



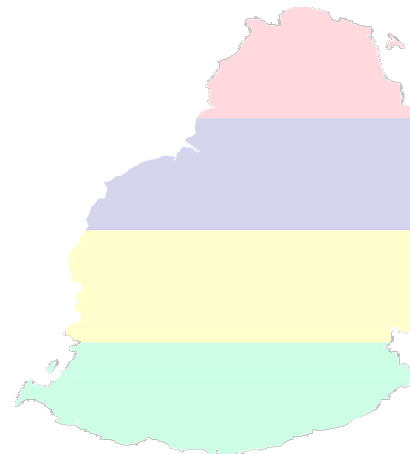
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AN AFRICAN DREAM THAT PERISHED AT SEA: THE CASE OF AFRICAN MIGRANTS & ITS IMPLICATIONS ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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LAYOUT OF THE PRESENTATION

- Introduction
- Background
- Problem statement
- State of affairs
- Who is doing what and to what extend?
- Impact death of migrants on labour
- Lesson learnt
- Conclusion

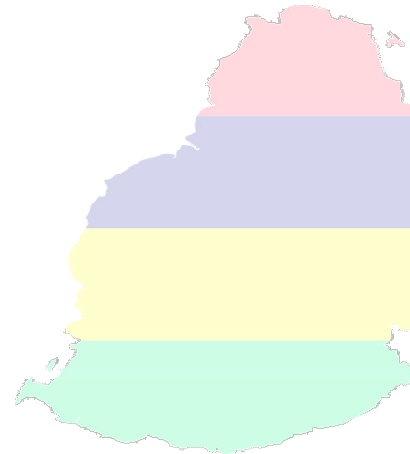




Migrants try to pull a child out of the water as they wait to be rescued 12 nautical miles north of Libya. Photograph: Aris Messinis/AFP/Getty Images

Introduction

- Presentation poses a pertinent question
- **Who is responsible for the lives of many African migrants who are perishing at sea every other day?**
- As the world stand by and watch, lost African lives in the Mediterranean Sea are **lost skills and potential** required to make Africa a force to reckon with.
- Role of African leaders in the contribution of



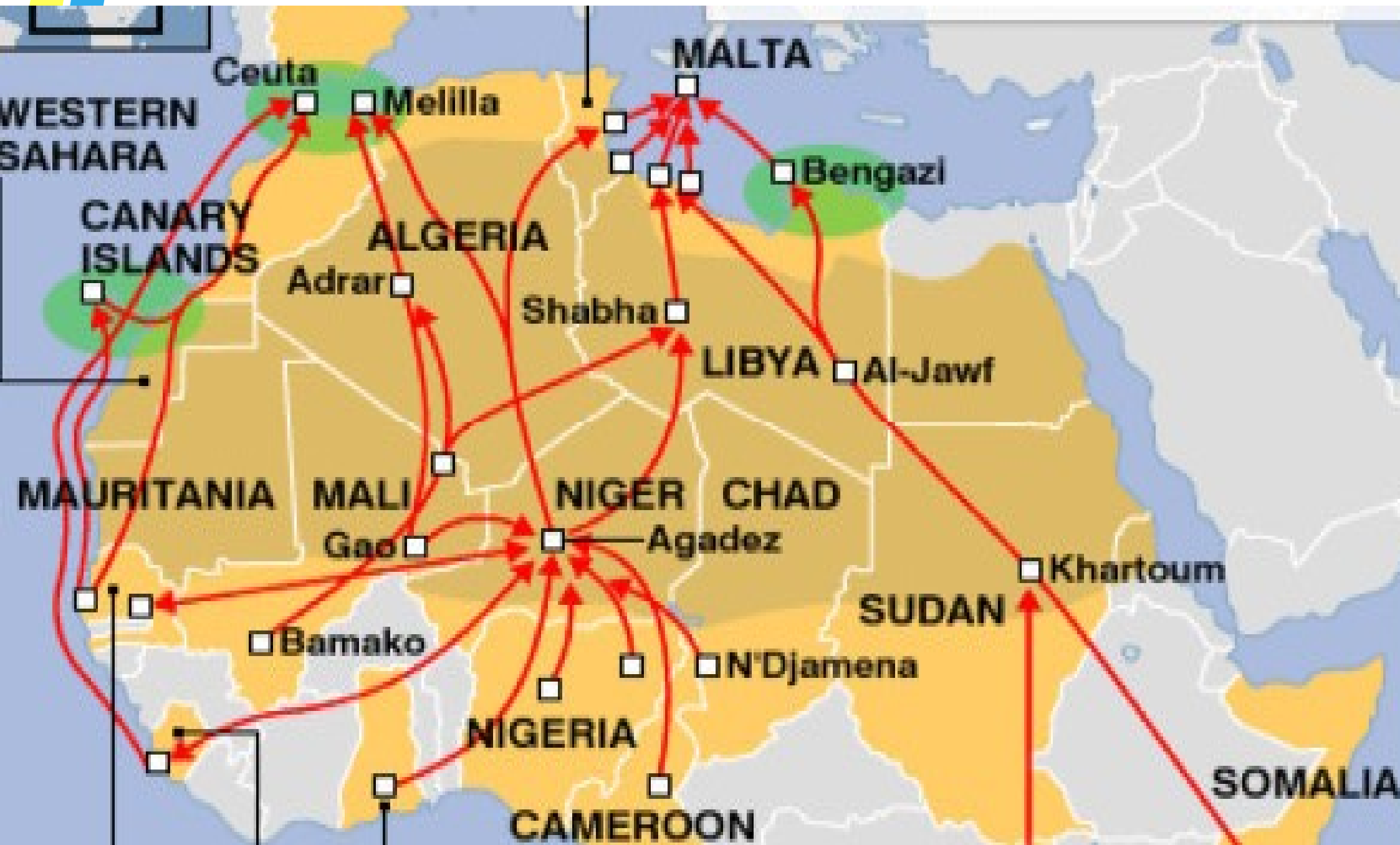
Background

- More than 22,500 migrants have reportedly died or disappeared globally since 2014 –
- more than half of them perishing while attempting to cross the Mediterranean, according to a study by the [International Organisation for Migration](#) (IOM).
- A clampdown on Europe's eastern borders has forced migrants to choose more dangerous routes
- While overall numbers of migrants attempting to cross the Mediterranean by the eastern route were reduced significantly in 2016 by [the EU-Turkey deal](#), death rates have increased to 2.1 per 100 in 2017, relative to 1.2 in 2016,”

Backgroundcontinue

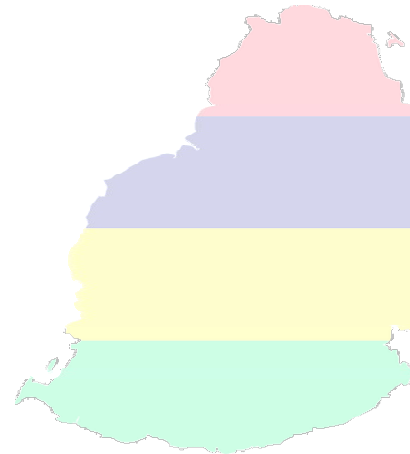
- The risk of dying has increased in the Mediterranean due to ever increasing hardship in their native countries.
- Migrants now taking the most dangerous route – that across the central Mediterranean – such that 1 in 49 migrants now died on this route in 2016.
- Since 2014, more deaths have been documented on this route than any other migration route in the world.
- In the first half of this year, at least 3,110 migrants have died or disappeared globally, (IOM 2018 report)





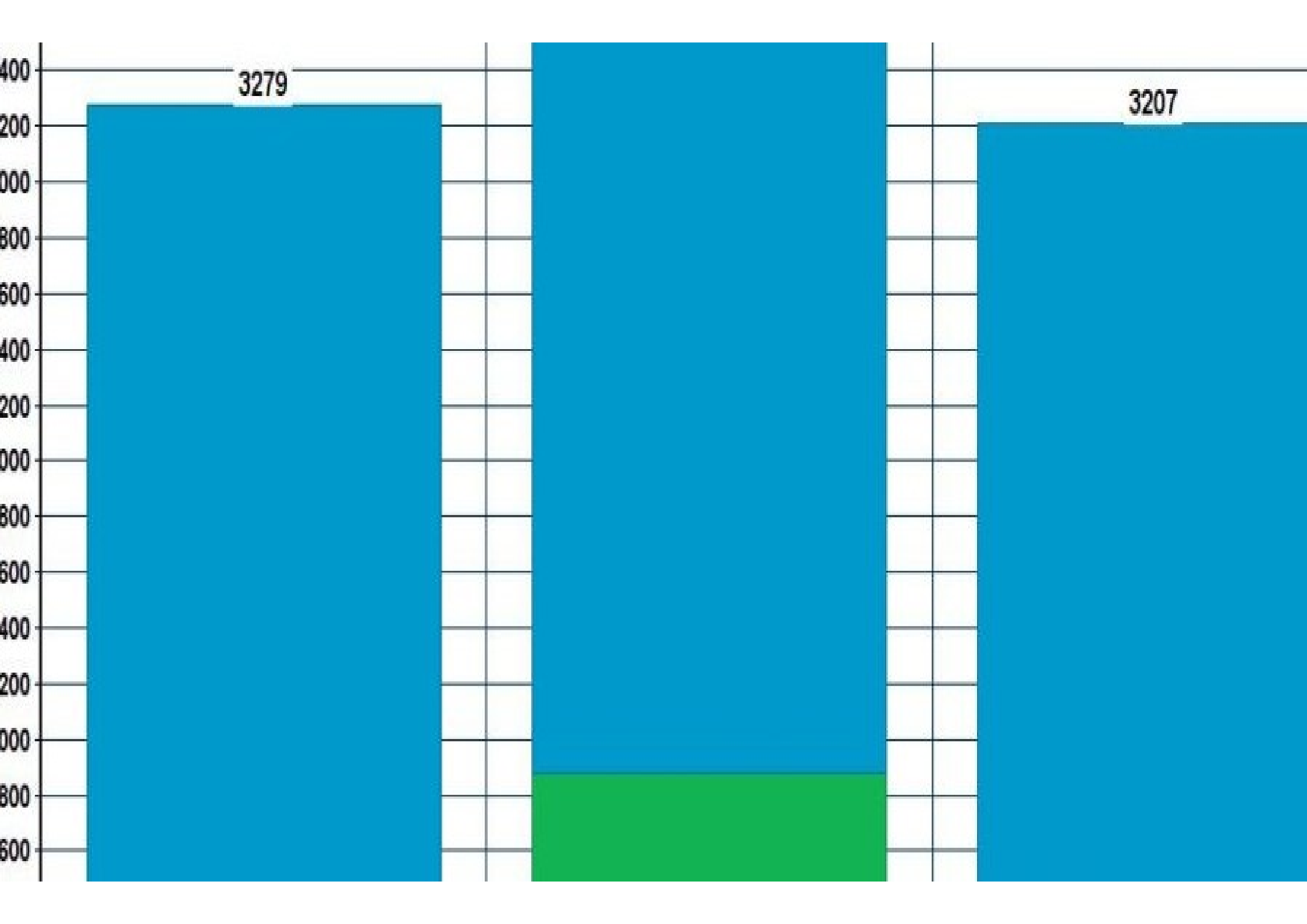
routes

- With three main methods of crossing the Mediterranean – the western route to Spain, the central route to France, Italy, and Malta, and the well known eastern route to Greece and Cyprus –



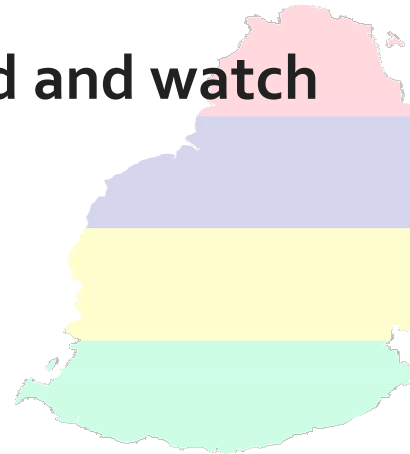
Reasons for African Migrant to embark on a journey of no return

- These migrants are fleeing from civil wars, hunger and political oppressive governments, mostly from Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, and Mali (Gwaambuka 2016).
- The comfort is that there is no war where they are going.
- In light of this employment and better living conditions are not guaranteed.
- To the migration, sitting dying at home is a risky that they have to take,
- but what is more riskier is for the world to watch doing nothing.
- Most Africans are in poverty stricken areas and they perceive Europe as their figurative, "Canaan" and a dangerous journey yet a necessary one.



Problem statement

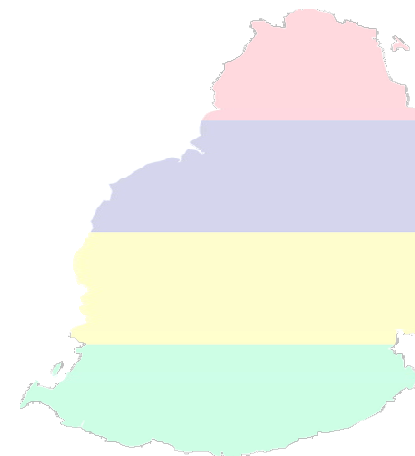
- **Lost labour is lost asset.**
- **Is there any hope in sight for the hopeless yet hopeful young African man and women?**
- **They wish to make a difference in their lives and those of their families back home**
- **Cost of rescue at sea too much for Italy and the world stand and watch**





Whose problem is it?

- Africa
- Europe-
- United Nation
 - -ILO,
 - IOM,
 - 'ILERA
 - Yourselves Individual(s)





African Leadership

- African leaders stand accused of mismanaging their resources
- allowing ethnic wars to drive millions out of their homes to seek refuge in distant lands.
- Everybody has had something to say except the African leaders whose citizens constitute the majority of those dying trying to get into Europe.
- Eritrea heads the list of African countries leave their countries and go to Europe; followed by the usual : Somalis, Senegalese, Gambians, Nigerians and Ghanaians.



African Union

- Initially when the crisis escalated, African Union (AU) emphasized that there were no quick solutions to the problem
- They further reminded African head of states that until their people's livelihood are improved, less wars, hunger dealt with and unemployment solved Africans will continue to depart by boat looking for greener pastures
- The “spirit of African solidarity and international cooperation” in its 1969 refugee convention should be seen, and not just declared.



Other players

African media

- Like the proverbial ostrich who buries his head in the sand, African reporters and politicians seem blind to the refugee crisis in the Mediterranean.

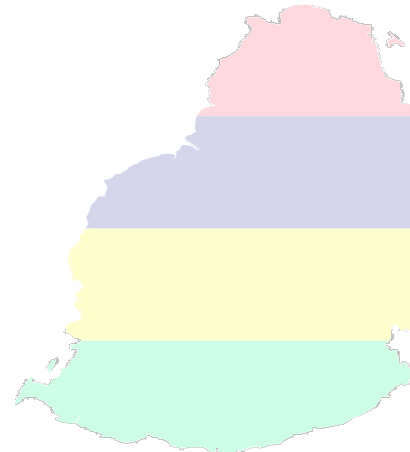
Politician

- Politician have distance themselves from addressing this catastrophe

Influential personalities

Nobel Peace Prize Winners

Moi Ibrahim Prize Winners





State of affairs

- Whatever the cause, tens of hundreds of lives continue to be lost in the unforgiving Mediterranean Sea.
- Migrants will continue to head out into the big blue waters in the hope of reaching the promised land.
- The possibility of drowning is not a deterrent. For many, the lives they are leaving mean certain death.



United Kingdom

- The UK will not support future search and rescue operations to save migrants trying to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe
- such operations would encourage more migrants to make the potentially fatal voyage.
- “We believe that they create an unintended ‘pull factor’, encouraging more migrants to attempt the dangerous sea crossing and thereby leading to more tragic and unnecessary deaths,” (Joyce Anelay, Minister of State for the Foreign Office)



European Union

- As a result, much like it did with Turkey the EU is now entering deals with other border states such as Morocco and Libya to make those spots a final destination rather than a transit point.
- The EU is also contemplating deals with major migrant producing states and chronic human rights abusers like Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Afghanistan. Crackdown against migrants were reported in Sudan and Eritrea earlier this year.



EU

- The European Union has had an emergency meeting on the matter and announced measures they intend to take.
- The measures seem to amount to: "We will not open our doors to African migrants, no matter how many of them drown trying to enter Europe." Nothing more.
- The and human rights activists around Europe have all made pronouncements on the humanitarian disaster that is taking place off the Libyan coast.



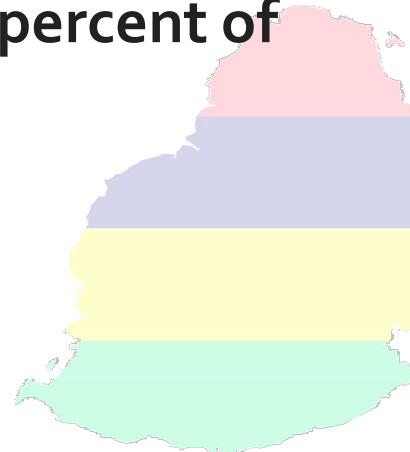
EU

- One property mogul Jason Buzi suggested that land be found and a state be created for African migrants. “Refugee Nation”.
- It is a bizarre-sounding idea — and not a new one — but in the face of few solutions, perhaps the time has come for Africa to debate this from an African perspective.
- It’s an outrageous and complex business to think about starting a state from nothing.
- It also borders dangerously on treating refugees as the “other”.
- Separating them from “normal” others would perhaps make them objects of unending pity and perhaps even targets of extreme forms of “othering” such as violence.



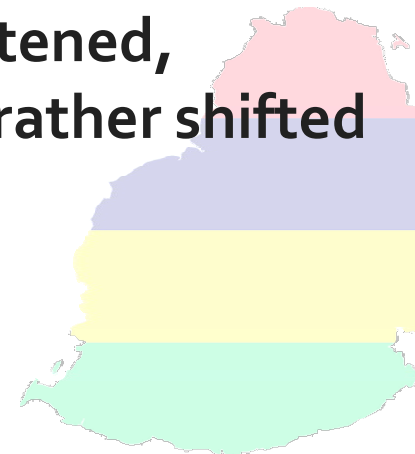
Global problem

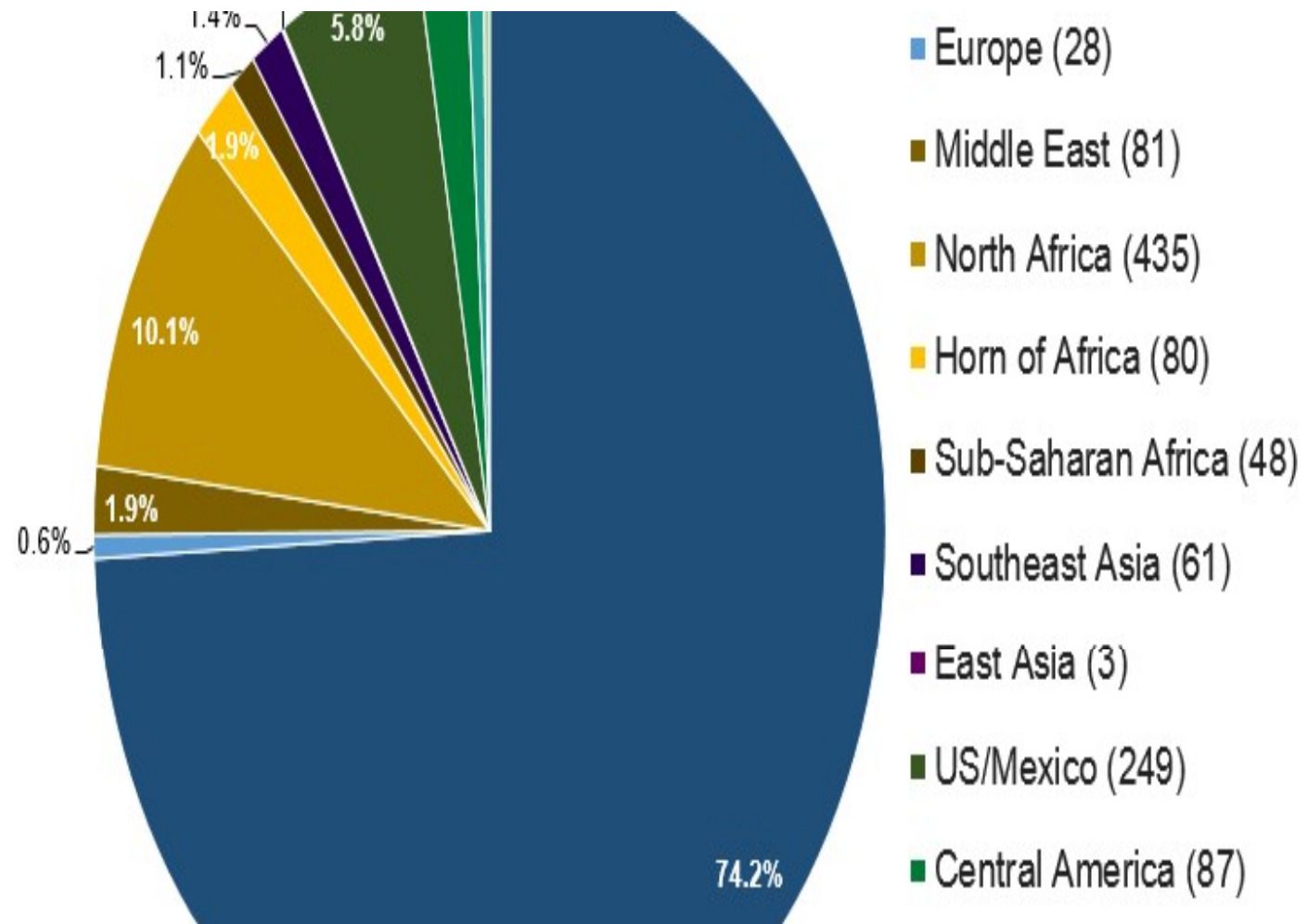
- According to the IOM for at least the third year in a row the Mediterranean represents the most deadly migratory route in the world.
- known deaths in the Mediterranean account for almost 75 percent of global migrant deaths.



Global problemcontinues

- European politicians name this staggering total as one of the reasons why the EU needs to do a better job of deterring migration across the Mediterranean.
- The controversial EU-Turkey deal is one part of this policy of deterrence, and the policy has succeeded in drastically lowering the number of refugees and migrants crossing from Turkey to Greece.
- But as border controls on the eastern route to Europe tightened, refugees did not stop their attempts to reach Europe, but rather shifted to the more dangerous —deadly central route to Italy.





Recorded migrants deaths by region for 2016

Disparity within the international communities

- This disparity – between who can afford to ignore international responsibilities and turn migrants away versus who is expected to take on the burden –
- is a key element blocking an internationally comprehensive approach to the refugee crisis.
- When the same rules do not apply to everyone equally, finding common ground becomes increasingly difficult.



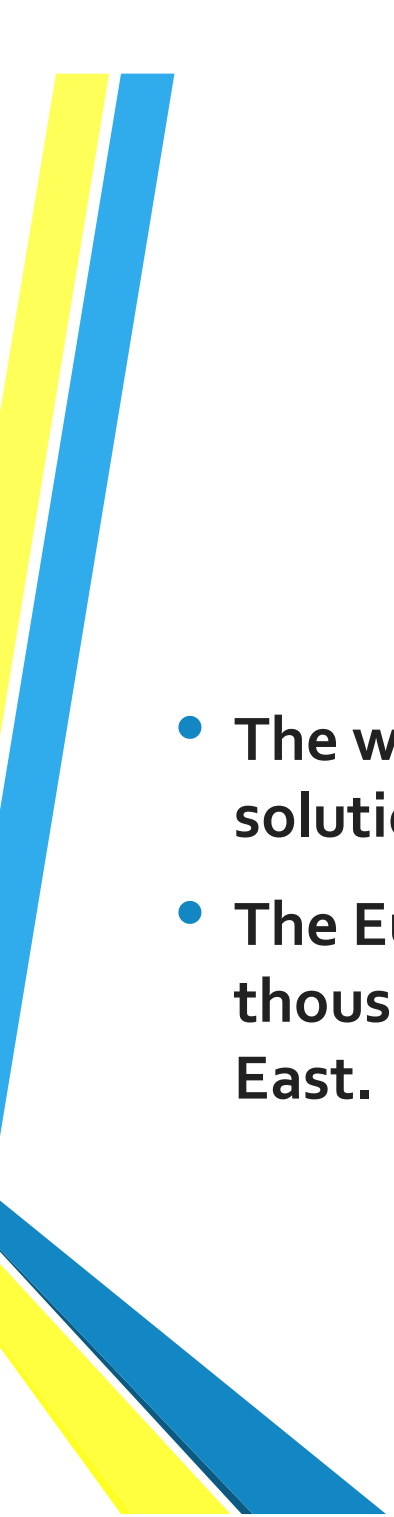
Disparitycontinues

- UN General Assembly will convene the first-ever high level summit on refugees and migration.
- The focus of the summit goes beyond the Syrian refugee crisis, but in many ways the current situation in the Mediterranean is at the heart of this global emergency and the political failings that have led us here.
- So far, the draft declaration for the summit offers platitudes and vague commitments, but nothing substantive to fix a broken process.
- The summit offers an opportunity to finally address the political failings that have created these migration flows and remodel an outdated refugee system
- But whether the international community is willing to take that gamble when some of its most powerful members are content to shut its' doors remains to be seen.

Long lasting solutions

- African migrants are not Europe's problem alone.
- The AU should try to limit illegal migration and make Africa more appealing to its people
- The Italian navy helping refugees in the Mediterranean sea.
- 'The fact that African migrants seek refuge in countries with well-developed human rights systems only accentuates the AU's failure.'



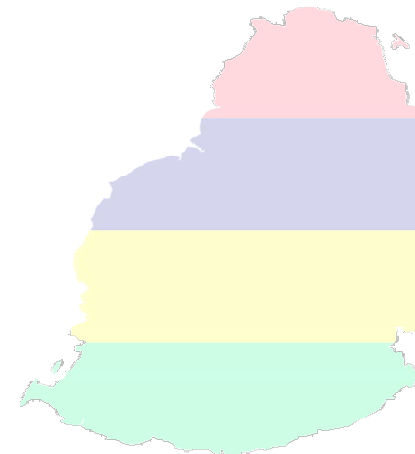
- 
- The world has migrant and refugee crisis and there is no obvious solution.
 - The European Union, Greece and Italy in particular, is grappling with thousands of desperate arrivals on its shores from Africa and the Middle East.





Implications

- Receiving counties overwhelmed
- Rescue mission is very expensive
- **Labour is lost**
 - Lost potential
 - Skills
 - manpower



Recommendations

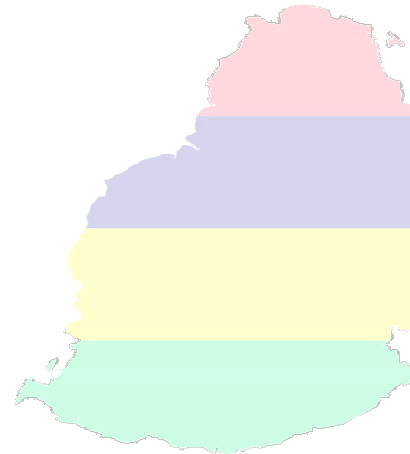
- Opening up safe routes to sanctuary for refugees is one important solution
- Resettle all refugees who need it
- World leaders put saving lives first
- People fleeing persecution or wars should be allowed to cross borders, with or without travel documents
- Stop trafficking and racism
- Governments also need to stop blaming refugees and migrants for economic and social problems, and instead combat all kinds of xenophobia and racial discrimination.

Asylum is a human right

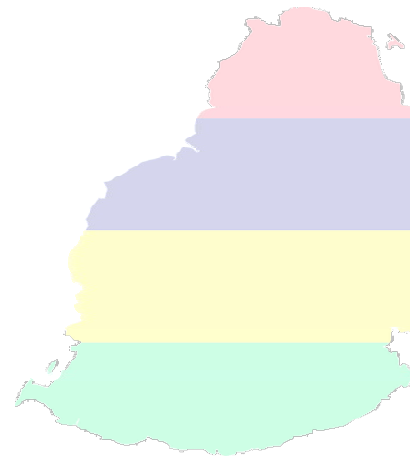


Conclusion

- That strong warning from world leaders will not stop migrants.
- African migrants will keep coming.
- Stationing majestic ships on the sea will not stop the tide.
- They will come in droves.
- They will keep coming from Somalia, Sudan, Libya, Syria, Turkey and Eritrea and many other lands for as long as they are pushed.
- Africa, lets get our house in order...to stop this catastrophe..



- 
- Time has come for Africa to take decisive steps to stop....



References

Siweya, R.T.(2017) African leaders must save Africans dying at sea. Founder of Africa Unmasked and a NEC member of the African National Congress Youth League (ANCYL)

