

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
- Reintegration Support
- Capacity Development
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Information and Awareness Raising
- Community Stabilisation

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

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS IN SEPTEMBER

- The EU-IOM Joint Initiative has so far provided over 100,000 migrants with post-arrival reception and/or reintegration assistance.
- The 'Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Reintegration of Returnees in Ghana' were launched on 2 September. The SOP aims to ensure a consistent approach to the management of returns to Ghana jointly with the Government and the returnees' subsequent reintegration into their communities.
- The Gambia: the 8th project steering committee meeting on 24 September discussed efforts to support the Government's COVID-19 response and returnee job creation.
- The EU-IOM Joint Initiative conducted a field mission to Bahir Dar in Ethiopia's Amhara region and met with the Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs (BOLSA) management team. The discussion focused on capacity building support to the BOLSA institutions. In addition, 16 officials received an introduction to assistance available through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative.
- In Sudan, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative completed the rehabilitation of a Youth Centre which will be used to facilitate training to migrant women returnees and community members, as well as for youth orientation and related activities. Around 500 youth are expected to benefit from this centre.
- The EU-IOM Joint Initiative assisted 34 migrants from Burkina Faso and Benin to return home safely from Algeria through a voluntary return flight organized with support from the Government of Algeria and in coordination with countries of origin.
- The EU-IOM Joint Initiative assisted 556 migrants to return from Libya to Bangladesh, Mali and Sudan. All received medical and vulnerability screening, and were supported with exit visas, embarkation assistance, including masks, gloves and hand sanitizers, as well as post-arrival assistance in their country of return.

MIGRANTS ASSISTED WITH POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE ²

100,436

migrants assisted after their return



86.6 % male

13.4 % female



1.9% unaccompanied migrant children

VOLUNTARY RETURN

1,084¹ | 86,632²

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



112¹ | 26,402² 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



64¹ | 15,364²

Awareness raising activities organised

95,428¹ | 930,791²

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). This Flash Report only covers operations funded exclusively and/or cost-shared through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. For Libya, the Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) is implemented by mobile protection teams.

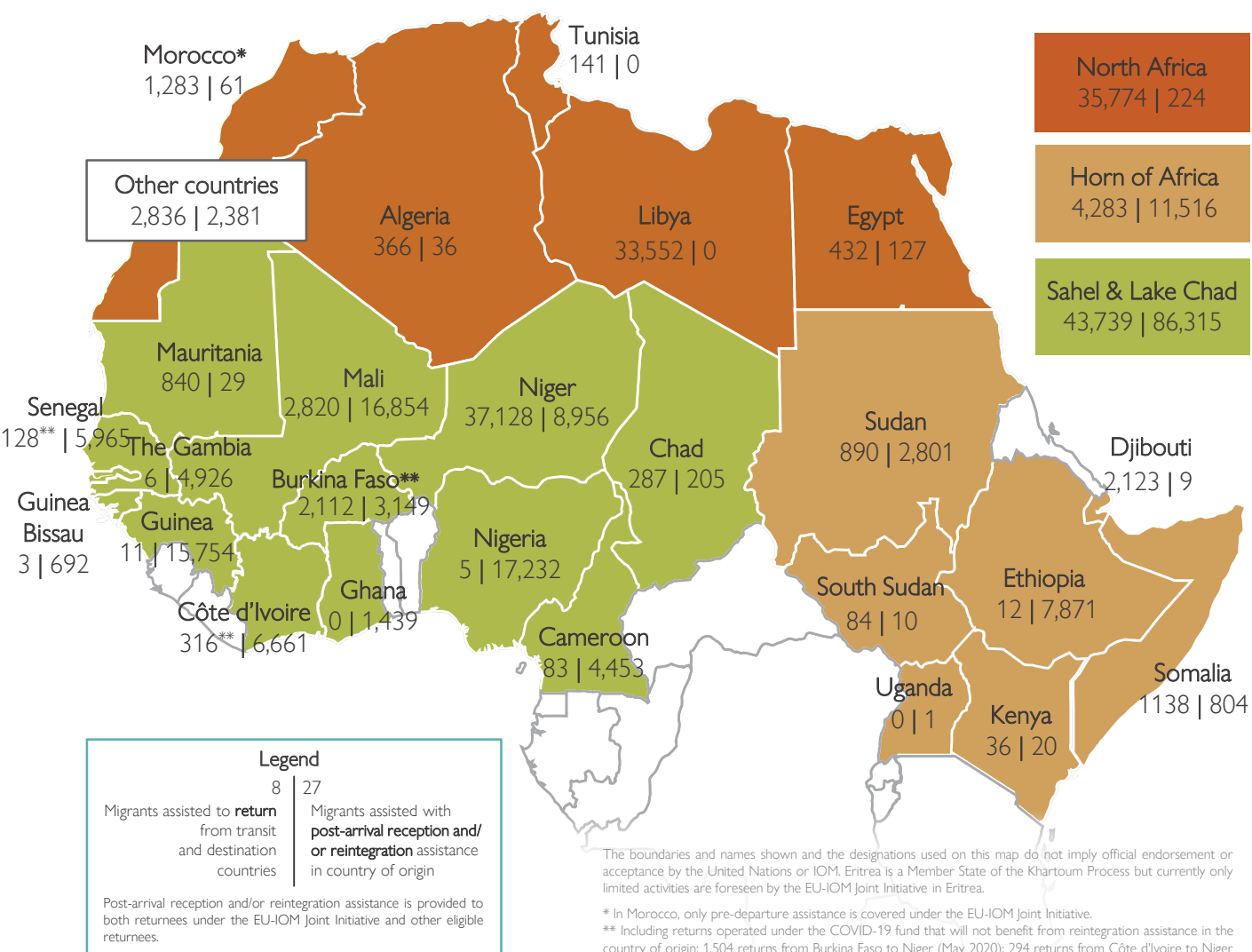
¹ Figure reflecting the reporting month

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

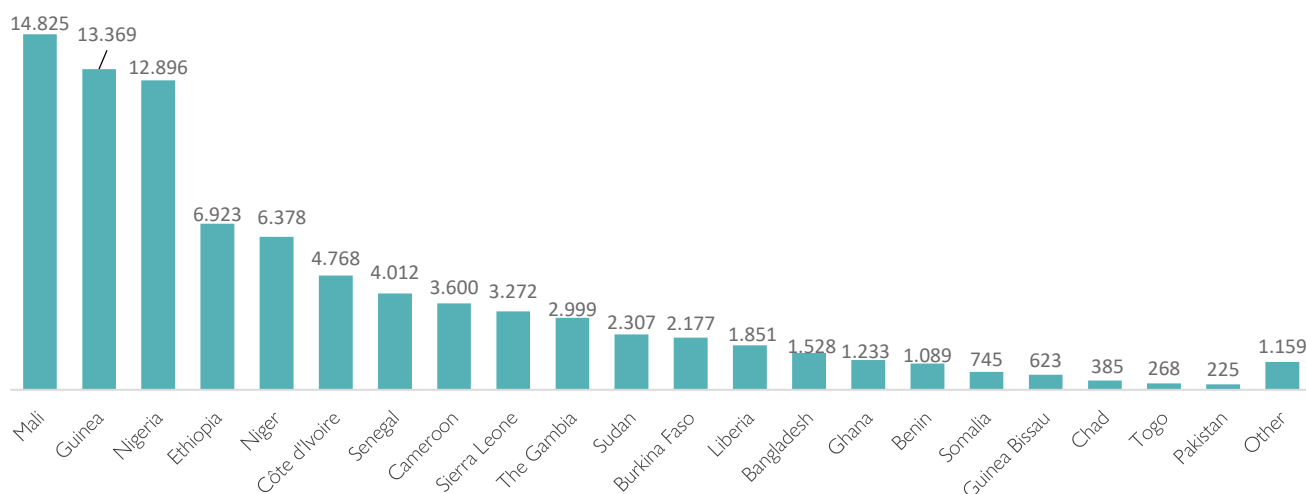
³ FMPs or MRRCs supported and operating

⁴ FMPs or MRRCs planned

RETURN AND POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION & REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE ²



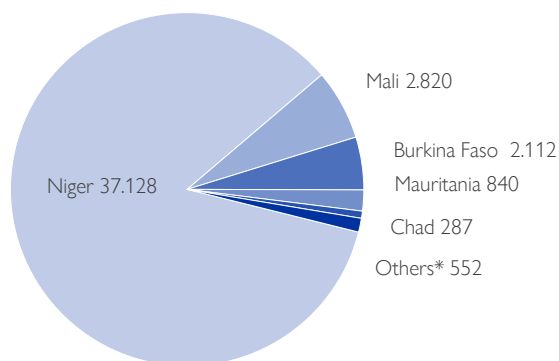
VOLUNTARY RETURNS TO COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN funded under the EUTF ²



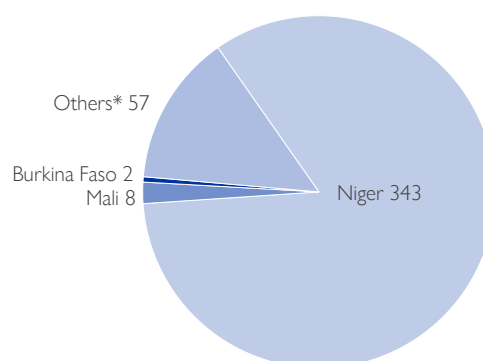
² figure since the start of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (May 2017)

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



Cumulative until 30 September 2020



September 2020

* 552 migrants who returned to their country of origin under the RDAF/COVID-19 Fund since May 2017 (out of whom 57 in September 2020).

83 MIGRANTS RESCUED BY EU-IOM JOINT INITIATIVE 'SEARCH AND RESCUE' OPERATION



IOM's Search and Rescue (SAR) team operating in Niger's northern Agadez region on 3 September rescued 83 migrants in distress. IOM worked in collaboration with the General Directorate for Civil Protection in Niger, with support from the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. The rescue took place in a remote stretch of the searing Sahara Desert, where temperatures are often unbearable and where hundreds of migrants are believed to have perished from dehydration, vehicle accidents and assault in recent years. The migrants rescued had been bound for Libya. They included 42 males – mostly Nigerian, but also several from Togo, Mali and Ghana – as well as 41 Nigerian females, including twin 4-year-old girls. So far in 2020, 404 migrants have been assisted through SAR operations in Agadez and Dirkou. Since 2016, 1,876 stranded migrants have been rescued in Niger's Ténéré Desert through joint operations organized by Niger's Civil Protection, local authorities and IOM.

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

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

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

86,315² migrants were assisted after their return



440¹ | 81,412²

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)



1,155¹ | 67,343²

Start of the reintegration support process

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



1,288¹ | 38,080²

Economic support

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



85¹ | 12,079²

Social support

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



87¹ | 8,093²

Psychosocial support

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

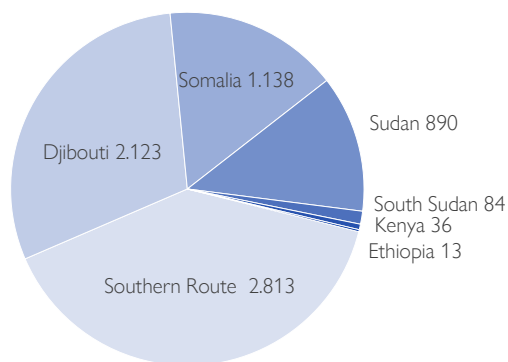
¹ Figure reflecting the reporting month

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

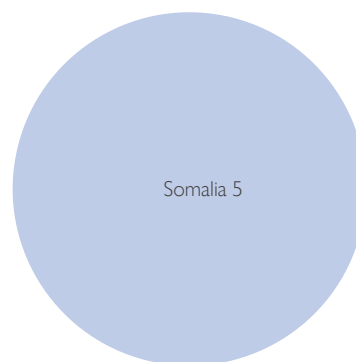
The same beneficiary of the programme can appear in multiple categories, but not multiple times within one category.

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 30 September 2020



September 2020

OVER 100 ARRIVE IN SUDAN AS VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURN FLIGHTS RESUME



On 12 September, 116 Sudanese migrants stranded in Libya boarded the first Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) flight to Sudan since the onset of COVID-19 pandemic. The long-awaited charter was arranged by IOM, under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative, in coordination with the Libyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Sudanese embassy in Tripoli. “COVID-19 has added a whole new layer of complexity to VHR, a vital lifeline for migrants wishing to return home,” said Alia Hirji, EU-IOM Joint Initiative programme manager in Sudan. “The successful return of vulnerable Sudanese migrants ensures an important step towards resuming movement operations and providing migrants with an option to return in safety and dignity.” Over the next weeks, returnees will receive individual counselling to assess their vulnerability and needs, and determine the type of reintegration assistance best suited.

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

To learn more about the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in the Horn of Africa, see [Monthly Digest](#).

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

11,516² migrants were assisted after their return



113¹ | 11,515²

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)



275¹ | 7,782²

Start of the reintegration support process

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



258¹ | 5,325²

Economic support

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



125¹ | 1,964²

Social support

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



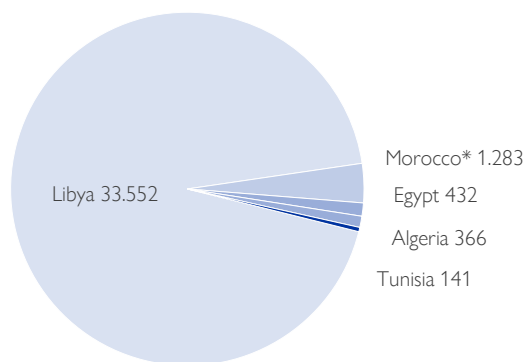
52¹ | 5,226²

Psychosocial support

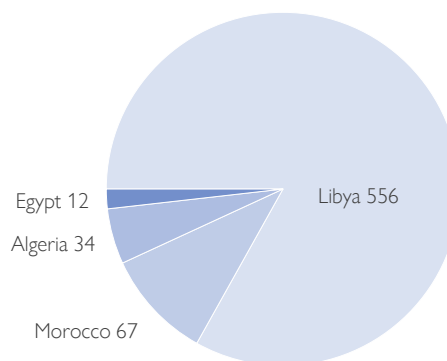
(incl. psychosocial counselling, focus group discussions, family mediation, community mediation, special security measures)

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



Cumulative until 30 September 2020



September 2020

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

INSPIRED BY SPANISH FOOTBALL, LADJI TRIED TO CROSS TO EUROPE



Each year, thousands of sub-Saharan African migrants cross international borders trying to reach Europe. Many are carrying dreams and ambitions that they could not achieve back home. Ladji is one of them. The 27-year-old Malian man wants to become a popular football player and was told that his dream could come true in Spain. He travelled to Morocco in 2018 with the aim to cross to Spain but he did not manage and ended up working on construction sites. Following the outbreak of COVID-19, work stopped on many construction sites across Morocco and Ladji lost his job. Now, he is receiving counselling and support from IOM. He has decided to return to Mali and has requested voluntary return support. While waiting for travel restrictions to be lifted he is planning for his reintegration project. Ladji wants to open a clothing store once he returns home.

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

To learn more about the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in North Africa, see [Quarterly Newsletter](#).

POST-ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND REINTEGRATION ASSISTANCE IN NORTH AFRICA

224² migrants were assisted after their return



0¹ | 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)



1¹ | 57²

Start of the reintegration support process

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



1¹ | 201²

Economic support

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



0¹ | 54²

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 **584,509** migrants in Libya (**89%** male, **11%** female)
- **3,291** migrants in detention in DCIM detention centers in Western Libya
- At least, **392,241** internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- At least, **493,716** IDP returnees
- **1,467** migrants returned to Libyan shores by the Libyan Coast Guard in September.

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

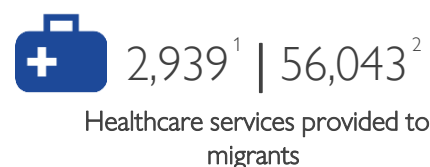
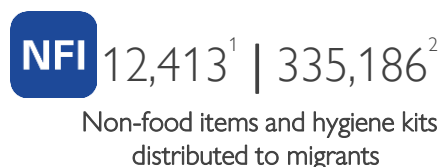
Figures presented in this section are the latest ones available at the end of the reporting month.



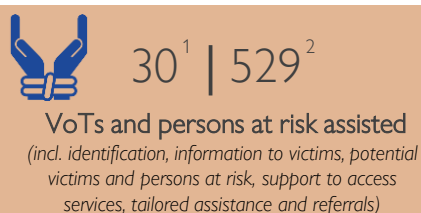
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Community Stabilization: Fourteen local CSOs are implementing social cohesion and livelihood projects in Sabha, Qatroun, Benghazi and Kufra. Three CSOs completed activities in September. In **Kufra**, the CSO Arkeno organized two computer training courses for 70 Arab and Tebu youth. In **Benghazi**, the CSO Nama conducted a training for municipality officers on how to use Autocad for infrastructure and rehabilitation. Each participant received a laptop equipped with the Autocad software. In **Sabha**, CSO Shaghaf organized a cultural festival showcasing Arab, Tebu, and Tuareg culture. The activity reached more than 300 local residents. In **Qatroun**, construction work is almost completed at the Madrousa public garden. In **Sabha**, the Alhani water well in Almanshiya area is ready to be handed over to the General Water and Waste Company. Work is also progressing on the remaining five out of 13 wells across the city. The Al- Nasriyah football pitch has been handed over in presence of municipality and community members. In **Benghazi**, the construction of eight additional toilets at Ibn Khaldoun School is nearing completion.

HUMANITARIAN DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS



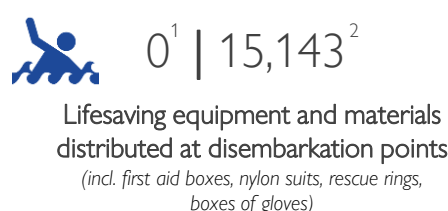
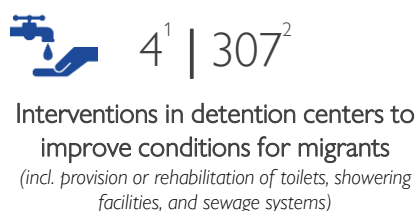
ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING (VoTs)



ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION



IMPROVING MIGRANT CONDITIONS AT KEY LOCATIONS



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