# Global Mapping of Migrant and Displaced Children: Trends and Patterns

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#### Introduction

- Recent UNICEF reports on child migrants and refugees
- 2016 Uprooted: The Growing Crisis for Refugee and Migrant Children
  - ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> report presenting comprehensive global data about migrant or displaced children, and describes volume and attributes of children as well as dangers they face while on the move
- 2017 A Child is a Child : Protecting Children on the Move from Violence, Abuse, and Exploitation
  - Describes booming market for smuggling and exploitation of migrant and refugee children, major routes and experiences, and ways governments can better protect children
- Key efforts to understand mobility of children

#### What are the Numbers?

- ▶ 31M children living outside countries of birth
  - ▶ 10M child refugees & 1M asylum seekers fleeing conflict, violence and persecution
- Share of migrants who are children same as in 1990, but more child migrants as population of global migrants has grown
- Growing numbers of child refugees
  - ▶ In 2005, 1 in 350 were refugees; by 2015, 1 in 200
- Surge in children seeking asylum in Europe between 2008 and 2016
  - ▶ Share among asylum seekers rose from 1 in 5 to 1 in 3
- ► 1/2 of refugees are children < 18 yrs</p>

# Unaccompanied/Separated Children (UACs) on Rise

- 200K UACs applied for asylum in 2015-16 (using available data from 80 countries)
- Another 100K apprehended at MX-US border in same period
- 300K total children, an increase from 66K recorded in 2010-11
- ► Central Mediterranean route to Italy in 2015: 75% of children arriving in Italy by sea were UACs, in 2016 share rose to 92% (most from Eritrea, the Gambia, Nigeria, Egypt and Guinea)
- Asylum applicants from UAC children rising, from 2 to 5% of applications: 2010-15
- Reflect mixed migration motives
  - searching for opps/work; avoiding child marriage, gender based violence, forced labor, and problems in families including migrant parents away. Some interview data suggest some believe UACs have better chance at being allowed to stay than adults

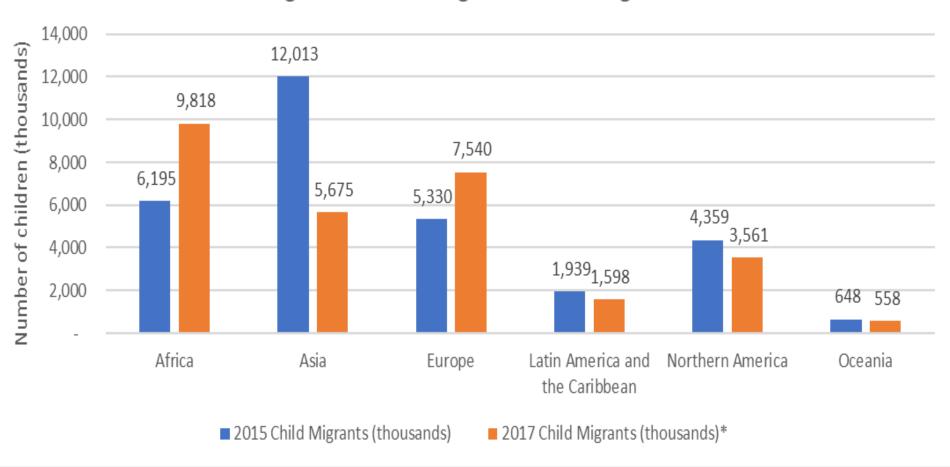
### Internal Displacement of Children

- ▶ 2015: of the ~41M displaced by violence and conflict, 17M estimated to be children (half displaced in Asia)
- ▶ Syria, Iraq and Yemen account for ~1/3 of internal displacements
- Nigeria, Dem Rep of Congo, Central Africa Rep and South Sudan were among top 10 countries globally for new violence-induced internal displacements in 2015

#### Other Statistics

- Many children moving within Americas
  - ▶ In region 1 in 10 migrants is child but in C. America 4 out of 10.
  - ▶ Approx 80% of child migrants in Americas live in US, MX and Canada
- ▶ In EU: More children applying for asylum since 2014
  - 7 in 10 children seeking asylum fleeing Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq
  - ➤ ~1 in 6 of worlds child migrants lives in Europe
- ► Africa: ~50% of refugees are children
  - ➤ ~3M children forced out of origins
  - Among migrants, nearly 1 in 3 is child (more than twice global average)
- Asian: 45% of child refugees originated form Syria and Afghanistan
  - Some countries host very large numbers: Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan and Turkey
- ▶ Oceania: # child migrants rose from 430K to 670K 1990-2015
  - ▶ 6 in 100 children are migrants

#### 1. Destination Region for Child Migrants and Refugees in 2015 & 2017



# What's Missing? Global Comprehensive Data

- Origins of children moving across borders over time
- Numbers who move voluntarily or not within their own counties
- Numbers left in care of others when parents migrate
- Numbers of children missed -- not classified as asylum seekers or refugees
- Exactly where child refugees begin journeys and find refuge
- Attributes of children who move, parents, households, conditions in origins and destinations at the time they move
- Attributes of trips that children make (how do they cross, where, when, with whom, for all trips from first to most recent)
- Where children were born, age, whether forced or voluntary
- Conditions faced in countries of origin, transit and destination
- Children moving with disabilities
- Children in detention, despite court rulings against such treatment
- Access to health and education services for children in context of migration
- Extent/conditions of child labor and other forms of violence/exploitation

#### What's New?

- Until recently, most information that exists is either stock data or derives from special tabulations from UNHCR
- ▶ In 2015: OM/DTM began collecting migrant data about UASC (unaccompanied and separated children) through its Flow Monitoring component

## 2 IOM Data Sources: Flow Monitoring(FM) Registry and Surveys

Α	nnex C: FLOW MONI	ITORIN	G REG	ISTRY	BY GR	OUP										Form	#			_	
1. COUNTRY (Admin 0)			2. ADMIN 1				3	3. ADMIN 2		MP code	6. Enumerator code or name				8.	DA	ATE				
										5. FMP name		7. Enumerator Sex									
-					•			ne of the questionnaire below represen S for each of the group in the back of the	_				ıal). One	line co	in there	fore rep	reser	nt one	indiv	vidual	
9. GROUP#	10. MEAN OF TRANSPORT		11.DEPARTED FROM			ESTINA	ATION	N				16. DISAG. BY SEX a							BILITIES		
		11.1 COUNTRY	11.2 ADMIN 1	11.3 CITY	12.1 COUNTRY	12.2 ADMIN 1	12.3 CITY	13. TYPE OF FLOW (max choices allowed)	x 3 14. NATIONALITY			PER N	16.1a Children below 18 (#) 16.1b Adults 18 and above (#) 16.2b Adults 16.2b Adults 35.2b Adults 55.2b Adults			# OF LERSONS	VANT		17.5 # UNACCUMP. 17.5 # ELDERLY (60+)		
1	10.a Foot 10.b Animals 10.c Taxi or Car 10.d Bus 10.e Truck 10.f Boat 10.g Bike 10.h Motorbike 10.i Three-wheel 10.j Train 10.k Other (specify)							13.a Seasonal 13.b Forced movement due to N.1 13.c Forced movement due to Co 13.d Economic migration (+ 6 moi 13.e Short term local movement (months) 13.f Tourism 13.g Don't know	nf.** nths)												

Q3.10 who are you travelling with? (single answer)

- a. Alone
- b. With a group

If Q3.10 = "a" then go directly to Q3.13

Q3.11 is your family part of this group? (single answer)

a=yes

b=nc

FM

Q3.12 how many people are part of the group excluding yourself?

#

- FM Methodology: Identify areas of high mobility and their attributes
- FM Registry weekly data collection on groups in transit points, buses (enter and ask drivers and others for info about who is on bus)
- FM Survey weekly individual surveys with people on the move completed where the FM Registry is carried out

#### Limits and Benefits of IOM Data

IOM/DTM FM Surveys only interview children 14 years and older But important spatial variation – surveys carried in:

- West and Central Africa (8 countries: Mali, Guinea, Niger, Cameroun, Senegal, Gambia)
- North Africa (Libya) and Sudan
- Middle East (Arab Peninsula, Yemen)
- East and Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Djibuti, Somalia)
- Europe (Greece and along Eastern Mediterranean route, Italy)

# Sample of Substantive Insights from Recent IOM Reports

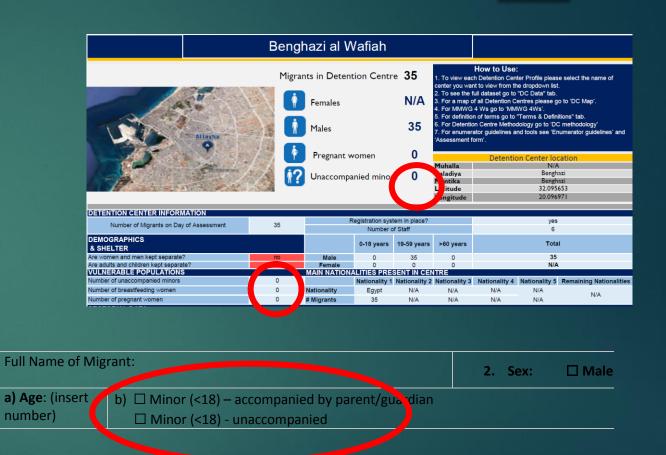
- Children exposed to similar risk factors as adults
- More children traveling without families on the Central Mediterranean route than children on the Eastern route (75% vs 27%)
- At least half traveling without families reported indicators of human trafficking/exploitation
  - ▶ 66% of boys and 50% of girls without families reporting experiences that may indicate human trafficking/exploitation

# From West/Central Africa Q2 Report 2017 – Many Traveling Alone

- ▶ 84% of migrants travelled alone, including 62% of all female migrants & 87% of all male migrants
- Significant share of children travelled alone (86% of 386 children under 18)

## Other IOM Data Sources (not DTM)

- Migration Management and Settlement Unit collecting data from migrant resource centers (MRC) and detention centers
- More MRCs opening with \$ from EU, children and others can get assistance to return home, psychosocial supports and health checks. Regional data hubs are organizing these data for analysis
- Detention centers IOM has access to a limited subsample but human rights concerns limit these data to public



## New IOM / UNICEF Initiative

- ►IOM/DTM and UNICEF signed new agreement to develop child focused data collection and analysis into DTM
- Specific set of indicators being developed

# Taking Stock

- Extensive stock data offer breadth but limited depth pooled across countries with limited set of variables
  - IPUMS-International offers stock data for different countries and years to profile foreign born children worldwide
- New IOM data offer both depth and breadth, flow and stock data although not global and no children < 14 years of age</p>
- IOM/UNICEF new effort promising
- But to date no comprehensive global data on children
- No large scale public-use data that are child-centric with detailed migration histories of children on the move
- No data that permit detailed multivariate modeling of risks child leave

## Agendas for Action

- Uprooted UNICEF: Protect children from exploitation, end detention, keep families together, keep children learning with access to health and other services, press for action on causes of large scale movements & combat xenophobia, discrimination and marginalization in countries of transit and destination
- ▶ Global Child Mobility Statistics Call to Agenda:
  - Complete stock estimates on global migrant children provided to UN
  - Develop new data collection efforts to gather from children:
    - retrospective mobility histories in certain areas of the world (MMP/LAMP/BEMS ethnosurveys are examples of data that can be collected) and/or
    - prospective data about children's moves and subsequent integration
    - + other attributes