

With funding under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration has been designed to provide a coherent framework to save lives, protect and assist migrants along the Central Mediterranean Routes (CMR). This Flash Report aims to present the compiled results of the Joint Initiative in (i) the Sahel and Lake Chad, (ii) the Horn of Africa, and (iii) North Africa. The EU-IOM Joint Initiative comprises the following pillars of action:

- Protection and Voluntary Return Assistance
- Capacity Development
- Information and Awareness Raising
- Reintegration Support
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Community Stabilisation

For more information, visit our website www.migrationjointinitiative.org

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS IN MARCH

- To continue assisting beneficiaries while enforcing social distancing in the COVID-19 context, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative agreed with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to set up an assistance scheme allowing mobile cash transfers through a private partner.
- More than 8.000 migrants stranded in West and Central Africa were identified since March through the existing network of Flow Monitoring Points at various borders and key transit zones, after most countries in the region restricted entries to their territories. Information reports are regularly published at: <https://migration.iom.int/>
- In Djibouti, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative delivered 17 awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19 prevention and response in Alat-Ela, Fantahero, and at the Obock Migrant Response Center reaching 1,251 migrants. IOM also continued to sensitize migrants about AVRR and general protection services available under the programme.
- On 8 March, International Women's Day, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative held two focus group discussions in Mogadishu with 19 female returnees in collaboration with the Somali Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Development and the Nagaad Network, a local NGO engaged in women empowerment and gender equality in Somaliland.
- A second *Dispositif d'Accueil pour le Retour Volontaire* opened in Algiers in March to respond to the increase in the number of migrants in need of shelter and awaiting AVRR in the current COVID-19 context.
- In Egypt, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative assisted 25 migrants to return to their countries of origin, after having provided emergency assistance for two months while flights were suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The EU-IOM Joint Initiative received urgent requests for support from Tunisian authorities (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, Regional Authorities) as well as individual migrants in Tunisia struggling to respond to the various challenges posed by COVID-19. The programme has adapted plans to respond to these needs.

MIGRANTS ASSISTED WITH POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE ²

92,563

migrants assisted after their return



86 % male

14 % female



2.2% unaccompanied migrant children

VOLUNTARY RETURN

2,055¹ | 81,884²

Stranded and vulnerable migrants supported with their voluntary return under EUTF funding



PROTECTION & DIRECT ASSISTANCE

38³ | 45⁴ Migrant Resource and/or Response Centres (MRRCs) established, rehabilitated or maintained



1,126¹ | 34,288² Migrants assisted in Search and Rescue Operations

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

71³ | 77⁴

Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in place
(for more information visit displacement.iom.int)



AWARENESS RAISING



121¹ | 14,824² Awareness raising activities organised

16,144¹ | 723,329² Individuals reached by awareness raising activities

All data is preliminary and subject to change.

Figures on return and reintegration assistance in this report include support provided by the Better Migration Management Programme. IOM's Search and Rescue operations are supported by the European Union, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the Department for International Development (DFID). For Libya, the Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) is implemented by mobile protection teams.

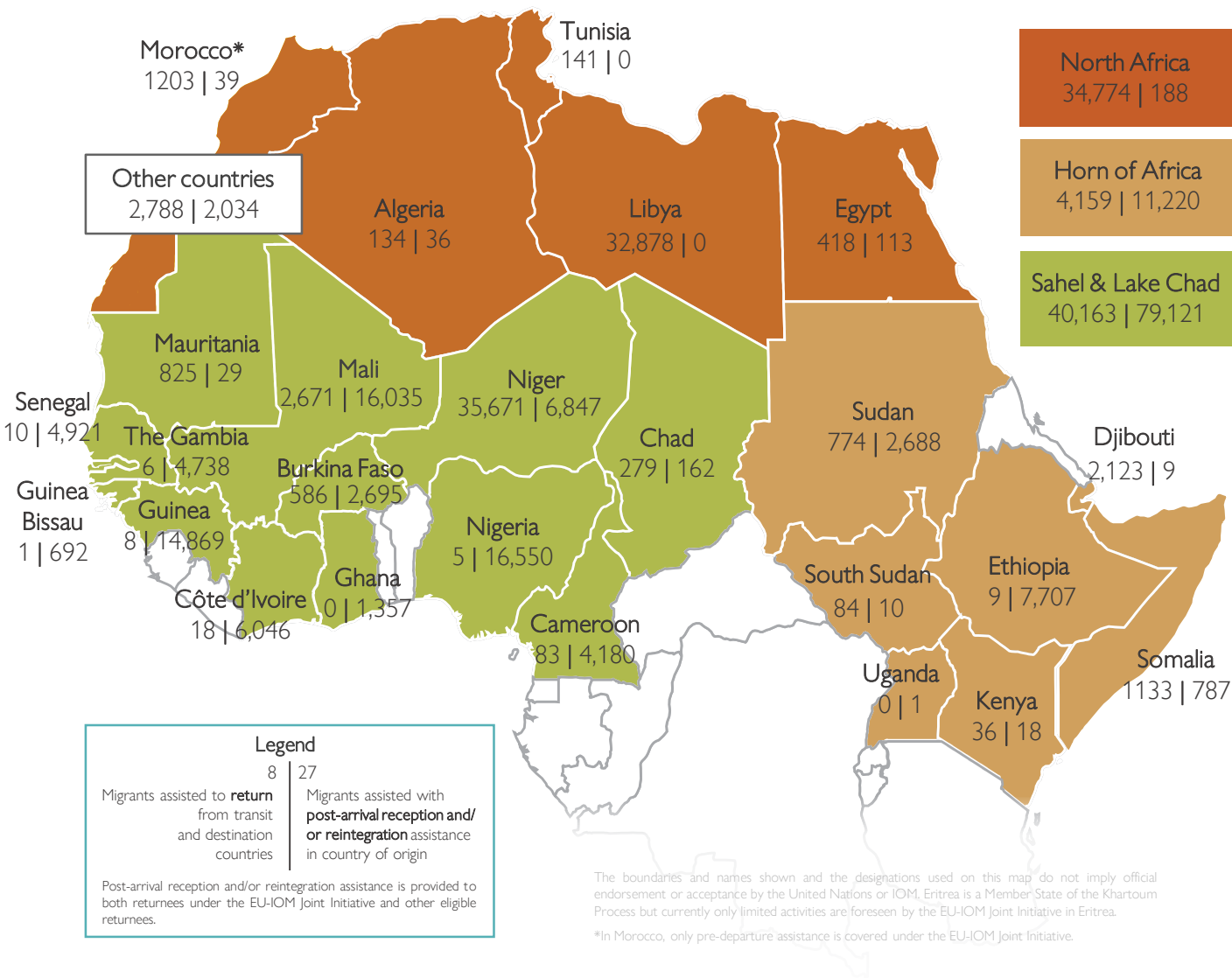
¹ Figure reflecting the reporting month

² Figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

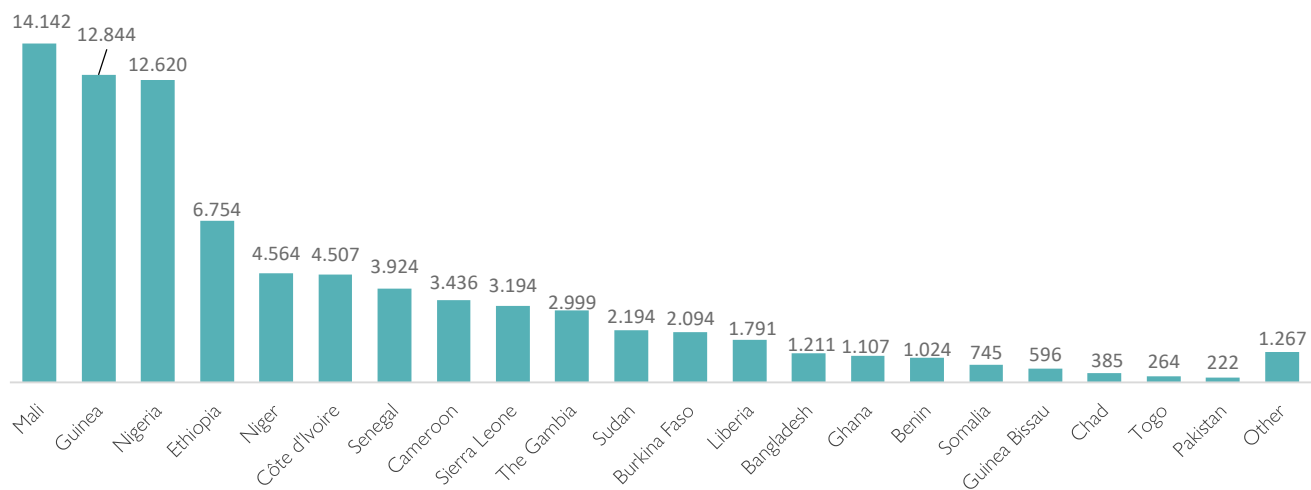
³ FMPs/ MRRCs supported and operating

⁴ FMPs/ MRRCs planned

RETURN AND POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION & REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE²



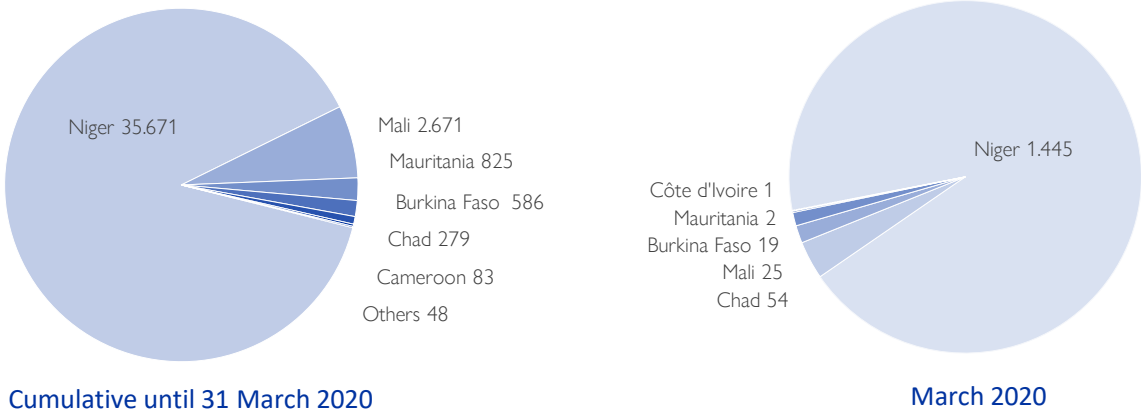
VOLUNTARY RETURNS TO COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN funded under the EUTF²



² figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

This section presents results under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Sahel and Lake Chad. Countries covered in this region are Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal.

VOLUNTARY RETURNS FROM COUNTRIES OF TRANSIT AND DESTINATION



DAOUDA’S JOURNEY FROM LIBYA BACK HOME TO NIGER



Daouda is one of the 166 Nigerien migrants who returned from Tripoli to Niamey on a charter flight organised by the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in February. Like many of his compatriots, Daouda travelled to Libya looking for seasonal work. After the conflict broke out in Tripoli and surrounding areas in April 2019, he wanted to return, but had no means to do so. IOM’s outreach teams in Libya regularly visit migrant neighbourhoods to inform them of the assistance available, including the Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme. With the launch of IOM’s VHR hotline in 2018, the assistance became even more accessible. A team of IOM medical, protection, data management and operations staff welcome returnees in Niamey. Upon arrival, they provide migrants with food, technical and logistical support and medical and psychosocial care, if needed. Each migrant also receives a lump sum to pay for transport to their community of origin.

[Click [here](#) to read the full story.]

Check the [Weekly Digest](#) to learn more about the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Sahel & Lake Chad.

POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN THE SAHEL & LAKE CHAD

79,121² migrants were assisted after their return



1,872¹ | 79,341²

Post-arrival reception assistance

(incl. reception at the airport, overnight accommodation, cash grant for immediate needs, first medical assistance, assistance with onwards transportation, material assistance)



867¹ | 63,463²

Start of the reintegration support process

(Reintegration counselling and planning, other reintegration support measures tailored to needs, vulnerabilities and opportunities of each migrant)



1,020¹ | 33,696²

Economic support

(incl. job placements, set-up of microbusinesses, trainings, cash for work programmes)



272¹ | 11,723²

Social support

(incl. social protection schemes, housing, education, medical support, child care, legal services)



209¹ | 7,229²

Psychosocial support

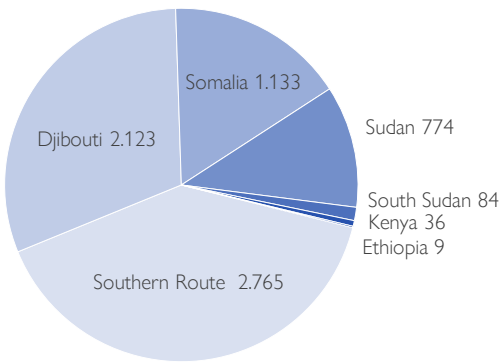
(incl. psychosocial counselling, focus group discussions, family mediation, community mediation, special security measures)

The same beneficiary of the programme can appear in multiple categories, but not multiple times within one category.

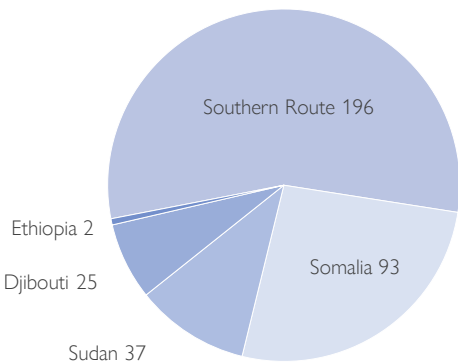
1 Figure reflecting the reporting month
2 Figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

This section presents results under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa. Core countries in this region are Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. Further countries covered under the Joint Initiative in the Horn of Africa are Eritrea, Kenya, Uganda, and South Sudan as well as Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia on the Southern migration route.

VOLUNTARY RETURNS FROM
COUNTRIES OF TRANSIT AND DESTINATION



Cumulative until 31 March 2020



March 2020

THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY MIGRANT RETURNEES “CAN SEE AND THINK DIFFERENTLY”



In 2017, three youths left Hargeisa, Somaliland, crossing into Ethiopia, Sudan - finally reaching Libya from where they had planned to cross into Europe. They ended up being held with scores of other African migrants in detention centres across the conflict-ridden Libya, often in inhumane conditions. A year later, the three were among those to return to their communities of origin with support from the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. Upon return, the three youths were offered reintegration support. They wanted to establish individual photo businesses but needed support with equipment and materials. In March 2020, they joined seven other returnees in a three-day training for migrants who had returned from Libya. The aim of the course was to equip returnees with basic skills in visual storytelling and photo techniques, encompassing both theory and practice. The training was facilitated by a young local photographer, Mustafa Saeed, working from the Hargeisa Hub - an innovation centre run by the NGO Shaqodoon.

[Click [here](#) to read the full story.]

POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

11,220² migrants were assisted after their return



324¹ | 11,219²

Post-arrival reception assistance

(incl. reception at the airport, overnight accommodation, cash grant for immediate needs, first medical assistance, assistance with onwards transportation, material assistance)



260¹ | 6,713²

Start of the reintegration support process

(Reintegration counselling and planning, other reintegration support measures tailored to needs, vulnerabilities and opportunities of each migrant)



516¹ | 4,368²

Economic support

(incl. job placements, set-up of microbusinesses, trainings, cash for work programmes)



102¹ | 1,683²

Social support

(incl. social protection schemes, housing, education, medical support, child-care, legal services)



253¹ | 5,084²

Psychosocial support

(incl. psychosocial counselling, focus group discussions, family mediation, community mediation, special security measures)

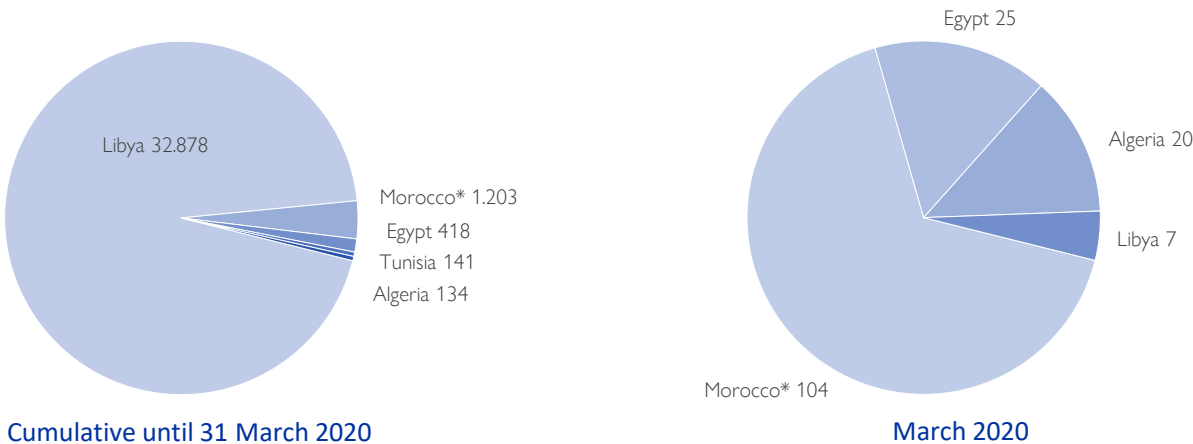
The same beneficiary of the programme can appear in multiple categories, but not multiple times within one category.

1 Figure reflecting the reporting month
2 Figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)



This section presents results under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in North Africa. Countries covered in this region are Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

VOLUNTARY RETURNS FROM COUNTRIES OF TRANSIT AND DESTINATION



*In Morocco, only pre-departure assistance is covered under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative.

EGYPT: THE EU-IOM JOINT INITIATIVE ASSISTS VULNERABLE MIGRANTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC



As part of efforts to assist the most vulnerable migrant communities in Egypt during the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, in collaboration with the Egyptian Red Crescent, distributed food and non-food items to 100 migrants in Cairo and Alexandria. In addition, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative maintains communication with community leaders and engages with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood as well as other partners for referrals.

[Click [here](#) to learn more.]

POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN NORTH AFRICA

188² migrants were assisted after their return



4¹ | 183²

Post-arrival reception assistance

(incl. reception at the airport, overnight accommodation, cash grant for immediate needs, first medical assistance, assistance with onwards transportation, material assistance)



47¹ | 47²

Start of the reintegration support process

(Reintegration counselling and planning, other reintegration support measures tailored to needs, vulnerabilities and opportunities of each migrant)



1¹ | 166²

Economic support

(incl. job placements, set-up of microbusinesses, trainings, cash for work programmes)



0¹ | 1²

Social support

(incl. social protection schemes, housing, education, medical support, child care, legal services)



0¹ | 0²

Psychosocial support

(incl. psychosocial counselling, focus group discussions, family mediation, community mediation, special security measures)

The same beneficiary of the programme can appear in multiple categories, but not multiple times within one category.

1 Figure reflecting the reporting month
2 Figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

This section presents results under the EU-IOM project ‘Protecting Vulnerable Migrants and Stabilizing Communities in Libya’ which are not already covered in the compiled results in pages 1, 2 and 5.

MIGRANT SITUATION UPDATE

- At least **654,081** migrants in Libya (**91%** adults, **12%** women, **9%** children)
- **1,472** migrants in detention in DCIM detention centres in Libya
- At least, **373,709** internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- At least, **448,573** IDP returnees
- **630** migrants returned to Libyan shores by the Libyan Coast Guard in March

Source: IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Libya, <https://dtm.iom.int/libya>

Figures presented in this section are the latest ones available at the end of the reporting month.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Community stabilization: Furniture, air conditioners and kitchen equipment were delivered and installed at the Naqr Knemma and Qasr Masoud Guest Houses in **Qatroun**. These guest houses are used by local communities for meetings or social events. They also serve to house IDPs in case of natural disaster or conflict. The Madroussa public garden site construction was launched. Construction has also started on the foundations for additional bathroom facilities at the Alnoujayla Martyrs School and two new classrooms at the Ibn Khaldoun School in **Benghazi**.


In **Sabha**, drilling of 13 water wells continued, with five completed to date and awaiting the results of water samples for handover to the General Water and Waste Water Company. The wells will contribute to the water supply for the entire city of Sabha, with a population around 120,000, while also boosting water pressure in the neighbourhoods surrounding each well. In locations where water pressure is low, the local population cannot access public water supplies and needs to purchase potentially contaminated water from trucks.

HUMANITARIAN DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS




105¹ | 253,542²

Emergency food assistance distributed to migrants
(number of meals distributed)



5,551¹ | 301,673²


Non-food items and hygiene kits distributed to migrants



1,293¹ | 42,626²

Healthcare services provided to migrants

ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING (VoTs)



15¹ | 428²


VoTs and persons at risk assisted
(incl. identification, information to victims, potential victims and persons at risk, support to access services, tailored assistance and referrals)

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION



0³ | 3⁴


IOM safe spaces for vulnerable migrants established



12¹ | 685²


Vulnerable migrants hosted in alternatives to detention

IMPROVING MIGRANT CONDITIONS AT KEY LOCATIONS



13¹ | 235²

Interventions in detention centres to improve conditions for migrants
(incl. provision or rehabilitation of toilets, showering facilities, and sewage systems)



0¹ | 10,262²

Lifesaving equipment and materials distributed at disembarkation points
(incl. first aid boxes, nylon suits, rescue rings, boxes of gloves)

1 Figure reflecting the reporting month

2 Figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

3 IOM Safe spaces supported and operating

4 Total IOM Safe spaces planned