Enhancing Effective Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in the Horn of Africa through the Better Migration Management Programme, Phase II

Context and Objective

More than 10 million people in and around the Horn of Africa are living outside their homes (UN 2019), as they have been forcibly displaced within their own countries or seeking a new life in neighbouring states. The countries of the Horn of Africa are severely restricted in their ability to ensure that cross-border migration takes place with a human rights-based approach, and in the absence of necessary infrastructures, Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) and Trafficking in Persons (TIP) are widespread. Tackling these criminal networks demands effective cooperation between the countries of origin, transit, and destination. The project therefore supports the development of a responsible approach to migration management in the region and in the individual countries, one that guarantees the protection of migrants and other vulnerable groups and ensures adherence to international commitments.

The Better Migration Management (BMM) Programme, Phase II, is financed by the European Union (EU) Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). BMM is coordinated by the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, and implemented by the British Council, International Organization for Migration (IOM), CIVIPOL and UNODC, with the overall objective of improving migration management in the region, and to address SOM and TIP within and from the Horn of Africa. The project is being implemented within the framework of the UNODC Regional Programme – Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security in Eastern Africa (2016-2022) and its regional Countering Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Programmes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda</th>
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<tr>
<td>UNODC budget</td>
<td>€ 6.5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>October 2019 – June 2022</td>
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<td>Donors</td>
<td>The European Union (EU) Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)</td>
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Project Outputs

The project concentrates on enabling national authorities and institutions to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, to effectively address and reduce Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in the region, by applying a human rights-based and holistic approach, guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on migration governance, effective institutions and protection of vulnerable migrants. Programme activities include providing technical assistance, capacity building and operational guidance to law enforcement authorities, anti-trafficking and anti-smuggling units in particular:

- Supporting anti-trafficking and anti-smuggling legislation and law enforcement institutional capacity to implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and its supplementing Protocols.
- Enhancing the knowledge and skills of law practitioners and law enforcement to prevent, suppress and investigate serious and organised crime committed by traffickers and smuggling syndicates, through capacity building workshops.
- Increasing organisational, operational and technical capacity of law enforcement, especially anti-trafficking and anti-smuggling units, in enforcing laws, strategies, and policies through operational support, provision of equipment, training and technical assistance.

Partnership

In 2016, the European Union and Germany established BMM to respond to the needs identified by the African member states of the Khartoum Process. The process is a regional dialogue for collaboration on migration between the European Union, its Member States and countries of origin, transit, and destination in the wider Horn of Africa. UNODC has been a partner, implementing BMM programme activities, since 2016.

UNODC Achievements

- 4 countries received equipment and technical support from UNODC through the handover of vehicles, specialized equipment, and IT tools to enable specialised units of investigators and prosecutors to counter TIP and SOM (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda).
- 5 countries assisted with the development of training curriculum on TIP and SOM for law enforcement academies (i.e., Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda).
- More than 700 criminal justice officers trained on detection, investigation and prosecution of TIP and SOM cases.
- 27 cases of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants supported through the mentoring of the Anti-Trafficking and Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU) in Nairobi and Mombasa, Kenya as well as the Anti-Trafficking Unit in Uganda.
- 12 cases of international cooperation in criminal matters facilitated.
- 3 countries supported with the review of national legislation and plans of action in compliance with the United Nations Transnational Organized Crime Convention and the Related Protocols on TIP and SOM
  - Ethiopia: Proclamation 1178;
  - Kenya: Review of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act & the development of Anti-TIP National Plan of Action (2019 – 2024);
  - Somaliland: Anti-TIP and SOM Law.
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Contact Information

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