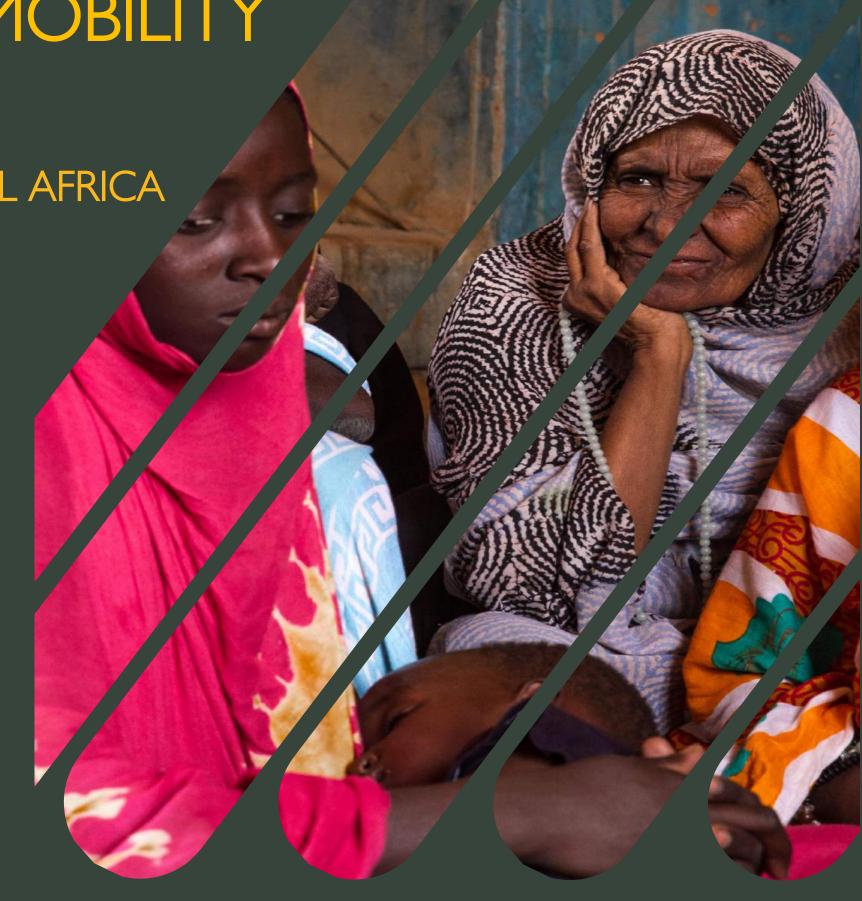
REGIONAL MOBILITY MAPPING

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

JANUARY 2022







International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

REGIONAL MOBILITY MAPPING

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA JANUARY 2022

FUNDING SUPPORT

This report is produced by DTM Regional Support team for West and Central Africa through funding support from:











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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.

For feedback, please contact:

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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

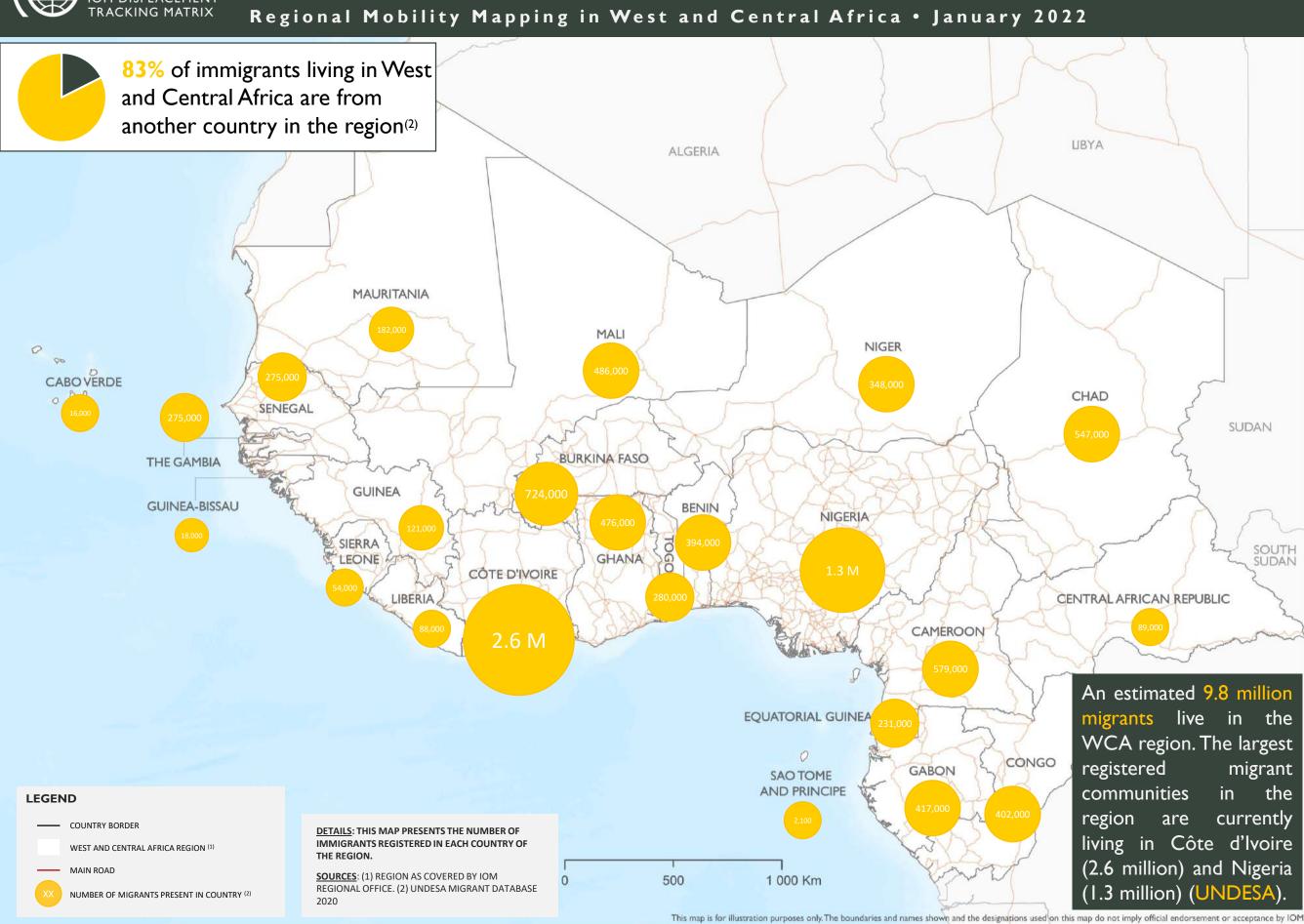
Other data presented in this document is provided by the Ministries of the Interior of Spain, Italy and Greece, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

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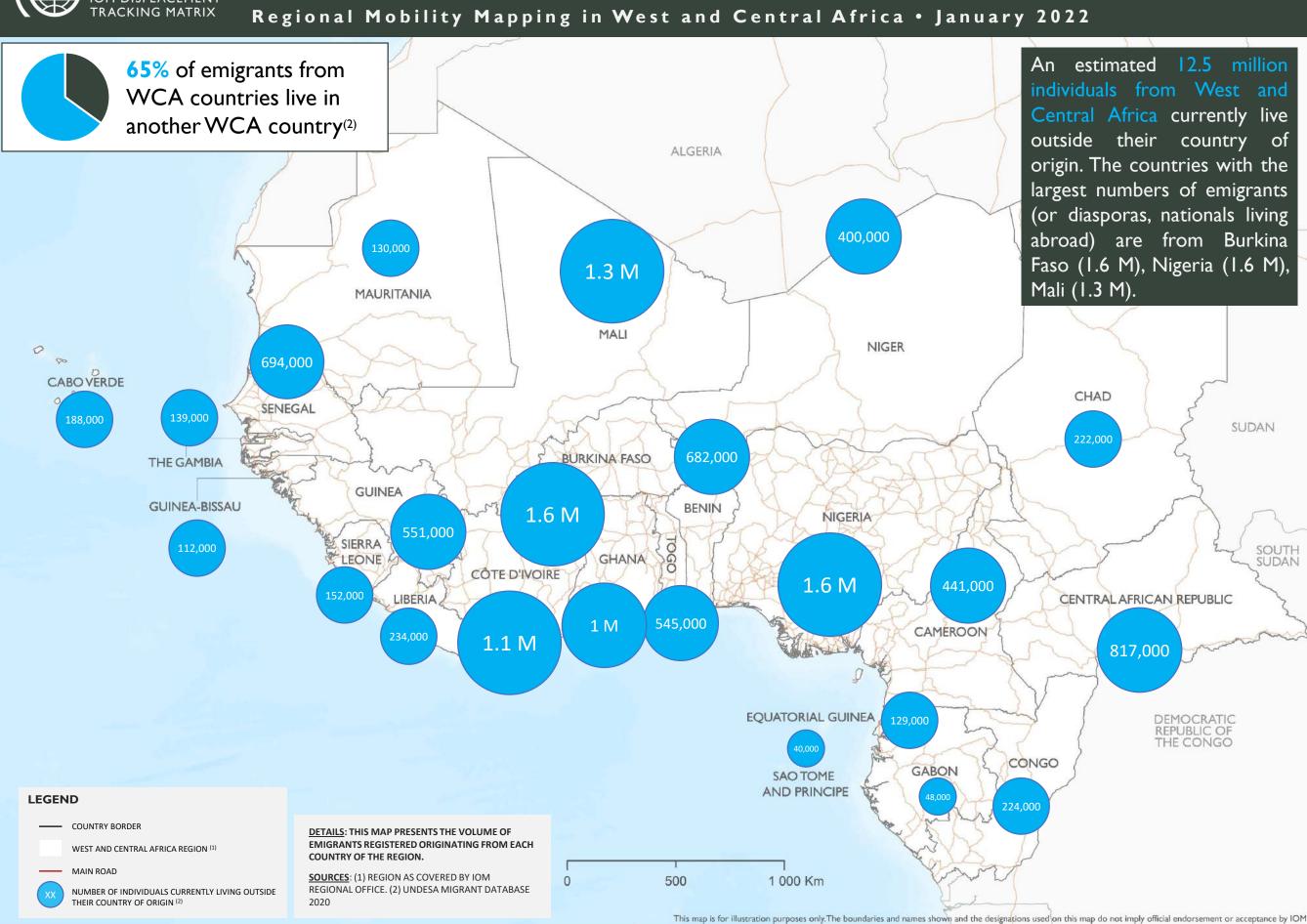


INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS



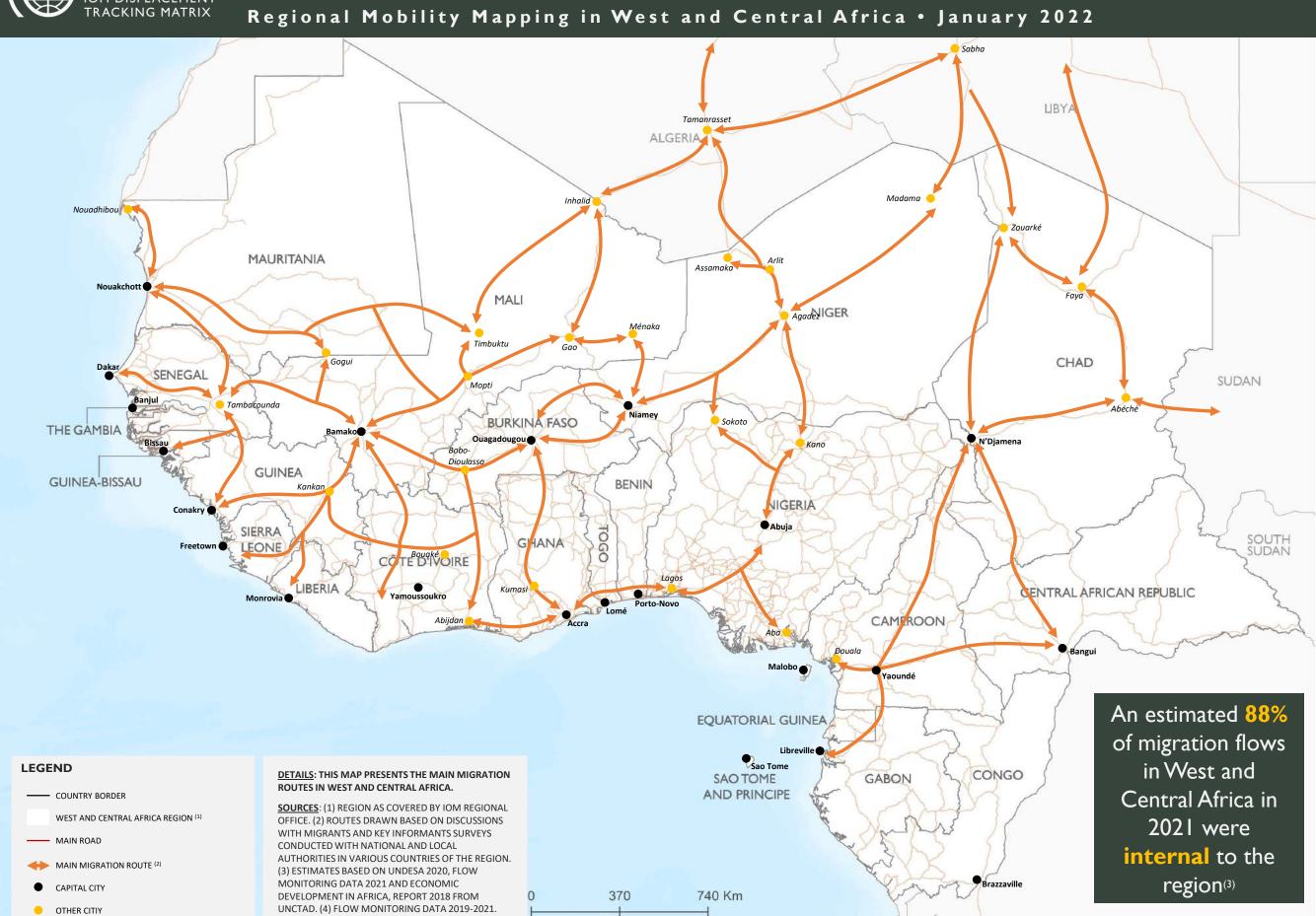


EMIGRATION FROM WCA





MIGRATION FLOWS



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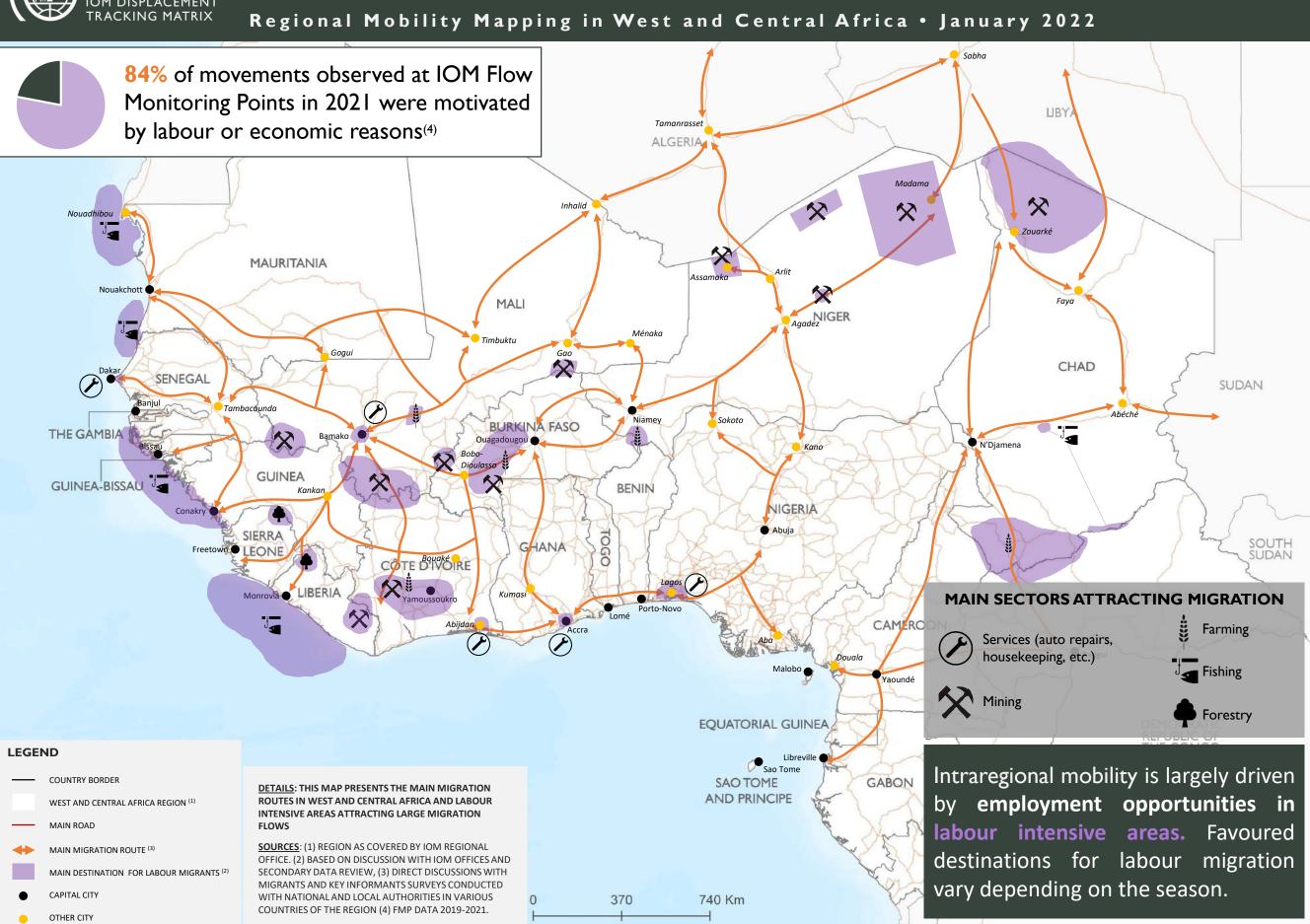
MIGRATION CORRIDORS



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LABOUR MIGRATION



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OTHER CITY

TRANSHUMANCE (I)

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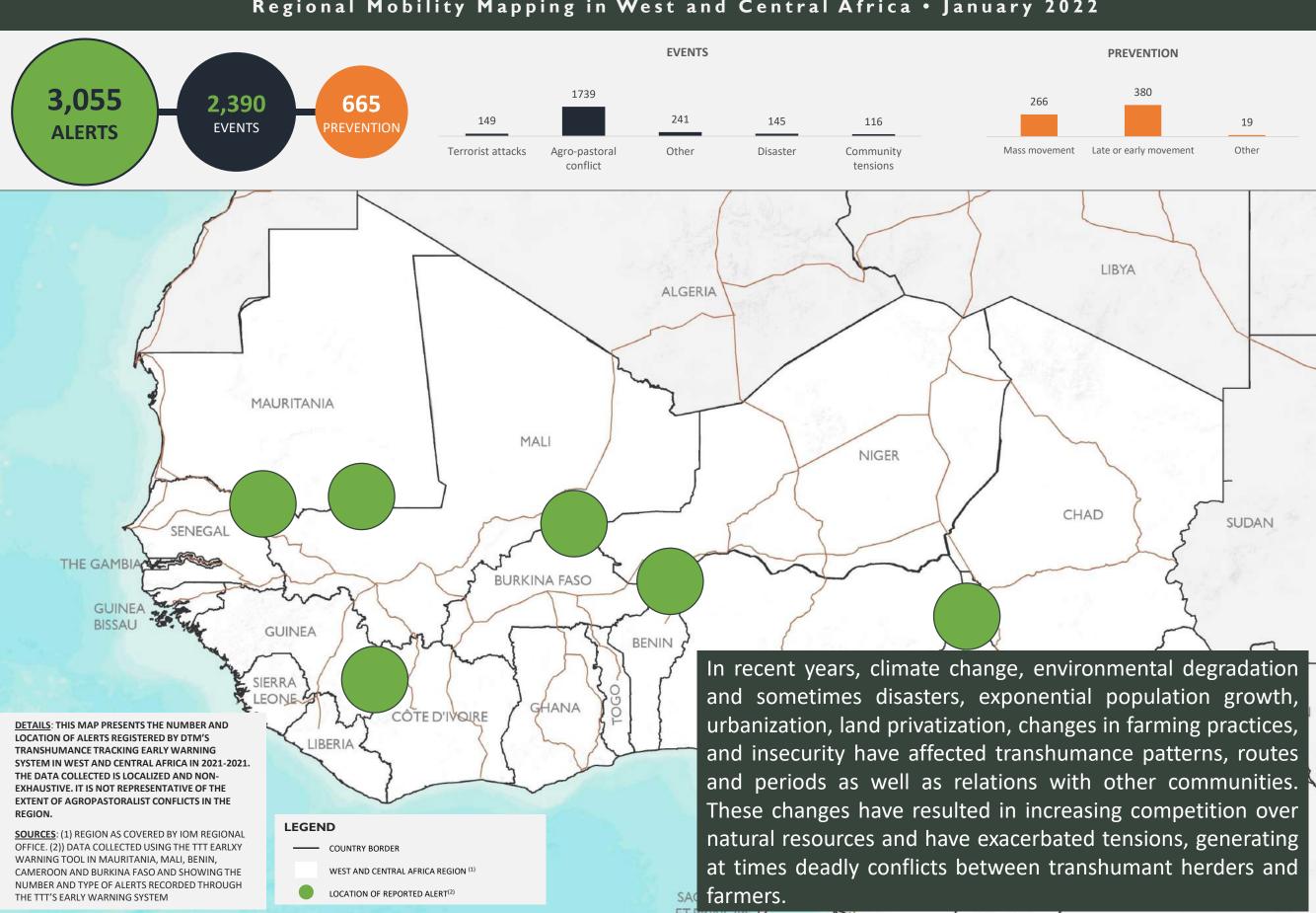


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TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL 2021



TRANSHUMANCE (2)





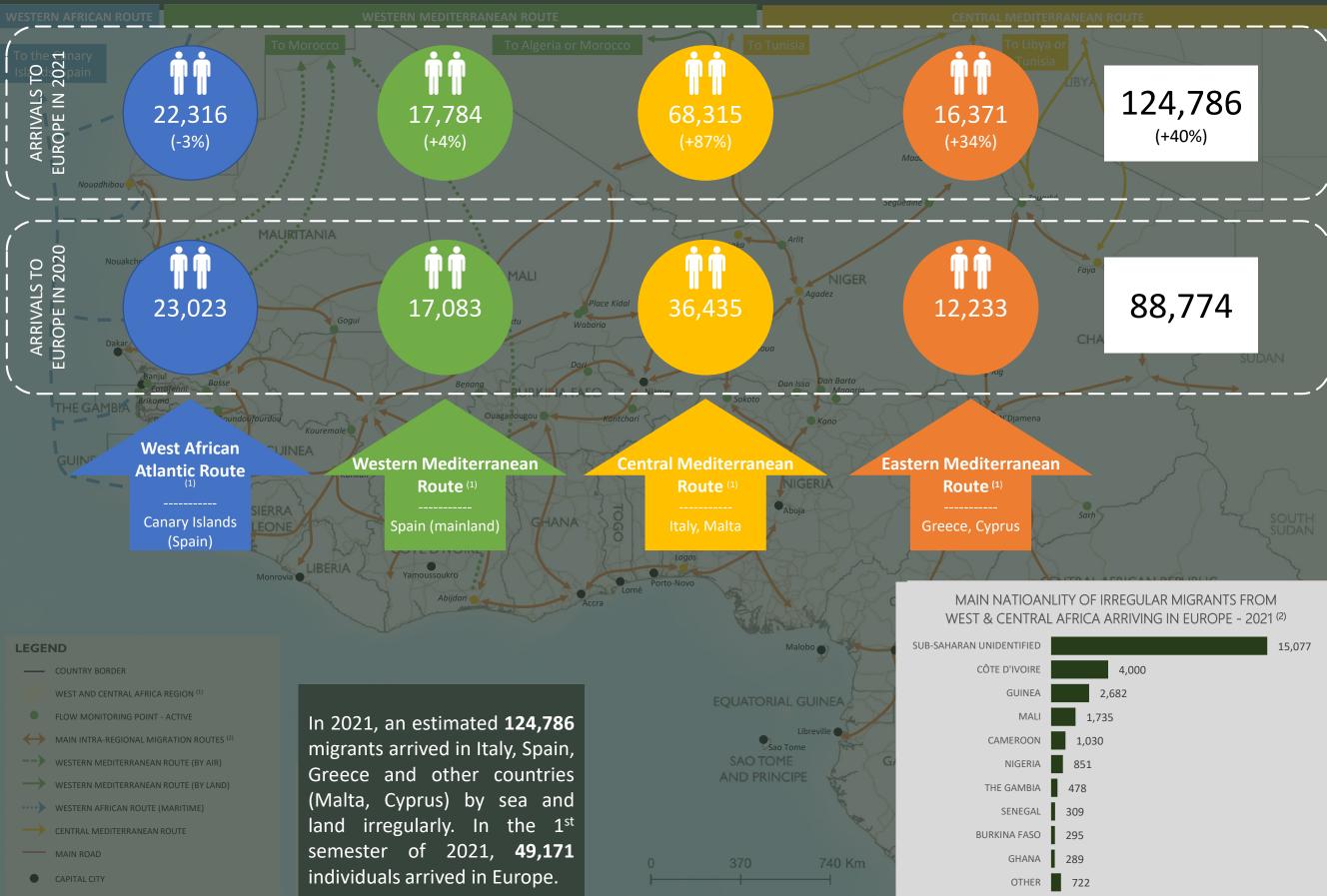
INTER-REGIONAL ROUTES



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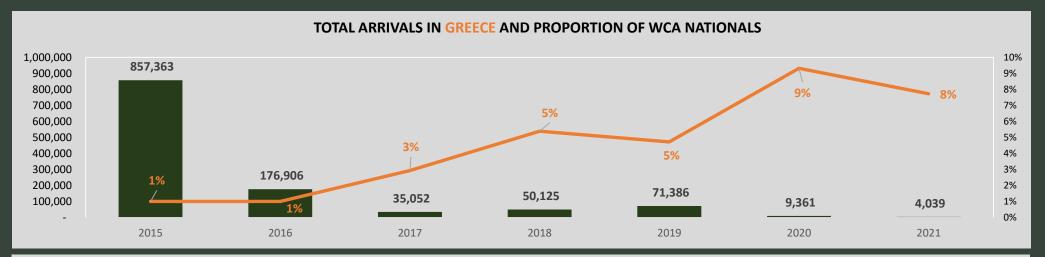
ARRIVALS TO EUROPE I

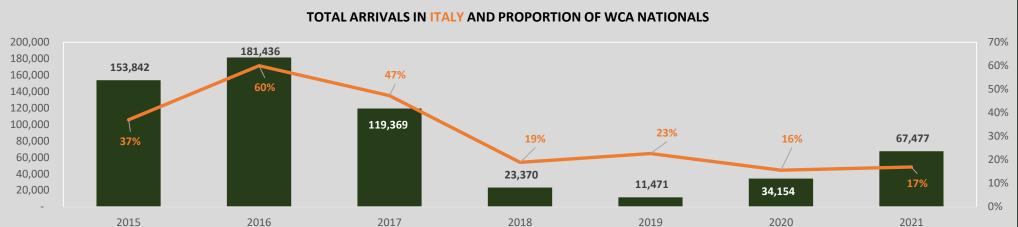




ARRIVALS TO EUROPE II

Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • January 2022

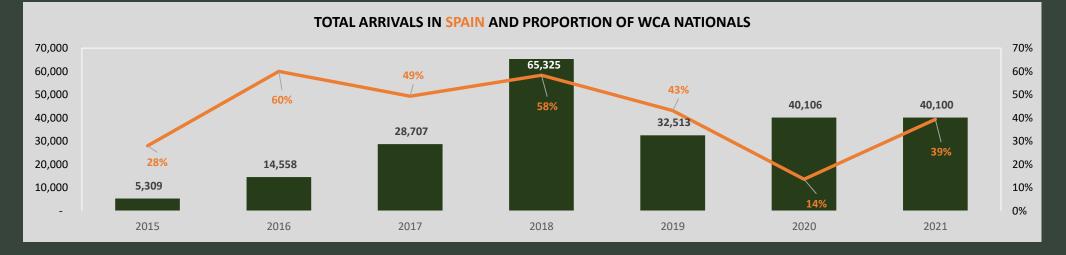






DETAILS: THIS PAGE
PRESENTS THE NUMBERS OF
ARRIVALS TO EUROPE BY
MAIN COUNTRY OF ARRIVAL
(GREECE, ITALY, SPAIN),
YEAR, AND PROPORTION OF
WEST AND CENTRAL
AFRICAN NATIONALS.

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



Migrant and refugee arrivals to Europe have changed significantly between 2015 and 2021. 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 5% in 2018, and to 8% in 2021. Arrivals of WCA nationals in Italy slowly decrease in 2020-2021 (respectively 16% and 17%). The share of WCA nationals amongst migrant and refugee arrivals to Spain witnessed some fluctuations between 2015 and 2021, and witnessed a sharp decrease between 2017 (60% of all arrivals in Spain, the highest observed in the 2015-2021 time period) and 2021 (39%). 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-December 2021, irregular arrivals in Italy saw an increase significantly compared to 2020. The 2021 arrivals have already more than doubled the total number of irregular migrant arrivals to Italy in 2020.

DESTINATION BY INTENDED



TRAVELLERS' PROFILES

Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • January 2022

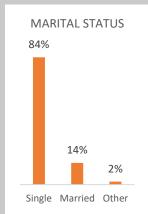
AGE (average)

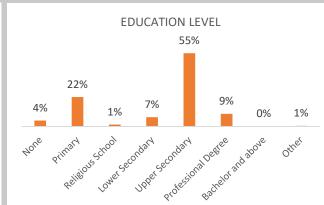
26.1

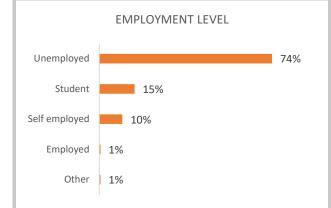
Gender (distribution)

Male: 83%

Female: 17%







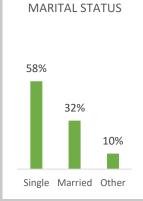
AGE (average)

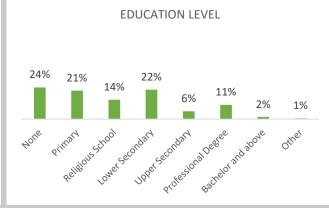
28.8

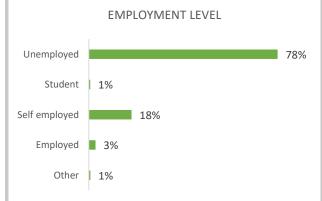
Gender (distribution)

Male: 88%

Female: 12%





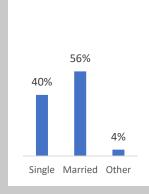


AGE (average)

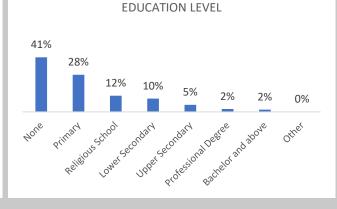
30.7

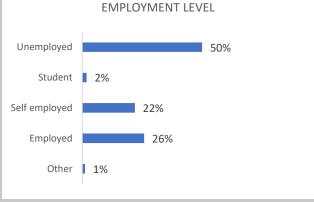
Gender (distribution)

Male: 86% Female: 14%



MARITAL STATUS





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 47,787 travellers across the region between January and December 2020. Further information on methodology is available at the end of this document.



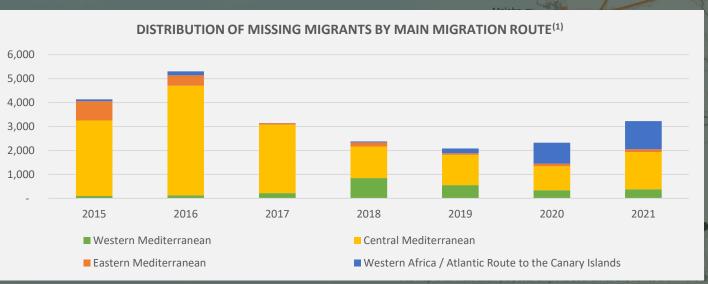
MISSING MIGRANTS

Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • January 2022



DETAILS: THIS VISUAL PRESENTS THE NUMBERS OF DEAD AND MISSING MIGRANTS RECORDED ALONG THE FOUR MAIN MIGRATIONS ROUTES IN 2021 AND COMPARED WITH 2020.

SOURCES: (1) MISSING MIGRANT PROJECT DATA FOR 2020 AND 2021, GLOBAL MIGRATION DATA AND ANALYSIS CENTER, IOM.

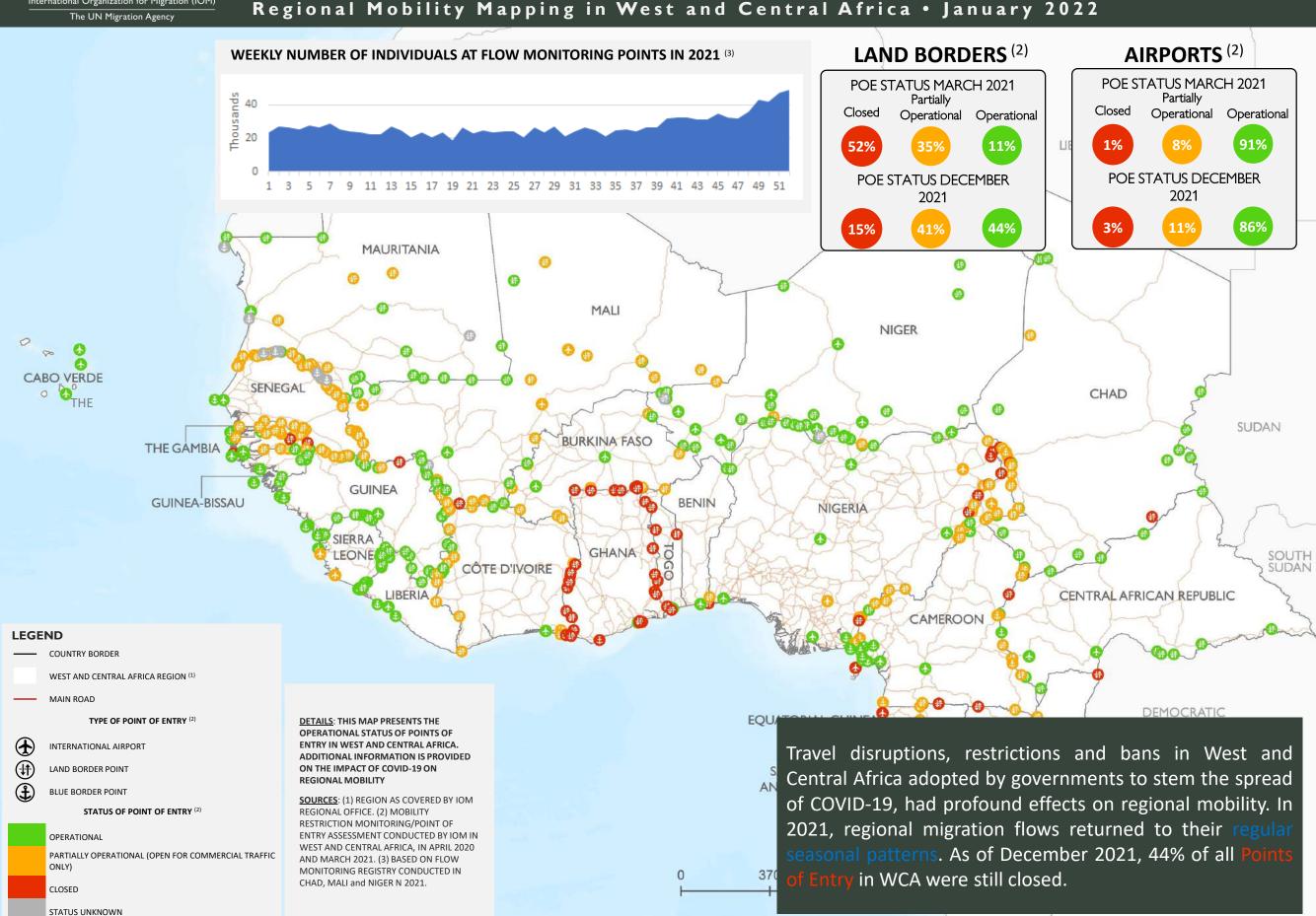


In 2021, the number of migrants who died or disappeared along the Central Mediterranean, Western Mediterranean, West African Atlantic and Eastern Mediterranean routes (3,224) increased compared to the year 2020 (2,326).



COVID-19 & MOBILITY

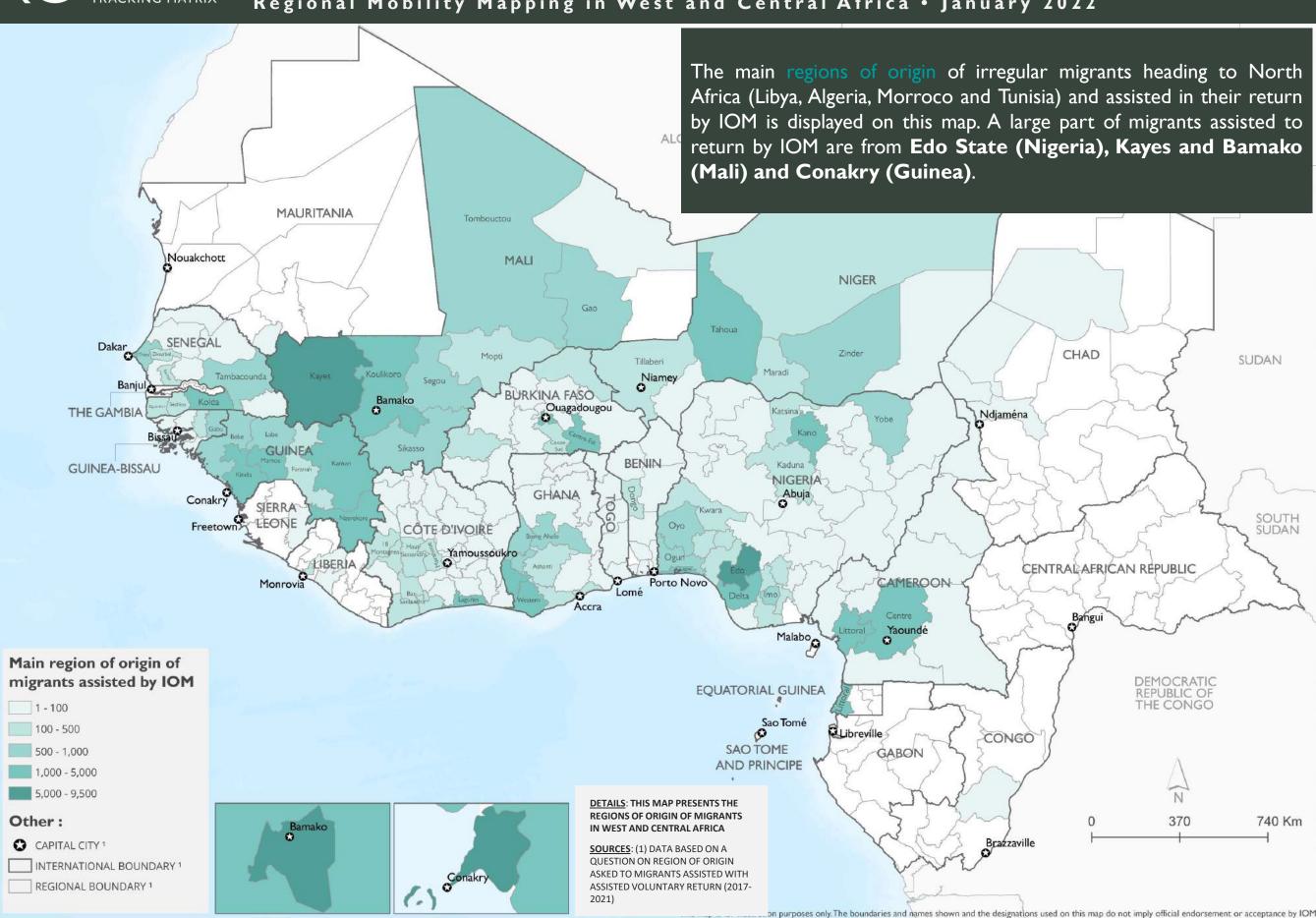
Regional Mobility Mapping in West and Central Africa • January 2022



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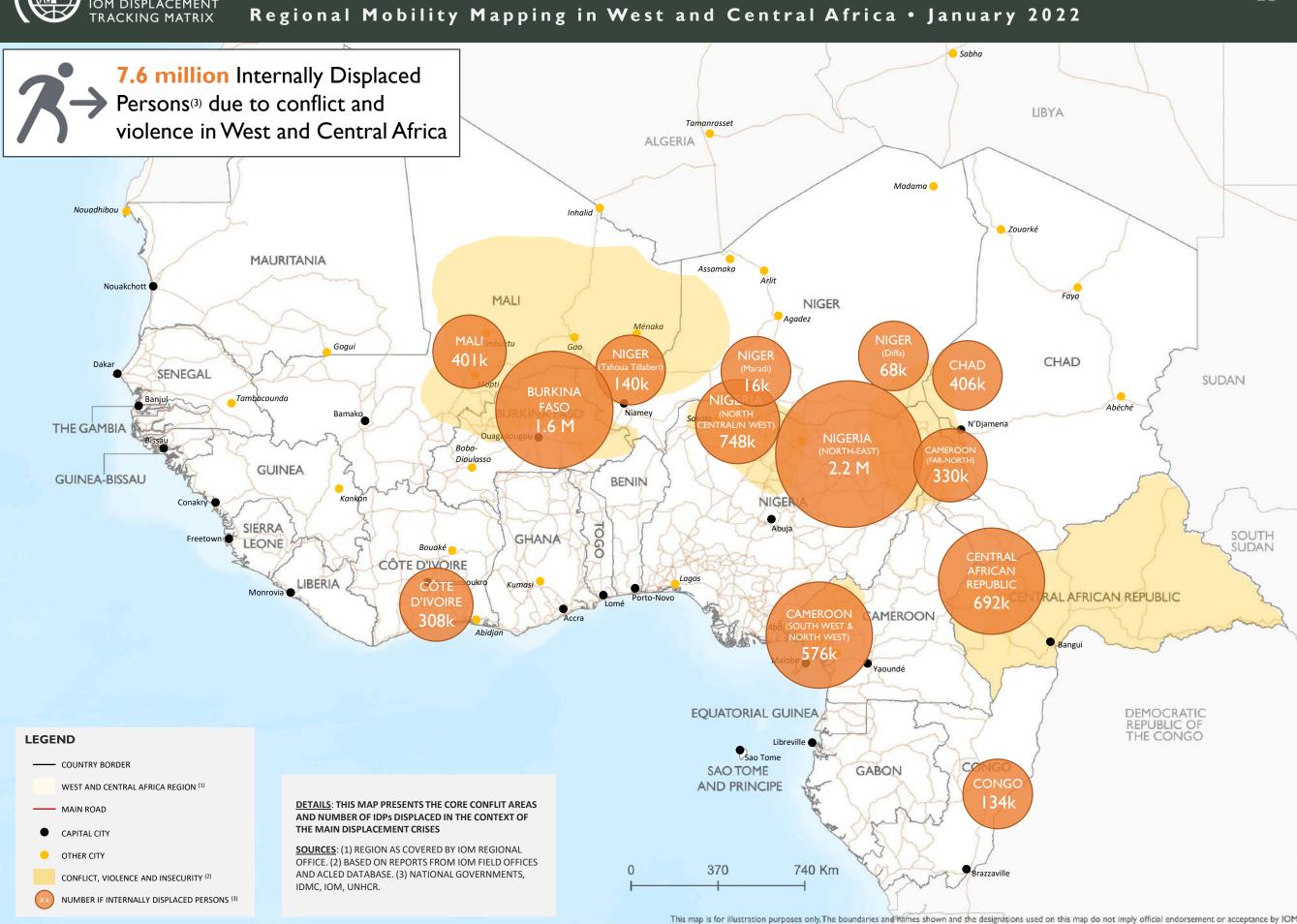


REGIONS OF ORIGIN



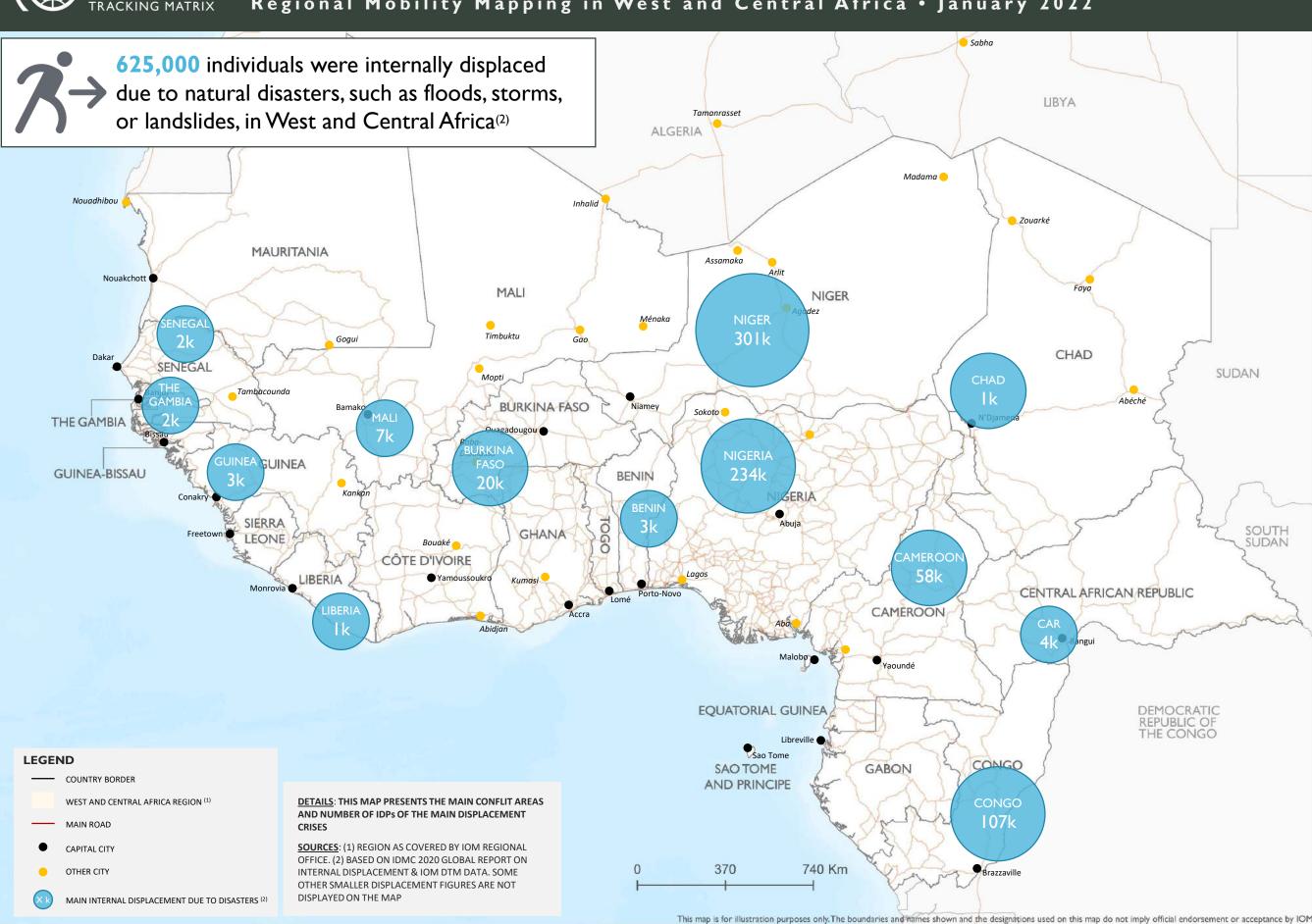


CONFLICT & INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT



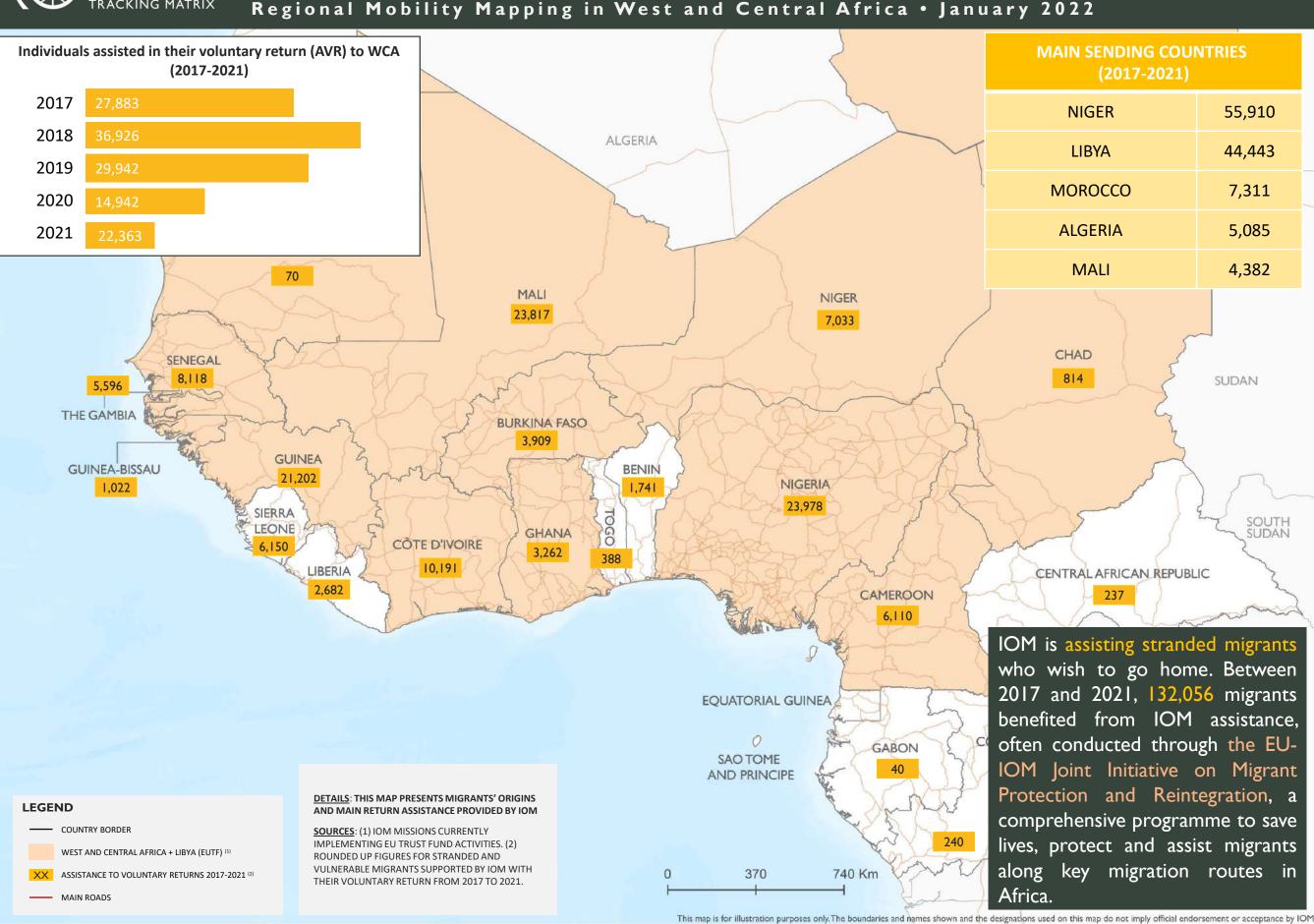


DISASTER & INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT



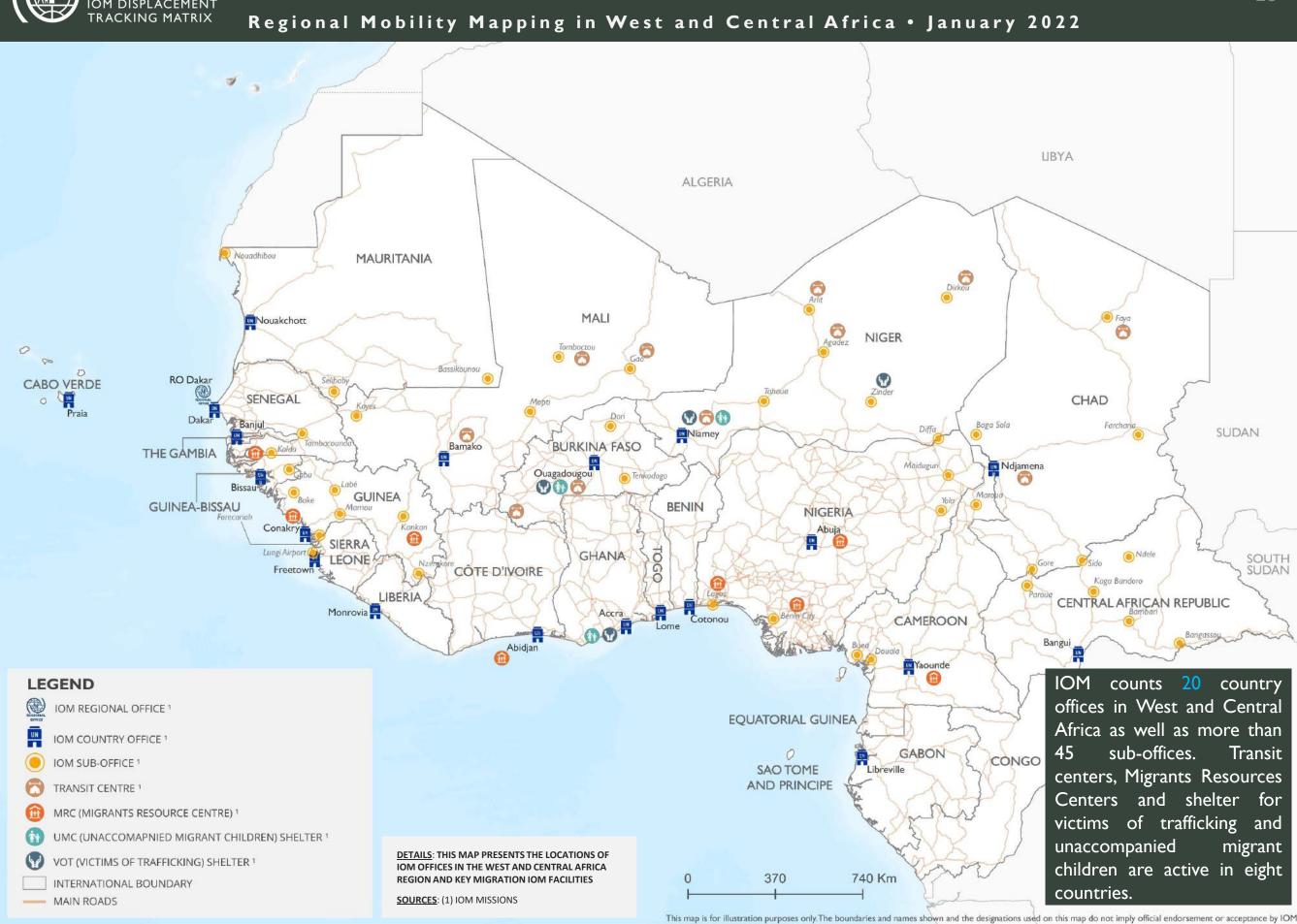


RETURN ASSISTANCE BY IOM





IOM PRESENCE



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 is based on databases from Libya and Niger that have been aggregated and uses nearly 110,000 entries dating from 2016 to 2020.

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)

COUNTRIES: BURKINA FASO, CHAD, GUINEA, MALI, NIGER

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 2020, more than 30 FMPs were active in eight countries of the

West and Central Africa region (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Guinea, 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 Senegal, Mali, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Niger and Chad during the timeframe indicated. The data should not be generalized and does not present a full picture of interand 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)

<u>COUNTRIES</u>: CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, MALI. NIGERIA.

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 indepth 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.

NOTE ON METHODOLOGY II

TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (DTM)

<u>COUNTRIES</u>: BENIN, BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, CHAD, COTE D'IVOIRE, GHANA, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, TOGO

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)

<u>COUNTRIES</u>: BURKINA FASO, CHAD, 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.

