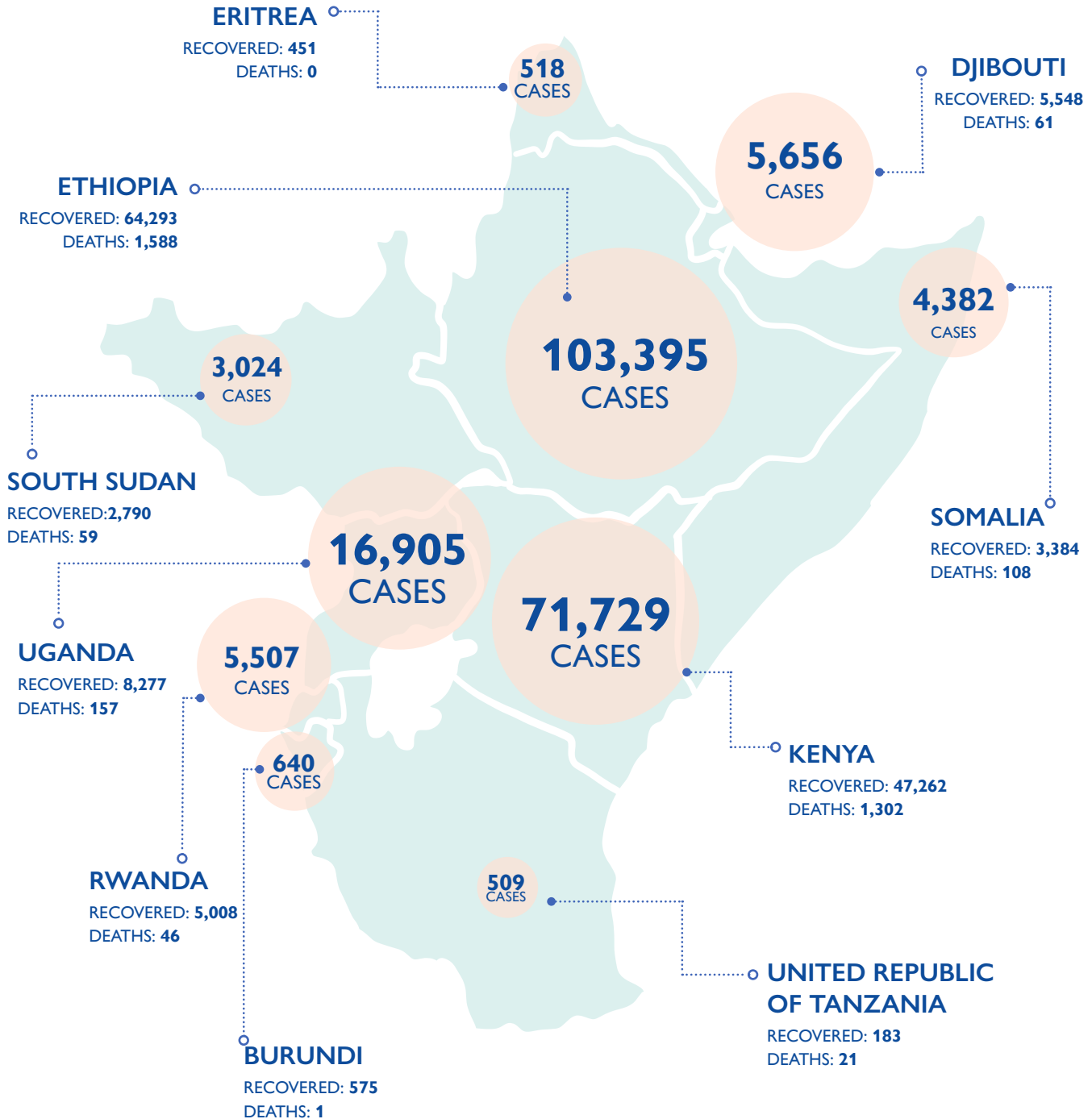
# EAST & HORN OF AFRICA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT - #32

18 NOVEMBER 2020 Update

**212,265**  
CONFIRMED CASES

**3,343**  
CONFIRMED DEATHS

**137,771**  
TOTAL RECOVERED



**DISCLAIMER:** The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on these maps may include errors and do not imply judgment of the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by IOM.



**123,794**

Migrant movements observed (DTM, September 2020) (70% reduction compared to September 2019)



**617**

Migrant arrivals in Yemen from the Horn (DTM, September 2020) (94% reduction compared to September 2019)



**6.3M**

IDPs (September 2020 – DTM, OCHA)



## EHoA SITUATION OVERVIEW

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The number of people infected with COVID-19 in the East and Horn of Africa (EHoA) continues to rise across the region. Migrants, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), are among the world's worst impacted groups, compared to non-migrants. Migrants are more likely to be living in conditions and finding themselves in circumstances in which the infection is more likely to spread, poorer and makeshift conditions and overcrowded settings. This group are also likely to have limited access to sanitation and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Migrants and mobile populations may also have an over-representation of pre-existing health issues due to a lack of access to medical facilities and care. Thousands of migrants are currently stranded across the East and Horn of Africa due to border closures and movement restrictions brought on by COVID-19. Many are in need of food, water, medical assistance and transport. Migrants are also experiencing involuntary return to their home countries, detention and abuse, and stigma and xenophobia, resulting from being blamed for the spread of the disease.

As of November 18, the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the region stands at 212,265. 1,595 new cases have been reported in the last day with most new cases reported in Kenya (925 daily increase 1.3%), followed by Uganda (342 daily increase 2.0%), Ethiopia (339 daily increase 0.3%) and Rwanda (16 daily increase 0.3%). Ethiopia remains the country with the highest number of confirmed cases in the region at 103,395 (48.7% of total case), followed by Kenya 71,729 (33.8%), followed by Uganda 16,905 (8.0%).

IOM is working with governments across the region to respond to the impact of COVID-19 in the areas of protection, risk communication, disease surveillance, infection prevention and control, case management, 'Points of Entry' (PoEs), camp coordination and management, procurement and logistics, among others. IOM is advocating for all migrants, including IDPs, to be included in all national government responses to combat COVID-19. A regional financial appeal to assist migrant groups in the East and Horn of Africa was launched in April for \$71.6M. So far, 73% of the required funds have been raised.

Link to the EHoA COVID-19 appeal document; <https://ronairobi.iom.int/publications/iom-east-and-horn-africa-strategic-and-preparedness-and-response-plan-covid-19>

In August IOM launched an appeal to specifically respond to the needs of migrants on the 'Eastern Route' from the Horn of Africa to Yemen.

Link to the Regional Migrant Response Plan for Horn of Africa and Yemen' (RMRP) 2020 Appeal: <https://ronairobi.iom.int/publications/regional-migrants-response-plan-horn-africa-and-yemen-2018-%E2%80%932020>

*The number of COVID-19 cases in East and Horn of Africa continues to increase with 212,265 people now infected.*

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*Thousands of migrants are currently stranded across the East and Horn of Africa due to widespread border closures and movement restrictions.*



## IOM COUNTRY RESPONSE

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### Partnerships and Coordination

IOM Ethiopia is working in 16 COVID-19 quarantine facilities, assisting migrants in the capital Addis Ababa, and other regions, in partnership with the Government of Ethiopia. IOM South Sudan is working in partnership with the authorities as a member of the Strategic Advisory Group, National Task Force, COVID-19 National Steering Committee, and the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG), a key platform providing decision-makers and responders with data and analysis on the impact and needs around COVID-19. IOM is also participating in state COVID-19 response fora with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other partners, and is collaborating with the International Rescue Committee, Medair, the Norwegian Refugee Council and Networks for Health, on conducting health, water and sanitation, and hygiene activities with the support of the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, to prevent the spread of the disease.

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

IOM Ethiopia reached over 31,500 people with COVID-19 awareness messages in Gedeo, Dire Dawa, East Harerghe, West Guji, and Borena. IOM Somalia reached more than 23,200 IDPs in Baidoa, Doolow and Kismayo with COVID-19 awareness and prevention information. Nearly 7,200 people have been reached with similar information through 9 IOM supported clinics across the country. IOM South Sudan is continuing with COVID-19 awareness and hygiene promotion in Bentiu and Malakal Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites as well as in areas surrounding the PoCs in Juba and Wau. Similar activities continue at PoEs in Abyei, Renk and Nimule. Nearly 200,000 people were reached with COVID-19 information through a network of 249 Community Hygiene Promoters during the reporting period. IEC materials with messages on COVID-19 are being displayed at 662 handwashing stations. IOM conducted training on COVID-19 for 46 community influencers in Juba. 63 people received psychosocial support through IOM's hotline in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Upper Nile. Over 4,500 people in Malakal, Bentiu and Wau were reached with risk communication and mental health and psychosocial support messages in relation to COVID-19 in the reporting period. IOM in partnership with City FM are continuing to reach people with messages on gender-based violence prevention, gender equality and protection in relation to COVID-19. IOM also conducted a survey on the COVID-19 prevention measures in Juba. Of more than 19,300 individuals observed in 25 public places, 58 percent washed their hands but only 8 percent wore preventative face coverings.

### Disease Surveillance

IOM Ethiopia has received and assisted nearly 39,000 migrants as part of disease surveillance, who have been returned to the country since the onset of COVID-19 in April. IOM also registered over 960 new returnee migrants in the reporting period.

*IOM Somalia reached more than 23,200 IDPs in Baidoa, Doolow and Kismayo with COVID-19 awareness and prevention information.*

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*IOM conducted training on COVID-19 for 46 community influencers in Juba.*



## Points of Entry

IOM Ethiopia screened over 4,000 returnees and members of the community for COVID-19 at IOM mobile health teams' sites and government supported health posts in Dire Dawa, East Hararge, Gedeo, West Guji and East Wollega. IOM Somalia has screened almost 13,000 people in Baidoa, Hudur, Dhobley, Kismayo and Dollow for COVID-19 in the reporting period. Over 15,000 travellers were screened for COVID-19 at Juba International Airport and other areas by IOM South Sudan. IOM provided healthcare services to over 1,000 people living near the Nimule PoE. A team from the PoEs Technical Working Group visited Renk to ensure that activities conducted were accordance with the recommendations and guidelines stipulated in the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures, to provide on-site support to implementing teams, and to better understand the opportunities and challenges.

## Infection Prevention and Control

IOM Ethiopia trained 45 public health and emergency management personnel on early warning, surveillance, psychosocial support and COVID-19 response in East Wollega. IOM also provided laundry soap, facemasks, sanitizers and buckets to 239 people including quarantine facility staff in Dire Dawa, Semera and Moyale IDP sites. IOM Rwanda provided 127 handwashing stations to schools in Mahama District. IOM Somalia reached over 12,100 people with hygiene promotion activities in Afmadhow, Kismayo, Baidoa, Bossaso and Hargeisa. 20 soap kits were provided to 70 households in Dhobley and Bossaso and recruited and trained 24 hygiene promoters and community hygiene workers in Baidoa. IOM South Sudan is maintaining 662 handwashing devices during the week. Over 43,000 people in Juba benefited from 17 operational handwashing facilities maintained by IOM during the week, 84 handwashing stations maintained by IOM has benefited some 84,500 people. At the same time, IOM is upgrading four boreholes in the capital Juba to ensure reliable supply of clean water. Nearly 11,000 people benefited from five handwashing facilities in Wau during the reporting period. An estimated 4,600 people benefited from the three operational handwashing stations in Nimule. IOM also facilitated the distribution of over 2,300 facemasks to partners and beneficiaries.

## Case Management and Continuity of Essential Services

IOM Ethiopia provided 4,000 returnees and members of the host community including children medical assistance in Dire Dawa, East Hararge, Gedeo, West Guji and East Wollega.

## Logistics, Procurement and Supply Management

IOM South Sudan is processing requests for PPE for frontline healthcare workers and frontline staff. The equipment includes medical masks, face shields, hand sanitizers, protective gowns, medical examination gloves and contactless thermometers. This provision will help in COVID-19 infection prevention and control in Juba, Magwi, Kaya, Nadapal, Jazi, Libagwo, Jale and Kerwa counties. IOM also provided water flocculants and disinfectant to Medair as part of efforts to integrate COVID-19 prevention in flood response in Juba. Over 2,300 flood affected households benefited.

*Over 15,000 travellers were screened for COVID-19 at Juba International Airport and other areas by IOM South Sudan.*

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*IOM is upgrading four boreholes in the capital Juba to ensure reliable supply of clean water.*

## Protection

IOM Ethiopia has trained 64 public health and emergency officers as well as community volunteers on gender-based violence, mental health and psychosocial support in relation to COVID-19 in Dire Dawa, East Hararge and East Wollega. IOM also provided awareness on gender-based violence and mental health and psychosocial support in relation to COVID-19 to 731 returnees in East and West Wollega, West Guji, Dire Dawa and East Hararghe. Meanwhile, IOM is providing items such as blankets, mats, bedsheets, soaps and dignity kits to 364 returnees at different PoEs and quarantine facilities while 87 migrant returnees in Addis Ababa, Semera, Jijiga and Moyale were provided with onward transportation allowance.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

IOM Ethiopia is continuing camp coordination with Disaster Risk Management Office on COVID-19 preparedness at IDP sites in East and West Hararghe, Borena, Gedeo, East and West Guji and East and West Wollega zones. IOM Tanzania is continuing to support the Voluntary Repatriation of Burundian refugees to Burundi in adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures. Over 500 Burundian refugees were assisted to return home during the reporting period.

## Displacement Tracking Matrix

IOM Somalia shared COVID-19 information with over 4,200 people entering and exiting Somalia. IOM also shared COVID-19 information with 2,000 individuals who reported to be unaware of the pandemic. IOM South Sudan is conducting regular weekly assessments of COVID-19 preparedness and response measures across 90 locations, combining border points, airports and internal transit points. Some 59 locations submitted their updates during the week. DTM enumerators carried out 3,305 interviews representing 7,493 individual movements across 24 Flow Monitoring Points (FMP). DTM is operating four displacement site FMPs at the gates of the Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites in Wau, Bentiu and Malakal as well as Masna Collective Centre. Enumerators conducted 596 interviews representing 1,614 individual movements.



*"Since I returned home I have been feeling unwell and mentally unstable," narrates an Ethiopian returnee assisted by the EU-IOM Joint Initiative and Save the Children to deal with the trauma of her migration journey.*

Photo: © IOM

*IOM Tanzania is continuing to support the Voluntary Repatriation of Burundian refugees to Burundi in adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures.*

# POINTS OF ENTRY & MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS

