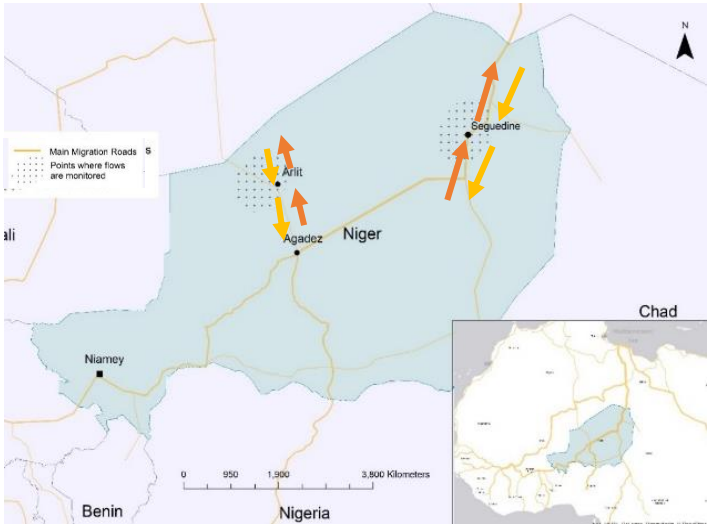
POPULATION FLOW MONITORING
NIGER - OVERVIEW

Dashboard # 7
Period : January 2018

IOM works with national and local authorities in order to gain better understanding of population movements throughout West and Central Africa. Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) allow IOM to quantify and qualify migration flows, trends, and routes, at entry, transit or exit points (such as border crossing posts, bus stations, rest areas, police checkpoints and reception centers).



As of February 2016, IOM Niger has been carrying out flow monitoring of migrants at two points in Niger in the region of Agadez. This flow monitoring does not replace border monitoring nor does it claim to observe all migratory flows in the Agadez region. Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are active in Séguédine and Arlit, two towns in the Agadez region. FMPs are placed at known migrant transit points along the Niger migratory route. The data collected provides a snapshot of migrant movements through the region.

DEFINITIONS USED

Incoming individuals observed: This refers to individuals who arrive at a flow monitoring points (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading further into Niger. They are represented by the yellow arrows on the map.

Outgoing individuals observed: This refers to individuals who arrive at the flow monitoring points (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading outwards, traveling towards the outer borders of Niger. They are represented by orange arrows on the map.

Individuals observed in the internal movement: This refers to individuals who arrive at a flow monitoring points (which are not located at borders) with no intention of leaving Niger.

PROFILE OF PERSONS OBSERVED AT THE FLOW MONITORING POINTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017

Women 5%

Men 95%

<1 % Elderly persons

<1% Infants

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION COLLECTED

STATISTICS

2017	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (OUTGOING FLOW)	69,637
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INCOMING FLOW)	99,455
2018	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (OUTGOING FLOW)	3,085
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INCOMING FLOW)	4,151
	INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED (INTERNAL MOUVEMENT)	2,238

MONITORING TOOLS

- Flow Monitoring Points (2)
- Flow monitoring surveys
- Participatory mapping
- Qualitative reports
- Field visits

DEMOGRAPHY FOR 2018

Female 5%

Male 95%

Minors: Approximately 371 minors (under 18 years of age) have been observed in the flow monitoring points in 2018. Among them the presence of 111 unaccompanied minors was noted amaong which 110 in Arlit.

OBSERVED NATIONALITIES

The main observed nationalities along the migration monitoring routes in 2018 are:

- Niger
- Mali
- Nigeria
- Chad
- Guinea
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroun
- Libya
- Senegal

MIGRATION ROUTES

Restrictive measures taken by the government of Niger to crack down on irregular migration, the situation prevailing in Libya, and the repatriation of Nigerien nationals residing in Algeria, have led to a shift in the routes used by migrants, which have become more perilous and fragmented and which exacerbate the vulnerabilities of migrants.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION
dtmniger@iom.int - www.globaldtm.info/niger

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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

MEN 5%

WOMEN 95 %

MINORS 2%

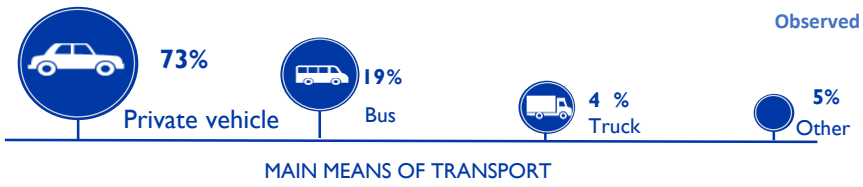
305 AVERAGE/ DAY
OBSERVED INDIVIDUALS

41 INFANTS (UNDER FIVE YERAS OLD)

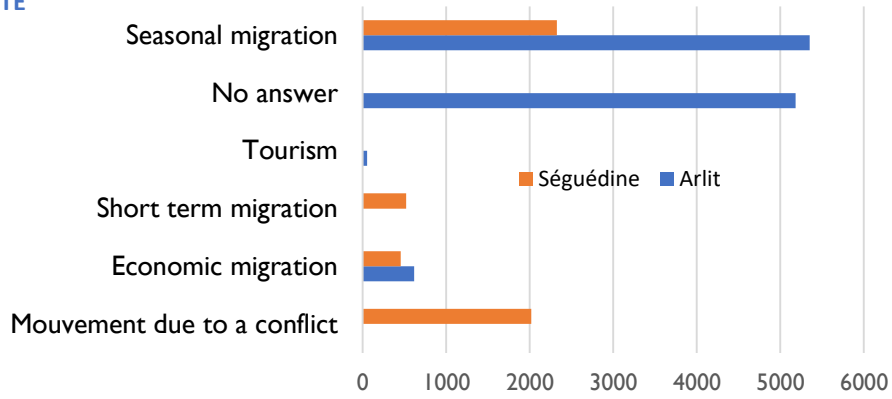
6 PREGNANT WOMEN

6 ELDERLY PERSONS (60 +)

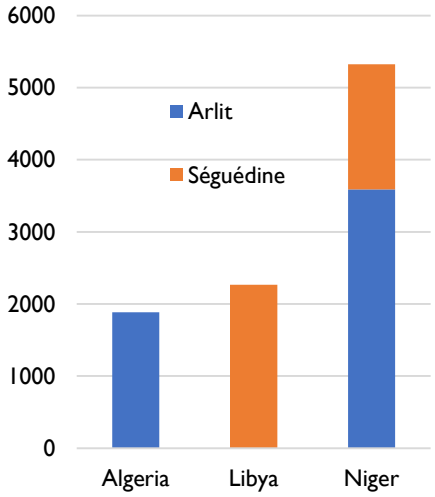
MIGRATORY ROUTE



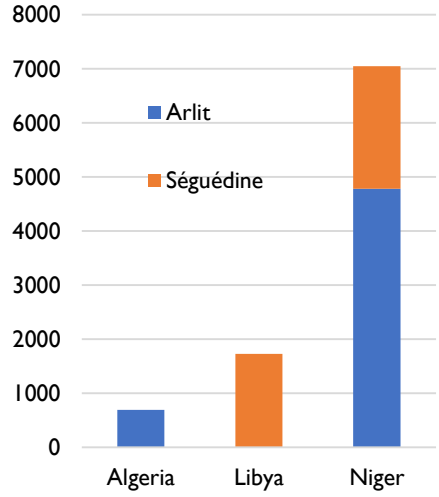
Reason for migration



Departure country



Destination country



A majority of migrants transiting through the two Flow Monitoring Points travelled by private vehicle (73%), while 19% travelled by bus, 4% travelled by truck, and another 5% travelled by other means, such as by camel or on foot.
Seasonal migration was the main driver behind the migration of migrants transiting through the two FMPs: 32% of individuals observed in Arlit and 14% of individuals observed in Séguédine were seasonal migrants. At the Séguédine FMP (11%) of the registered persons have been forced to leave their place of origin to search for refuge in Algeria or Libya by transiting trough Niger.
54 persons transiting trough Arlit reveal that they were doing tourism.
More short-term migrants were observed in Seguedine than in Arlit (512 ind 24, respectively). Finally 4% persons observed at the Arlit FMP travel in search of better living conditions while they are 3% at the Séguédine FMP.

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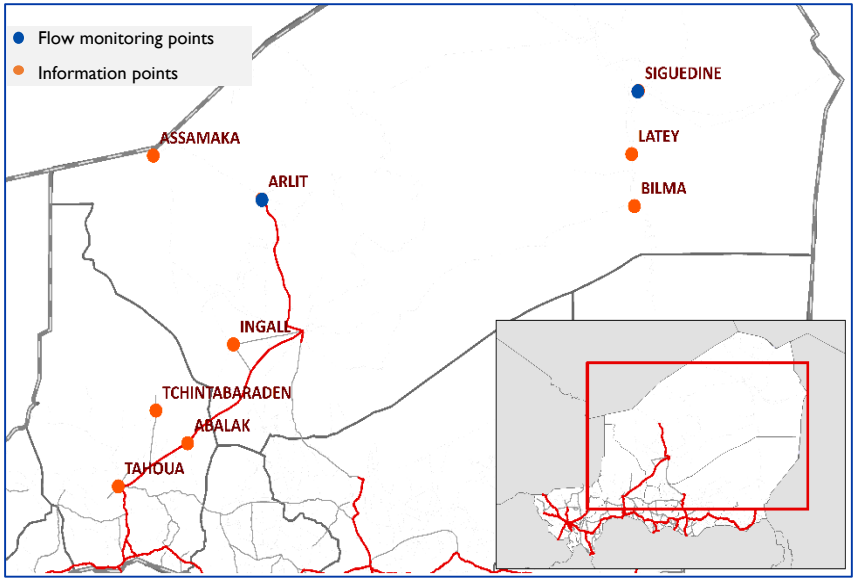
POPULATION FLOW MONITORING
NIGER – FLOW MONITORING POINTS

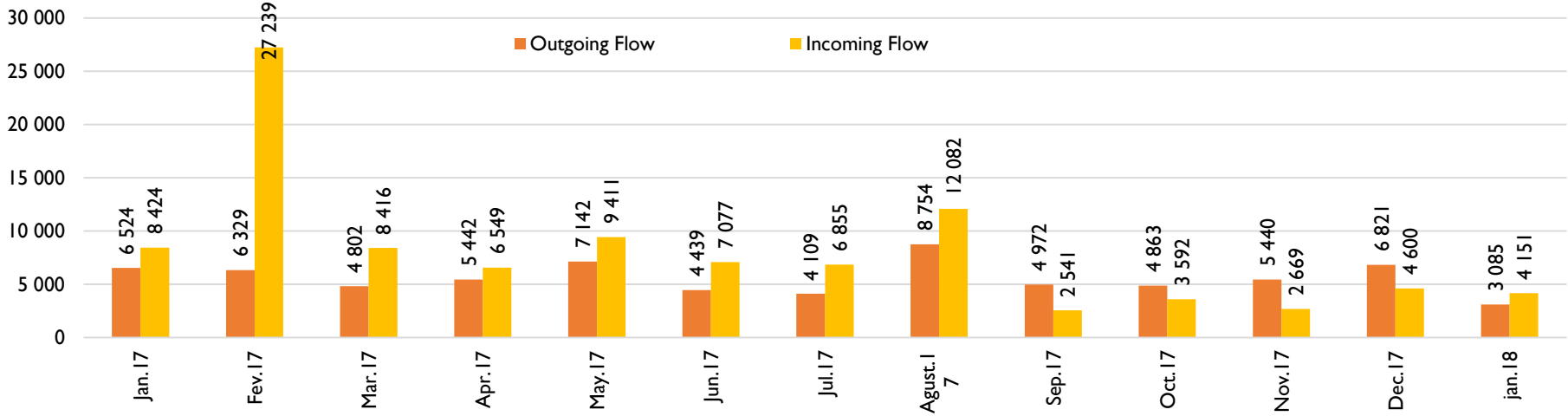


The data presented on this page shows the statistical trends collected at the two Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) for the period between February 2016 - January 2018. The map reflects the location of the FMPs in the Agadez region, which cover more than 700 000 km². For many reasons, including the restriction and clampdown on and criminalization of irregular migration by the government of Niger, the situation in Libya, and the repatriation of Nigerien migrants from Algeria, migratory flows remained more or less stable during the last semester of 2017, and migratory routes have become increasingly diversified and fragmented.

In order to clearly understand this change, IOM Niger is collecting information from 10 focal points set up since September 2017 in remote areas of the Agadez and Tahoua regions not covered by the Information Points. The purpose of this data collection is to support the information collected at the FMPs and to have a clear understanding of migration flows in the areas around Agadez region. The supplementary information points provide guidance on these alternative routes to enable IOM to provide an adequate response for migrants on less traveled routes.

Comparison of the data between 2016 and 2017 shows that significantly fewer migrants passed through the FMPs in 2017 than in 2016, with a decreasing trend in migration flows observed from July 2017 onwards. Tellingly, more migrants entered Niger and left Niger in 2017, while this trend was reversed in 2016. This is likely due to three phenomena: stricter controls on migration and the criminalization of individuals involved in illegal migration, impeding outward migration, on the one hand, and the degradation of the situation in Libya and efforts to repatriate Nigerian nationals from Algeria driving up the numbers of migrants returning to Niger, on the other.

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED AT SEGUEDINE AND ARLIT FLOW MONITORING POINTS (**2017** and **2018**)



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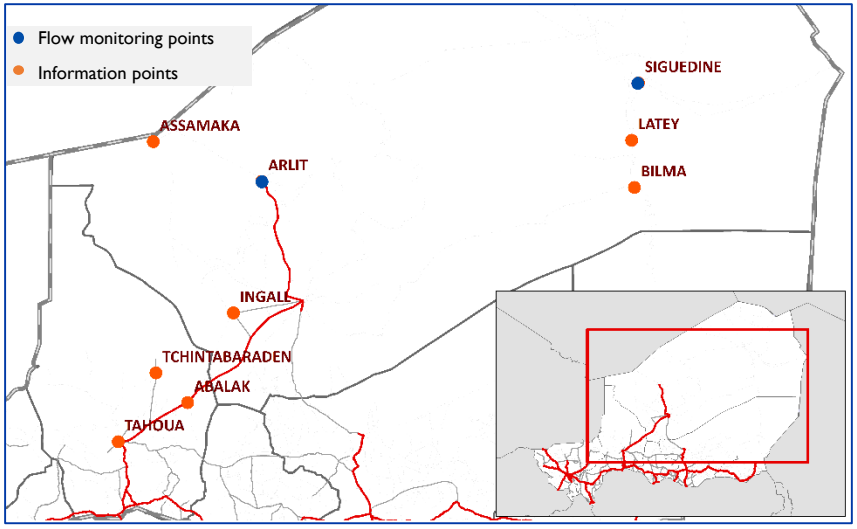


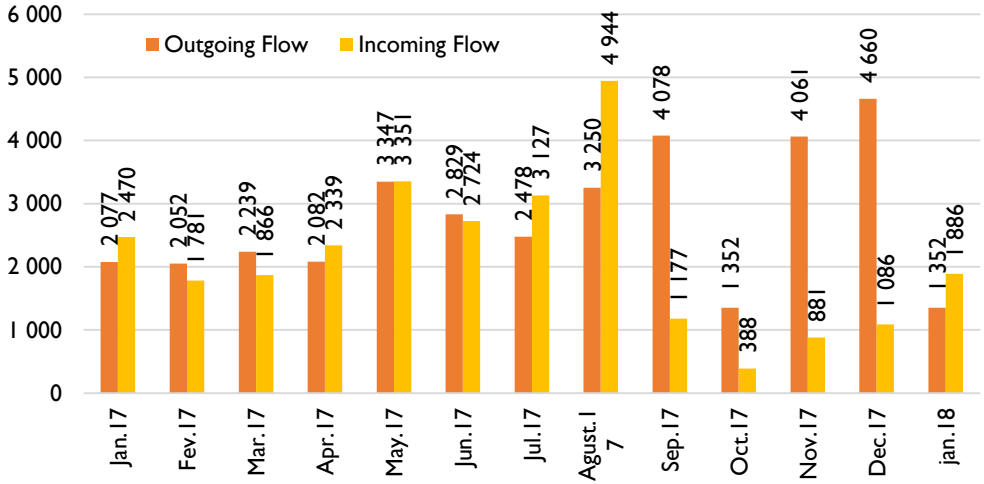
The previous page detailed the data by month and year for both Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). The table and graphs below compare the data collected at each of the FMPs in Arlit and Seguedine, showing data for 2017 and 2018 and for the outgoing and incoming flows. The biggest yearly change was observed at the Séguédine FMP, where the number of transiting migrants dropped by a third from 2016 to 2017"..

In addition, the number of outgoing migrants passing through the Séguédine FMP accounted for 77% of the total number of migrants observed in 2016 while the number of incoming migrants accounted for 23% of the total number. This trend was reversed in 2017, when 32% of the migrants observed at the Séguédine MPF were outgoing migrants and 68% of incoming migrants.

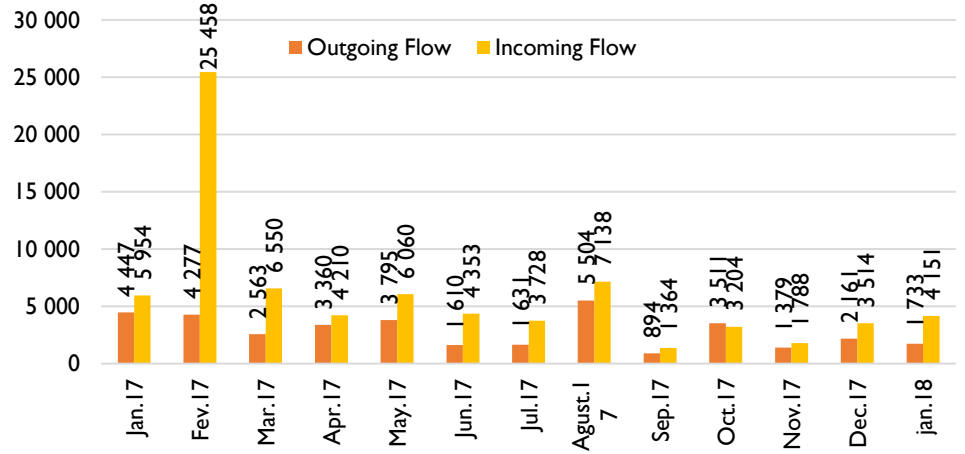
While the number of migrants who were observed passing through the Arlit FMP declined between 2016 and 2017 as well, the decrease in numbers was smaller than that observed at the Séguédine FMP.

	OUTGOING FLOW	INCOMING FLOW	OUTGOING FLOW	INCOMING FLOW	INTERNAL MOUVEMENT
	2017		2018		
Arlit	34,505	26,134	1,352	1,886	2,238
Séguédine	35,867	73,321	1,733	2,265	0

NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED IN **ARLIT** (2017 - 2018)



NUMBER OF MIGRANTS IDENTIFIED IN **SEGUEDINE** (2017 - 2018)



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SEGUEDINE

Migrants passing through Séguédine take the migratory route to Libya, many of them presumably intending to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe. Migrants passing through this Flow Monitoring Point include individuals from a wide variety of West African countries as well as a few individuals from Central and Southern Africa. In 2016, this route was the most important transit point for migrants passing through the Sahara Desert. Since the adoption of a decree on migration in October 2016, security checks have increased. Migrants and their smugglers are circumventing thedirect route to Libya and are being spotted on less travelled and extremely dangerous routes. Assessments carried out during Flow Monitoring exercises made it possible to understand that migratory routes used are much more fragmented and that migrants and carriers are reluctant to transit through Séguédine for fear of being intercepted. As a result, new routes, which bypass villages and transit points, have been identified.

ARLIT

The Arlit Flow Monitoring Point is the main route used by migrants leaving for, transiting to or returning from Algeria. This road has long been used as a trade route between Niger and Algeria. There are many movements of Nigeriens who make a circular migration with Algeria. However, there are also migrants of other nationalities who transit through Arlit to Algeria, and preliminary reports suggest that a shorter route through Algeria to reach Libya passes through Arlit, although this information has not been verified yet. In addition, the migratory route crossing Niger used by migrants to go to Algeria also crosses the city of Tchintabaraden before reaching the Algerian border, bypassing Arlit.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND NUMBER OF MINORS

	Men	Women
Arlit	96%	4%
Séguédine	93%	7%

The demographic profiles of migrants passing through the two FMPs are relatively similar, consisting largely of men 18 to 40 years old as well as a small minority of women (7% in Séguédine and 4% in Arlit). In addition, nearly 370 accompanied and unaccompanied minors were registered at the FMPs. In accordance with IOM's data protection principles, more information is available on this subject upon request.

	Accompanied minors	Unaccompanied minors	Total minors
Arlit	105	110	215
Séguédine	155	1	156
Total	**260**	**112**	**371**

NATIONALITIES OF MIGRANTS

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED IN SEGUEDINE

	Outgoing	Incoming	Average
Niger	30%	25%	**43%**
Libya	2%	17%	**11%**
Chad	11%	5%	**14%**
Mauritania	5%	0%	**5%**
Burkina Faso	2%	8%	**6%**
Côte d'Ivoire	2%	0%	**2%**
Mali	2%	5%	**5%**
Nigeria	2%	20%	**12%**
Other	44%	20%	**42%**

Nationalities are given as a percentage of nationalities observed in outgoing and incoming flows.
The nationalities observed at the Flow Monitoring Points are most often provided either by the migrants themselves or by key informants. As a result, it may be difficult to determine the nationalities of certain groups, these nationalities are represented as a total percentage of nationalities observed by point of flow monitoring and by incoming and outgoing flows.

NATIONALITIES OBSERVED IN ARLIT

	Outgoing	Incoming	Average	Internal
Guinea Bissau	24%	2%	**14%**	2%
Chad	15%	3%	**11%**	9%
Guinea	9%	9%	**14%**	10%
Burkina Faso	9%	4%	**8%**	7%
Côte d'Ivoire	8%	7%	**11%**	7%
Liberia	8%	7%	**11%**	4%
DRC	5%	1%	**4%**	1%
Cameroon	4%	7%	**9%**	8%
Gambia	4%	5%	**8%**	4%
Other	15%	55%	**43%**	48%

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WHAT IS FLOW MONITORING?

Flow Monitoring is a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). It has been developed to track migrant flows (groups or individuals) through data collections carried out at key points of origin, transit and/or destination. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is to provide regularly updated information on the scale and profiles of population movements (migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees, etc.) through specific locations. The information and analysis provided through the flow monitoring methodology also helps to better understand and define shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/ migratory routes. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is not to replace border monitoring or border surveillance. Data collected by IOM flow monitoring exercises does not replace government border controls and should not be interpreted as such.

The Flow monitoring methodology aims to identify areas prone to internal, cross border, and regional migration. Mobility area assessments are conducted at the national level. FMP teams then collect information at the local level to identify key transit points. Enumerators collect data from key informants at the flow monitoring points. Data is collected through a basic form combined with direct observations – enabling sex and nationality breakdowns. In Arlit and Séguédine, the FMPs were selected according to their geographic characteristics and mobility patterns after consultation with local and national key stakeholders involved in the management of migration in Niger. Data is collected on a daily basis during peak time hours.

A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MIGRATORY FLOWS, A REGIONAL INCENTIVE IN WEST AFRICA?

Monitoring population movements in West and Central Africa represents an important regional initiative. It allows for a better understanding of intentions, trends, routes, risks as well as demographic and socio-economic profiles of migrants. It serves as a common source of data contributing to informed policymaking by authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination. IOM aims to install over thirty of these flow monitoring points throughout the West and Central African region to assist 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.

HOW IS FLOW MONITORING SET UP IN FIELD ENVIRONMENTS?

Flow monitoring is composed of three tools. Assessment of areas with high mobility, regular monitoring of locations with high mobility, in-depth surveys done with migrants at these locations. These tools can be deployed simultaneously or separately.

1 **DATA QUALITY CONTROL**: The methodology employs multi-layered data collection with various levels of granularity to allow for consistency checks. The team rigorously checks for data quality during the data collection, processing and analysis process.

2 **DATA PROTECTION**: Personal data collected by IOM and the protection of such data is subject to IOM's data protection principles.

3 **LIMITATIONS:** Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. They represent only part of the total flows transiting through the region. The spatial and temporal coverage of this data collection activity is therefore incomplete. In addition, although data is collected daily, it is collected only during peak hours, and therefore the portion of the flows that occur during the uncovered hours is not represented. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative. *IOM does not make any warranties or representations as to the appropriateness, quality, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.*

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