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TRACKING MATRIX



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**FLOW MONITORING REPORT**

**THE GAMBIA**

**JUNE 2022**

 **IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

### INTRODUCTION

In order to gain a better understanding of mobility flows and trends throughout West and Central Africa, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) implements the Displacement Tracking Matrix's Flow Monitoring (FM) tool at key transit points across the region.

Flow Monitoring activities are conducted in close cooperation with national and local authorities as well as with local partners. The Flow Monitoring tool consists of two main components: the Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR), which captures key data on the magnitude, origin, destination and mode of travel of mobility flows, and the Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS), for which individual surveys are conducted with travellers to gather detailed information about the profiles, migration experience and intentions of migrants. Through these activities, the Flow Monitoring tool collects data on migration flows and trends, traveller profiles, migration journeys and intentions of migrants in order to obtain a deeper view of mobility in West and Central Africa.

In The Gambia, DTM conducts Flow Monitoring activities at several important transit locations: in 1) **Barra** (FMPs are located at the ferry terminal and the main garage); 2) **Farafenni** (FMPs are located at Farafenni main garage, Farafenni Ballan Ghar garage, Farafenni McCarthy and Sanjally garage, Farafenni turntable garage and the truck garage); 3) **Basse** (FMPs are situated at the main garage and the bus station in Basse Santa-Su) and 4) **Brikama** (FMPs are located at the main garage and the Bus station). This activities enable DTM to monitor the movements of passenger within The Gambia, out of and towards The Gambia as well as transiting The Gambia.

This report presents the key results from the Flow Monitoring Survey conducted with travellers in **June 2022**. The report presents data collected on flows, routes, provenance, destination and demographic profiles of travellers observed at the FMPs.

Additional information on Flow Monitoring methodology is available on the last page.



4 FMPs in The Gambia



2,871 travellers observed daily



1,729 individual surveys conducted



49% Male



51% Female



36% of travellers migrated to join family members



34% of travellers migrated for economic reasons



27% of travellers were Self-employed at the time of travel



60% of travellers completed secondary school

### KEY FIGURES

### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

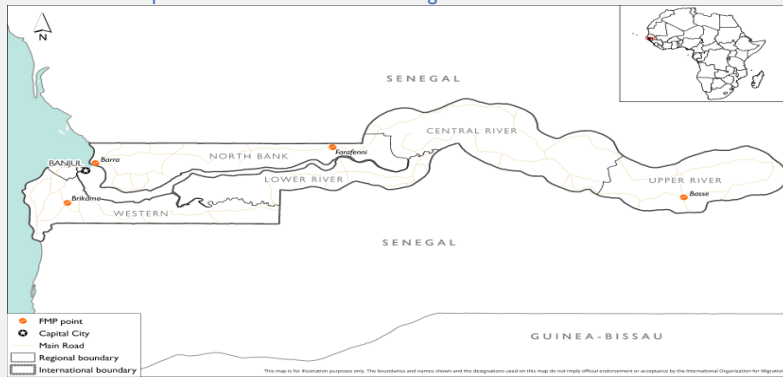
**Migration trends:** An average of 3,908 travellers were observed daily across all the flow monitoring points for 21 days. This represents a 12 per cent increase from the last flow monitoring data collected in February 2022. Basse registered the highest number of travellers, followed by Barra and Brikama with the lowest observed in Farafenni.

**Type of flow:** Of the travelers observed during the period under reporting, (91%) were travelling within The Gambia, Of the travellers observed during the reporting period, (91%) were travelling within The Gambia, (7%) were leaving The Gambia, mainly to Senegal, while transit and incoming travellers represent the remaining type of flows (at 1% each)

**Profiles of travellers:** Of the travellers surveyed, (86%) were adults including (43%) women and (14%) were children with (7%) girls. The passengers were mostly of Gambian nationality (89%) and all whom made cross-border movements. Most children captured were travelling with parents or other family members. Parents travel with their children to attend social events while some choose to travel their young children because they are too young to leave behind.

**Origin and destination:** During this collection period, travellers came mainly from The Gambia (91%), Senegal (7%) and travellers from other countries (2%). The main destination countries were The Gambia (98%) and Senegal (2%). The most popular mode of transport used was taxi (86%), truck (5%), bus (3%), bike (3%) and another (3%) of travellers used other means of transport such as boat etc.

Map 1: Location of Flow Monitoring Points in The Gambia



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.

### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained by direct observation and during interviews with passengers and drivers)



	Adults	Children
Female	43%	7%
Male	43%	7%

### MODE OF TRANSPORT



Variation pp: point pourcentage par rapport au premier trimestre

5%	CHILDREN UNDER 5	-
2%	PREGNANT WOMEN	-
5%	ELDERLY PERSONS	-

### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

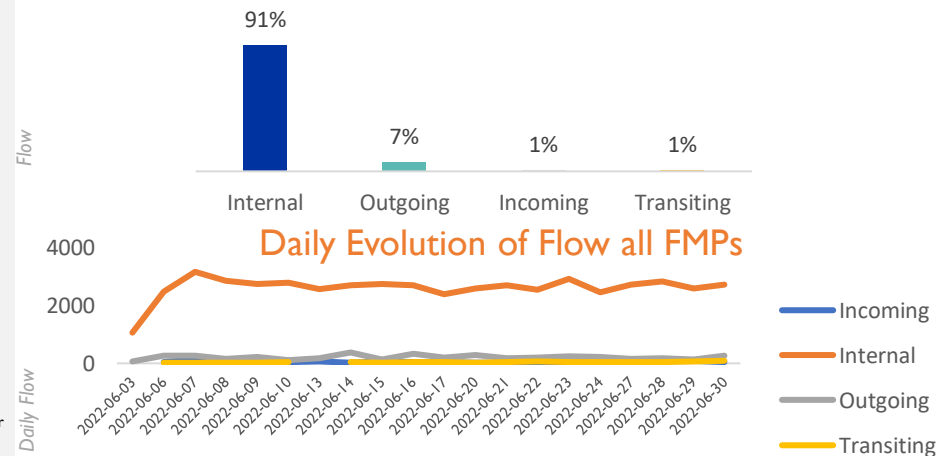
#### Origin of flow

Country	% of flow
The Gambia	98%
Senegal	2%
Other	<1%

#### Destination of flow

Country	% of flow
The Gambia	91%
Senegal	7%
Other	2%

### DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



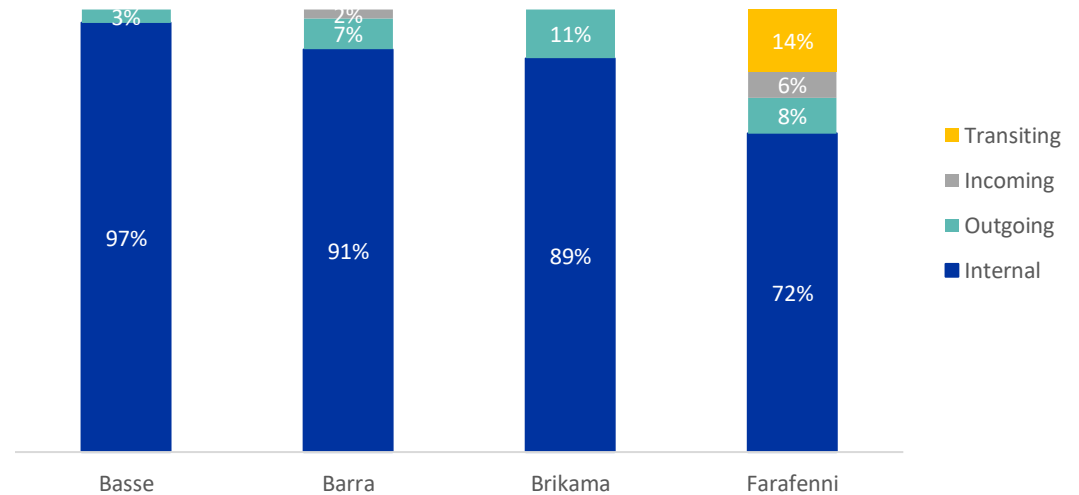
### LOCATION AND MONTHLY EVOLUTION OF FLOWS

**Location:** Data were collected at the following FMPs: Barra, located in the North Bank Region (NBR) of the country, which captures the largest number offflows 18796 individuals observed or (33%), Brikama in the in the Western Region (WR) of the country recorded 17,476 travelers or (30%) flows and Basse in the Upper River Region (URR) recorded 17,382 (30%) and the lowest flow was recorded in Farafenni, also located in the North Bank Region (NBR) of the country with 3,764 individuals. However, it is important to note that while the rest of the FMPs had 4 enumerators, Farafenni collected data during this period with two enumerators and for less days.

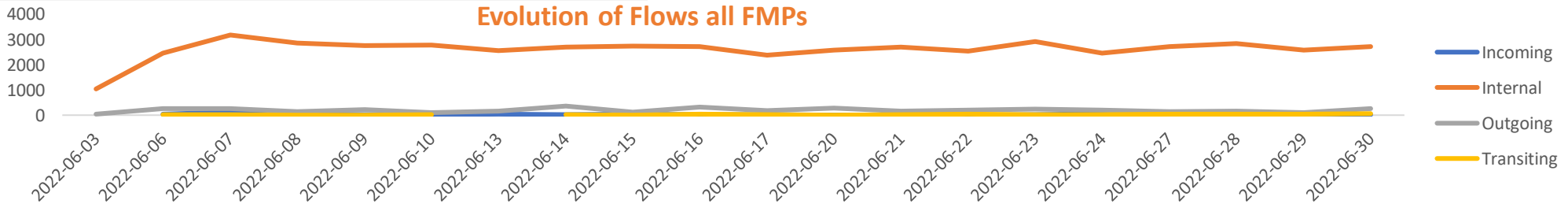
It should be noted that these different FMPs are important transit points for migratory flows. While Brikama and Basse flows are mainly used for internal movements, flows at the level of Farafenni and Barra FMP showed more outgoing movements compared to the rest with Senegal being the main destination for these travellers. This could be attributed to both FMPs being key transits points for travellers moving between the northern part of Senegal and the Casamance region. Both FMPs provide quick access to Karang and Kerr Ayib border posts. Farafenni in particular, is just a few kilometers from the border with Senegal and offers preferred connection to the southern part of Senegal using the Senegambia Bridge. Additionally, Farafenni organizes a weekly market that attracts a lot of cross-border traders.

**Types of flows by FMP:** Observation of the data collected during the month of June shows that outgoing flows at FMPs in Farafenni and Barra are 22 per cent and seven per cent, respectively. The data showed that only Farafenni had transiting travellers (14%). However, (97%) of travellers who transited through Basse FMP, Barra (91%), Brikama (89%) and Farafenni (72%) were all internal movements. Incoming movements were observed at Farafenni, near Senegal, which is the main country of origin for incoming travellers. Other incoming movements were observed at Basse (3%) and Barra (2%).

### FLOW TYPES OBSERVED AT FMP IN JUNE 2022



### Evolution of Flows all FMPs



### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

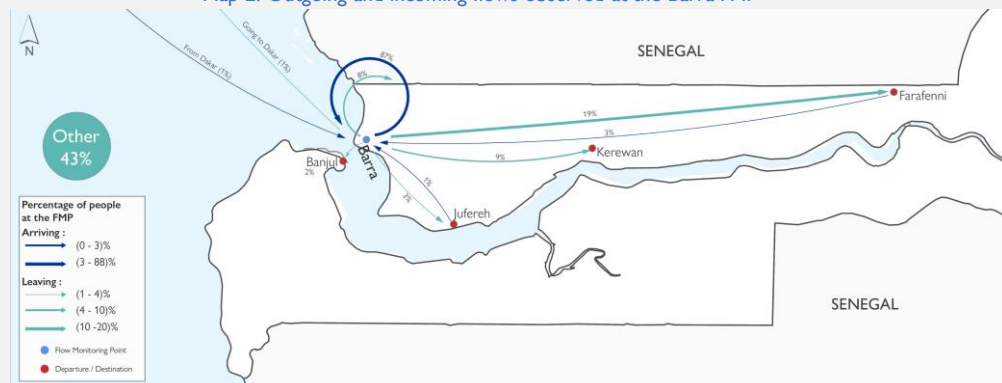
**Presentation of FMP:** The Barra Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) was set up in June 2021 covering two main points: the ferry terminal and the main garage. The FMP links to Nuimi and Badibou which are all within the North Bank Region of the Gambia and as well as Karang border post in Senegal. Internal, outgoing, and incoming flows were observed at this FMP. Barra is 30 minuts drive from the Amdalai/Karang border post to Senegal.

**Mobility trends:** During the reporting period, Barra FMP saw 940 average daily travellers. This is the highest movement of travellers observed than at any other FMP during the reporting period. Type of flows: Internal movements accounted for (91%) of the flows observed at Barra FMP. Of this, (7%) were outgoing movements and (2%) were incoming movements. Almost all the outgoing travellers were headed to Senegal as their destination country. Barra also registered the highest number of average daily travellers.

**Profiles of travellers:** Of the number of travellers surveyed at Barra FMP, (86%) were adults including (42%) women and (14%) were children with (7%) girls.

**Origin and destination:** During this collection period, (98%) of origin of travellers is The Gambia and Senegal and Senegal (2%). The main cities of origin of travellers are Barra (87%), Amdalai (2%) and Dakar (1%) with the rest from several towns and cities in The Gambia and Senegal. The main destination countries were The Gambia (92%), Senegal (7%), with one percent of travellers heading to other destinations. . From Barra, (18%) were headed to Farafenni, Amdalai (8%), (7%) for Banjul and Kerewan each, Barra (5%), Ndugu Kebbeh, Kerr Pateh and Jufereh accounting for (4%) each. Mode of transport mostly used was taxis (84%), bus (11%) percent and the motorbike (5%) used other means of transport such as motorbikes.

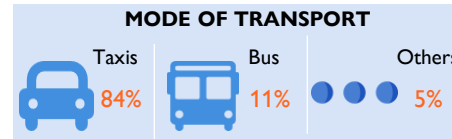
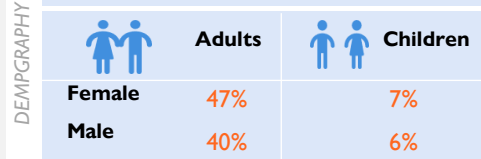
Map 2: Outgoing and incoming flows observed at the Barra FMP



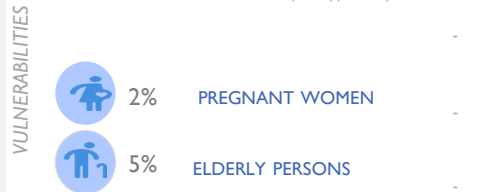
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### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained by direct observation and during interviews with passengers and drivers)



Variation pp: point pourcentage par rapport au premier trimestre

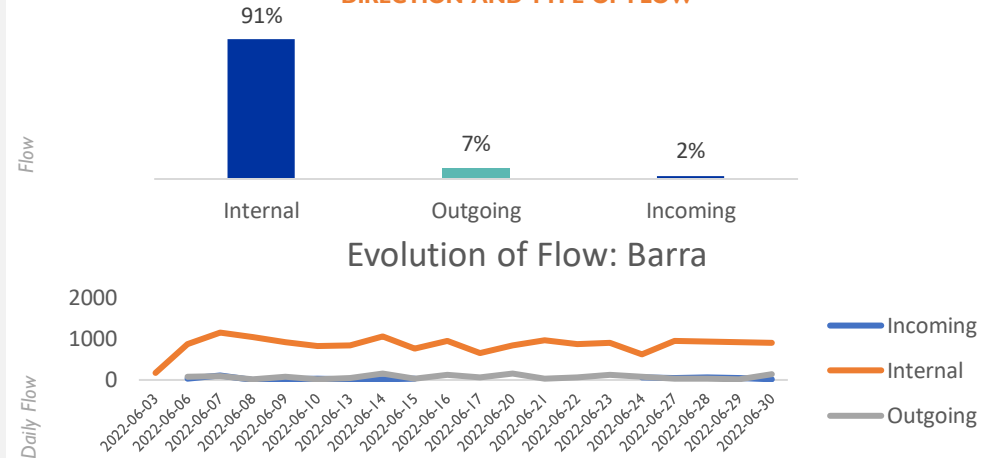


### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	98%
Senegal	2%
Other	<1%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	92%
Senegal	7%
Other	1%

### DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

**Presentation of FMP:** The Basse FMP was set up in June 2021 covering the part of provincial Gambia in the Upper River Region. The FMP has two major transit points namely: the main garage and the bus station, both located in Basse Santa-Su. Both points are linked to the Western and Eastern parts of the region and to the greater Banjul area. The locations are also linked with neighbouring Senegal and further on to Guinea and Mali.

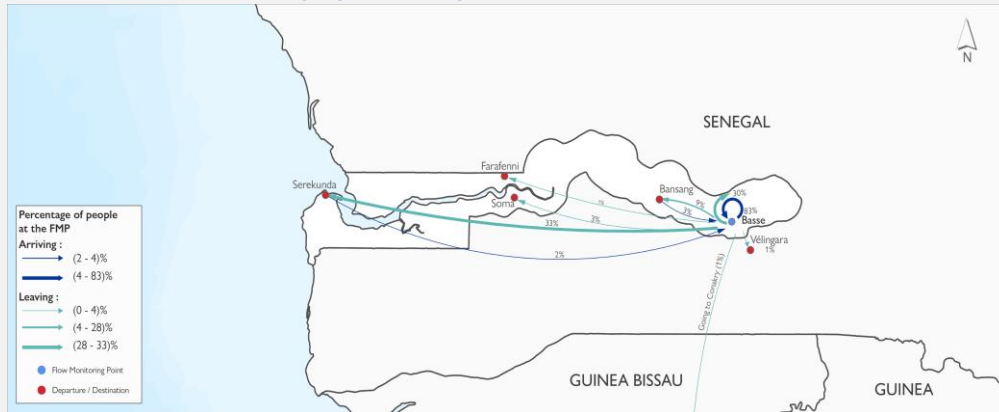
**Mobility trends:** Over the reporting period, Basse FMP saw 869 average daily travellers.

**Type of flow:** In Basse FMP, (97%) of travellers observed were moving internally while (3%) were outgoing travellers leaving The Gambia to Senegal (2%) and Guinea (<1%). Profiles of travellers: While (86%) of travellers surveyed at Basse FMP were adults with (44%) being women, (14%) were children of which (7%) were girls.

**Origin and destination:** During this collection period, travellers came mainly from The Gambia (99%) and Senegal (1%). The main cities of origin is Basse Santa-su (78%), Koina (3%), Garawol (2%), Kulari 2%), Fatoto 2%) and Suduwol (2%). Travellers from Basse were primarily travelling within Gambia (97%), followed by Senegal (2%) and (1%) to Guinea. The main destination cities for travellers leaving Basse are Serrekunda (28%), Basse Santa-su (22%), Barra and Bansang (5%) each, Soma (4%), Garawol (3%) with Fatoto and Kulari accounting for (2%) each. Travellers with destinations outside The Gambia headed mainly to Velingara in Senegal (1%).

The most popular modes of transportation were taxi (76%), bus (22%) and truck (2%).

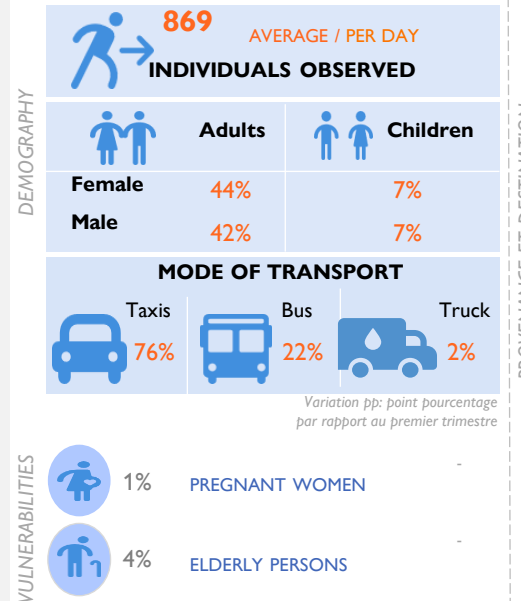
Map 3: Outgoing and incoming flows observed at the Basse FMP



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### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained by direct observation and during interviews with passengers and drivers)

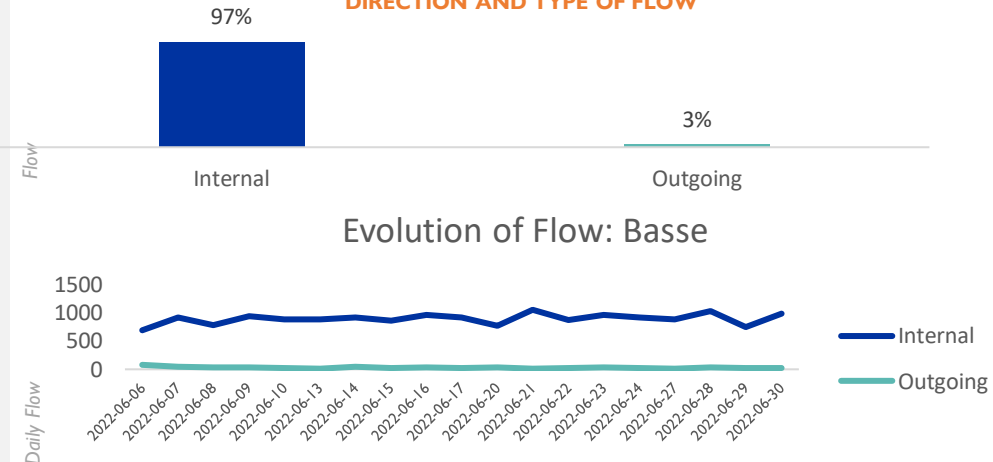


### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	99%
Senegal	1%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	97%
Senegal	2%
Guinea	1%

### DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

**Presentation of FMP:** The Brikama FMP was set up in June 2021 and started data collection in June 2021, covering two locations: the main garage and the bus station, both of which are in Brikama Nema. It links to more than four major destination regions: the North Bank, West Coast, Lower River, and Greater Banjul Area.

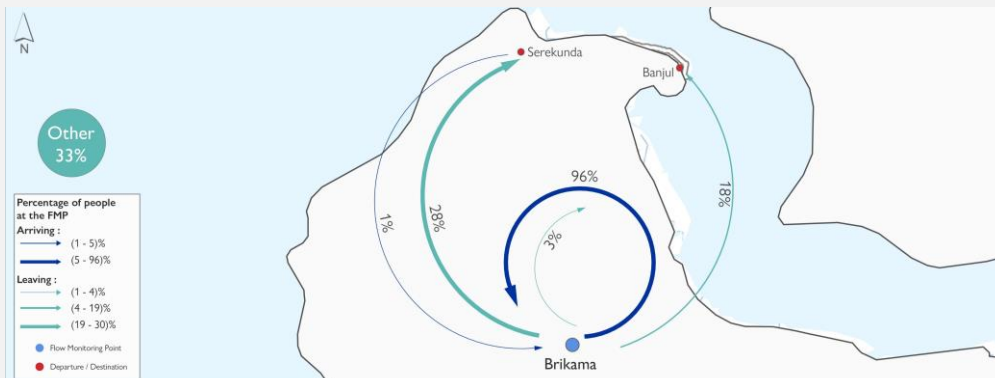
**Mobility trends:** During the reporting period, at the Brikama FMP, on average 874 individuals were observed daily representing the second highest daily average movement at FMP level.

**Types of flows:** The internal movements account for the major part of the flows at (89%). Less than one per cent of travellers were entering the country, while (11%) of the travellers surveyed were leaving the country.

**Departure/Origin and destination:** During June 2022, all travellers came from The Gambia (100%), of which 93 per cent originated from Brikama.. The main destination cities were Serrekunda (28%), Westfield (22%), Banjul (16%) and Yundum (3%). Travellers leaving The Gambia (outflow) were mainly headed to Senegal (11%) of with the main destination cities as Sility (9%) and Kafountine (2%). The main mode of transportation was taxi (99%).

**Traveller profiles:** While 44 per cent of travellers were adult male, 41 per cent were adult female and 15 per cent were children (8% female children, 7% male children).

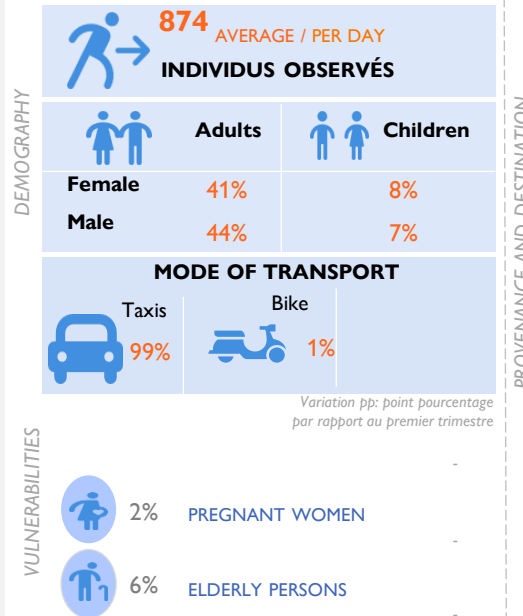
Map 4: Outgoing and incoming flows observed at the Brikama FMP



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### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained by direct observation and during interviews with passengers and drivers)



### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

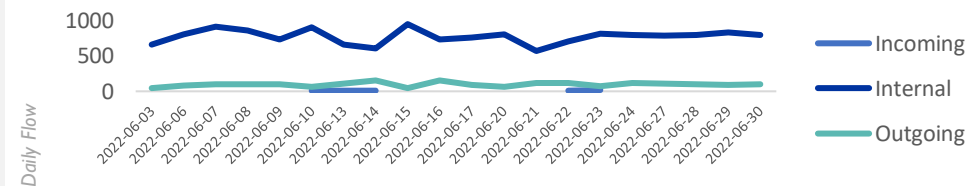
Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	100%
Senegal	<1%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	89%
Senegal	11%

### DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



### Evolution of Flow: Brikama



### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

**Presentation of FMP:** The Farafenni FMP was set up in June 2021. The Flow Monitoring Point is a multi-dynamic location as it is found in a multi-cultural setting, populated by different nationalities and serves as a business and transit centre, and very close to Senegal. The FMP has five main points with a high density of movement namely: Farafenni main garage, Farafenni Ballan-Ghar garage, Farafenni McCarthy and Sanjally garage, Farafenni turntable garage and the truck garage

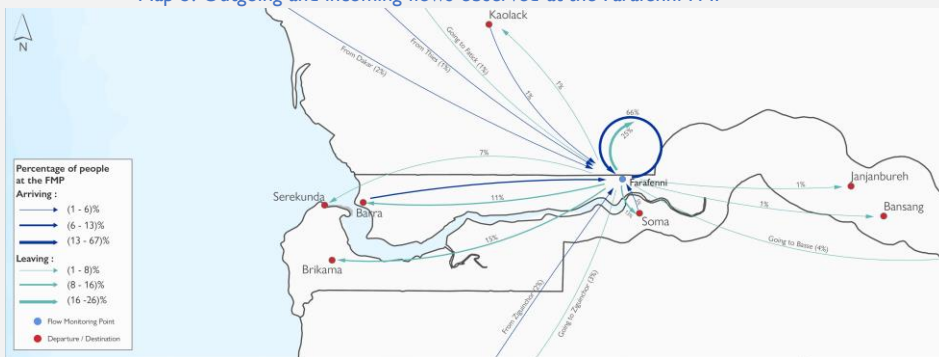
**Mobility trends:** The daily average travellers at Farafenni was 188, the lowest recorded. This is significantly lower than the average across the 3 other FMPs. This is due to Farafenni having just two enumerators and who collected data in fewer days.

**Types of flows:** The internal movements account for the major part of the flows at (72%), transiting travellers were (14%). Outgoing (8%) and incoming (6%) were also observed at this FMP. Farafenni is a transit point that connects the northern and southern part of Senegal via the Senegambia bridge. It also conducts weekly markets locally known as “lumo” that attracts cross-border trade.

**Departure/Origin and destination:** During June 2022, 72 per cent of travellers came from The Gambia, with (51%) coming from Farafenni, (14%) from Poste, (5%) from Soma, (4%) Brikama, Bamabally (3%) with Barra, Janjanbureh and Sara Kunda all accounting for (1%) each. The main destination cities were Farafenni (24%), Soma (23%), Barra (9%) and Brikama (6%). Travellers leaving the Gambia (outflow) were mainly headed to Senegal (11%) of which the main destination cities as Poste (6%). The most popular mode of travel was by taxi (77%), followed by trucks (9%) and then motorbike (5%).

**Traveller profiles:** Of the total number of travellers observed, (59%) were adult male, (31%) were adult female and (10%) were children (4% female children, 4% male children).

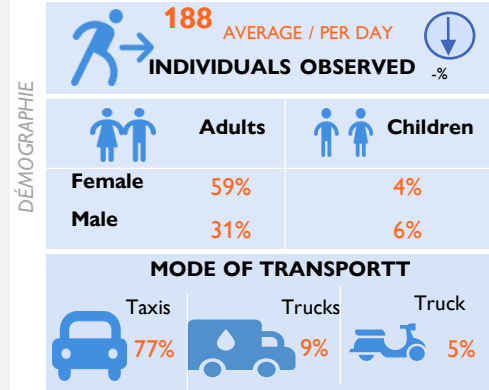
Map 5: Outgoing and incoming flows observed at the Farafenni FMP



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### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained by direct observation and during interviews with passengers and drivers)



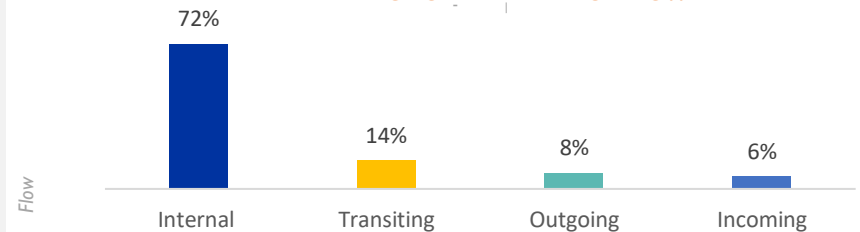
Variation pp: point pourcentage par rapport au premier trimestre

### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

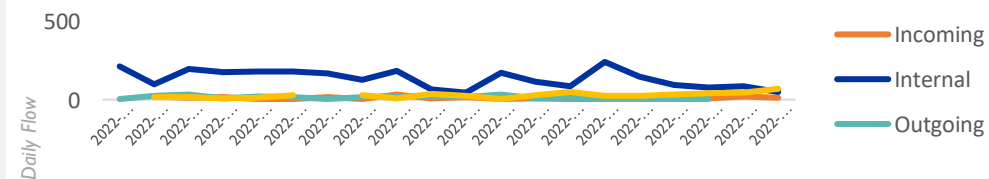
Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	80%
Senegal	20%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
The Gambia	78%
Senegal	12%

### DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



### Evolution of Flow: Farafenni





### MIGRATION JOURNEY

**Introduction:** In June 2022, 1,729 Flow Monitoring Surveys were conducted at the four Flow Monitoring Points (Brikama, Barra, Farafenni and Basse.)

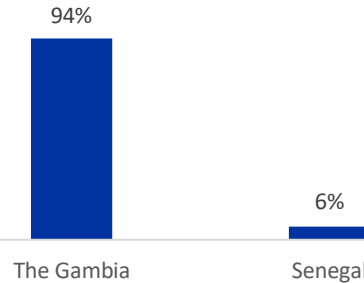
**Number of surveys by FMP:** The largest number of surveys were conducted at Brikama (31%) and Barra (29%) FMPs. Brikama reported high number of travellers because it is one of the biggest commercial cities in The Gambia, and the second largest city in terms of population. Barra also reported 28 per cent of flows, as a main transit center for people travelling to the North Bank Region of The Gambia and Senegal, followed by Basse (24%) and Farafenni (16%).

**Country of departure and destination:** The main country of departure and destination at the time of the survey was The Gambia accounting for (93%) and (91%) respectively. This data shows that most of travellers were moving internally within The Gambia.

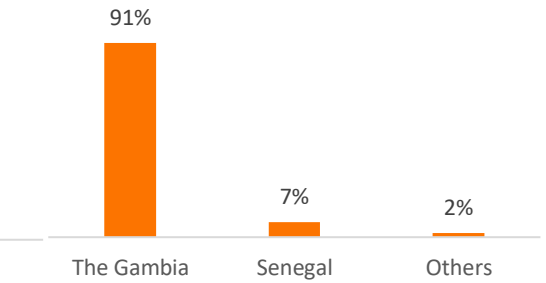
The majority of travellers (93%) began their migration journey from The Gambia, followed by Senegal (5%). These findings reflect the fact that the border points between The Gambia and Senegal reflects the significant commercial activities and linkages between the two countries. The travellers' main countries of intended final destination were The Gambia (93%) and Senegal (5%).

**Reasons for travel:** The primary reason for travel for the vast majority of surveyed travellers was for marriage and/or to reunite with family (36%) then followed economic reasons (34%). People travel a lot for social events or simply reuniting with their families. Results show that most of the travellers go to The Gambia and Senegal for ceremonies (marriage and naming ceremonies, funerals etc.) and for economic activities (petty trading, construction, domestic work, etc.). This shows that the vast majority of flows recorded at FMPs were internal, and that travellers were moving within the country, while a notable share were travelling to and from Senegal, which has very close links to the Gambia, in terms of socioeconomic. Meanwhile, 18 per cent of travellers were migrating for educational purposes, mainly students travelling daily to attend school in different town/villages within or outside their regions of residence.

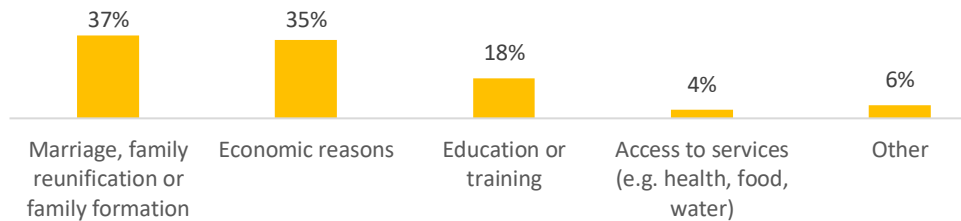
#### MAIN COUNTRIES OF DEPARTURE



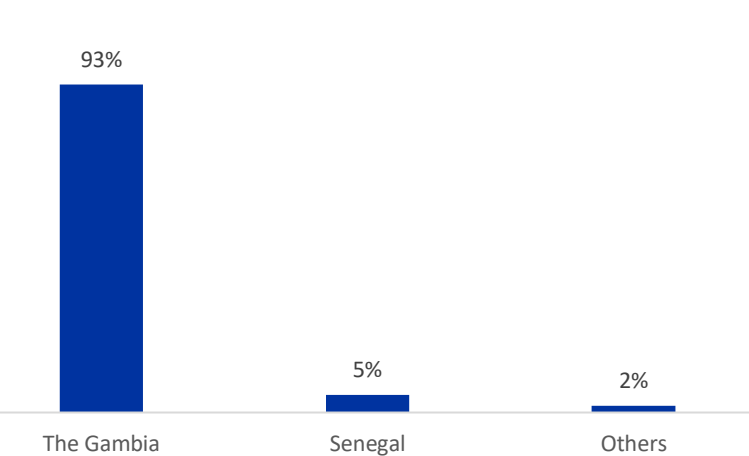
#### MAIN COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION



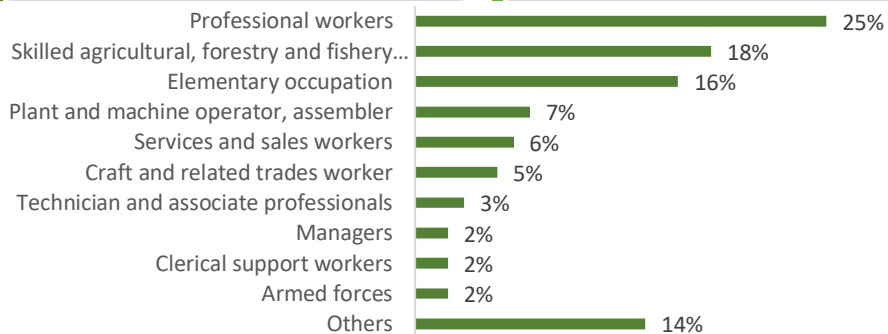
#### PRIMARY REASONS FOR TRAVEL



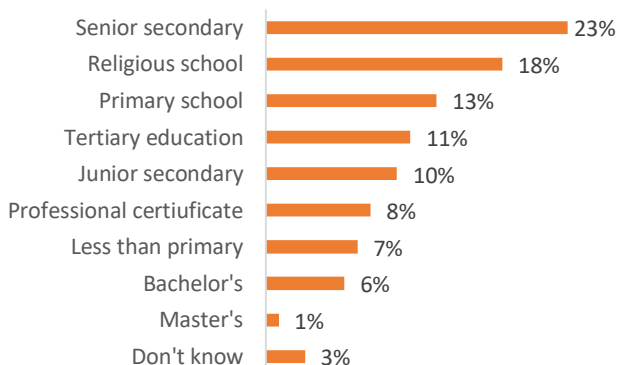
#### INTENDED DESTINATION COUNTRY AND REGION



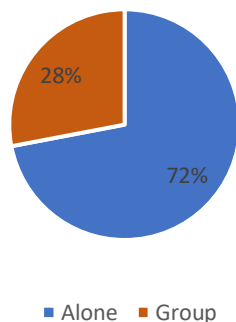
### FIELD OF WORK



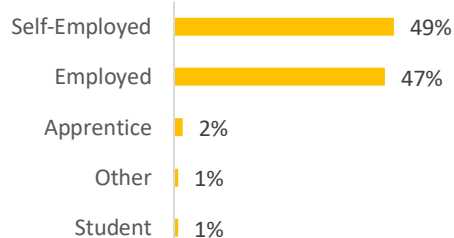
### EDUCATION LEVEL



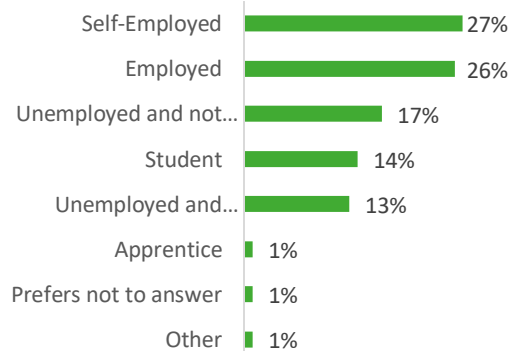
### TYPE OF TRAVEL



### OCCUPATIONAL STATUS PRIOR TO MIGRATION



### CURRENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS



### NATIONALITY



## SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE AND NATIONALITY

**Nationality:** The vast majority of surveyed travellers (89%) were Gambian nationals, followed by Senegalese nationals (8%) and Conakry Guineans (1%).

**Occupational status (prior to travel and current):** Prior to starting their migration journey, (49%) were self-employed, (47%) were employed while (2%) were apprentice with only (1%) were students.

At the time of the survey, however, the most common occupational statuses of travellers were self-employed (27%), employed (26%), unemployed and not looking for a job (17%), student (14%), unemployed and looking for a job (13%). The difference in occupational statuses before travel and at the time of the survey show that more than half (53%) of the travellers were employed in the process of migration. Most travellers prefer selfemployment presumably for steady flow of income and are only forced to be contracted by employers for trade because of lack of start-up capital. Still now most businesses continue to be affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Field of work:** The largest group of those surveyed (25%) worked as professional workers, while 18 per cent worked in agriculture and fisheries and 16 per cent in an elementary occupation.

**Education level:** The largest number of migrants (23%) completed secondary school, while university education (Bachelor's and Master's) account for a combined total of 7 per cent of travellers. reflecting the high education level of travellers crossing FMPs. Religious education (18%), primary (13%) and tertiary (11%) were the following most important levels of schooling of respondents.

**INTRODUCTION:** Flow Monitoring, a tool of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), was set up to provide a better understanding and an overview of mobility through West and Central Africa, through the collection of key data on the magnitude, provenance and destination and profiles of flows in areas of high mobility throughout the region. In November 2020, IOM The Gambia officially launched DTM through a national consultative process in coordination with The Gambia Bureau of Statistics. During the launching four (4) FMPs were identified, namely: Barra, Basse, Farafenni, and Brikama, which was followed by a regional consultation, in the identified FMPs. In June 2021, IOM The Gambia officially recruited and trained 15 enumerators and deployed them to the respective FMPs.

**METHODOLOGY:** Flow Monitoring is a data collection activity which seeks to gather key information on mobility. It begins by identifying regions of large mobility flows and highlighting the characteristics and journeys of travellers in these regions. Areas of high mobility are identified with the help of national authorities. DTM teams, with the support of local authorities and partners, then identify strategic points of transit, at which Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are set up. At each FMP, DTM conducts two main activities: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS).

The **FMR** done for this report collects data at FMP through direct observation and interviews with key FMPs informants, including drivers, local authorities, garage chiefs and travellers. The FMR gathered data on the number of travellers crossing FMPs, as well as the provenance, next destination, and means of transport of travellers.

At each of the four FMPs, data was collected by a team of at least four enumerators except Farafenni which only had 2 enumerators. Data collection was carried out daily, between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. This corresponds to the peak hours of mobility. Enumerators collect data via a form filled out using information provided by key informants or gathered through direct observation.

The purpose of the **FMS** is to collect detailed information on the profiles, migration journeys, vulnerabilities and intentions of migrants. Data is collected through interviews with a random sample of travellers crossing FMPs.

**LIMITS:** Since data collection under Flow Monitoring activities is conducted by direct observation and between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, the data are not representative of all migration flows in the country. They only reflect the situation observed or surveyed individuals and cannot be generalized. While data is collected daily, Flow Monitoring activities do not capture all flows transiting through FMPs. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative. Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. IOM does not make any warranties or representations as the appropriateness, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM has adapted its data collection methods in the field by implementing preventing risk mitigation in data collection. The data enumerators have been trained to observe the COVID-19 precautionary protocols given by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Ministry of Health (MoH). The Gambia. These protocols include but are not limited to wearing face masks covering the nose and mouth, physical distancing of at least two metres, washing hands regularly or using of alcohol-based hand sanitizer, etc.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

**Flow Monitoring Point:** Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are points set up by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix in high mobility areas in each country covered (near borders or main travel routes)

**Incoming flow:** Refers to migrants who arrive at a Flow Monitoring Point with the intention of travelling further into The Gambia.

**Outgoing flow:** refers to migrants who arrive at a Flow Monitoring Point with the intention of travelling out of The Gambia.

**Internal flow:** refers to migrants who are conducting a movement within the boundaries of a single country.

**Migrant:** An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons.

*The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries. 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 the meeting of 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.*

*The maps displayed in this report are for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.*