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Disrupting criminal trafficking and smuggling networks through increased anti-money laundering and financial investigation capacity in the Greater Horn of Africa

(AML-THB in the GHoA)



## Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling: Criminal Networks and Financial Flows

Regional Training Webinar: Asset Recovery Frameworks, Standards and Tools

17 - 21 May 2021

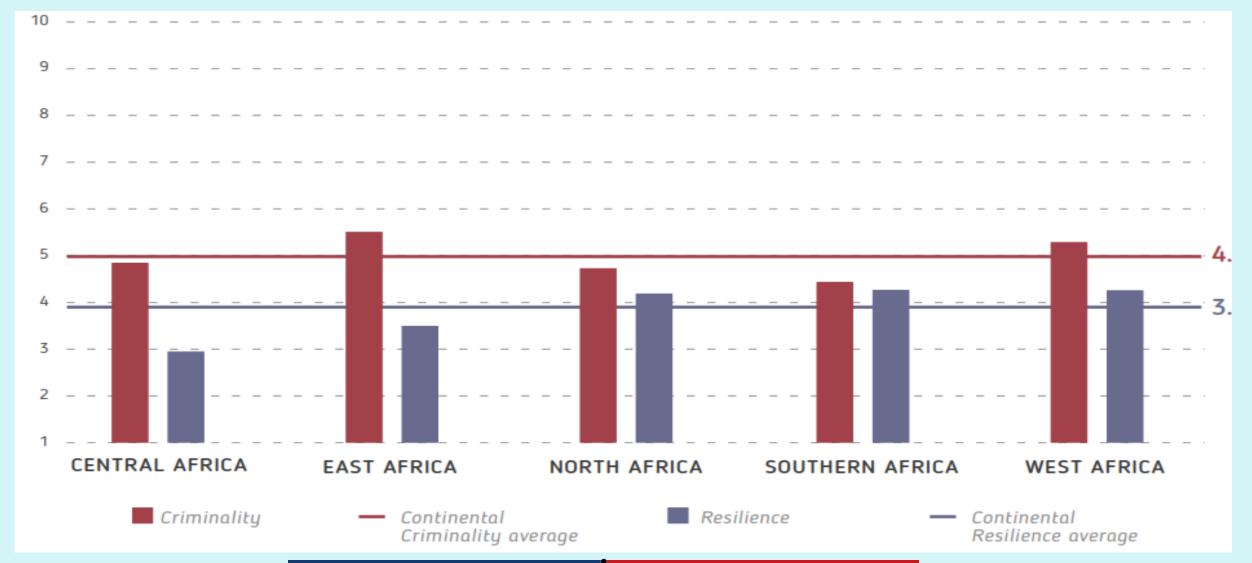




# What are the key aspects/activities of the financial flows (operations) of THB/SoM?

- To Identify
- To Understand
- To Take Action to Disrupt the Flow of Criminal Finance

#### **Africa Criminality and Resilience Index - 2019**





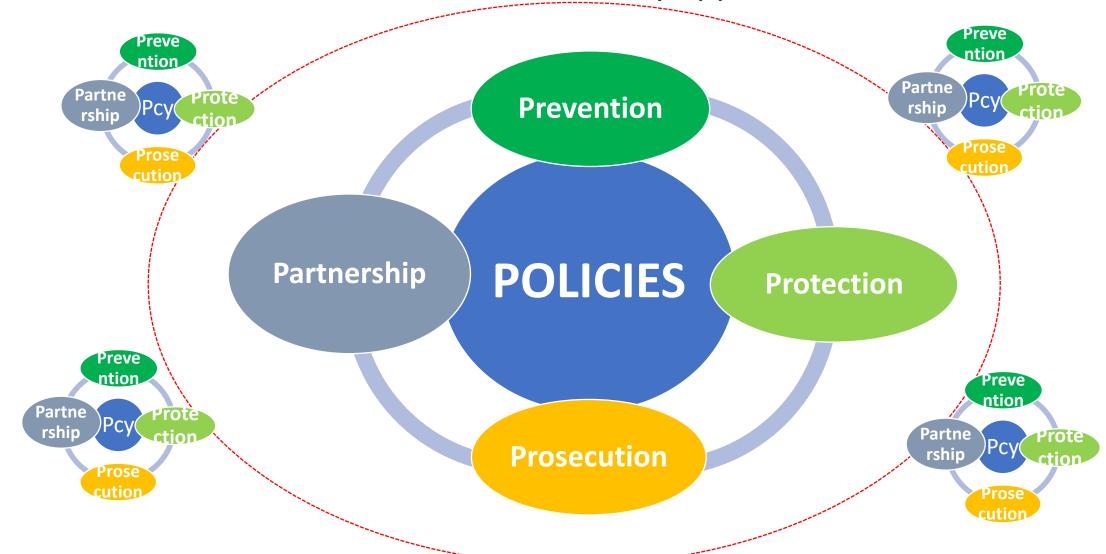


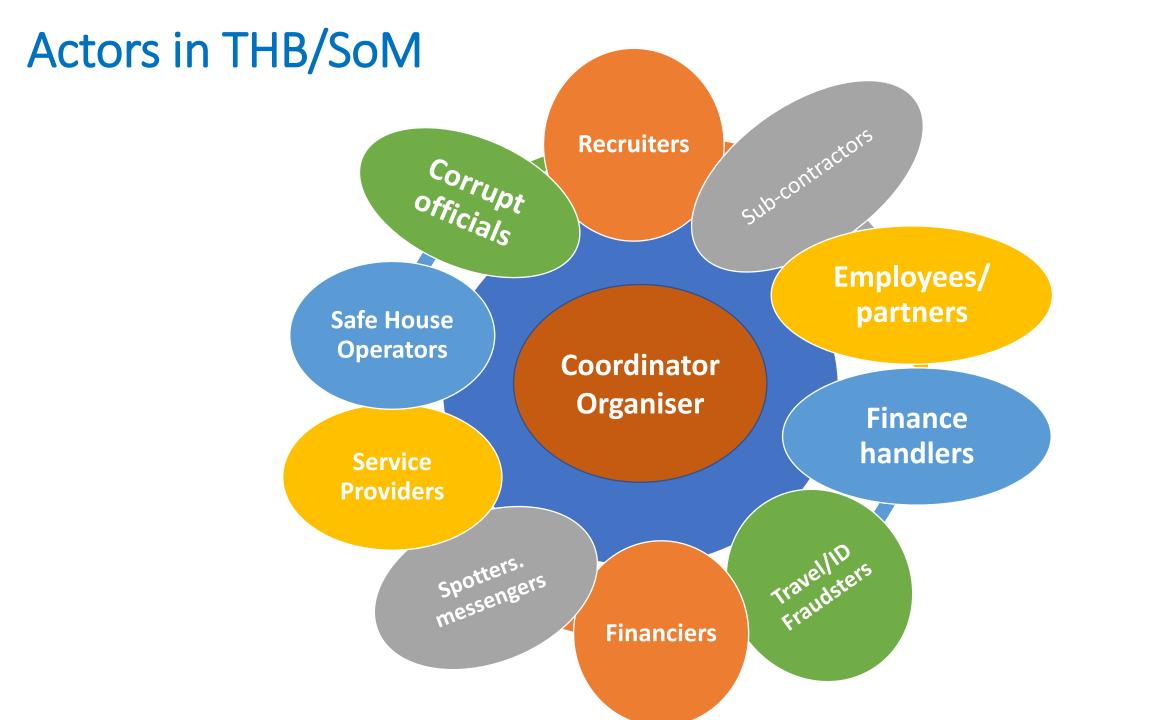
### Africa Organised Crime Index

https://ocindex.net/

### Response to THB/SOM: Multisectoral - 5Ps?

• Multi-actor .... Multisectoral -- whole society approach





### Evolution of Smuggling/trafficking networks

- Opportunity driven High demand, low awareness
- Motivation: business /money, growing celebrity (sense of being needed, power etc)
- Low risk: relative cover ups and relationships with officials and community leaders – Impunity

### Forms & Methods of Migrant Smuggling

- Ad hoc or simple smuggling services often negotiated between a migrant "on the move" and a smuggler.
  - Self smuggling
  - Relatives/friends smuggling
  - Individual Crossing
- Pre planned, sophisticated and/or organized smuggling:
  - Organised criminal network (often loosely networked)
  - Employment agencies
  - Sham Marriage
  - **Events, medicine**
  - Passport legal and illegal

#### **Characteristics**

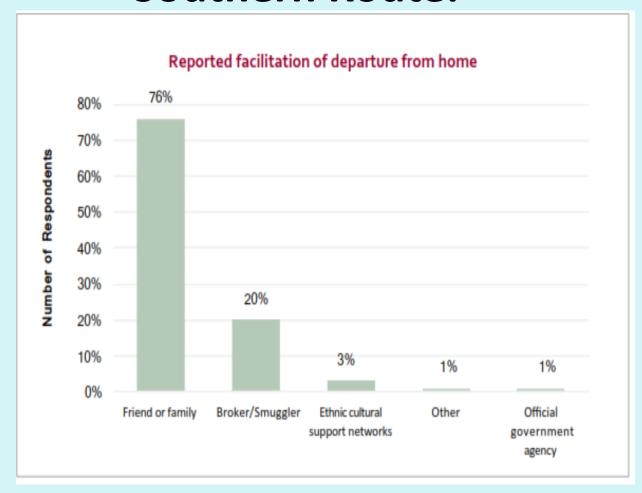
- Adaptive responding to changing conditions the "thinking enemy"
- Loosely linked informal network linked with kinship or other social relations
- Steadily grows to a family network of criminal business
- Becoming more organized within and cross-borders (may not OCG as defined by UNTOC
- A clan/specific territory-based network of networks and inter-ethnic alliance/mix
- Often engage in multiple illicit activities
- Growingly embedded to state structures (corruption, election, protection ...)
- Growing to armed criminal gangs (Libya, Yemen)

### **Roles of Actors**

#### **HoA – Cumulative:**

Who facilitated your migration out of your origin country?		
Friend or family	1,114	49%
Broker or smuggler	917	41%
Ethnic or cultural support networks	120	5%
Other	48	2%
Official government agency	27	1%
Employment agency	24	1%
No answer	1	0%

#### **Southern Route:**



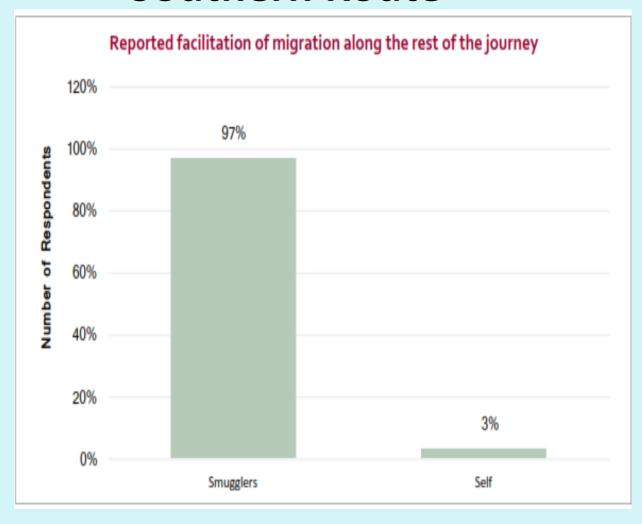
### Role of Actors

#### **HoA – Cumulative:**

#### Facilitation of the rest of the journey

Who facilitated your migration for the rest of your journey?		
Smugglers	1,639	73%
Self	434	19%
Other	176	8%
No answer	2	0%

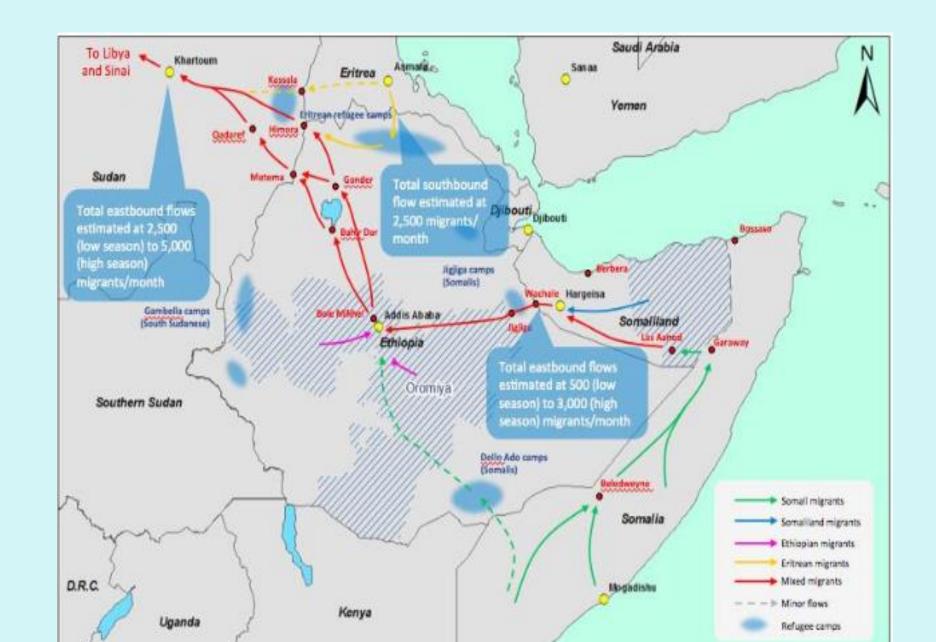
#### **Southern Route**



### **Role of Actors**

How did you get in contact with the Broker-Smuggler?		
I contacted the facilitator	467	51%
Ethnic/cultural networks put us in touch	326	36%
The broker/smuggler contacted me	99	11%
Other	25	3%

Who was the Broker-Smuggler?		
Smugglers	679	74%
Former employees of recruiting agencies	96	10%
Returnee migrants	51	6%
Migrants returned on holiday	30	3%
Broker of recruiting agencies	27	3%
Travel agency	15	2%
Other	12	1%
Unofficial government assistance	7	1%

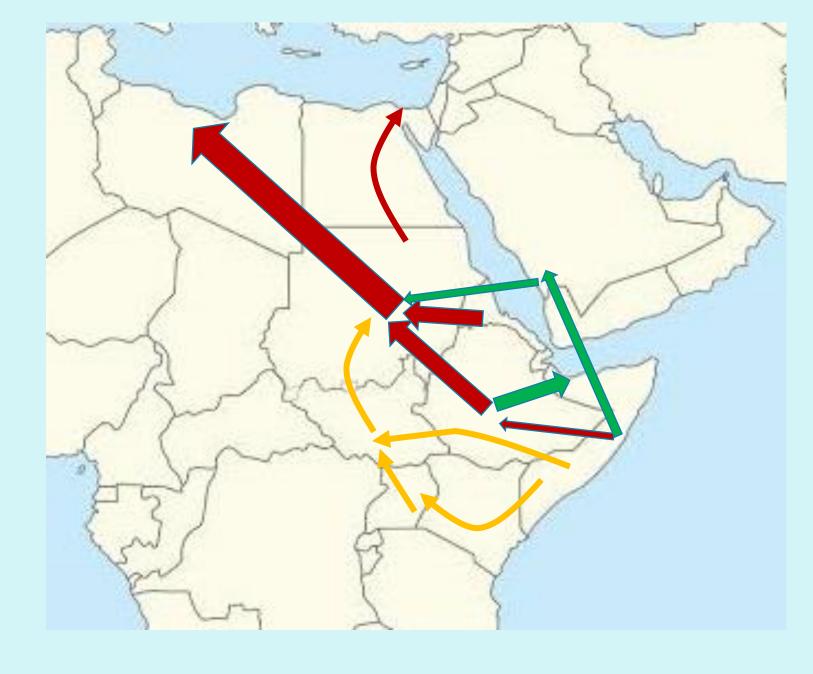


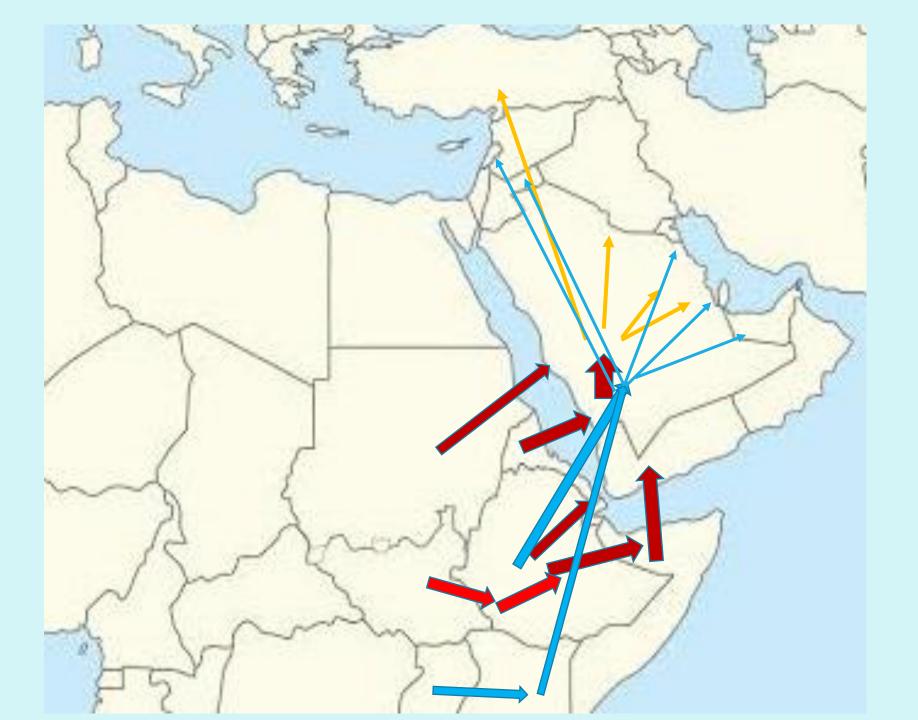
#### **HoA – North Route**

#### **Common route**

**New route (Somalis)** 

New route (Somalis & Eth)

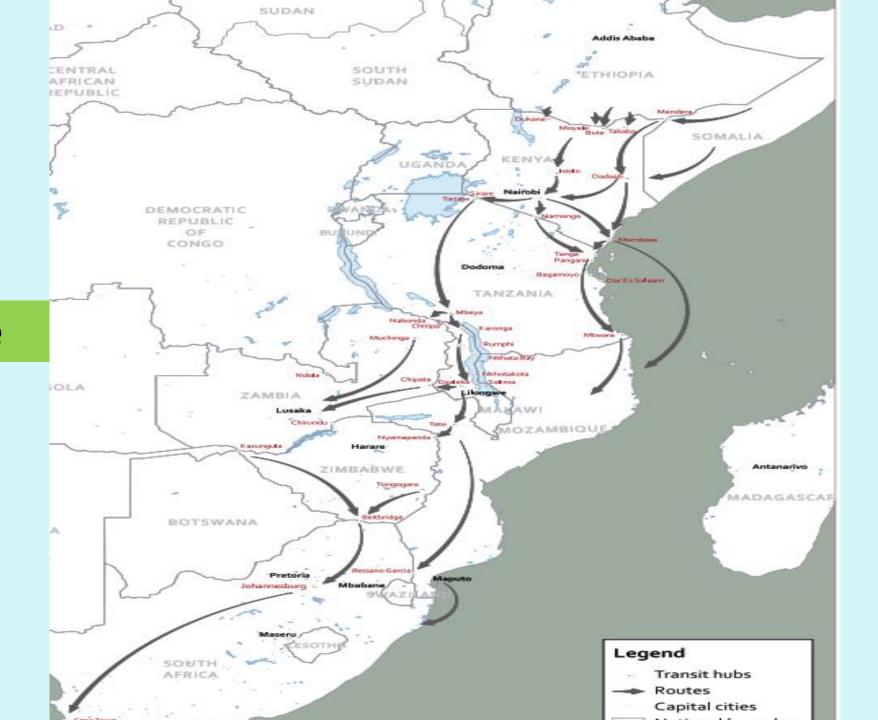


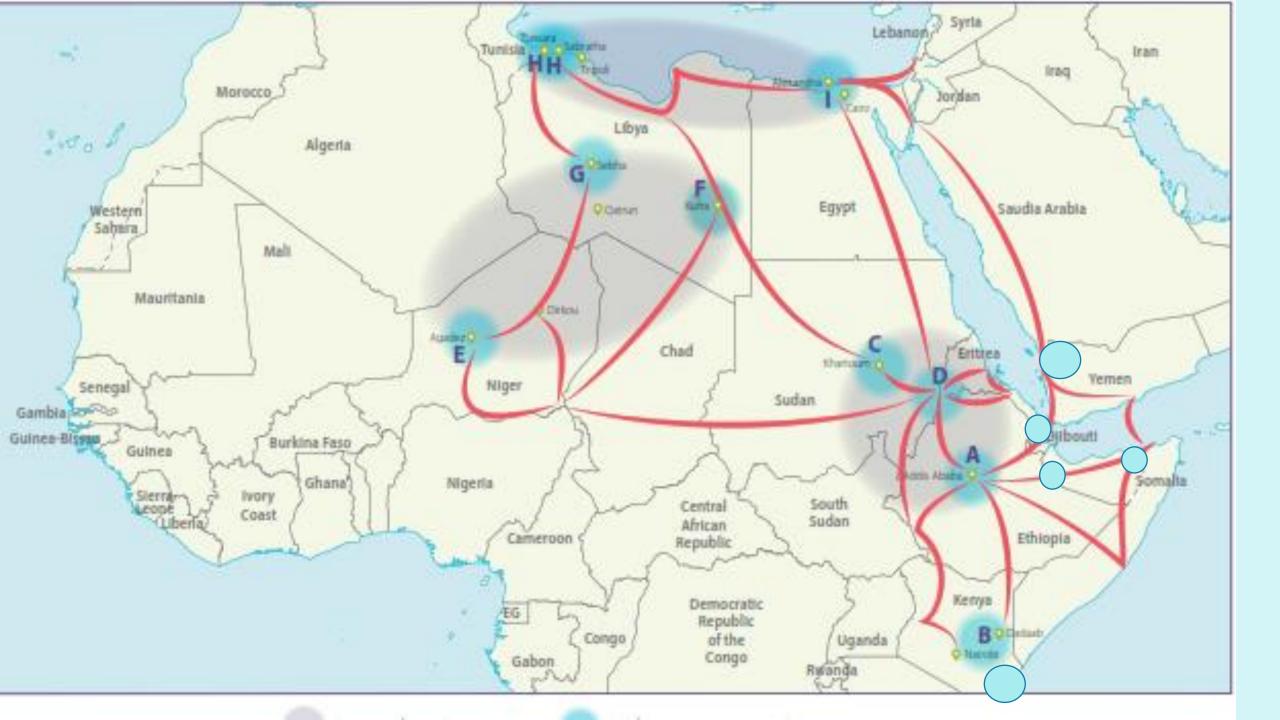


THB/SoM from East Africa to Middle east



#### **HoA – Southern Route**





### Means of Transport

#### Methods of transport used

What were the various means of transport used?		
Bus	28%	3,953
Lorry/truck	20%	2,830
Walking	20%	2,849
Compact vehicle	15%	2,151
Other	8%	1,175
Airplane	7%	975
Boat	1%	103
Unofficial government assistance	7	1%

### Modus of Smuggling and Criminals









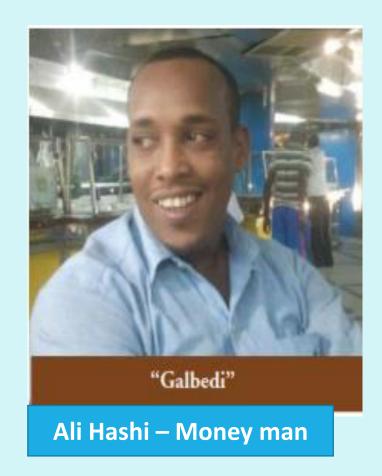




### Key smugglers



**Heir of Medhane** 



**VIP Smuggler** 

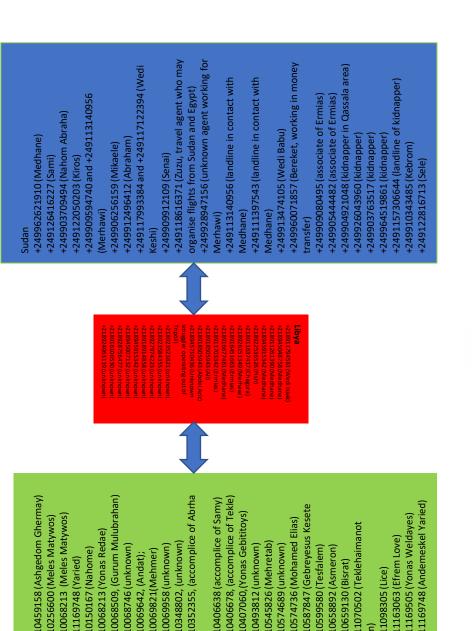
### Kidane: Libya, Addis Ababa and Now

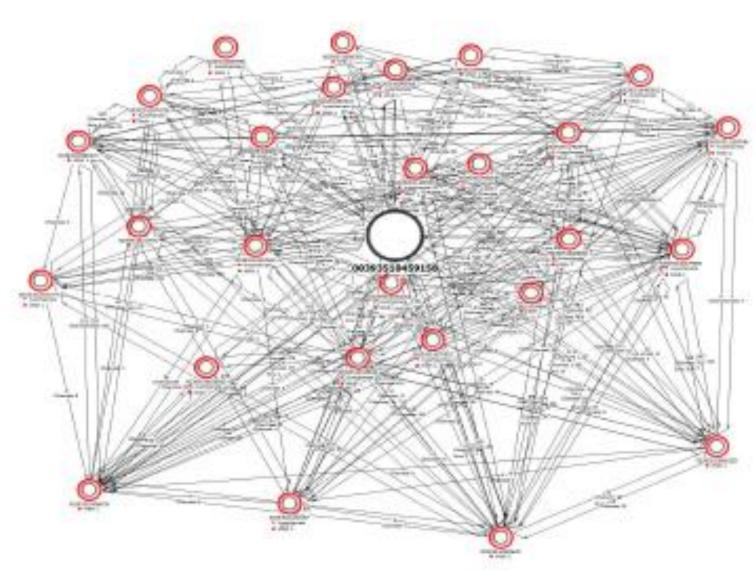


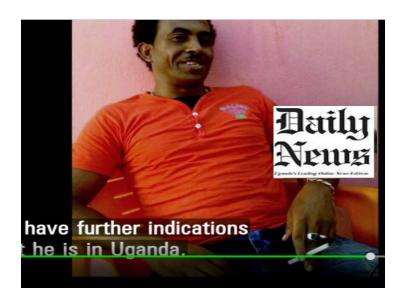




#### **Northern Route Smugglers Telephone Network**



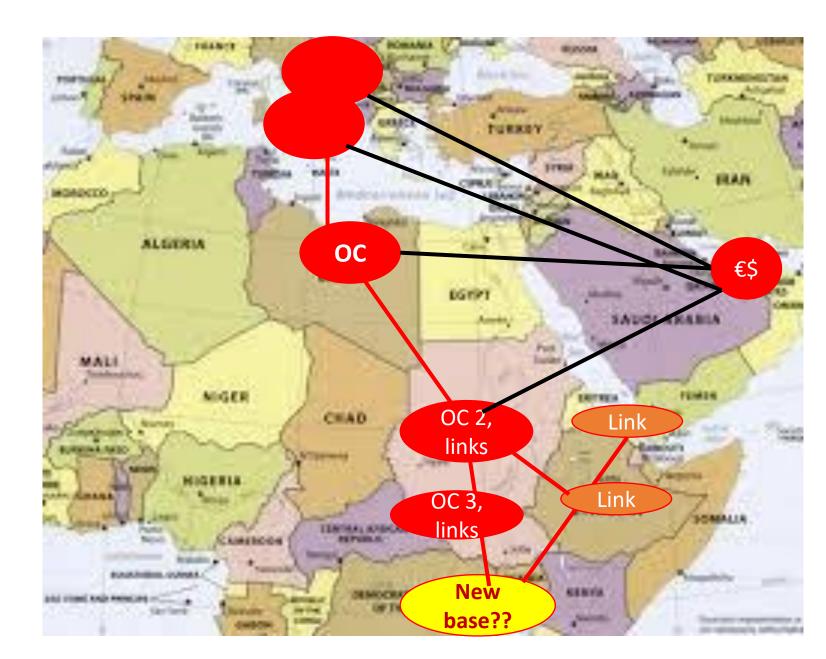




Bar Molober, Kabalagala, Kampala

https://www.svtplay.se/video/1763560 2/uppdrag-granskning/uppdraggranskning-sasong-19-avsnitt-13?start=auto&tab=2018





### **Financial Operations**

- Often payments (Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia) are paid in Sudan after first crossing
- Second payments are made in Libya (though often there are kidnapping in between)
- Payments to cross the Mediterranean, payments are made in advance
- In various cases smugglers breach their contract and request for additional payments or other services for many reasons
- Harassment, Sexual violence, physical abuse and human trading/slavery are common in transit "safe houses" or during travels

### Journeys and payments options - North Route

- Eritrea to Sudan Kassala \$1500 to \$6000
- Eritrea to Ethiopia \$2000 to \$3000
- Ethiopia to Sudan Humarra \$1600 to \$3000
- Kassala/ Humera to Omdurman \$400 to \$800
- Omdurman to to Beni walid \$1600 to \$2200
- Beni Walid to Tripoli \$1800 to \$2500 (payment for future journey)



#### **SMUGGLING COSTS**



THE COST

THE JOURNEY















#### THE TRANSACTIONS



#### THE MIGRANT'S FAMILY/SPONSOR PAY FOR THE JOURNEY IN TWO TRANSACTIONS. THEN THE MONEY IS DISTRIBUTED BY THE BROKER.

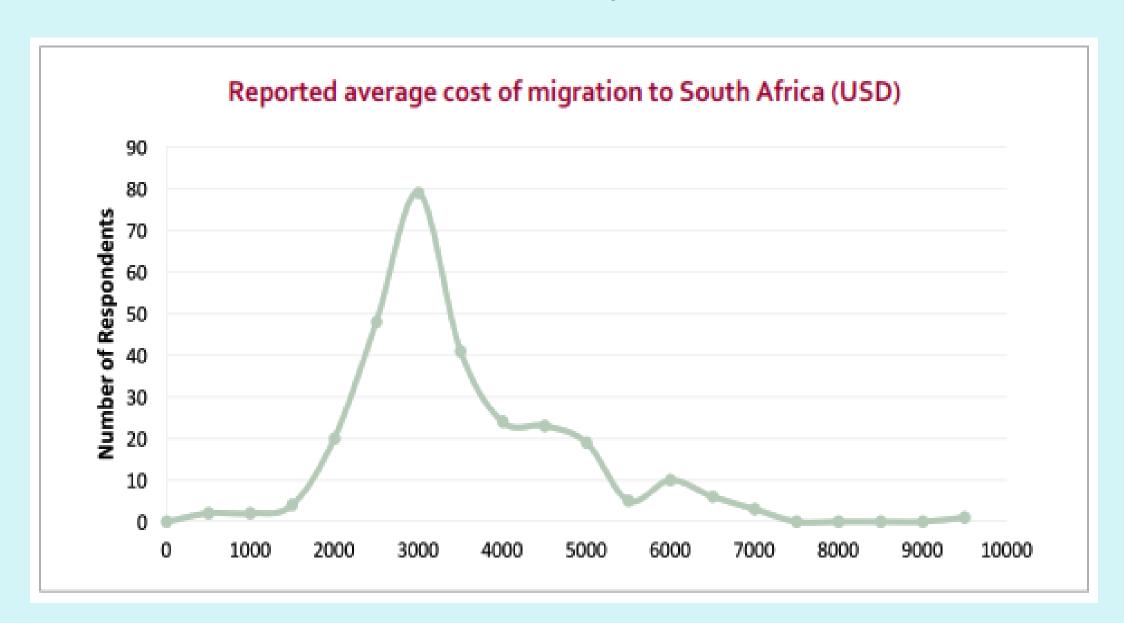
\$1,600	\$500		\$600	\$500						
\$2,200	\$400	\$200	•	~	\$50	\$50	\$600	\$100	\$800	
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	BROKER/	MONEY	SMUGGLER	SMUGGLER	F00D &	<b>CAR JOURNEY</b>	SEALINE	WAREHOUSE	BOAT	
	SEMSARI	COLLECTOR	SUDANESE SIDE	LIBYAN SIDE	DRINK	TO SHORE	BROKER	OWNER	OWNER	
			SIDE	SIDE						

### Journeys and payments options

- Ethiopia Bossasso (Somalia) \$400 \$900
- Ethiopia Obock (Djibouti) \$400 \$ 800

• Ethiopia/Somalia – South Africa – \$2,000 - \$5,000

### Southern Route Payment Scale, 2017



### Kidnapping for ransom/Organ Harvest

#### Ransom

- Sudan: Eritrea/Ethiopia/Sudan Border: \$3500 \$6000
- Libya: Chad/Sudan/Libya Border: \$ 5000 \$ 8000

#### **Organ Harvesting:**

- Corneas \$30,000
- Lungs \$150,000
- Heart \$130,000
- Liver \$98,000
- Kidneys \$62,000





### Payment Records – Sources of info

First Name	Last Name	Natio nality	ID Number	Contact Person Details	Smuggler	Country of Payment
Salam	Yohannes	Er	90212	Yosef + 49 XX XX XX X	Futsum	Germany
Burtukan	Demeke	Eth	80 4527	Fasil +251 XXXX XX	Abera	Ethiopia
Hudan	Ali	Som	785 85 12	Ahmed +44 XXX XXXx	Faisal	UK





### Payment Methods

- Hawala
- Bank transfer
- In cash
- Mobile Money
- Credit/Debit Cards
- New Online payment Systems























### Methods of Payment

How do you, or plan to, access more money while traveling?		
Informal money transfer	1,960	42%
Cash in hand	1,267	27%
Cash handlers in other countries	762	16%
Western Union	187	4%
No access to money while travelling	184	4%
Mobile phone payment system	145	3%
Other	70	2%
Work providing services	45	1%

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#### **Thank You**

Tuemay Aregawi, Technical Advisor AML/THB Project



