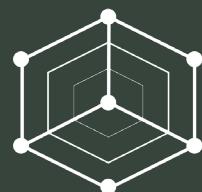


REGIONAL MOBILITY MAPPING

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA
JUNE 2022



RDH
IOM REGIONAL DATA HUB
West and Central Africa



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency



REGIONAL MOBILITY MAPPING

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA JUNE 2022

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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

Disclaimer: The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on these maps may include errors and do not imply judgment of the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by IOM.

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UKaid
from the British people



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



MiRAC
MIGRATION RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The development and implementation of policies and programmes in West and Central Africa promoting safe, orderly and humane migration require a better understanding of human mobility in the region.

Human mobility in the region take many different forms. Transhumance, seasonal migration conducted during the harvesting season, travel during religious festivities, tourism, economic migration to North Africa and Europe, the search for employment in the mining industry, forced displacements due to conflict, natural disasters or climate-related migration, rural exodus, are all examples of movements observes in West and Central Africa and show the many faceted nature of mobility in the region.

This document is an attempt to provide a dynamic and regularly updated portrait of mobility within, from and to West and Central Africa regionon for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The maps contained in this document are not only meant to inform on ongoing mobility patterns, but also provide information to support direct programming (protection of migrants, management of transhumance flows, support to safe returns of displaced people) and policy.

DATA SOURCES

Data sources for the information displayed in this document are provided at the bottom of each page. When reference is made to IOM data, the data was collected from: 1) Flow Monitoring, 2) Mobility Tracking, 3) Interviews with individuals who benefited from voluntary returns and reintegration programs (AVRR), 4) Search and Rescue operations, 5) Missing Migrants Project, 6) Transhumance Tracking Tool

Further information on the data collection methodologies and on the activities referenced throughout the report is available in the following documents:

- Regional Data Hub Factsheet
- Displacement Factsheet
- Migration Factsheet
- Transhumance Factsheet
- Missing Migrants Project Factsheet
- Migrant Protection and Assistance/Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Factsheet
- COVID-19 Mobility Restriction Monitoring Factsheet
- Data Protection Factsheet

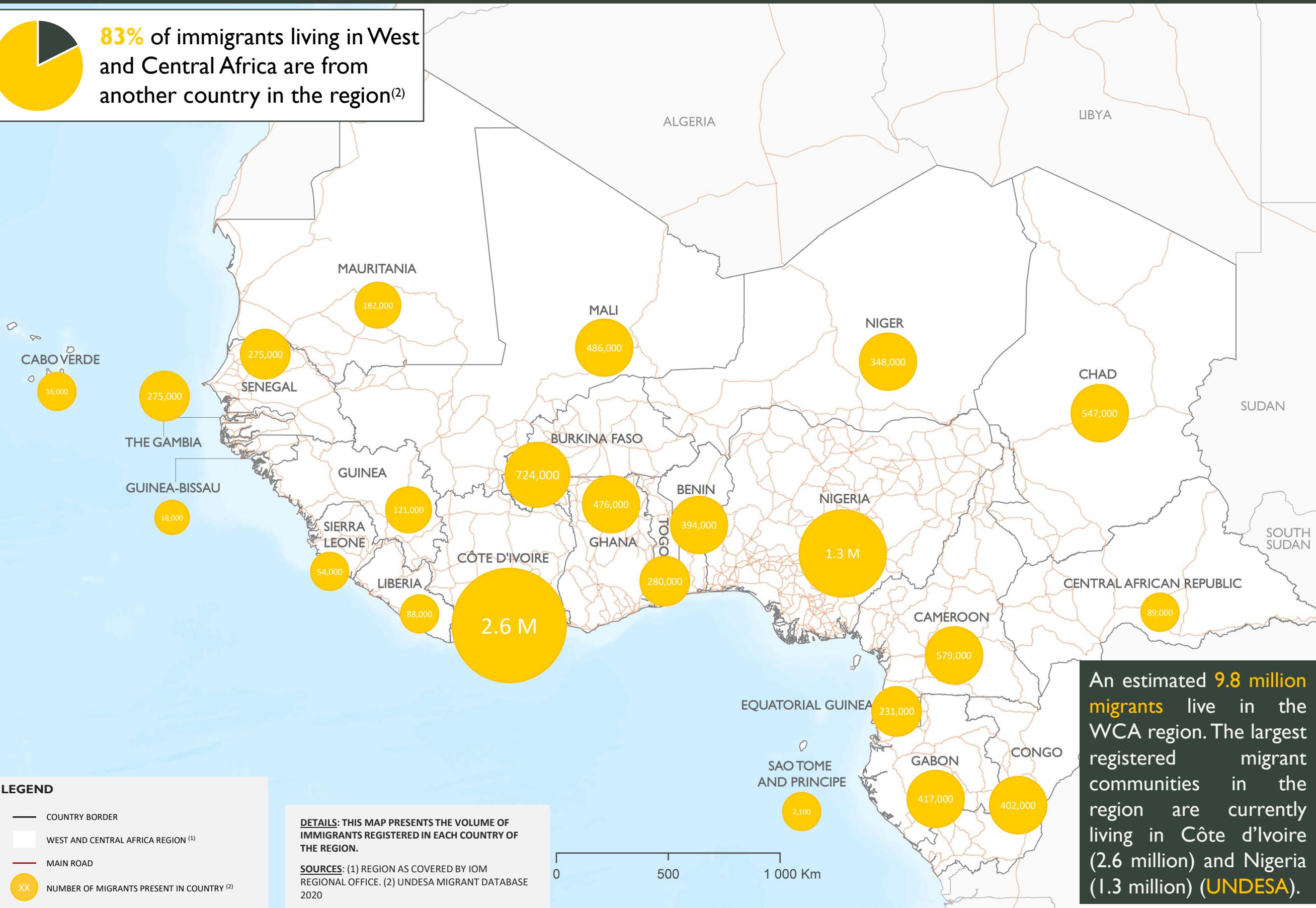
Other data presented in this document is provided by the Ministries of the Interior of Spain, Italy and Greece, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

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- NOTE ON METHODOLOGY I ◦ *Page 24*
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83% of immigrants living in West and Central Africa are from another country in the region⁽²⁾



LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- MAIN ROAD
- XX NUMBER OF MIGRANTS PRESENT IN COUNTRY ⁽²⁾

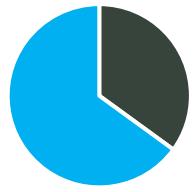
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE VOLUME OF IMMIGRANTS REGISTERED IN EACH COUNTRY OF THE REGION.

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) UNDESA MIGRANT DATABASE 2020



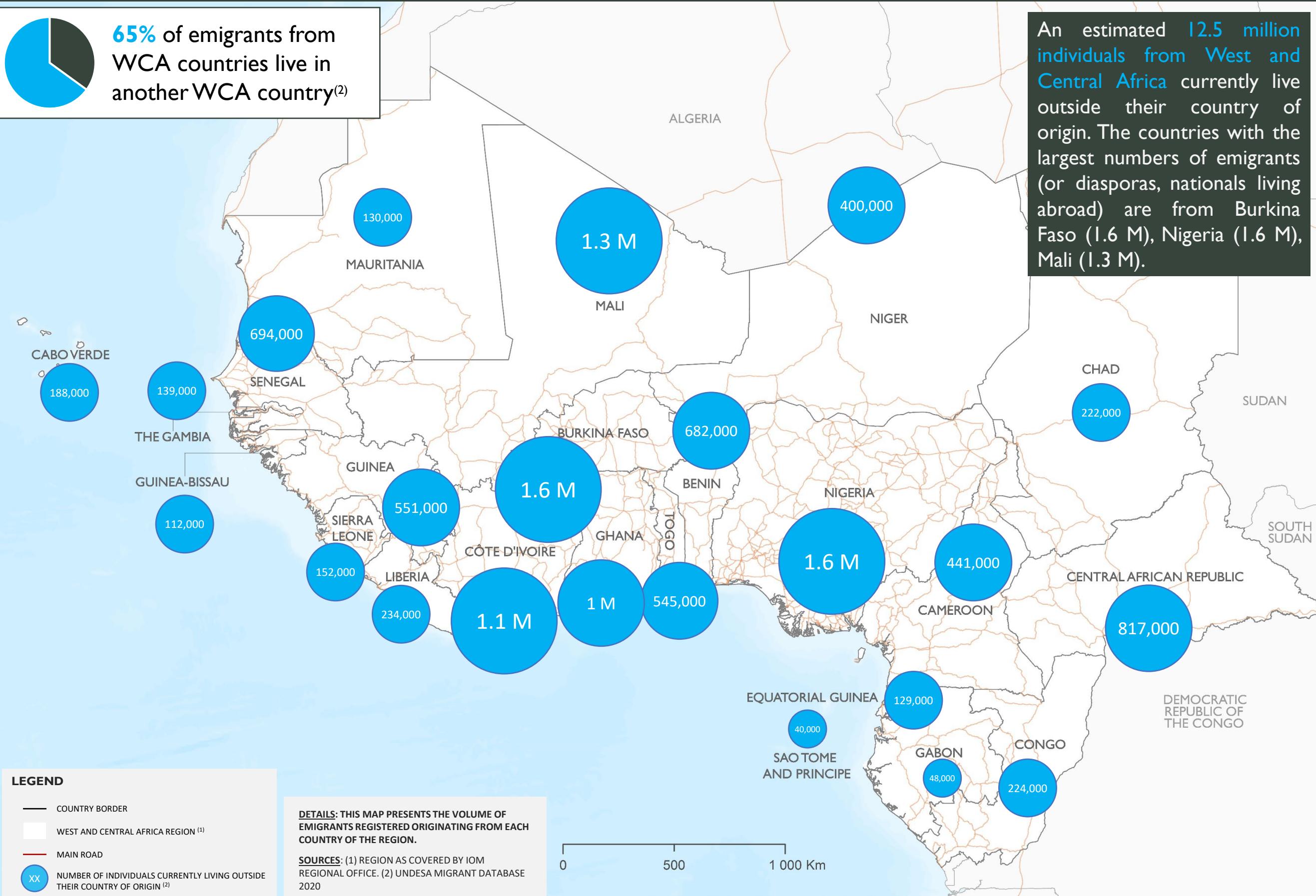
An estimated **9.8 million migrants** live in the WCA region. The largest registered migrant communities in the region are currently living in Côte d'Ivoire (2.6 million) and Nigeria (1.3 million) (**UNDESA**).

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM



65% of emigrants from WCA countries live in another WCA country⁽²⁾

An estimated **12.5 million** individuals from West and Central Africa currently live outside their country of origin. The countries with the largest numbers of emigrants (or diasporas, nationals living abroad) are from Burkina Faso (1.6 M), Nigeria (1.6 M), Mali (1.3 M).



LEGEND

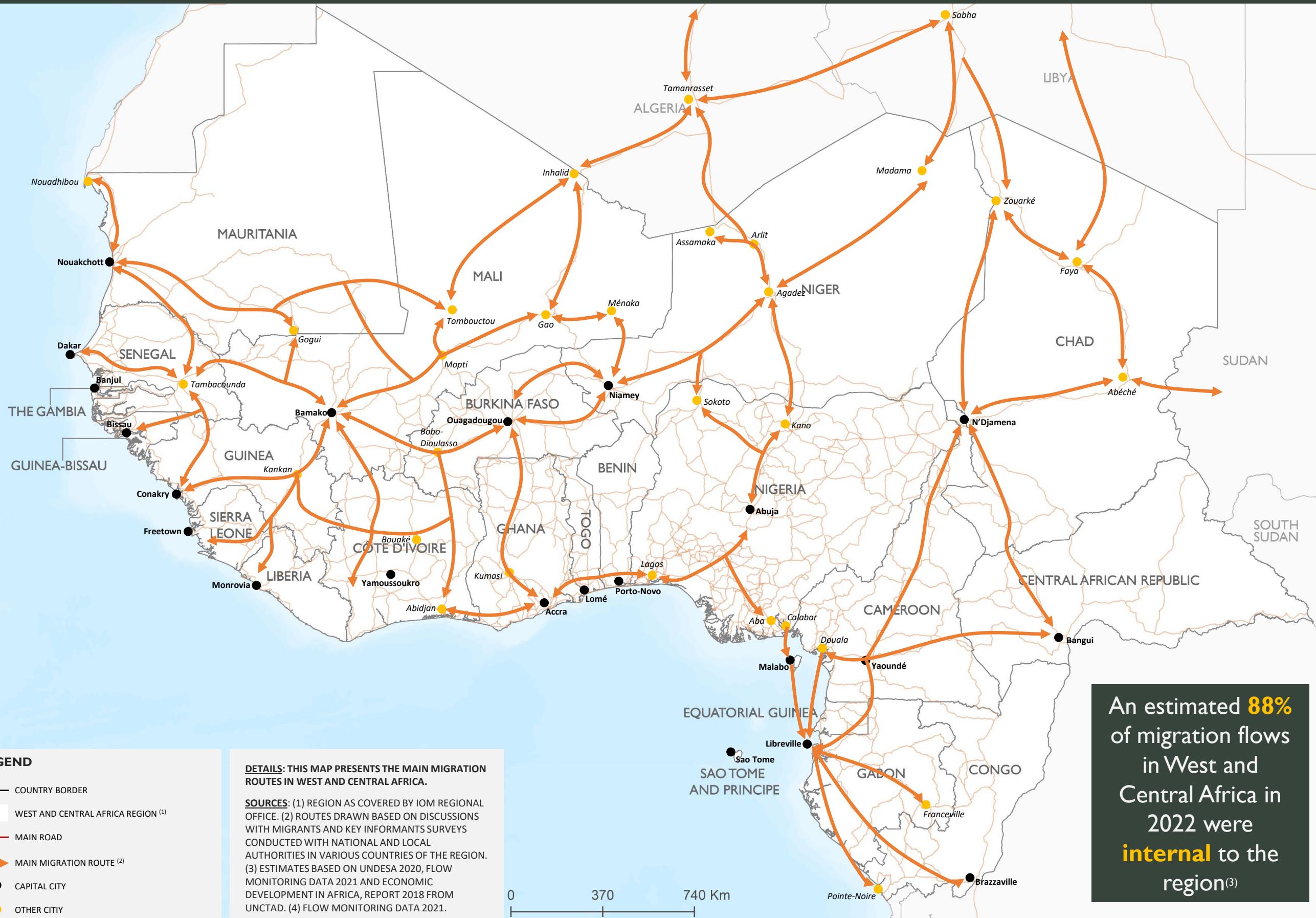
- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- MAIN ROAD
- XX NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY LIVING OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN ⁽²⁾

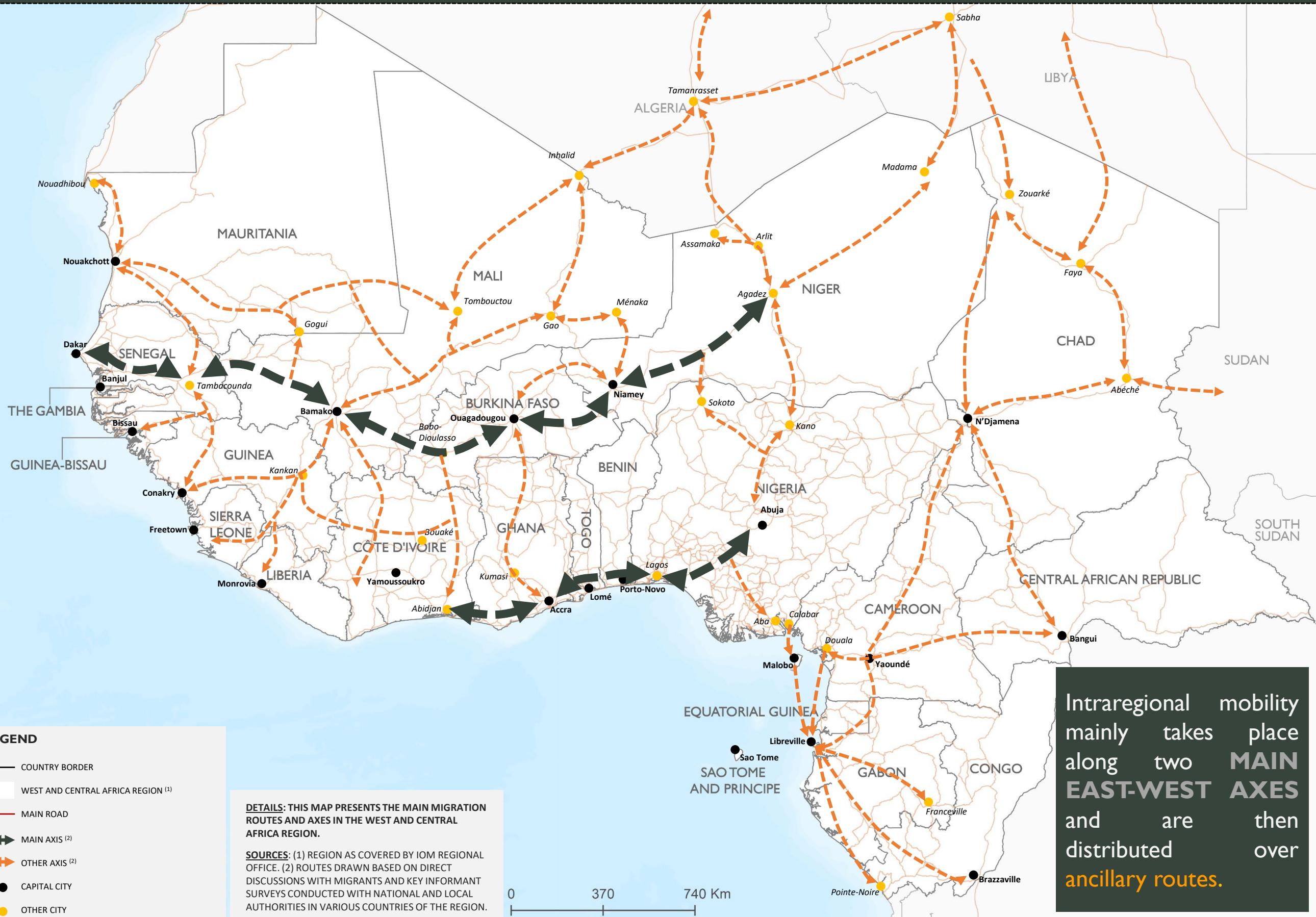
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE VOLUME OF EMIGRANTS REGISTERED ORIGINATING FROM EACH COUNTRY OF THE REGION.

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) UNDESA MIGRANT DATABASE 2020



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM





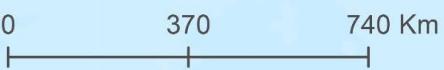
LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION (1)
- MAIN ROAD
- ↔ MAIN AXIS (2)
- OTHER AXIS (2)
- CAPITAL CITY
- OTHER CITY

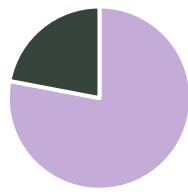
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE MAIN MIGRATION ROUTES AND AXES IN THE WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION.

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) ROUTES DRAWN BASED ON DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH MIGRANTS AND KEY INFORMANT SURVEYS CONDUCTED WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.

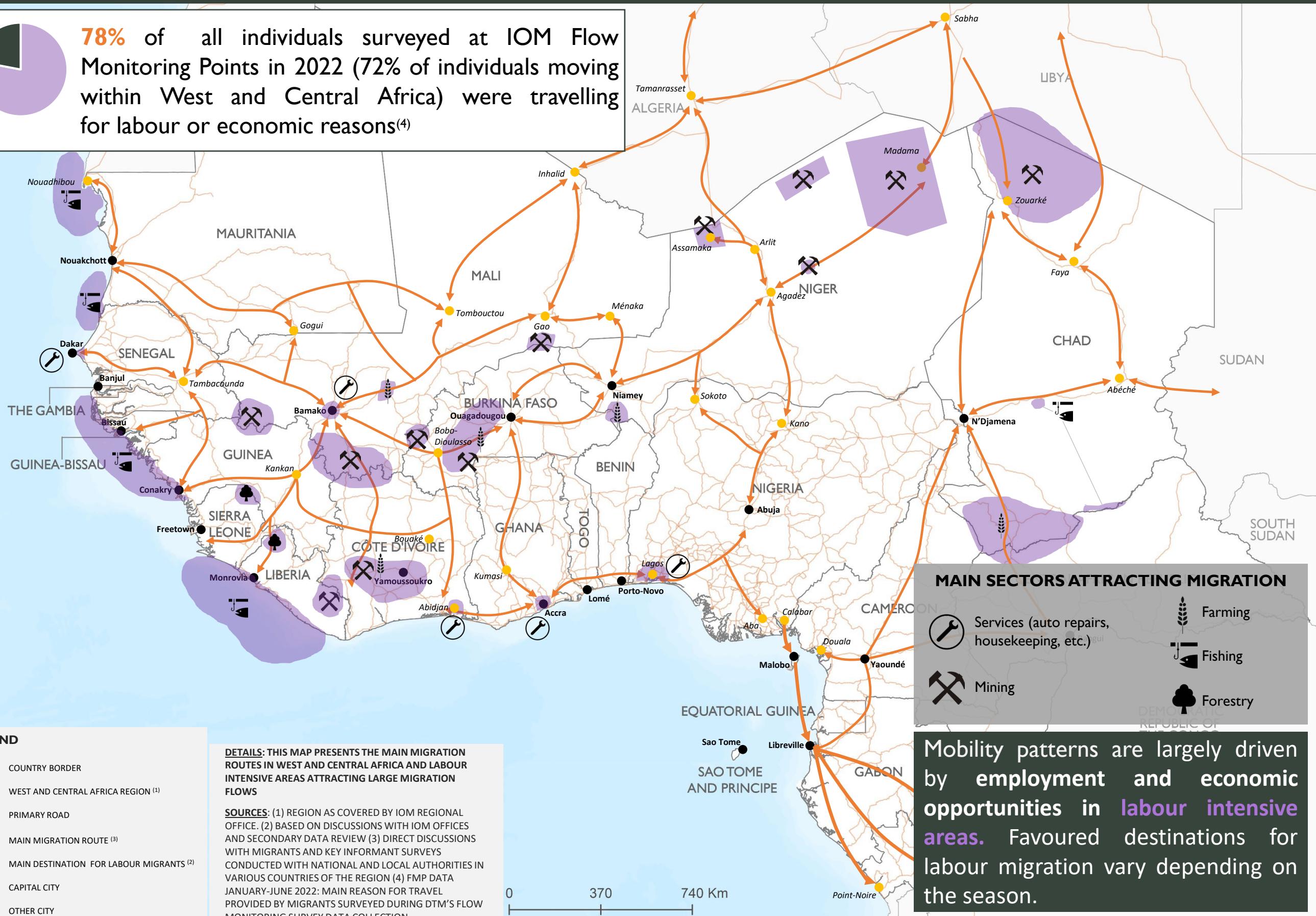
Intraregional mobility mainly takes place along two **MAIN EAST-WEST AXES** and are then distributed over **ancillary routes.**



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.



78% of all individuals surveyed at IOM Flow Monitoring Points in 2022 (72% of individuals moving within West and Central Africa) were travelling for labour or economic reasons⁽⁴⁾



MAIN SECTORS ATTRACTING MIGRATION

- Services (auto repairs, housekeeping, etc.)
- Farming
- Fishing
- Mining
- Forestry

Mobility patterns are largely driven by employment and economic opportunities in labour intensive areas. Favoured destinations for labour migration vary depending on the season.

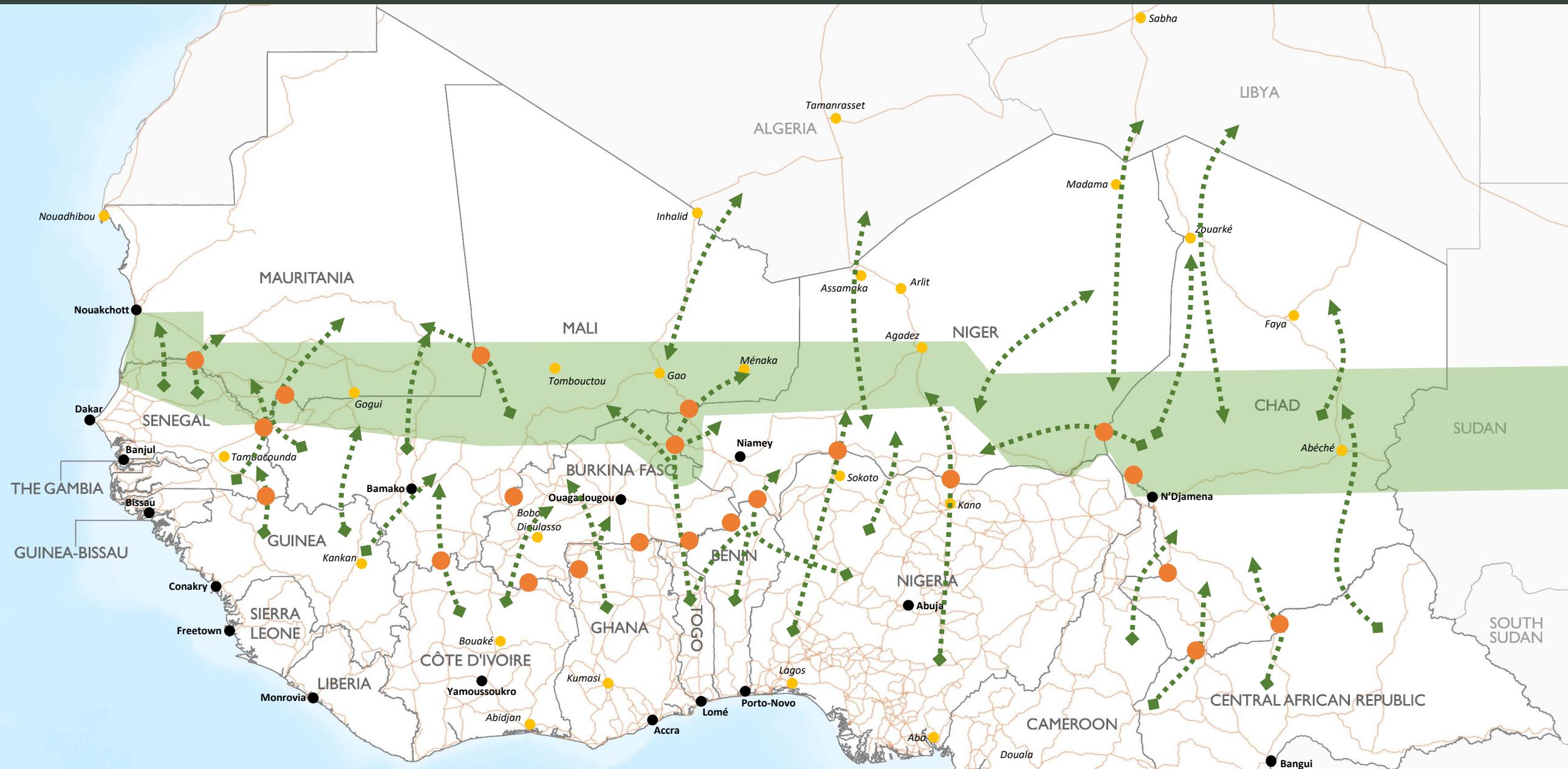
LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- PRIMARY ROAD
- MAIN MIGRATION ROUTE ⁽³⁾
- MAIN DESTINATION FOR LABOUR MIGRANTS ⁽²⁾
- CAPITAL CITY
- OTHER CITY

DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE MAIN MIGRATION ROUTES IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA AND LABOUR INTENSIVE AREAS ATTRACTING LARGE MIGRATION FLOWS

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH IOM OFFICES AND SECONDARY DATA REVIEW (3) DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH MIGRANTS AND KEY INFORMANT SURVEYS CONDUCTED WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF THE REGION (4) FMP DATA JANUARY-JUNE 2022: MAIN REASON FOR TRAVEL PROVIDED BY MIGRANTS SURVEYED DURING DTM'S FLOW MONITORING SURVEY DATA COLLECTION.

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM



LEGEND

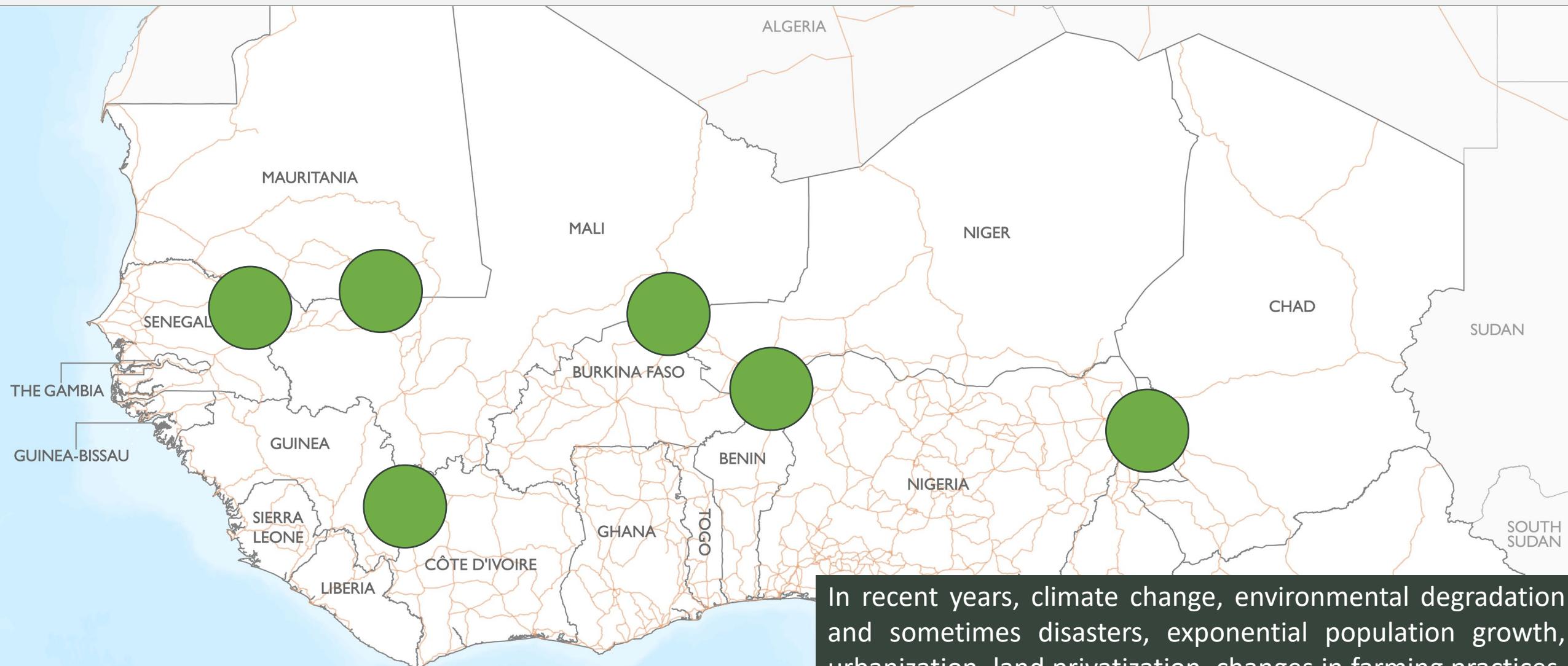
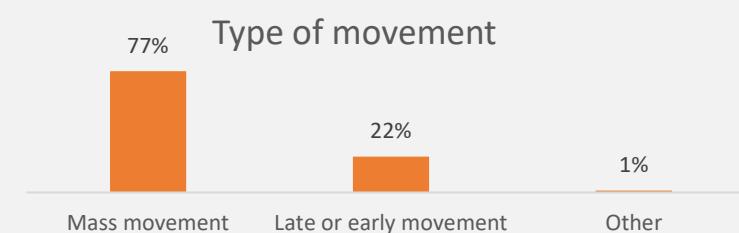
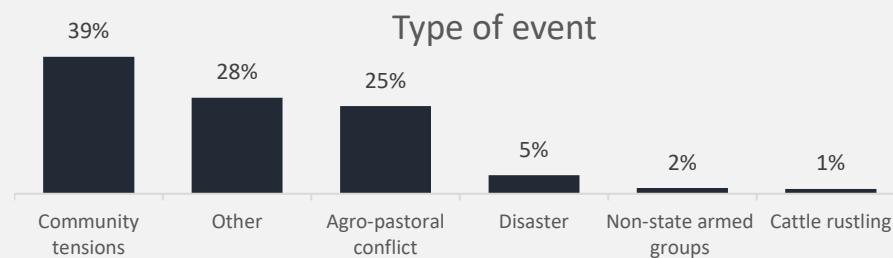
- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- PASTORAL ZONE ⁽²⁾
- TRANSBOUNDARY TRANSHUMANCE ROUTE ⁽²⁾
- ◇ DIRECTION DURING DRY SEASON ⁽³⁾
- ▶ DIRECTION DURING WET SEASON ⁽³⁾
- KEY TRANSIT POINT FOR TRANSHUMANT HERDERS ⁽⁴⁾
- CAPITAL CITY
- OTHER CITY

DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE MAIN TRANSHUMANCE AND NOMADIC ROUTES IN THE WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) ROUTES ARE TAKEN FROM FAO-CIRAD, SYSTEME D'INFORMATON SUR LE PASTORALISME AU SAHEL, 2012. (3) IOM TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL 2021 (BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, GUINEA, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, SIERRA LEONE). (4) TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL 2021

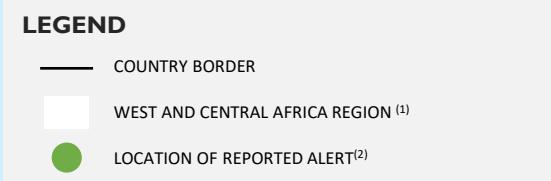
Transhumance, a form of pastoralism which sees herders and their livestock migrate on a seasonal basis between complementary ecological areas from areas with scarce grazing lands and water sources to areas with more abundant pastures and water, is a common occupation across West and Central Africa. It contributes significantly to human mobility in the region. The main transhumance routes link Sahelian and coastal countries.

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM



DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ALERTS REGISTERED BY THE DTM'S TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA IN 2022. THE DATA COLLECTED IS LOCALIZED AND NON-EXHAUSTIVE. IT IS NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EXTENT OF AGROPASTORALIST CONFLICTS IN THE REGION.

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) DATA COLLECTED IN 2022 USING THE TTT EARLY WARNING TOOL AND SHOWING THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF ALERTS RECORDED THROUGH THE TTT'S EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

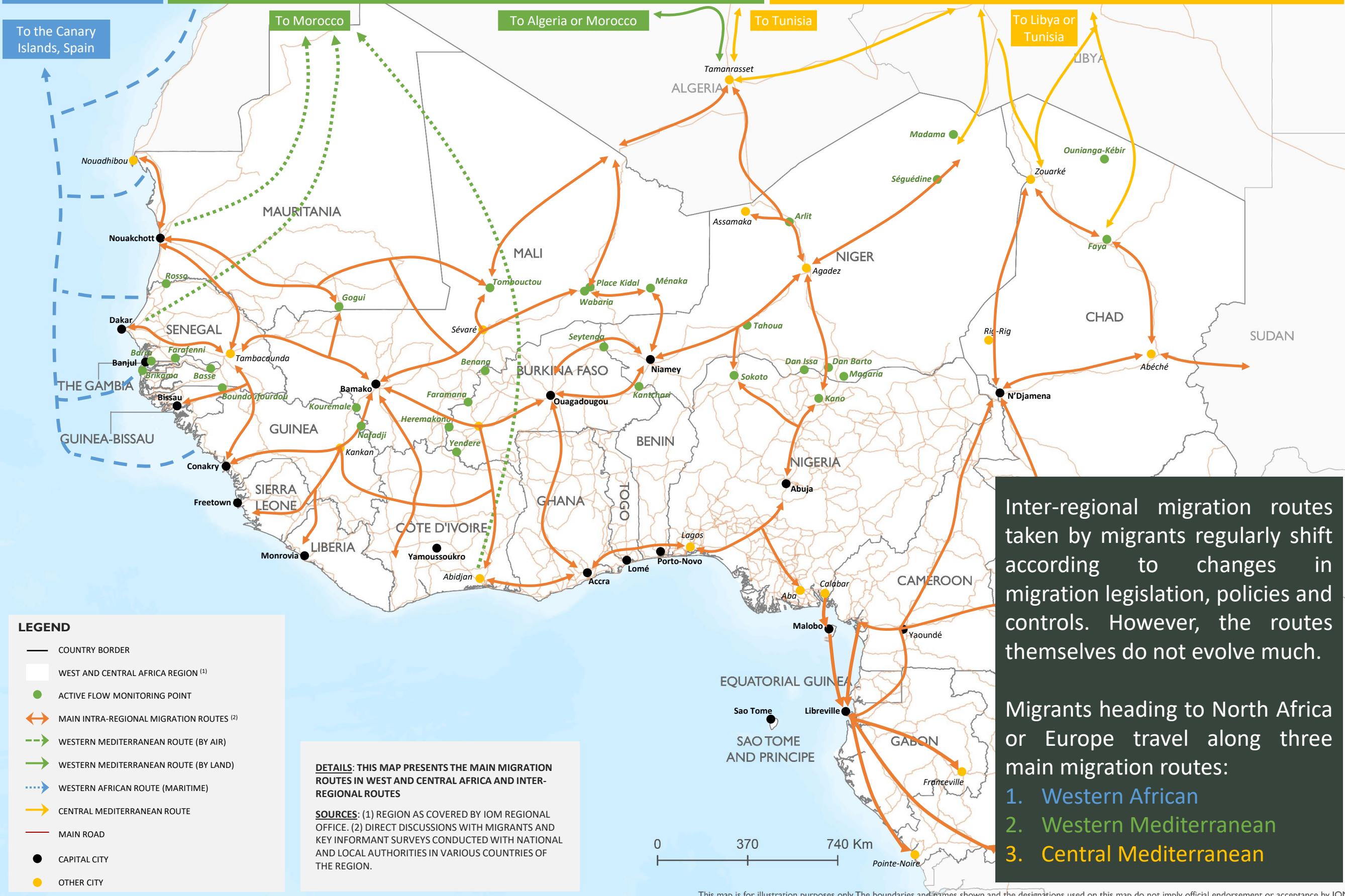


In recent years, climate change, environmental degradation and sometimes disasters, exponential population growth, urbanization, land privatization, changes in farming practices, and insecurity have affected transhumance patterns, routes and periods as well as relations with other communities. These changes have resulted in increasing competition over natural resources and have exacerbated tensions, generating at times intense conflicts between transhumant herders and farmers.

WESTERN AFRICAN ROUTE

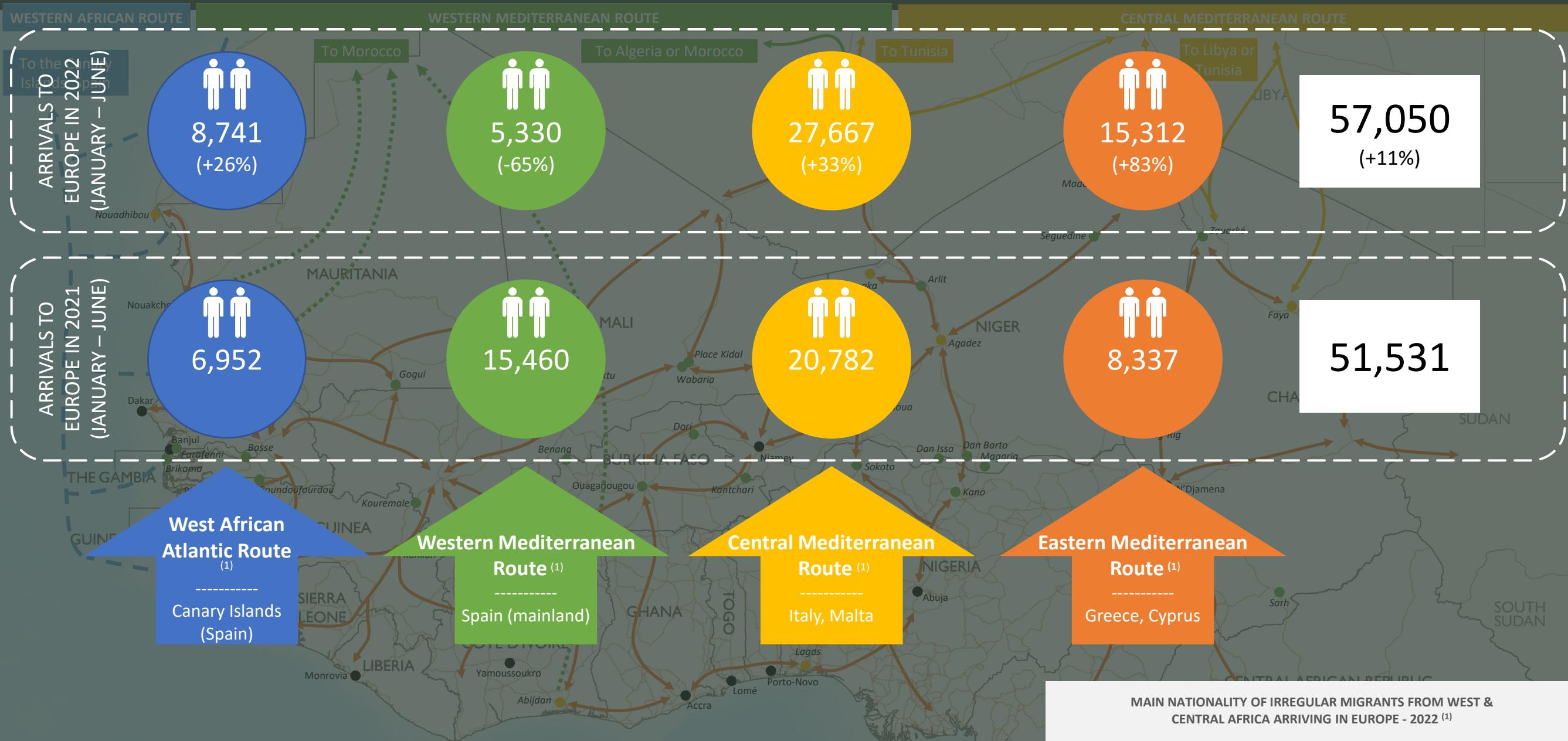
WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE



ARRIVALS TO EUROPE I

Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • June 2022



LEGEND
— COUNTRY BORDER

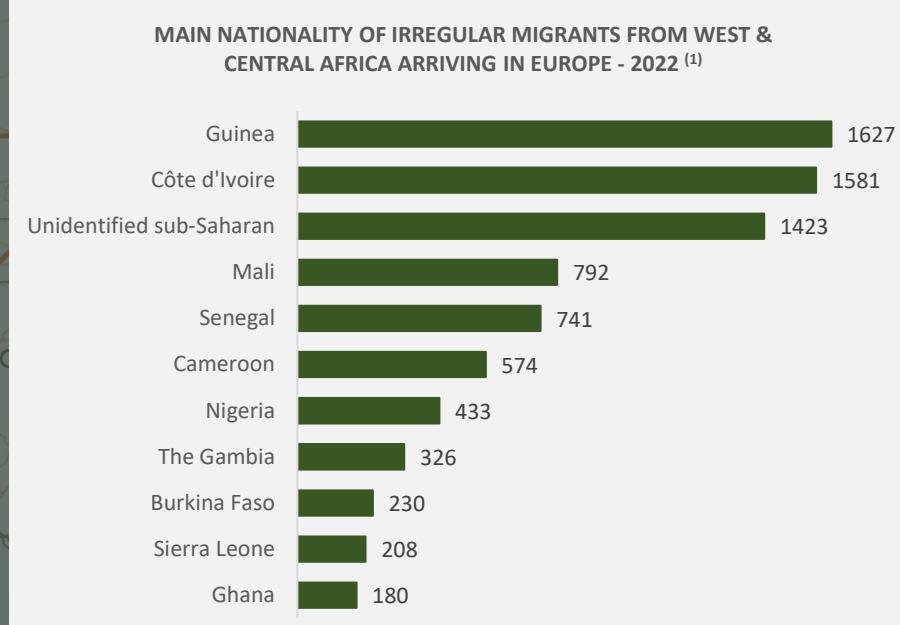
DETAILS: THIS PAGE PRESENTS THE NUMBER OF IRREGULAR MIGRANT ARRIVALS TO EUROPE BETWEEN JANUARY AND JUNE 2022 COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2021, BY LAND AND SEA AND BY MAIN MIGRATION ROUTES

SOURCES: (1) FIGURES TAKEN FROM DTM MEDITERRANEAN DATA, BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SPANISH, ITALIAN, MALTESE, CYPRUS AND GREEK MINISTRIES OF THE INTERIOR

DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE MAIN MIGRATION ROUTES IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA AND INTER-REGIONAL ROUTES

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH MIGRANTS AND KEY INFORMANTS SURVEYS CONDUCTED WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

Between January and June 2022, an estimated **57,050** migrants arrived in Italy, Spain, Greece and other countries (Malta, Cyprus) by sea and land irregularly. In the 1st semester of 2021, **51,531** individuals arrived in Europe.



TOTAL ARRIVALS IN GREECE AND PROPORTION OF WCA NATIONALS



TOTAL ARRIVALS IN ITALY AND PROPORTION OF WCA NATIONALS



TOTAL ARRIVALS IN SPAIN AND PROPORTION OF WCA NATIONALS



LEGEND:

- XX # OF ARRIVALS
- x% % OF ARRIVALS OF WCA NATIONALS

DETAILS: THIS PAGE PRESENTS THE NUMBERS OF ARRIVALS TO EUROPE BY MAIN COUNTRY OF ARRIVAL (GREECE, ITALY, SPAIN), YEAR, AND PROPORTION OF WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN NATIONALS. 2022 DATA ONLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FIGURES BETWEEN JANUARY AND JUNE 2022.

SOURCES: Ministries of the Interior of Spain, Italy and Greece; IOM and UNHCR data.

*2022 data only takes into account the period of Jan to June. Migrant and refugee arrivals to Europe have changed significantly between 2015 and 2022. In 2015, an estimated 857,363 migrants and refugees reached Greece, with only 1% originating from West and Central Africa (WCA). The share of migrants from WCA amongst arrivals to Greece then steadily increased, reaching 6% in 2020, and decreased to 3% in 2022 so far. Arrivals of WCA nationals in Italy decreased in 2022 so far to 13%. The share of WCA nationals amongst migrant and refugee arrivals to Spain witnessed large fluctuations between 2015 and 2022, and witnessed a sharp decrease between 2016 (60% of all arrivals in Spain, the highest observed in the 2015-2022 time period) and 2020 (18%), before bouncing back in 2021 and 2022 (32%). The drop in the share of WCA nationals arriving in Spain between 2019 and 2020 is partially explained by the lack of nationality data for October-December 2020. For January-June 2022, irregular arrivals in Spain saw a significant increase compared to Jan-June 2021. At the same time, the number of irregular migrant arrivals to Italy in Jan-June 2022 more than doubled when compared to the same period in 2021.

BY INTENDED DESTINATION

EUROPE

AGE (average)

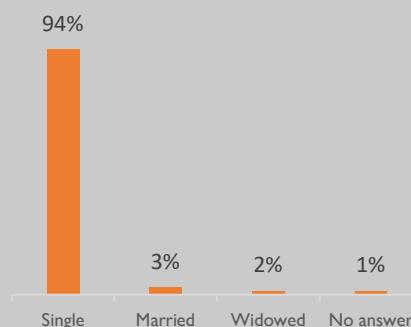
28.5

Gender (distribution)

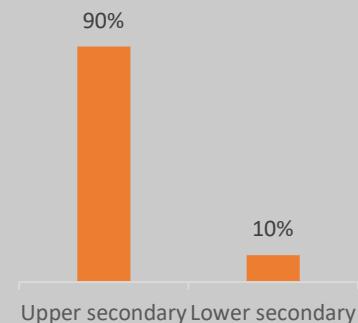
Male: 37%

Female: 63%

MARITAL STATUS



EDUCATION LEVEL



EMPLOYMENT LEVEL



NORTH
AFRICA

AGE (average)

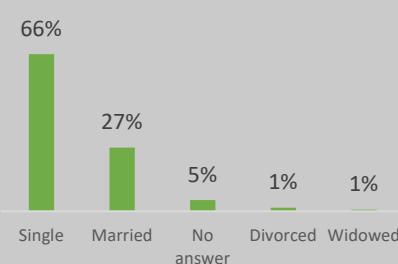
28.3

Gender (distribution)

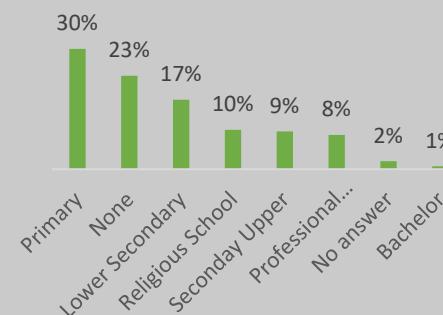
Male: 87%

Female: 13%

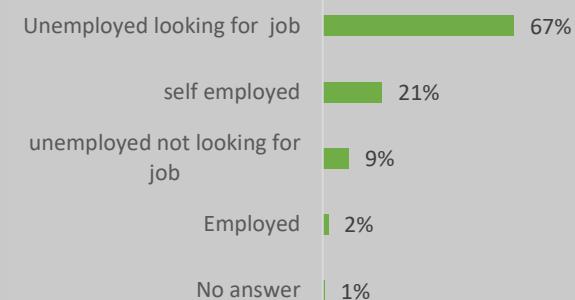
MARITAL STATUS



EDUCATION LEVEL



EMPLOYMENT LEVEL



WCA

AGE (average)

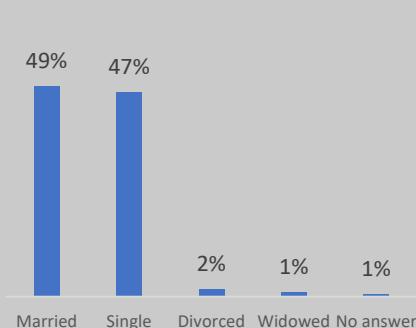
30.2

Gender (distribution)

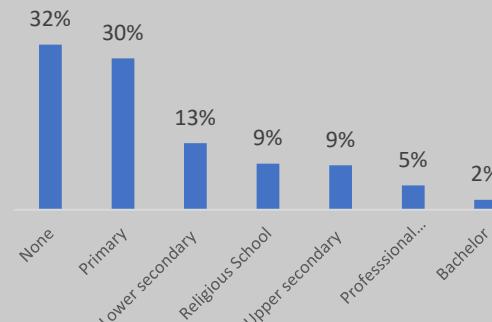
Male: 82%

Female: 18%

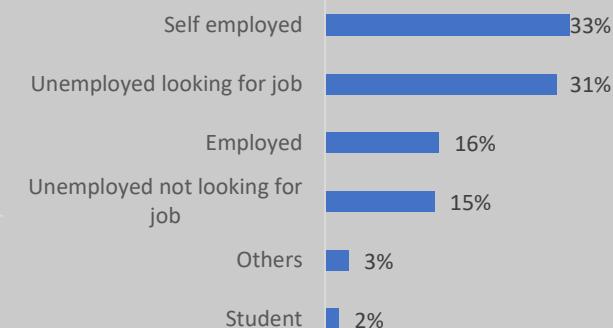
MARITAL STATUS



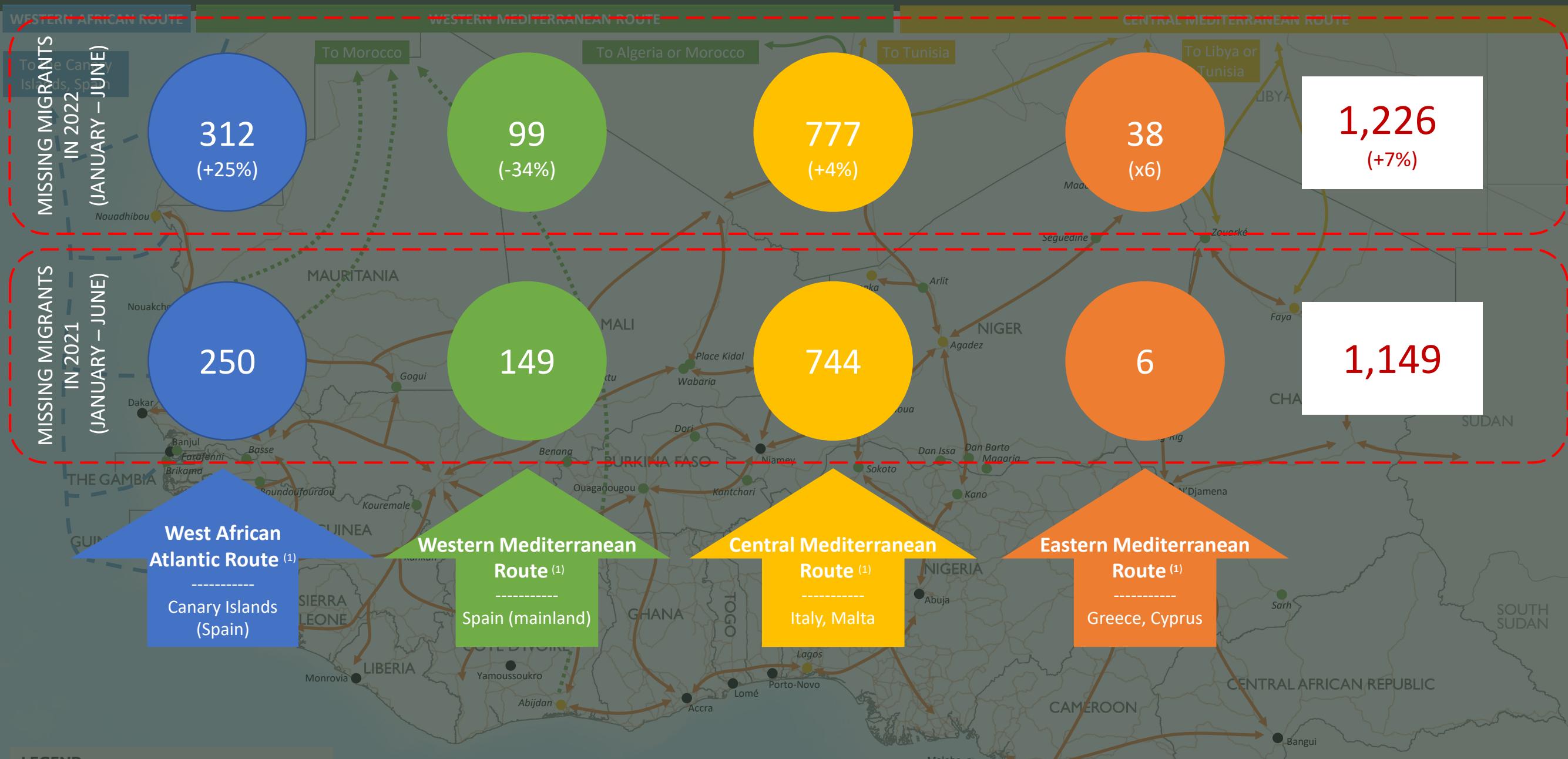
EDUCATION LEVEL



EMPLOYMENT LEVEL



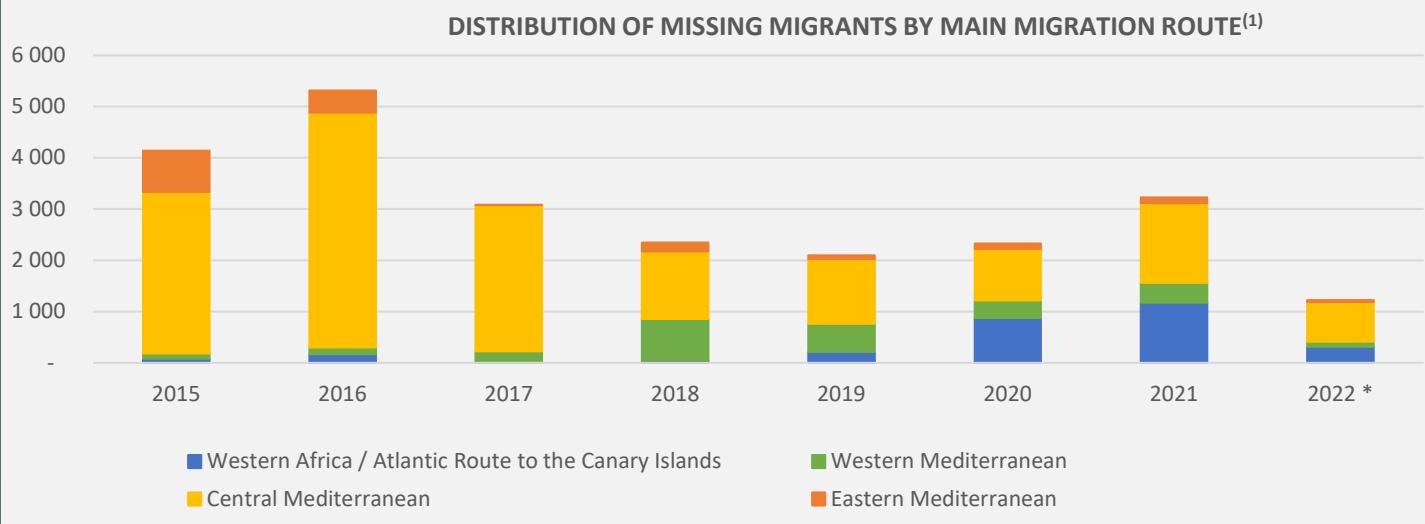
Travellers moving within West and Central Africa, headed for North Africa, and migrating to Europe showcase significant differences in age, marital status, education level and employment status prior to travel (in their country of habitual residence). The unemployment rate of travellers also varies according to the nature of the movements and the intended destination: migration to a country in West and Central Africa is more likely to be conducted in response to concrete job opportunities than migration to Europe or North Africa. *The profile of travellers (individuals crossing IOM Flow Monitoring Points) by intended destination presented on this page is based on data collected during Flow Monitoring Surveys conducted with over 18,034 travellers across the region between January and June 2022. Further information on methodology is available at the end of this document.*



DETAILS: THIS VISUAL PRESENTS THE NUMBERS OF DEAD AND MISSING MIGRANTS RECORDED ALONG THE FOUR MAIN MIGRATIONS ROUTES IN JANUARY – JUNE 2022 AND COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 2021.

* 2022 data only takes into account months Jan-Jun.

SOURCES: (1) MISSING MIGRANT PROJECT DATA FOR 2021 AND 2022, GLOBAL MIGRATION DATA AND ANALYSIS CENTER, IOM.



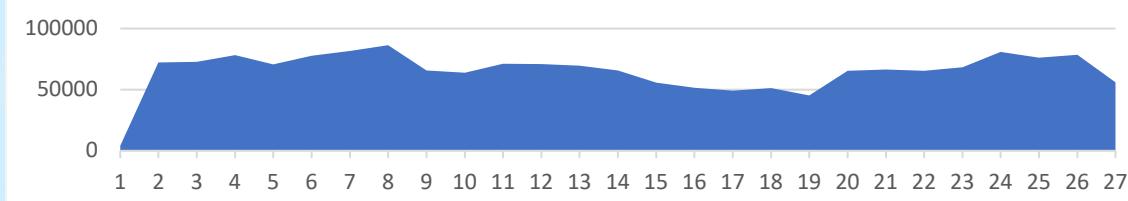
Between January and June 2022, the number of migrants who died or disappeared along the Central Mediterranean, Western Mediterranean, West African Atlantic and Eastern Mediterranean routes (1,226) dropped compared to the same period in 2021 (1,149).



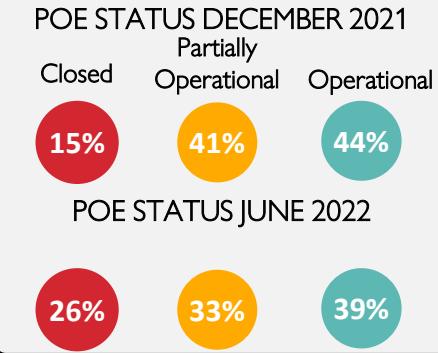
COVID-19 & MOBILITY

Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • June 2022

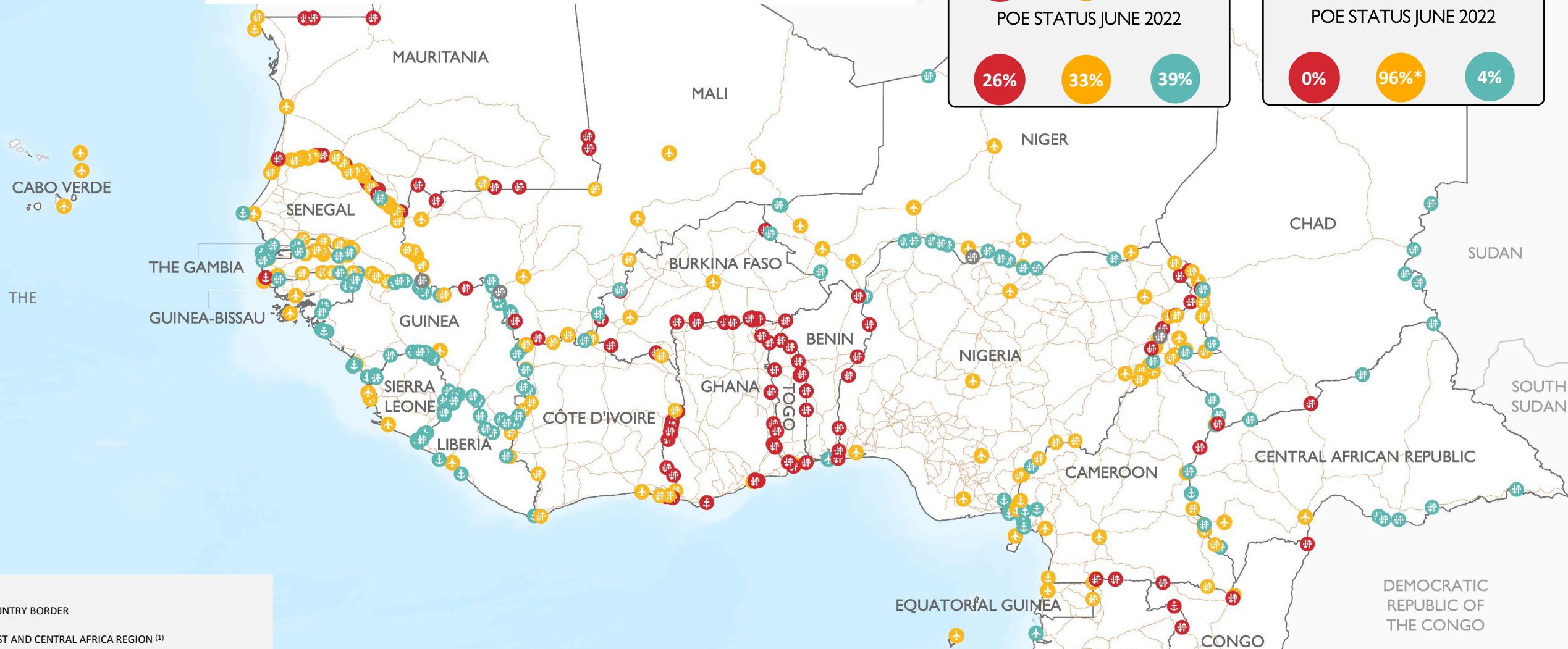
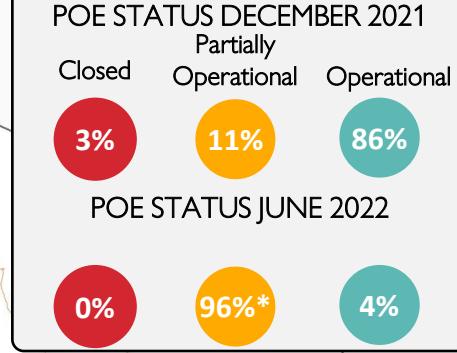
WEEKLY NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AT FLOW MONITORING POINTS IN 2022 ⁽³⁾



LAND BORDERS ⁽²⁾



AIRPORTS ⁽²⁾



LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- MAIN ROAD

TYPE OF POINT OF ENTRY ⁽²⁾

- INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- LAND BORDER POINT
- BLUE BORDER POINT

STATUS OF POINT OF ENTRY ⁽²⁾

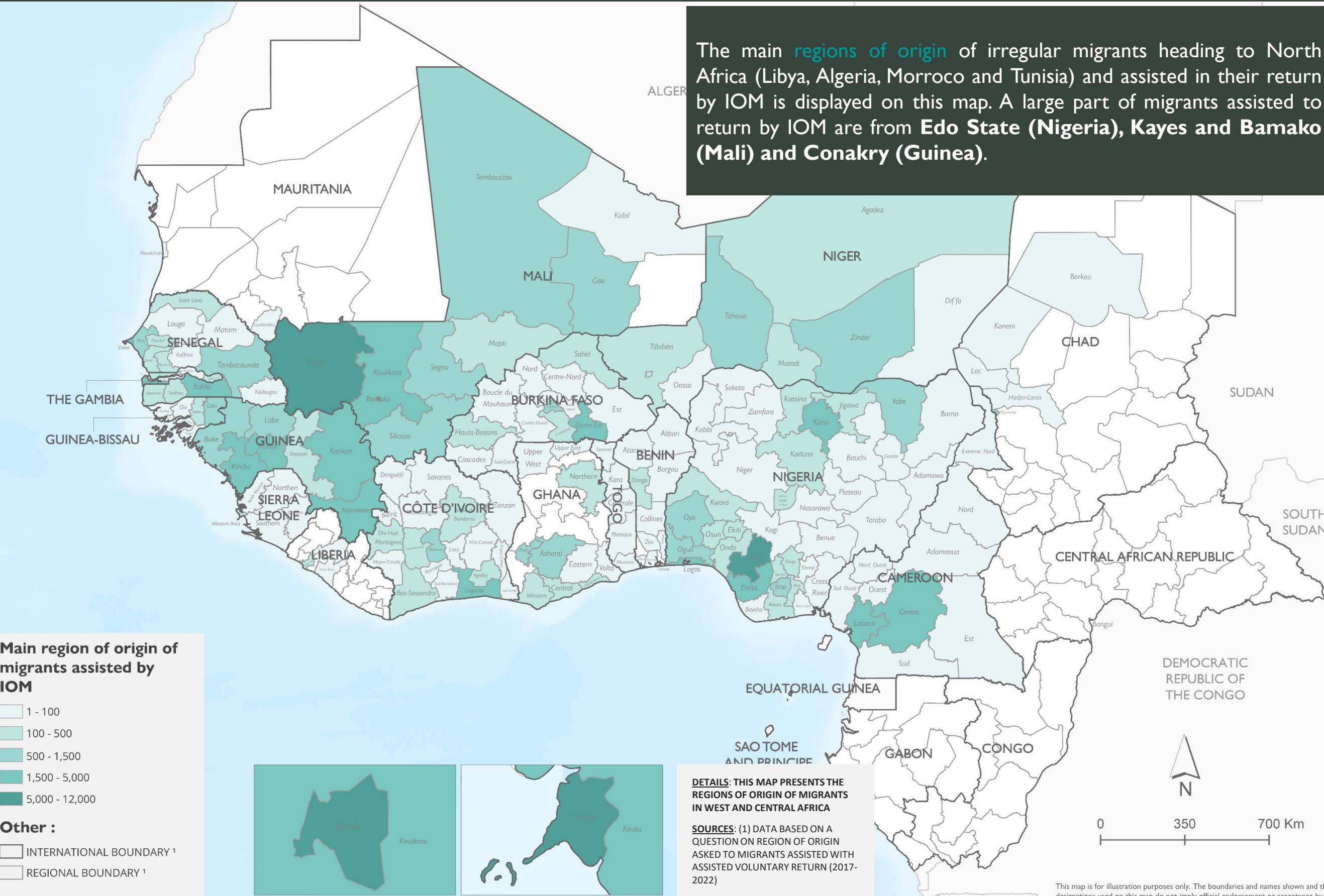
- OPERATIONAL
- PARTIALLY OPERATIONAL (OPEN FOR COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC ONLY)
- CLOSED
- STATUS UNKNOWN

DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE OPERATIONAL STATUS OF POINTS OF ENTRY IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON REGIONAL MOBILITY

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) MOBILITY RESTRICTION MONITORING/POINT OF ENTRY ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY IOM IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA, IN DECEMBER 2021 and JUNE 2022. (3) BASED ON FLOW MONITORING REGISTRY CONDUCTED IN CHAD, MALI and NIGER BETWEEN JANUARY AND JUNE 2022.

A Travel disruptions, restrictions and bans in West and Central Africa adopted by governments to stem the spread of COVID-19, had profound effects on regional mobility. In 2021, regional migration flows returned to their **regular seasonal patterns**. As of June 2022, 23% of all **Points of Entry** (land, sea and airports) in WCA were still closed. *The high percentage (96%) of partially operational airports is due to the covid-19 vaccine requirements.

The main **regions of origin** of irregular migrants heading to North Africa (Libya, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia) and assisted in their return by IOM is displayed on this map. A large part of migrants assisted to return by IOM are from **Edo State (Nigeria), Kayes and Bamako (Mali) and Conakry (Guinea)**.



Main region of origin of migrants assisted by IOM

- 1 - 100
- 100 - 500
- 500 - 1,500
- 1,500 - 5,000
- 5,000 - 12,000

Other :

- INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY ¹
- REGIONAL BOUNDARY ¹

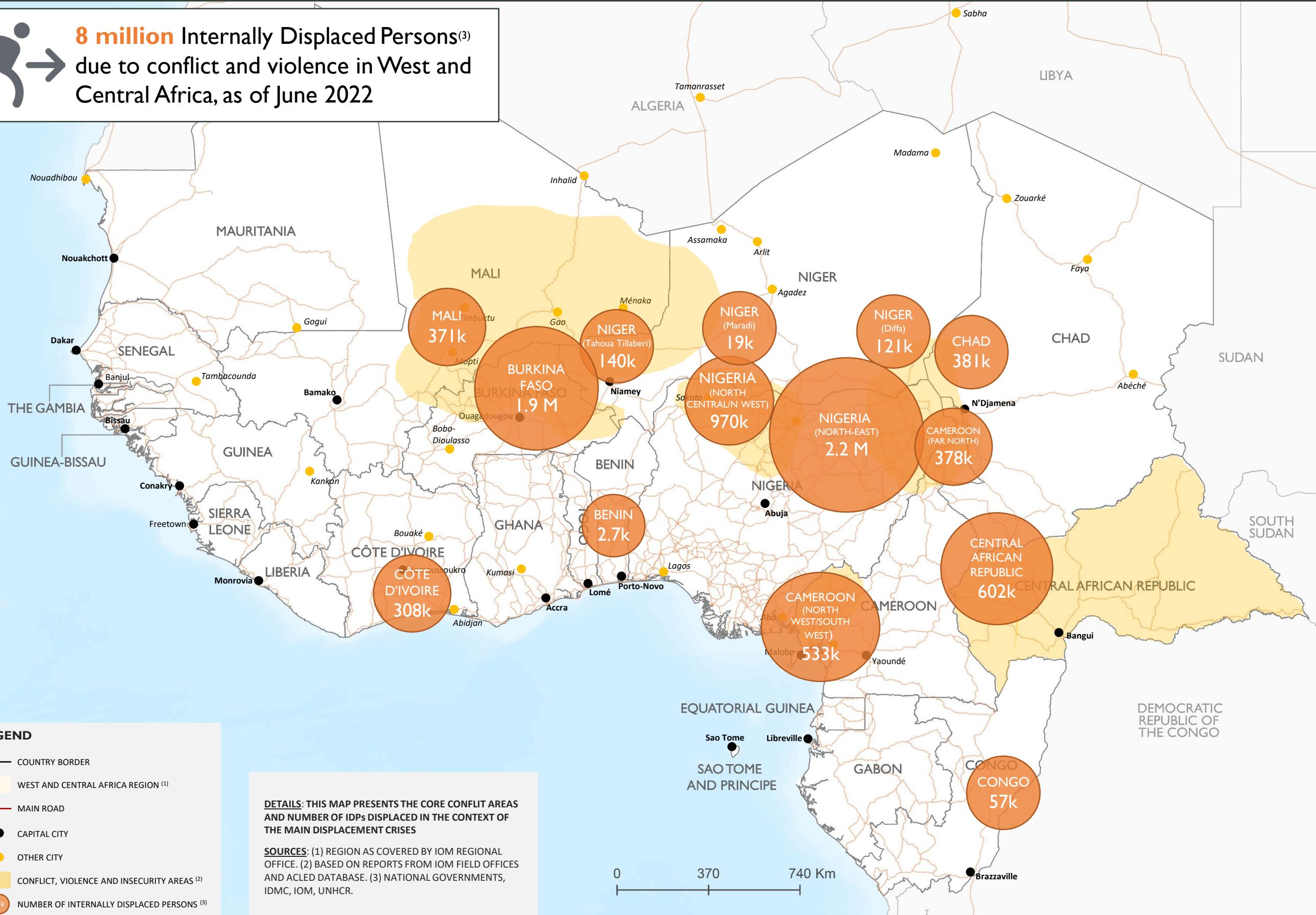
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE REGIONS OF ORIGIN OF MIGRANTS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

SOURCES: (1) DATA BASED ON A QUESTION ON REGION OF ORIGIN ASKED TO MIGRANTS ASSISTED WITH ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN (2017-2022)

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration



8 million Internally Displaced Persons⁽³⁾
due to conflict and violence in West and
Central Africa, as of June 2022



LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- MAIN ROAD
- CAPITAL CITY
- OTHER CITY
- CONFLICT, VIOLENCE AND INSECURITY AREAS ⁽²⁾
- Xk NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS ⁽³⁾

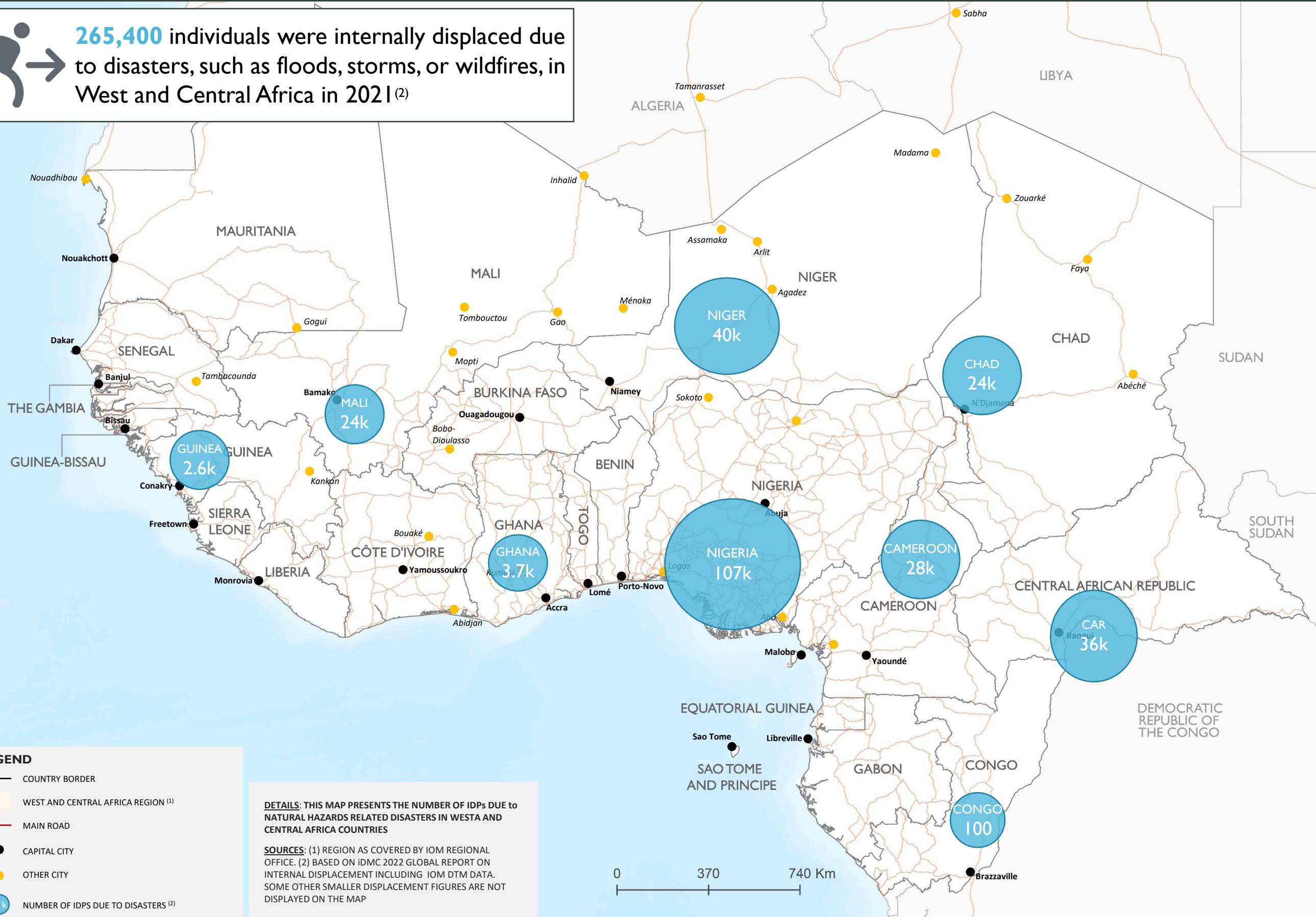
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE CORE CONFLICT AREAS AND NUMBER OF IDPs DISPLACED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MAIN DISPLACEMENT CRISES

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) BASED ON REPORTS FROM IOM FIELD OFFICES AND ACLED DATABASE. (3) NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, IDMC, IOM, UNHCR.

0 370 740 Km



265,400 individuals were internally displaced due to disasters, such as floods, storms, or wildfires, in West and Central Africa in 2021 ⁽²⁾



LEGEND

- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION ⁽¹⁾
- MAIN ROAD
- CAPITAL CITY
- OTHER CITY
- NUMBER OF IDPS DUE TO DISASTERS ⁽²⁾

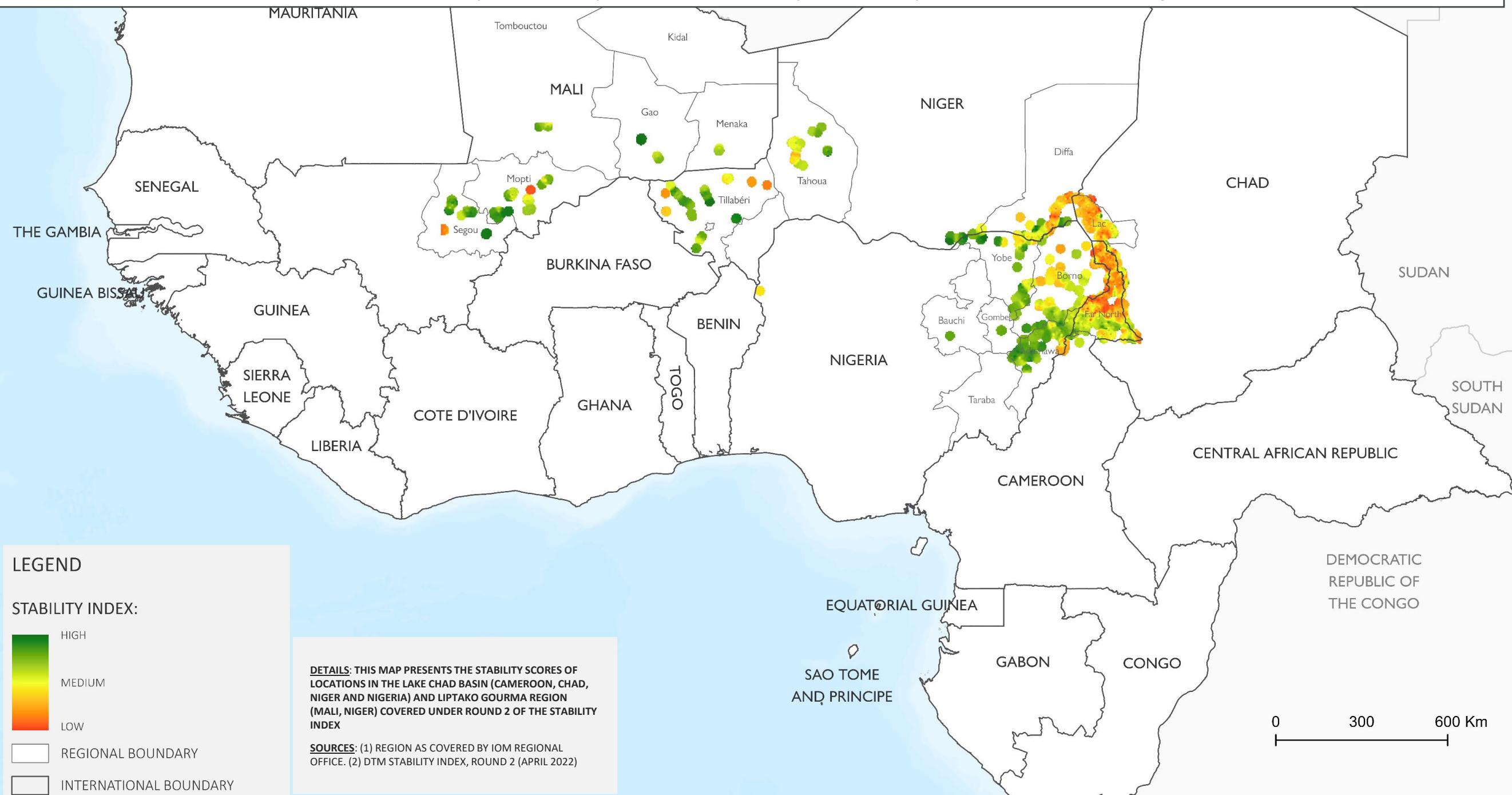
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE NUMBER OF IDPs DUE TO NATURAL HAZARDS RELATED DISASTERS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA COUNTRIES

SOURCES: (1) REGION AS COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICE. (2) BASED ON IDMC 2022 GLOBAL REPORT ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT INCLUDING IOM DTM DATA. SOME OTHER SMALLER DISPLACEMENT FIGURES ARE NOT DISPLAYED ON THE MAP

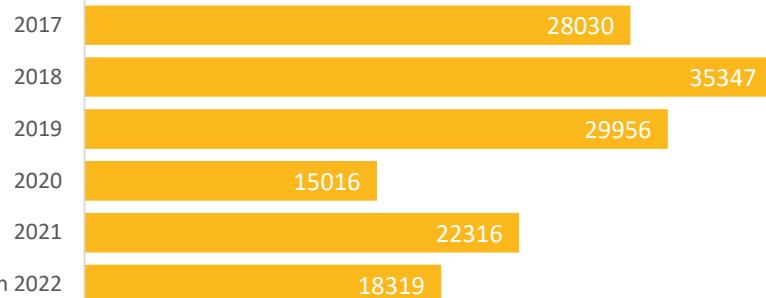
0 370 740 Km



Durable solutions to forced displacement require **strong, secure and stable security conditions, access to livelihoods and services as well as sustained social cohesion.** IOM implements the **Stability Index** to evaluate the stability of living conditions in the **Lake Chad Basin and Liptako Gourma Region** by calculating a **Stability Score** for each displacement-hosting location, identifying pockets of stability and instability and thereby prioritizing humanitarian, development and peacebuilding programmes. As per Round 2 of the Stability Index, the average Stability Score of locations in the Lake Chad Basin was 56 (out of 100), while it was 72 (out of 100) in locations of the Liptako Gourma.

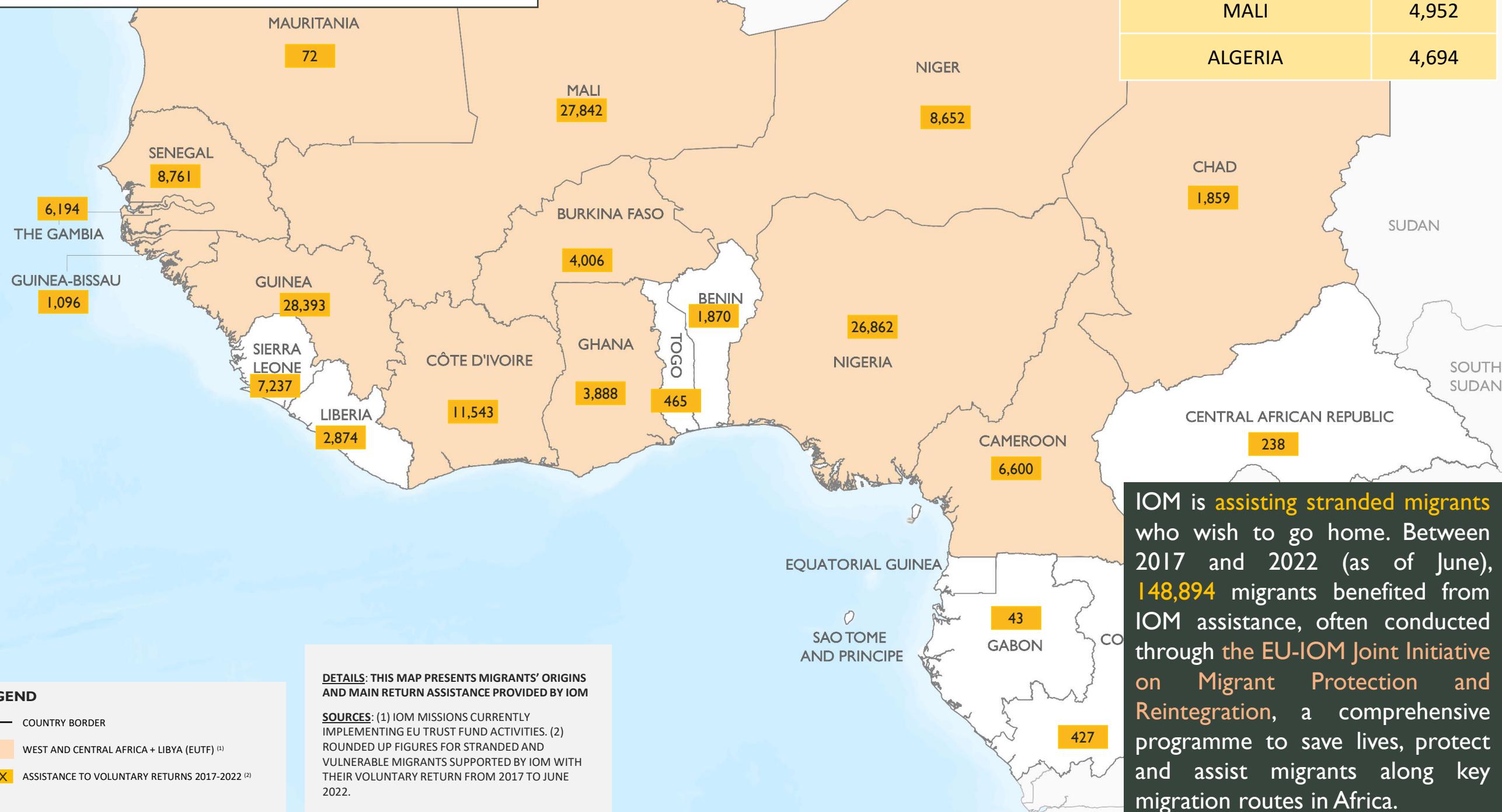


Individuals assisted in their voluntary return (AVR) to WCA (2017-Jun. 2022)



**MAIN SENDING COUNTRIES
(2017-June 2022)**

NIGER	63,779
LIBYA	49,860
MOROCCO	8,823
MALI	4,952
ALGERIA	4,694



IOM is assisting stranded migrants who wish to go home. Between 2017 and 2022 (as of June), **148,894** migrants benefited from IOM assistance, often conducted through the **EU-IOM Joint Initiative on Migrant Protection and Reintegration**, a comprehensive programme to save lives, protect and assist migrants along key migration routes in Africa.

LEGEND

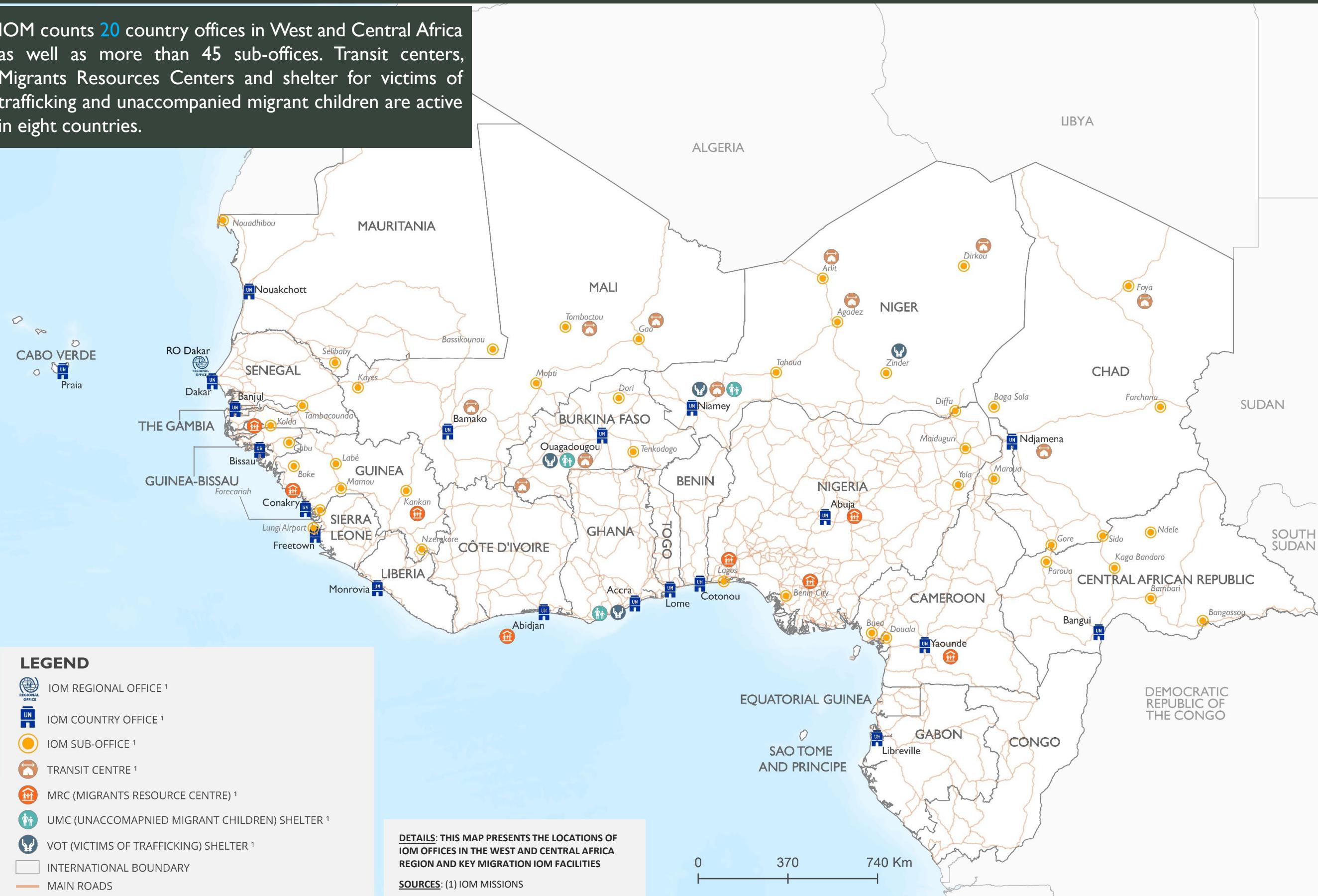
- COUNTRY BORDER
- WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA + LIBYA (EUTF) ⁽¹⁾
- XX ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY RETURNS 2017-2022 ⁽²⁾

DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS MIGRANTS' ORIGINS AND MAIN RETURN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY IOM

SOURCES: (1) IOM MISSIONS CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING EU TRUST FUND ACTIVITIES. (2) ROUNDED UP FIGURES FOR STRANDED AND VULNERABLE MIGRANTS SUPPORTED BY IOM WITH THEIR VOLUNTARY RETURN FROM 2017 TO JUNE 2022.

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

IOM counts 20 country offices in West and Central Africa as well as more than 45 sub-offices. Transit centers, Migrants Resources Centers and shelter for victims of trafficking and unaccompanied migrant children are active in eight countries.



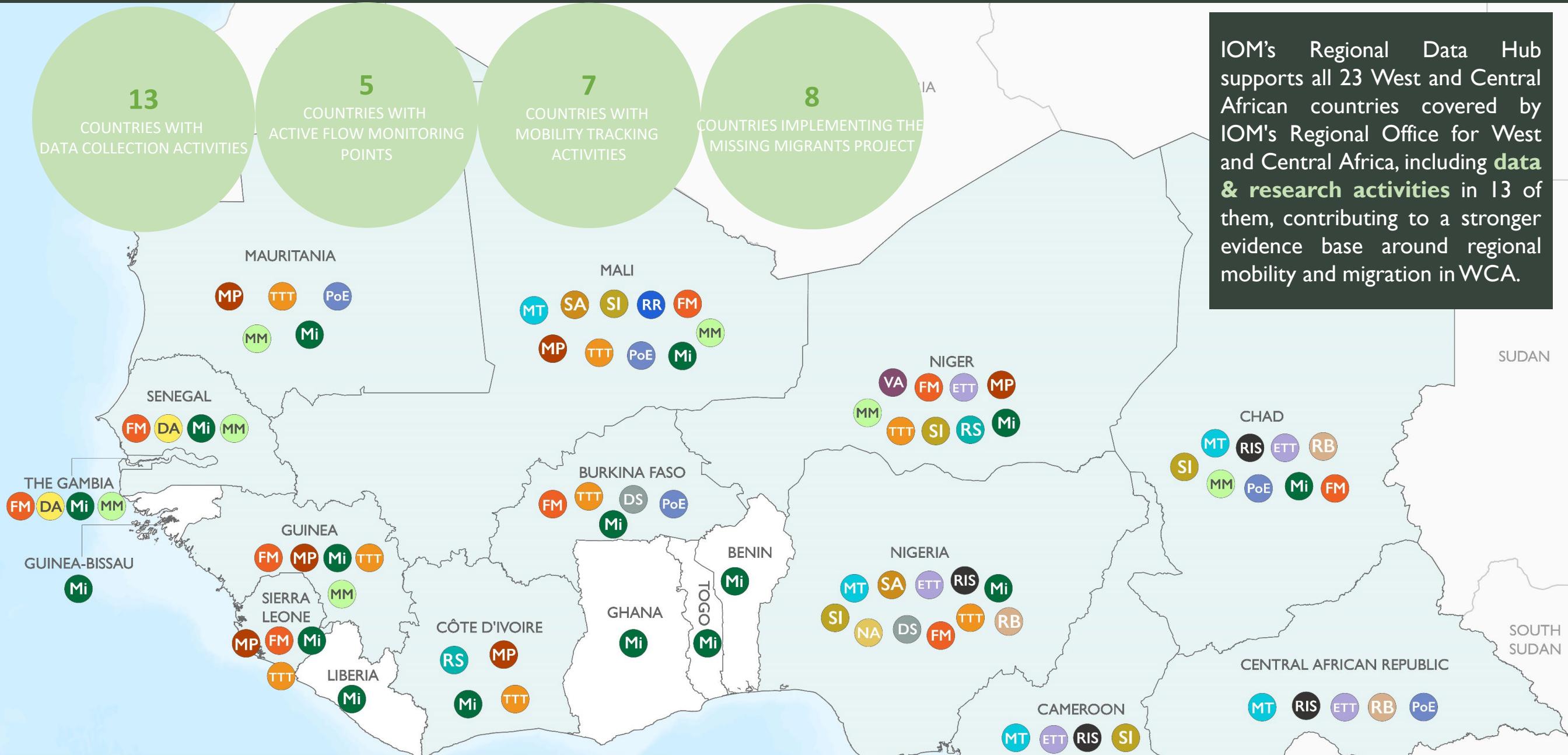
13
COUNTRIES WITH
DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

5
COUNTRIES WITH
ACTIVE FLOW MONITORING
POINTS

7
COUNTRIES WITH
MOBILITY TRACKING
ACTIVITIES

8
COUNTRIES IMPLEMENTING THE
MISSING MIGRANTS PROJECT

IOM's Regional Data Hub supports all 23 West and Central African countries covered by IOM's Regional Office for West and Central Africa, including **data & research activities** in 13 of them, contributing to a stronger evidence base around regional mobility and migration in WCA.



- | | |
|---|--|
| FM Flow Monitoring | RS Research Survey |
| TTT Transhumance Tracking Tool | MP Migrant Presence |
| DS Durable Solutions Survey | DA Departure Area Monitoring Tool |
| MT Mobility Tracking | PoE Mobility Restriction Mapping- Point of Entry Assessment |
| RIS Return Intention Survey | ETT Emergency Tracking Tool /Flash Assessment |
| SI Stability Index | RR Registration- Regular |
| NA Multisectoral Needs Assessment | VA Village Assessment Survey |
| SA Site Assessment | MM Missing Migrant Project |
| RB Registration – Biometric (IDPs) | Mi Migrant Protection and Assistance (Mimosa) |

West and Central African countries with implemented data collection activities
 Other West and Central African countries

NOTE ON METHODOLOGY I

This section provides additional details on data sources used in this report

DATA ON RETURNS THROUGH ASSISTED VOLUNTARY AND HUMANITARIAN RETURN PROGRAMMES

DESCRIPTION: Data collected on the regions of origin of migrants provides details on individuals assisted in voluntary or humanitarian return by IOM. It does not necessarily present the origins of all migrants moving in WCA and focuses on a very specific migrant population (those trying to move to other regions)

FLOW MONITORING (DTM)

DESCRIPTION: At Flow Monitoring Point (FMP), enumerators collect information on the number, frequency and defining features of individuals transiting through a particular location. Prior to the establishment of an FMP, areas of high mobility are identified following discussions with national and local actors. The locations at which FMPs are set up, key points of transit such as border points or coach stations, are then identified based on participatory mapping of main migration routes conducted in partnership with national and local authorities. In 2022, 30 FMPs were active in eight countries of the West and Central Africa region (Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal).

Data is collected at FMPs using two main tools: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS). The FMR includes direct observations at places of

entry, transit or exit, as well as interviews with key informants (including transportation workers, housing workers, and migration officials) to assess movement trends, routes, and countries of origin and destination. The FMS entails more detailed individual surveys to profile people on the move, including education levels and skills/employment; drivers of migrations; and needs, risks and vulnerabilities. This document presents an analysis of surveys conducted using the FMS tool. A similar methodology is used in other regions (Horn of Africa and Europe) to allow for comparative analysis of flows and individuals' characteristics.

LIMITS: The data presented on Page 11 is based on surveys conducted with travellers at FMPs in Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal during the timeframe indicated. The data should not be generalized and does not present a full picture of inter- and intra-regional migration, but rather a snapshot of migration flows at specific locations. For example, while IOM aims to establish Flow Monitoring Points at locations with high transit flows (based on information from key informants), flows are changing, and FMPs can only provide a partial picture.

MOBILITY TRACKING (DTM)

DESCRIPTION: Mobility tracking aims to quantify presence of population categories, reasons for displacement, length of displacement and needs within defined locations, with a frequency that captures mobility dynamics. This component is well suited to quantifying groups of people, whether internally displaced, migrants in transit locations, stranded migrants or other populations of concern. Its

approach is highly customizable: it can be light-touch or in-depth depending on the phase and requirements of the response, and often increases in depth and detail over successive rounds. Mobility tracking can be established quickly and is suitable for covering large areas, including for nationwide coverage. It is better suited for populations with some base level of stability and predictability of location, rather than highly mobile populations. However, in and out movement is routinely captured, and the event tracking tool can supplement to mitigate this limitation.

STABILITY INDEX (SMI)

DESCRIPTION: The Stability Index combines 36 key indicators of stability to calculate a single Stability Score for each surveyed locality. These indicators relate to three key themes crucial to stability: safety and security, livelihoods and basic services, and social cohesion. Indicators for each of these themes are grouped to create sub-indexes to facilitate the comparison of localities by theme. These indicators, taken in aggregate, highlight areas that are conducive to durable solutions for internal displacement, as well as unstable areas that may require humanitarian intervention. Questions about the perception of stability in the community and whether members of the community plan to leave in the next six months are used to validate the relationship between the Stability Score and community sentiment.

The Stability Index uses Principal Component Analysis to assess the impact of each indicator on the variability in the data in order to generate weights for the composite index. It includes data collected through key informant interviews at the locality level.

NOTE ON METHODOLOGY II

TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (DTM)

COUNTRIES: BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, COTE D'IVOIRE, GUINEA, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, SIERRA LEONE

Transhumance is a farming method by which farmers accompany their herds in search of pasture and water points. It can be carried out internally in a country or cover several countries, and often extends over large distances. Climate variation, the economic situation and the reduction of pastures and water have accentuated the phenomenon of transhumance for twenty years, pushing transhumant pastoralists to travel longer distances.

IOM has developed the Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT). The TTT, with data collected through a network of key informants, collects key data on transhumance movements in West and Central Africa, with the aim of providing the information needed for the implementation of support programs for populations involved in transhumance.

This methodology aims to support, strengthen and harmonize transhumance monitoring within the West and Central Africa region implemented by various associations linked to the Bilital Maroobé Network (RBM) which provide information to help implement programs for the population involved in transhumance and try to inform populations and authorities of the risks of conflicts linked to transhumance.

The methodology used in the context of the TTT, developed in collaboration with government partners and society civil, is based on an approach similar to the monitoring of populations (Flow Monitoring Points by IOM) and is based on three fundamental tools (the mapping, counting and alert).

MISSING MIGRANTS PROJECT (GMDAC)

COUNTRIES: CAMEROUN, CHAD, GAMBIA, GUINEA, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, SENEGAL

Missing Migrants Project counts migrants who have died at the external borders of states, or in the process of migration towards an international destination, regardless of their legal status. The Project records only those migrants who die during their journey to a country different from their country of residence.

Missing Migrants Project data include the deaths of migrants who die in transportation accidents, shipwrecks, violent attacks, or due to medical complications during their journeys. It also includes the number of corpses found at border crossings that are categorized as the bodies of migrants, on the basis of belongings and/or the characteristics of the death.

The Missing Migrants Project currently gathers information from diverse sources such as official records – including from coast guards and medical examiners – and other sources such as media reports, NGOs, and surveys and interviews of migrants. In the Mediterranean region, data are relayed from relevant national authorities to IOM field missions, who then share it with the Missing Migrants Project team. Data are also obtained by IOM and other organizations that receive survivors at landing points in Italy and Greece. IOM and UNHCR also regularly coordinate to validate data on missing migrants in the Mediterranean.

There are some limitations to the data available on deaths and disappearances during migration in West and Central Africa. The information available is sparse and rarely

contains information on sex, age, and places of disappearance or death. Moreover, there is no perfectly harmonized data on the number of migrants missing, nor information on the families who are still looking for those lost during their migration.

EXTERNAL SOURCES

ARRIVALS IN ITALY, GREECE AND SPAIN: data presented on arrivals to Europe is taken from figures provided by Greek, Italians and Spanish national authorities. However, the complete nationality breakdown of migrants is not available; only the top 10 nationalities of arriving migrants is provided. Therefore, nationality figures presented are likely fragmented.

IDMC: the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centers is the world's definitive source of data and analysis on internal displacement and provide regular data on internal displacement through its Global internal displacement database and report.

UNDESA: the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) provides regular update on its migrants' stocks. Data presented does not reflect all migration stocks in each country and are likely underestimating total migrants' population in the region.

REGIONAL DATA HUB FACTSHEETS



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