



Processus de Rabat
Dialogue Euro-Africain sur la
Migration et le Développement

Réunion des fonctionnaires de haut niveau

Senior Officials Meeting

29-30
janvier
2025

Sous la coprésidence du Portugal et du Nigeria
Under the co-chairmanship of Portugal and Nigeria

Porto, Portugal



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA



AGÊNCIA PARA A
INTEGRAÇÃO
MIGRAÇÕES E ASILO



Project funded by the European Union



As part of the Support Programme for the Africa-EU
Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD

Latest migration-related developments in the Rabat Process region by the International Organization for Migration

Vasco Malta – Head of Office IOM Portugal

World Migration Report 2024



Highlights: Data and information on migration and migrants

- Almost 281 million people lived in a country other than their country of birth, or about 128 million more than 30 years earlier, in 1990 (153 million), and over three times the estimated number in 1970 (84 million).
- There is currently a larger number of male than female international migrants worldwide, and the growing gender gap has increased over the past 20 years. The share of female migrants has been decreasing since 2000, while the share of male migrants has increased by 1.3 percentage points.
- There has been a long-term increasing trend in international remittances, rising from around USD 128 billion in 2000 to USD 831 billion in 2022. International remittances have recovered from the dip in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Humanitarian crises due to displacement remain exceptional within the broader global picture but they are also on the rise. Forced displacement is the highest on record in the modern era. The situation is further exacerbated by environmental impacts and climate change.
- The impacts of environmental, geopolitical and technological systemic global shifts have intensified further in the last two-year period since the previous World Migration Report (2022 edition) highlighted their growing importance for migration and mobility.
- New developments in AI technologies – such as generative AI – have further underscored rapidly changing tech developments globally.



Report overview

- International migration remains relatively uncommon, with a mere 3.6 per cent (or 281 million) of the world being international migrants. The vast majority of people do not move across borders to live, and most international migration is safe, orderly and regular.
- Migration is a driver of human development, and can generate significant benefits for migrants, their families and countries of origin.



International migrants^a

281 million

international migrants globally in 2020, or 3.6 per cent of the world's population

Females ^a	135 million	international female migrants globally in 2020, or 3.5 per cent of the world's female population
Males ^a	146 million	international male migrants globally in 2020, or 3.7 per cent of the world's male population
Children ^a	28 million	international child migrants globally in 2020, or 1.4 per cent of the world's child population
Labour migrants ^b	169 million	migrant workers globally in 2019
Missing migrants ^c	Around 6,900	dead and missing globally in 2022



International remittances^d

USD **831** billion

in international remittances globally in 2022

Low- and middle-income countries ^d	USD 647 billion	in international remittances was received by low- and middle-income countries in 2022
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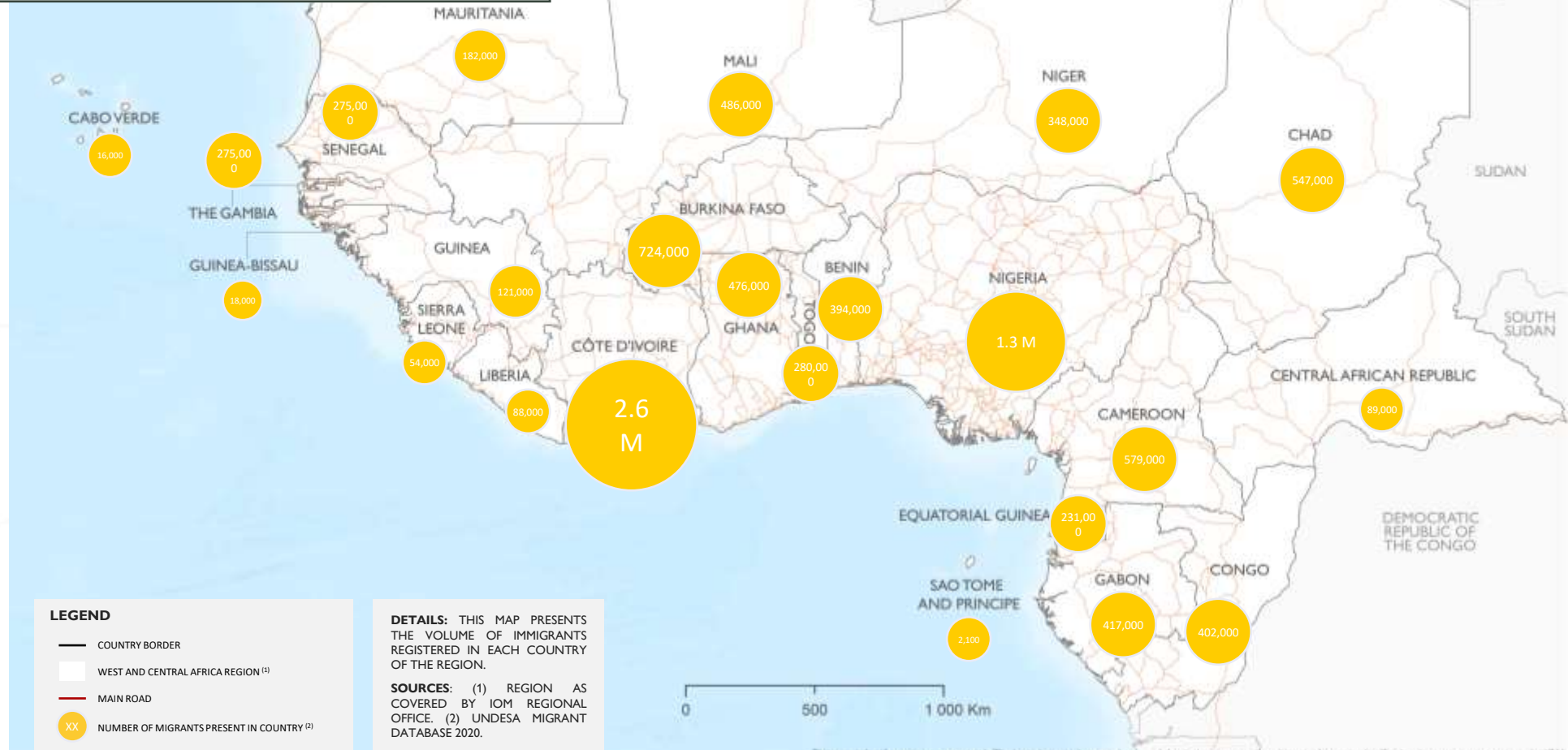
MIGRATORY TRENDS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS



83 per cent of immigrants living in West and Central Africa are from another country in the region.⁽²⁾

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).

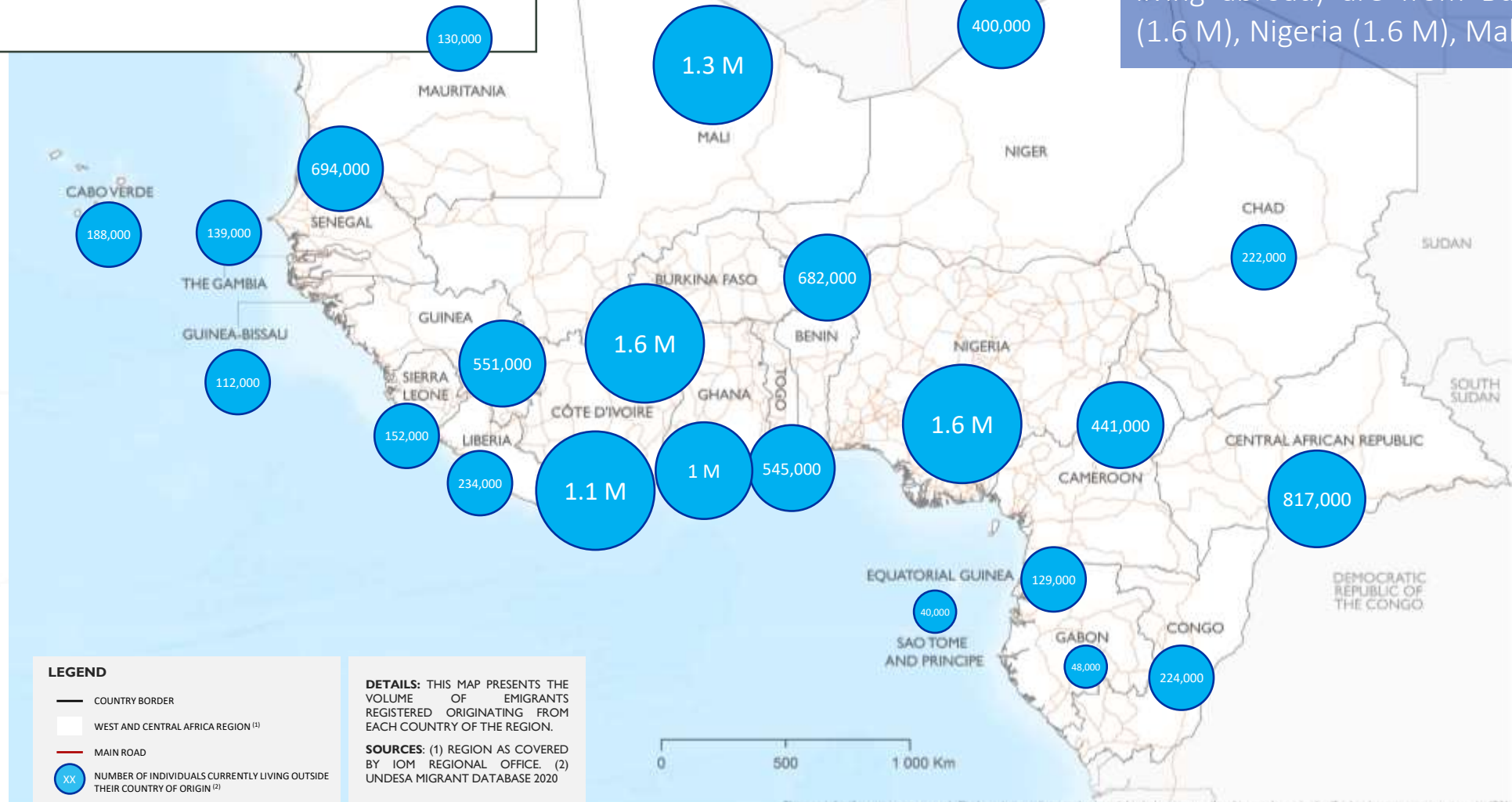


EMIGRATION FROM WCA



65 per cent of diaspora 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
- NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY LIVING OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN ⁽²⁾

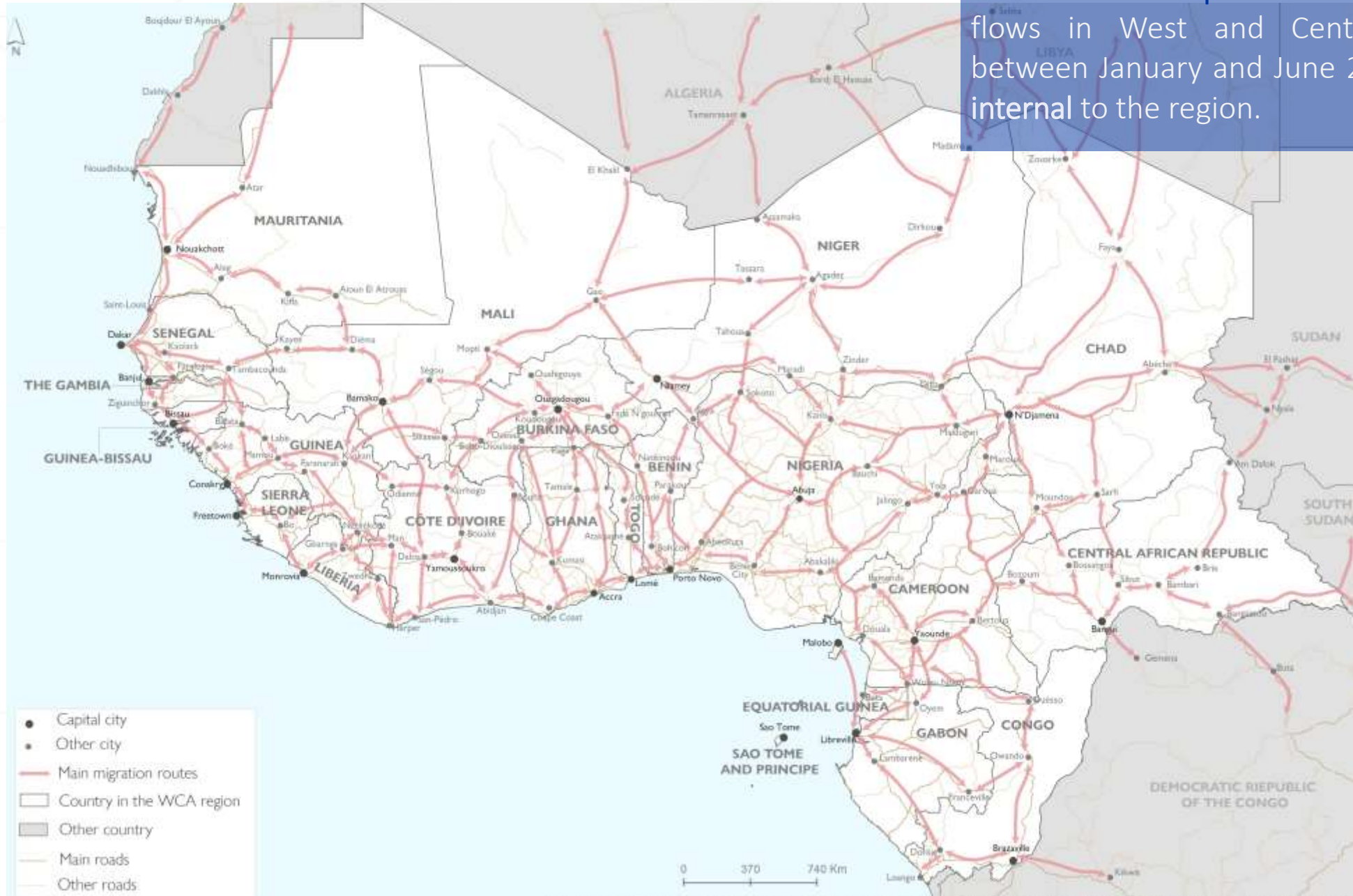
DETAILS: THIS MAP PRESENTS THE VOLUME OF EMIGRANTS REGISTERED ORIGINATING FROM EACH COUNTRY OF THE REGION.

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

0 500 1 000 Km

MIGRATION FLOWS

An estimated **87 per cent** of migration flows in West and Central Africa between January and June 2024 were internal to the region.

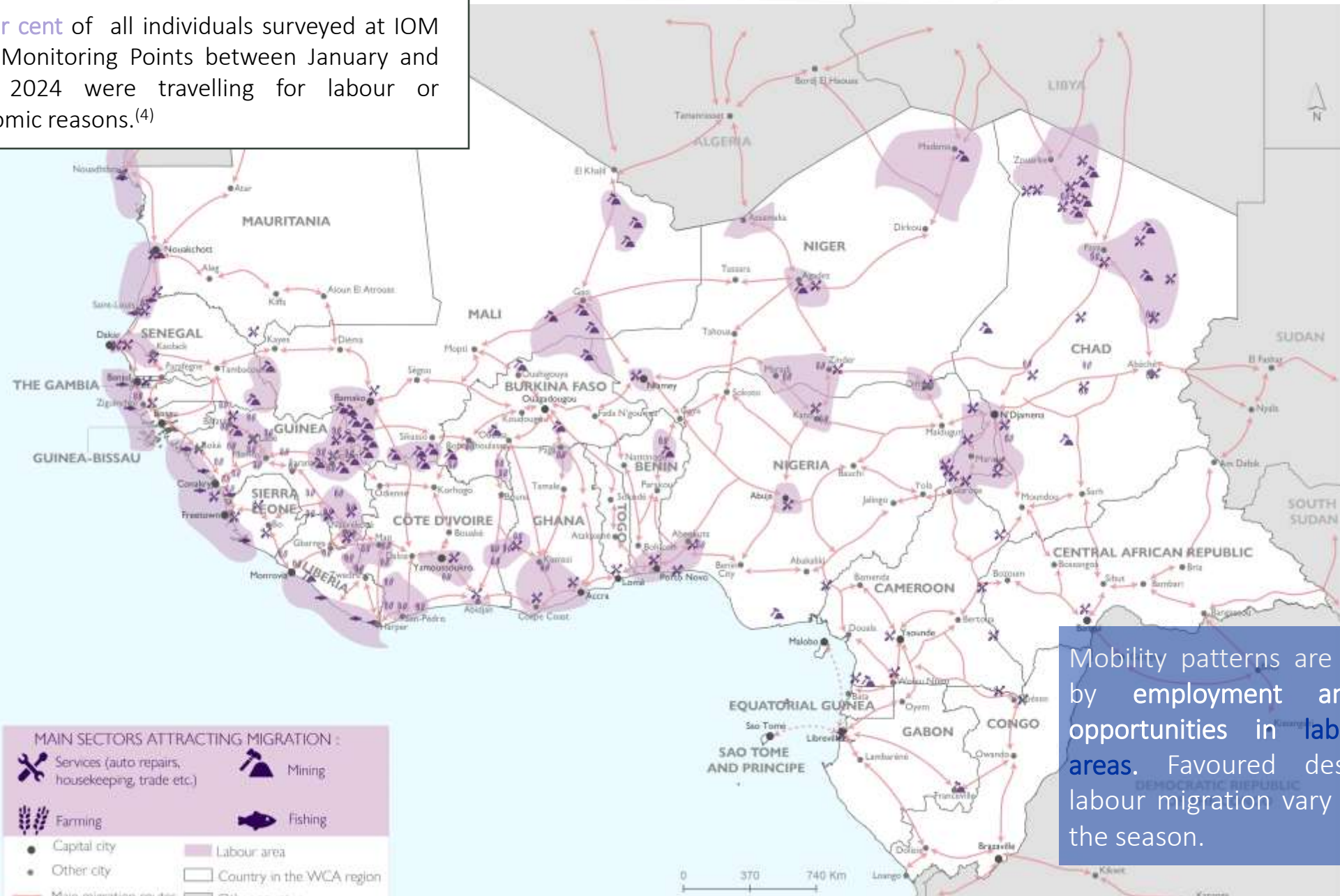


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LABOUR MIGRATION



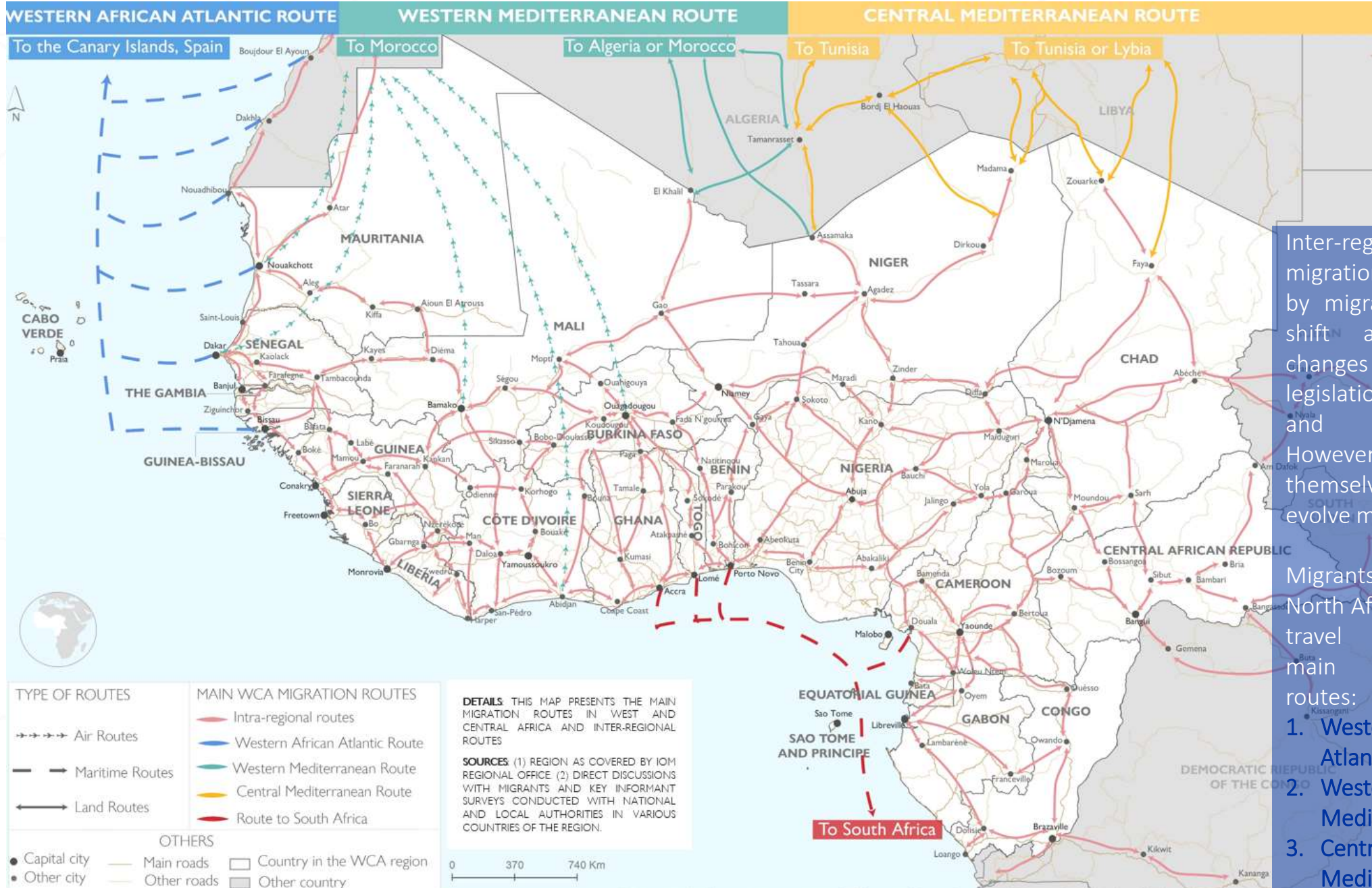
73 per cent of all individuals surveyed at IOM Flow Monitoring Points between January and June 2024 were travelling for labour or economic reasons.⁽⁴⁾



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

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

INTER-REGIONAL ROUTES



Inter-regional migration routes taken by migrants regularly shift according to changes in migration legislation, policies and controls. However, the routes themselves do not evolve much.

Migrants heading to North Africa or Europe travel along three main migration routes:

1. Western African Atlantic
2. Western Mediterranean
3. Central Mediterranean

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BY INTENDED DESTINATION

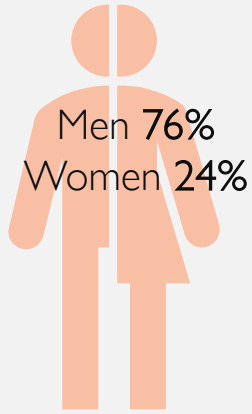
SEX

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

DRIVER

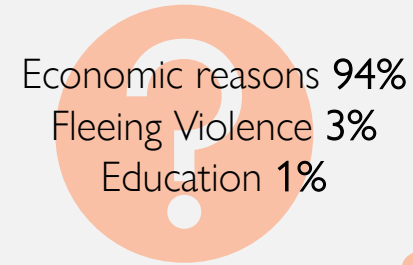
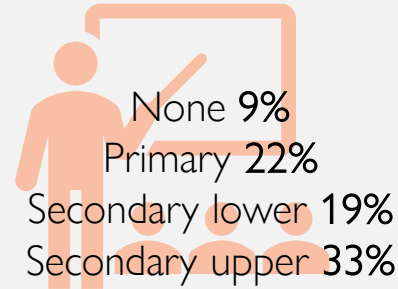
MODALITIES

EUROPE



Married 17%
Single 73%

Unemployed 59%
Student 20%
Self-employed 15%

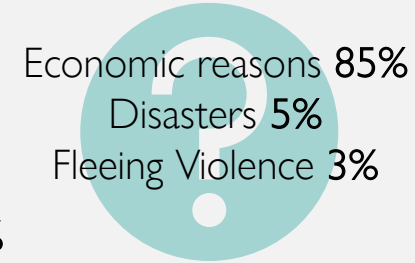
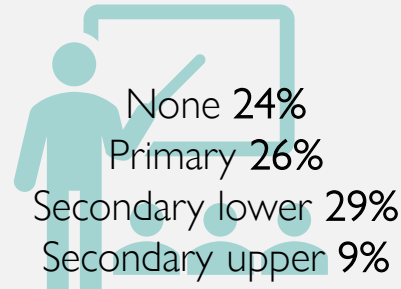


NORTH AFRICA

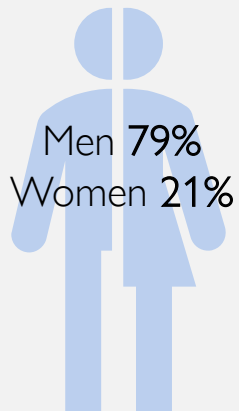


Married 39%
Single 52%

Unemployed 71%
Self-employed 11%
Employed 1%

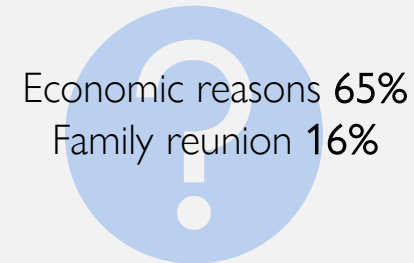
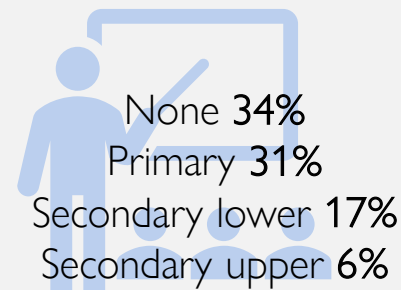


WCA



Married 58%
Single 37%

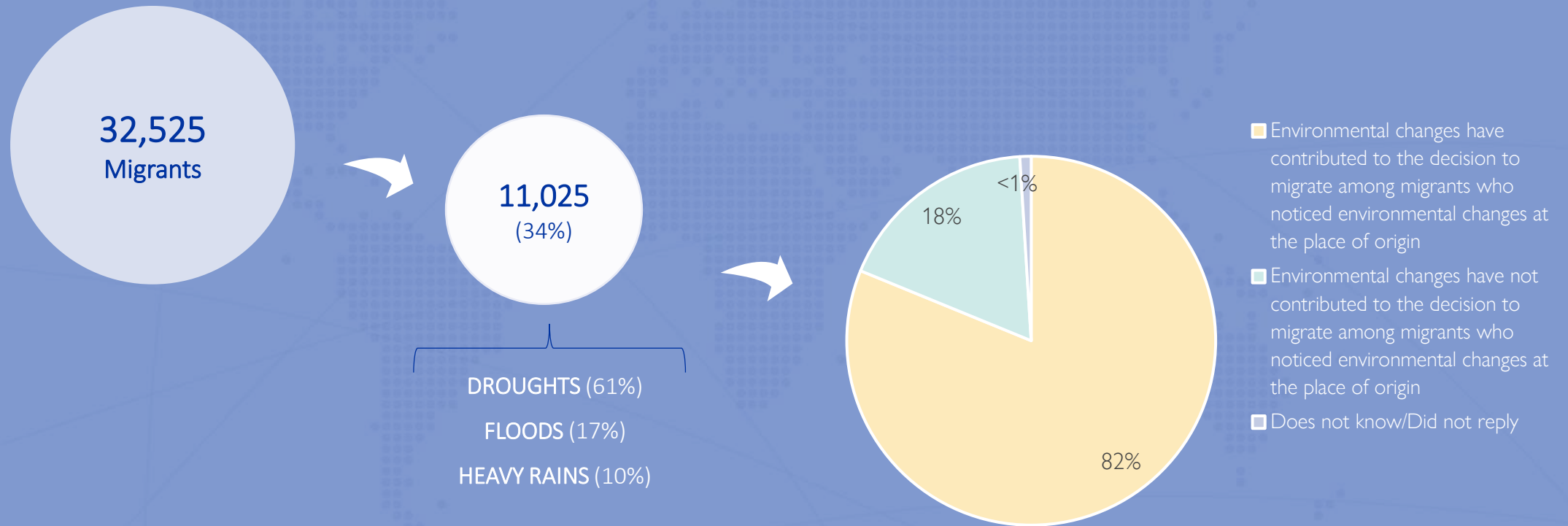
Unemployed 41%
Self-employed 28%
Employed 11%



CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

BURKINA FASO, MALI, NIGER, CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.

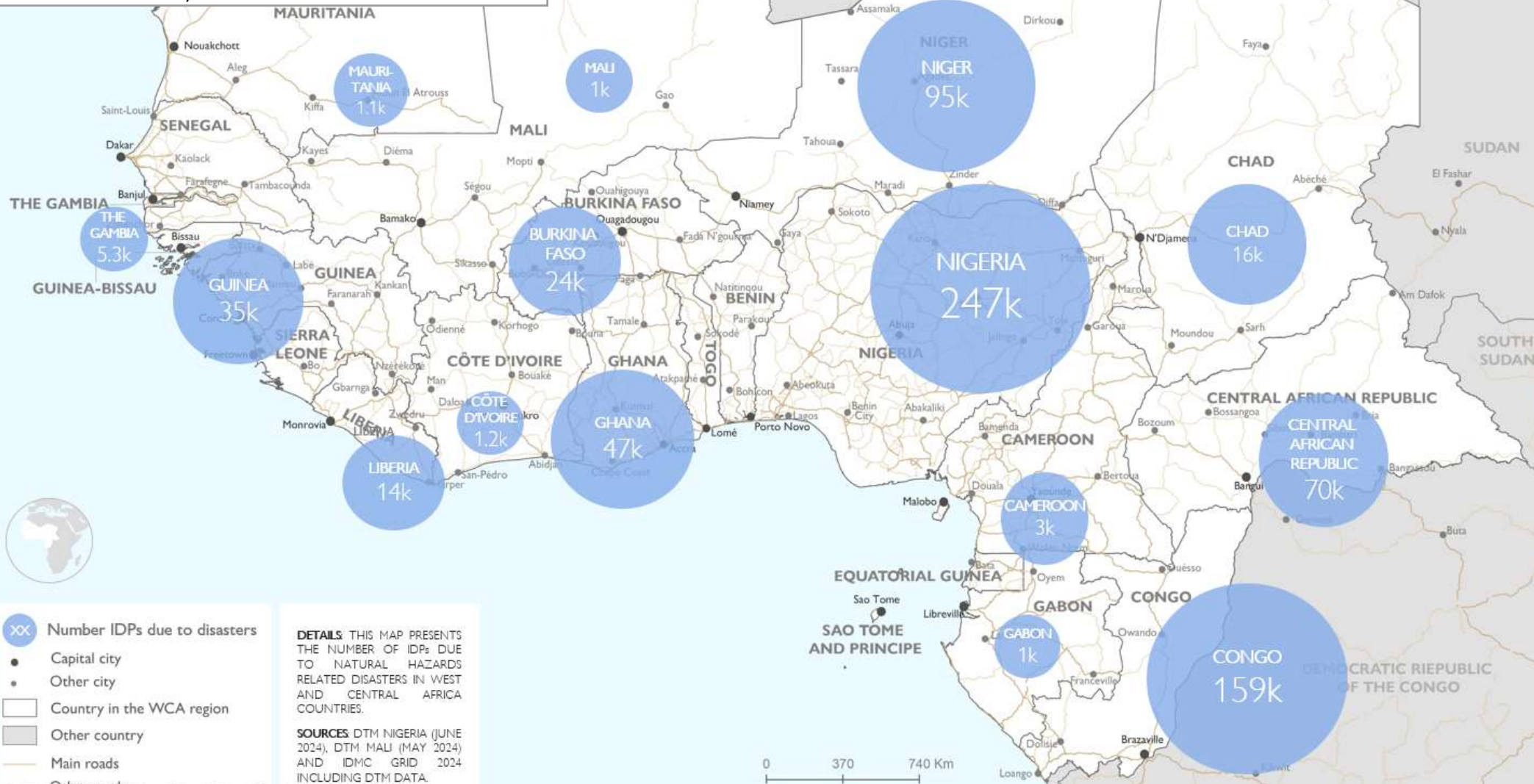
Among 32,525 individuals surveyed in Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic between January and June 2024, 11,025 (34%) noticed environmental changes and/or a disaster at their place of origin. The main environmental changes reported were droughts (61%), floods (17%), and heavy rains (10%). Of these 11,025 individuals, 9,028 (82%) declared environmental changes or disasters have impacted their decision to migrate.



DISASTER AND INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT



More than **717,000** persons were reported internally displaced due to disasters, such as floods, storms, or wildfires, in West and Central Africa by June 2024.



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

SOURCES: DTM NIGERIA (JUNE 2024), DTM MALI (MAY 2024) AND IDMC GRID 2024 INCLUDING DTM DATA.

WOMEN ON THE MOVE

SEX AND AGE OF TRAVELLERS

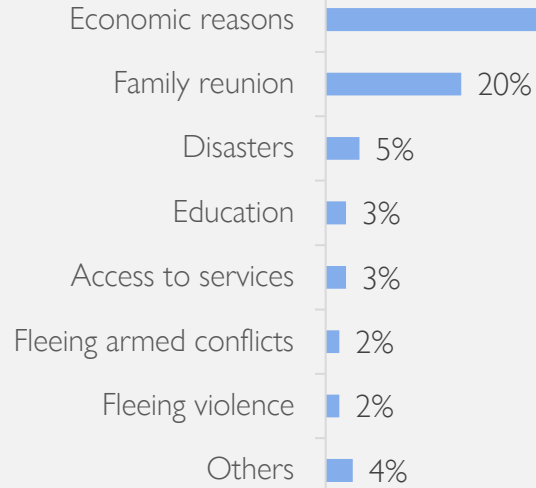
Males 80% 20% Females

21% 18 - 24 25%

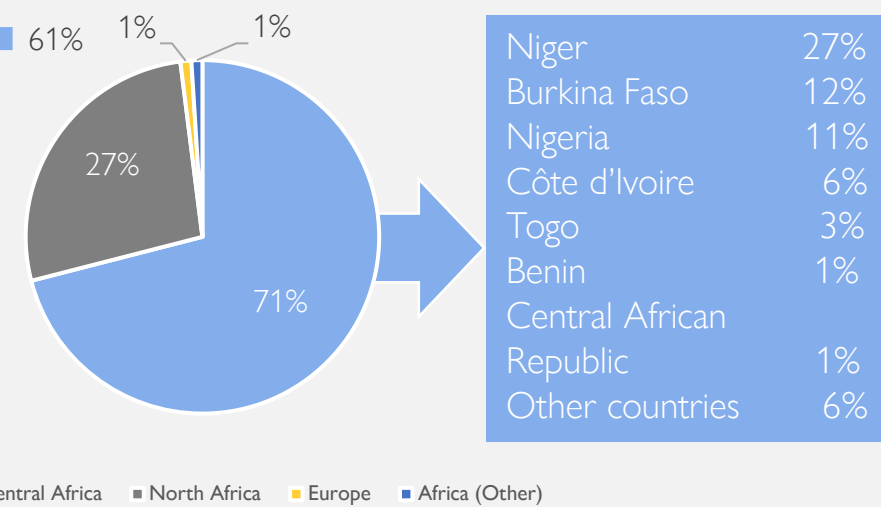
78% 25 - 59 74%

1% 60+ 1%

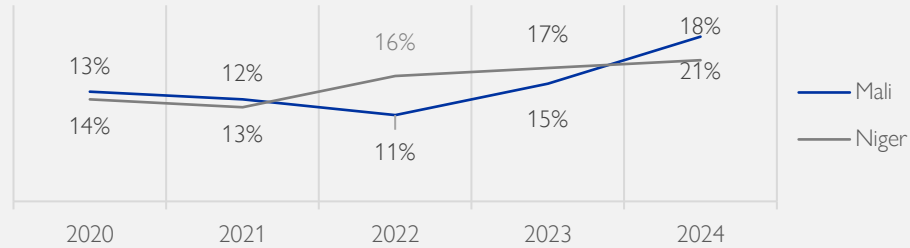
REASONS FOR TRAVEL



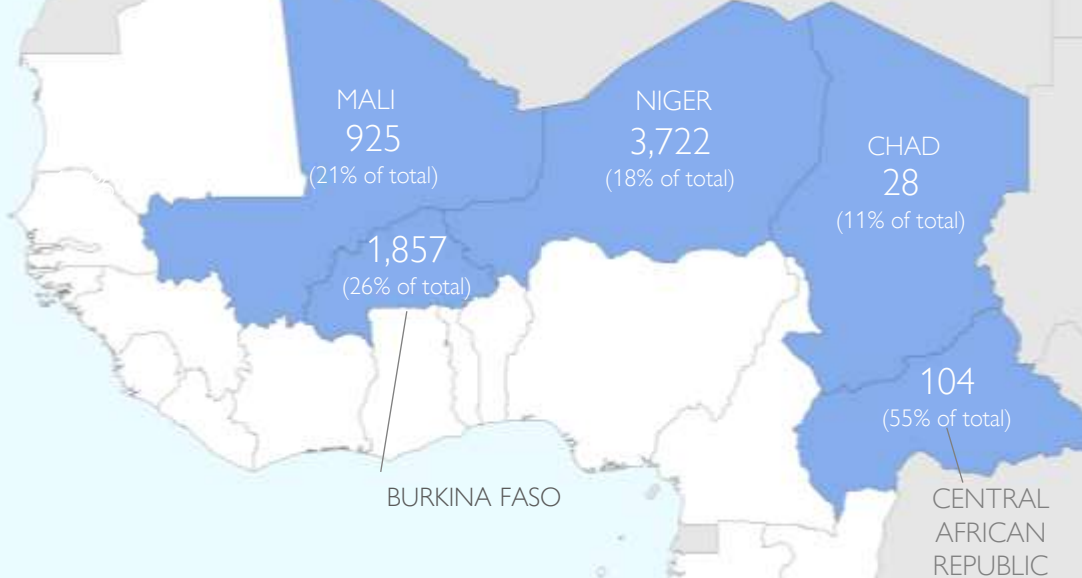
FINAL INTENDED DESTINATION



EVOLUTION OF WOMEN ON THE MOVE (MALI & NIGER)

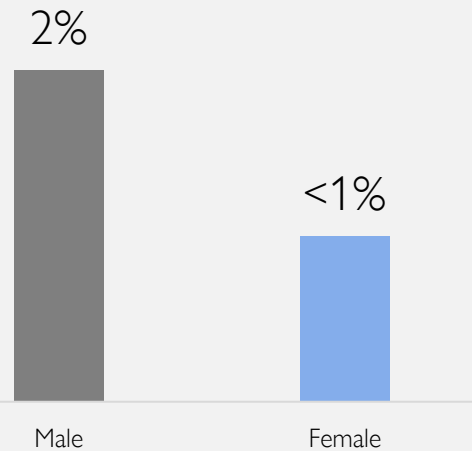


NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE INTERVIEWS PER COUNTRY

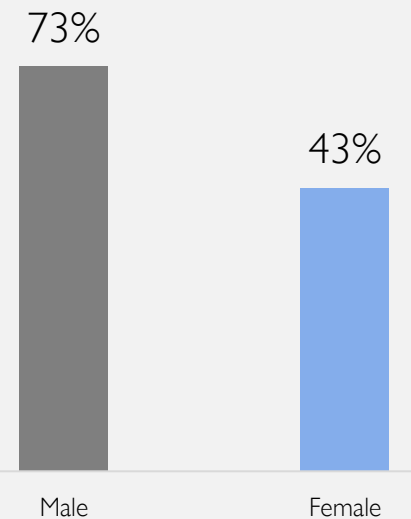


PERCENTAGE OF SELF-IDENTIFIED VICTIMS OF FORCED LABOUR*

* Indicators in Chad, Mali and Niger FMS only.



ID POSSESSION AMONG FORCED WORKERS*



ROUTE FROM WCA TO LATIN AMERICA AND USA

2024 trends

ARRIVALS TO **DARIEN GAP**, PANAMA

2023 (Jan-Sep)

3,515 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA



2024 (Jan-Sep)

3,548 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA

Cameroon (1,232)
Ghana (647)
Togo (618)

ARRIVALS TO **HONDURAS**

2023 (Jan-Oct)

24,968 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA



2024 (Jan-Nov)

14,160 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA

Mauritania (3,736)
Guinea (2,808)
Chad (1,663)
Cameroon (1,623)
Senegal (1,254)

ARRIVALS TO **MEXICO**

2023 (Jan-Aug)

18,653 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA




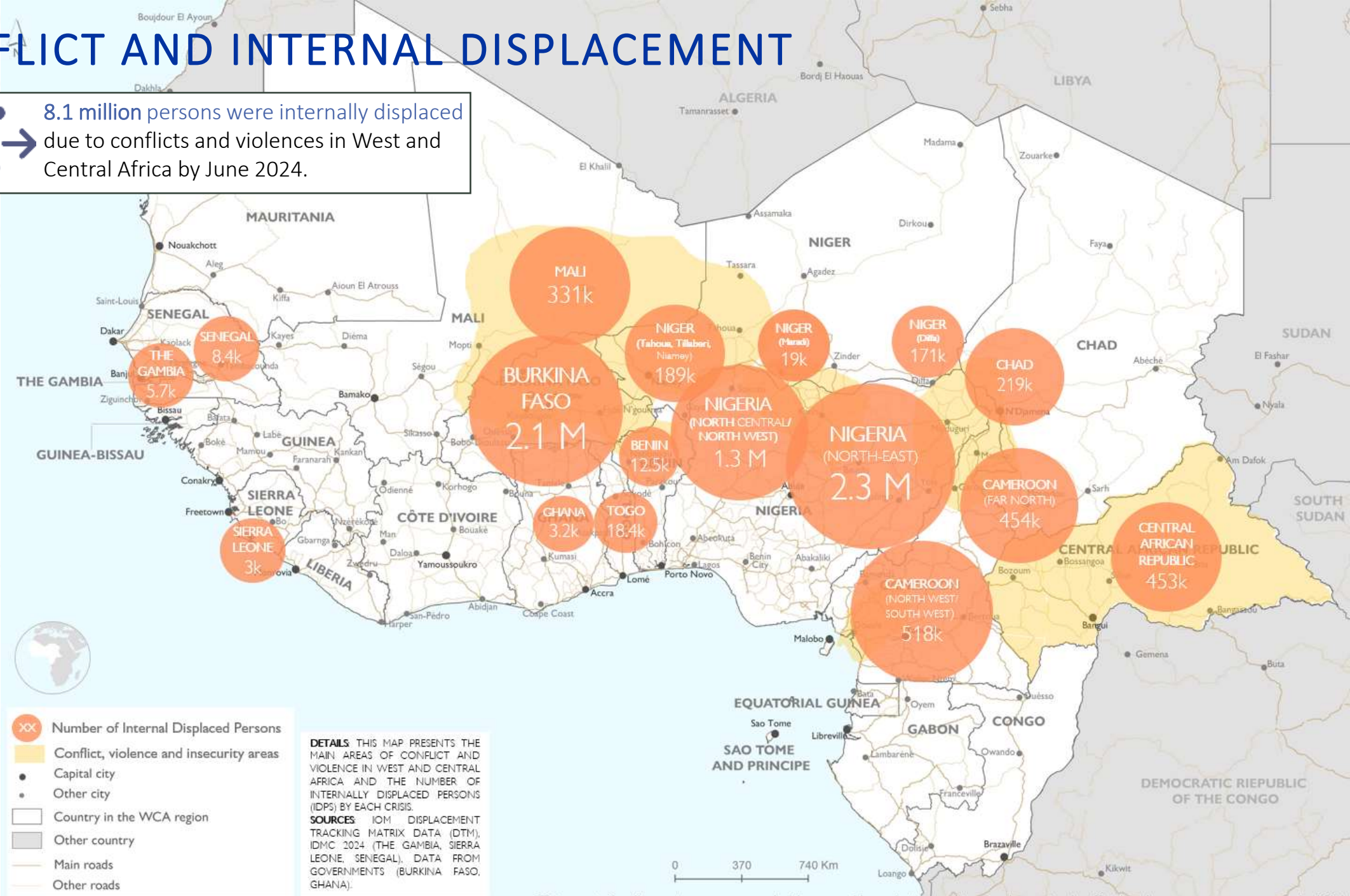
2024 (Jan-Aug)









26,230 arrivals
of migrants
from WCA

Senegal (6,798)
Guinea (6,717)
Mauritania (4,959)
Ghana (1,988)

CONFLICT AND INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

 8.1 million persons were internally displaced due to conflicts and violences in West and Central Africa by June 2024.



-  Number of Internal Displaced Persons
-  Conflict, violence and insecurity areas
-  Capital city
-  Other city
-  Country in the WCA region
-  Other country
-  Main roads
-  Other roads

DETAILS THIS MAP PRESENTS THE MAIN AREAS OF CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) BY EACH CRISIS.

SOURCES IOM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX DATA (DTM), IDMC 2024 (THE GAMBIA, SIERRA LEONE, SENEGAL), DATA FROM GOVERNMENTS (BURKINA FASO, GHANA).

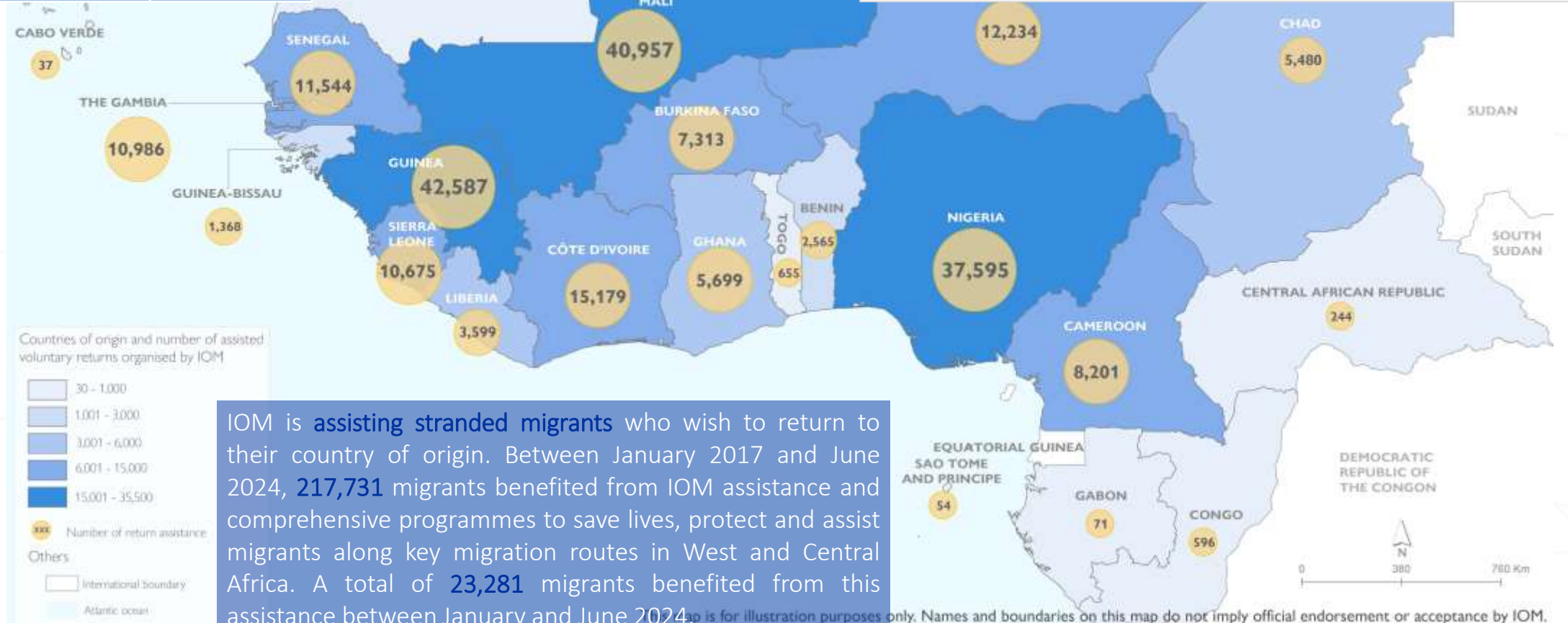
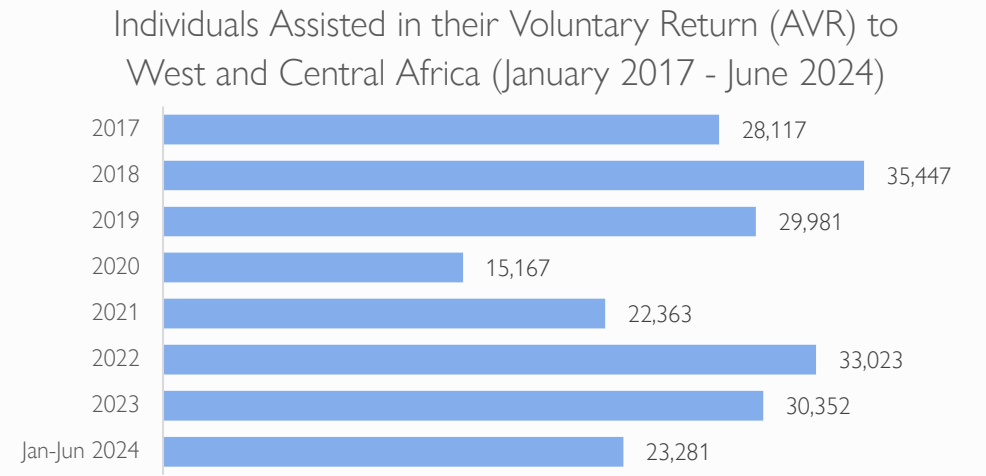
0 370 740 Km

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

RETURN ASSISTANCE

MAIN HOST COUNTRIES (JANUARY 2017 – JUNE 2024)

NIGER	92,270
LIBYA	64,312
MOROCCO	12,500
ALGERIA	11,343
TUNISIA	9,300



IOM is assisting stranded migrants who wish to return to their country of origin. Between January 2017 and June 2024, 217,731 migrants benefited from IOM assistance and comprehensive programmes to save lives, protect and assist migrants along key migration routes in West and Central Africa. A total of 23,281 migrants benefited from this assistance between January and June 2024.

Map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

RETURN ASSISTANCE BY IOM IN 2024 (Jan-Jun)

58% of assisted unaccompanied or separated children returned from North Africa.

67% of assisted victims of trafficking were from Nigeria.

42% of migrants with health-related needs returned from Libya.

Category	Female	Male	Total
Migrants assisted in their voluntary return	4,220	19,061	23,281
Assisted unaccompanied/separated children	63	138	201
Assisted victims of trafficking	417	96	513
Migrants with health-related needs assisted	248	687	935

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

GUINEA	22%
MALI	20%
NIGERIA	13%
OTHERS	45%

RETURNS FROM

NIGER	35%
LIBYA	18%
ALGERIA	17%
OTHERS	20%

EXPELLED MIGRANTS

11,189

is the total number of migrants expelled from Algeria back to the Niger side of the border between January and September 2024. In Jan-Sep 2023, they were 12,912.

21,473

Nigerien returned to Niger on official convoys from Algeria between January and September 2024. In Jan-Sep 2023, they were 11,916.

505

migrants expelled from Libya to Chad between January and September 2024. In Jan-Sep 2023, they were 741.



MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS TO EUROPE MAIN EVIDENCE AND FINDINGS

Land and sea routes along the Mediterranean,
the Western African Atlantic and the Western Balkan routes

EVIDENCE FROM 2024 - Latest updates and trends

Arrivals to Europe



207,200

until 31 December **2024**

292,985

in the whole **2023**

Dead and missing



3,445

until 31 December **2024**

4,064

in the whole **2023**

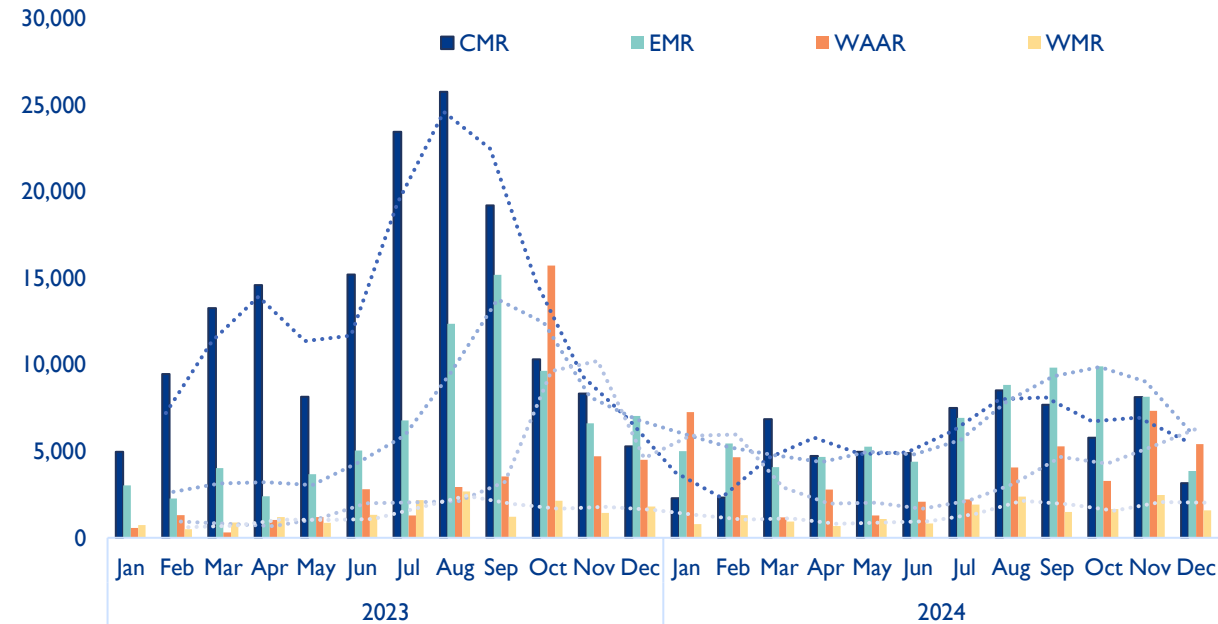
Overall migration to Europe has **decreased** in comparison to 2023 (-29%, same period).

Arrivals via the **CMR** have plummeted by nearly two thirds, compared to 2023.

The share of migrants travelling on the **WAAR** has increased by 17%, while arrivals on the **EMR** and **WMR** have remained stable (-2% and +1%, respectively, same period).

As of late October, **105,446** migrants **have been intercepted or returned** by or to Türkiye, Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, and Lebanon.

Seasonality of Trends



Arrivals to Europe by land and by sea – 2024

The number of migrants arriving by sea and by land between 01 January and 31 Dec 2024, compared to the same period in 2023. Data are subject to consolidation.

2024

1 Jan – 31 Dec

46,843
(+17%)

17,127
(+1%)

66,855
(-58%)

76,375
(-2%)

207,200
Arrivals
(-29%)

2023

1 Jan – 31 Dec

39,910

16,942

158,032

78,101

292,985
Arrivals

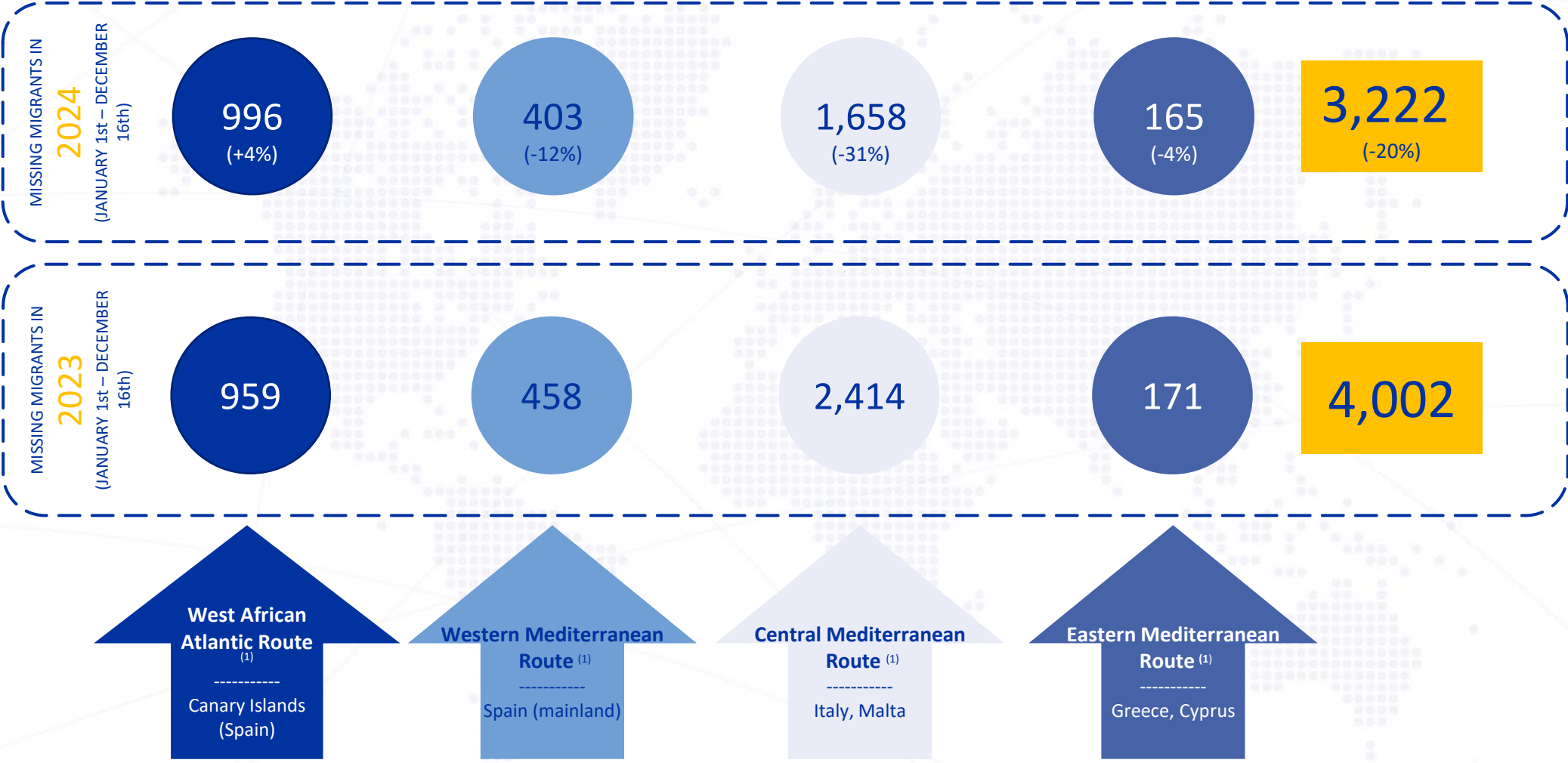
**West African
Atlantic Route**
Canary Islands of
Spain

**Western
Mediterranean Route**
Peninsular Spain, Balearic Islands
and Spanish autonomous cities
in North Africa

**Central
Mediterranean Route**
Italy, Malta

**Eastern
Mediterranean Route**
Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria

MISSING MIGRANTS



Between January and December 16th 2024, the number of migrants who died or disappeared along the Central Mediterranean decreased compared to the same period in 2023, but it increased in the West African Atlantic routes compared to the same period in 2023.

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

Italy top destination

66,617 arrivals as of 31 December 2024

Significant decrease of arrivals via the **CMR** in 2024 (-58%) compared to the same time period in 2023

Top Nationalities travelling on the CMR: **Syrian Arab Republic, Bangladesh and Tunisia**

Returned to North Africa in 2024:

- As of the end of 2024, over **21,791** migrants have been returned to **Libya**
- By the end of 2024, some **7,122** individuals were prevented from departure or rescued at sea by the **Algerian** authorities.

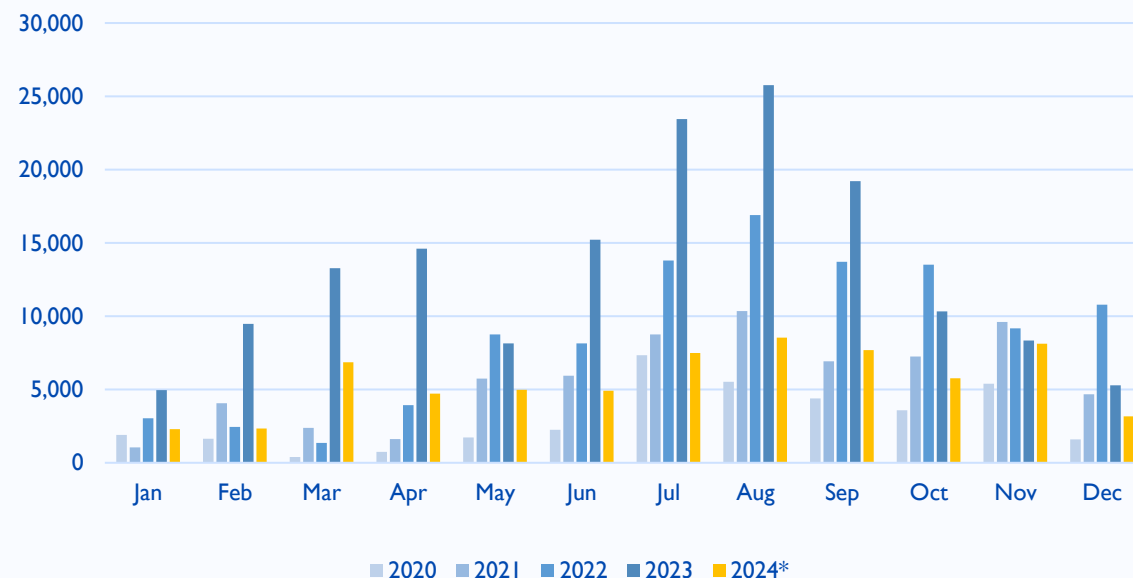
Fatalities at sea

- At least **1,703** migrants have drowned or went missing in the Central Mediterranean as of late December 2024 (MMP).

CMR – so far, **32%** of all arrivals in 2024

66,617 in 2024 (-58%)
compared to 31 December 2023

CMR



EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

Greece top destination

76,375 arrivals so far in 2024 on EMR

Of these, **80%** to Greece, **12%** to Bulgaria and **8%** to Cyprus

Top nationalities travelling on the EMR: **Syrian Arab Republic and Afghanistan**

Individuals returned or intercepted so far in 2024:

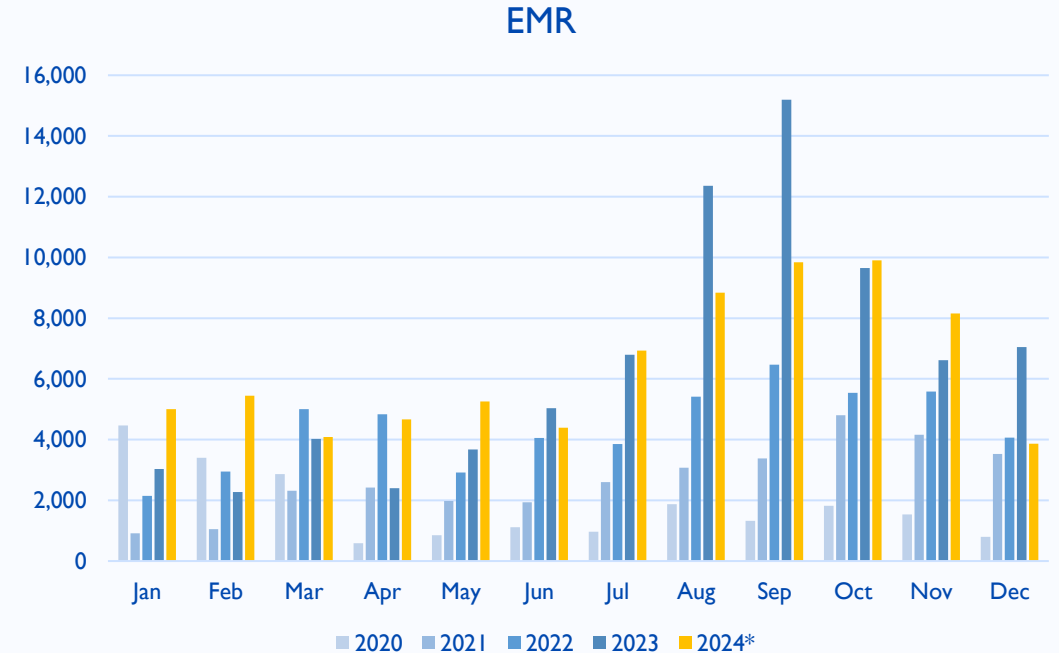
- **58,132** returned to **Türkiye** as of the end of 2024 (During the same time period in 2023, similar figures were observed).
- **1,169** returned to **Lebanon**

Fatalities at sea

- At least **173** migrants have drowned or went missing travelling on the EMR as of late 2024.

EMR – 37% of all arrivals in 2024

76,375 in 2024 (-2%)
compared to 31
December 2023



WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND WESTERN AFRICAN ATLANTIC ROUTES

Canaries

top arrival region in Spain

In 2024 so far, there were **63,970** arrivals in Spain. Of these, 46,843 were registered in the Canary Islands. Arrivals on the **WAAR** represent **22%** of all arrivals to Europe in 2024.

Top Nationalities travelling on the WMR: **Morocco and Algeria**

WAAR: **Mali, Senegal, Morocco and Mauritania**

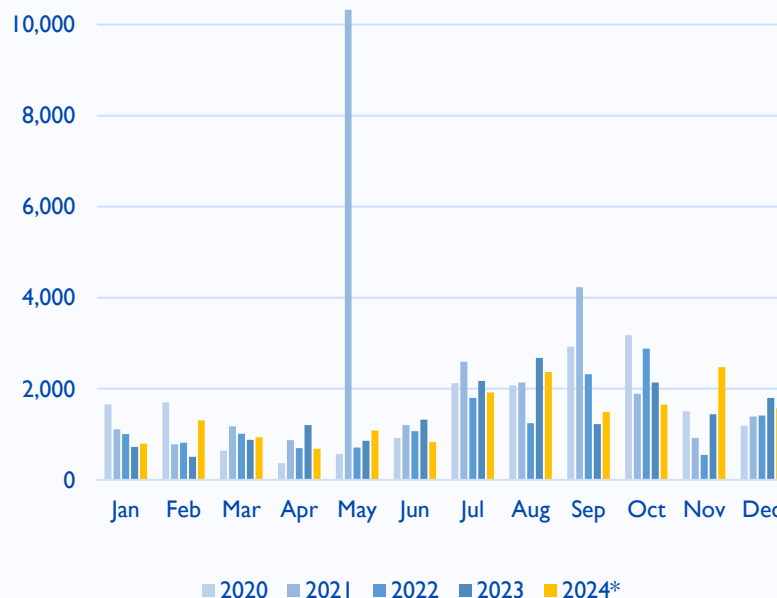
Fatalities at sea

- As of late 2024, at least **441** migrants have drowned or went missing on the WMR while **1,086** perished on the WAAR.

WMR – 8% of all arrivals in 2024 so far

17,127 in 2024 (+1%)
compared to 31 December 2023

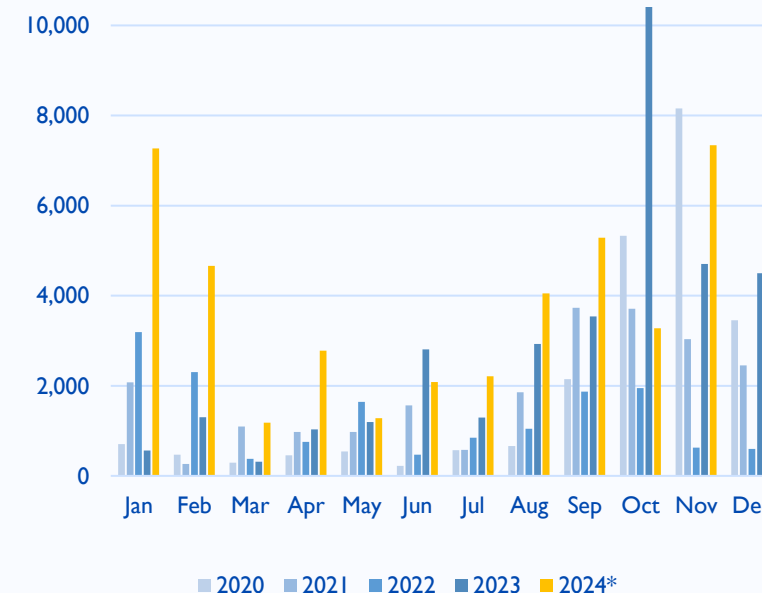
WMR



WAAR – 22% of all arrivals in 2024 so far

46,843 in 2024 (+17%)
compared to 31 December 2023

WAAR (Canaries)

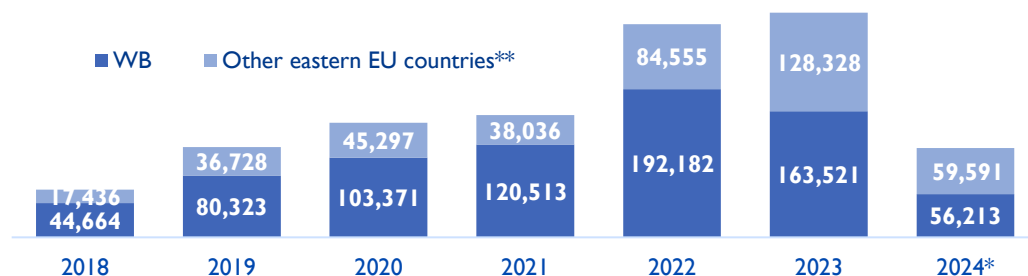


MIXED MIGRATION ROUTES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS



* The map is for illustrative purposes only. The locations and names shown and the designations used on the map do not imply endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.
 ** References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Total apprehensions/registrations reported by WB countries and other eastern EU countries, by year



Overall, as of 31 Dec 2024, **56,213** apprehensions and registrations of migrants and refugees were reported in the **6 Western Balkan countries**, with **39** reports of missing or dead individuals. DTM also monitors flow in **Slovenia, Croatia and Romania**.

- Transits through Serbia have decreased significantly. **Less than one fifth** in comparison to the same period in 2023)
- Possible double counting of the same persons across multiple borders
- Main nationalities: Afghanistan, Morocco, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Türkiye, and Bangladesh but with differences across countries (nationality data for Serbia is unavailable).

Data Sources: DTM Europe from national authorities, media, IOM's COs.

Data not final and subject to consolidation

* Croatia, Romania and Slovenia

MAIN NATIONALITIES IN 2024 – BY ROUTE AND TOTAL*

CMR		EMR		WAAR		WMR		TOTAL - Europe		Western Balkans	
Nationalities	%	Nationalities	%	Nationalities	%	Nationalities	%	Top 10 Nationalities	%	Nationalities	%
Bangladesh	21	Syrian Arab Rep.	43	Mali	36	Algeria	57	Syrian Arab Republic	22	Syrian Arab Rep.	36
Syrian Arab Rep.	19	Afghanistan	18	Senegal	19	Morocco	32	Mali	9	Afghanistan	18
Tunisia	13	Egypt	9	Unidentified	13	Mali	3	Bangladesh	8	Unidentified	10
Egypt	6	Unidentified	5	Morocco	9	Guinea	2	Afghanistan	7	Morocco	8
Guinea	5	Türkiye	4	Guinea	7	Syrian Arab Rep.	1	Egypt	5	Türkiye	6
Pakistan	4	Occ. Palestinian Territories	3	Mauritania	7	Sudan	1	Algeria	5	Egypt	4
Eritrea	3	Eritrea	3	The Gambia	4	Unidentified	1	Morocco	5	Pakistan	3
Sudan	3	Iraq	3	Côte d'Ivoire	2	Somalia	<1	Unidentified	5	Islam. Rep. of Iran	2
Mali	3	Somalia	2	Comoros	1	Bangladesh	<1	Tunisia	5	Iraq	2
The Gambia	2	Yemen	2	Pakistan	<1	Senegal	<1	Senegal	4	Bangladesh	1
Other	21	Others	8	Others	1	Others	3	Other	25	Other	10
TOTAL	100	TOTAL	100	TOTAL	100	TOTAL	100	TOTAL	100	TOTAL	100

*As some individuals have unknown nationalities, the share of top nationalities could be higher. The shares provided represent arrivals recorded between 1 January 2024 – 30 September 2024.

Data Sources: DTM Europe and Missing Migrant Project from national authorities, media, IOM's COs.

Data not final and subject to consolidation

A person wearing a blue vest with a logo on the back and blue jeans is walking away from the camera on a sandy path in a desert landscape. The path is flanked by sparse, dry, brown bushes and trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall scene conveys a sense of journey and resilience.

THANK YOU

Vasco Malta
vmalta@iom.int

Rabat Process Senior Officials Meeting

Porto, 29 January 2025

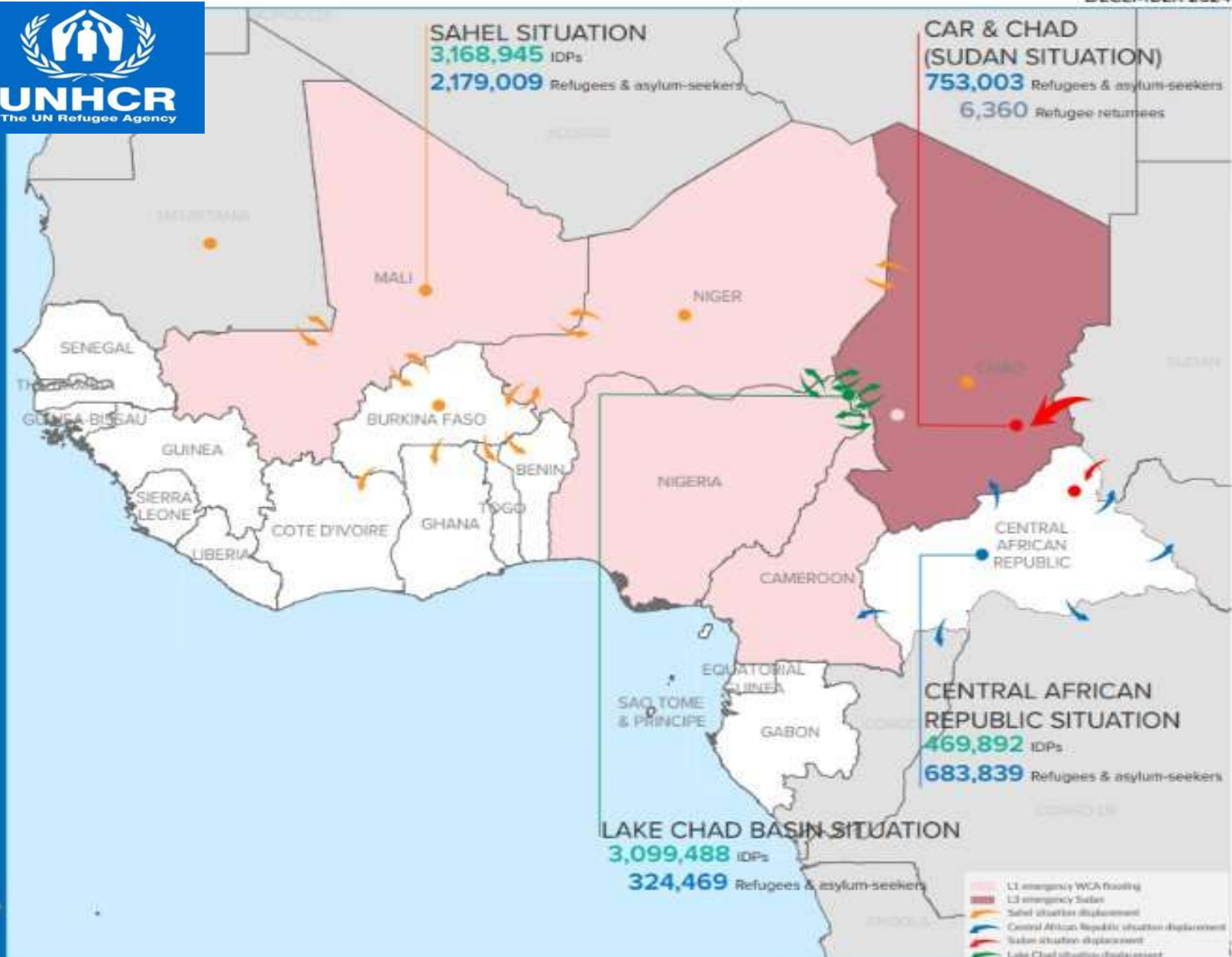
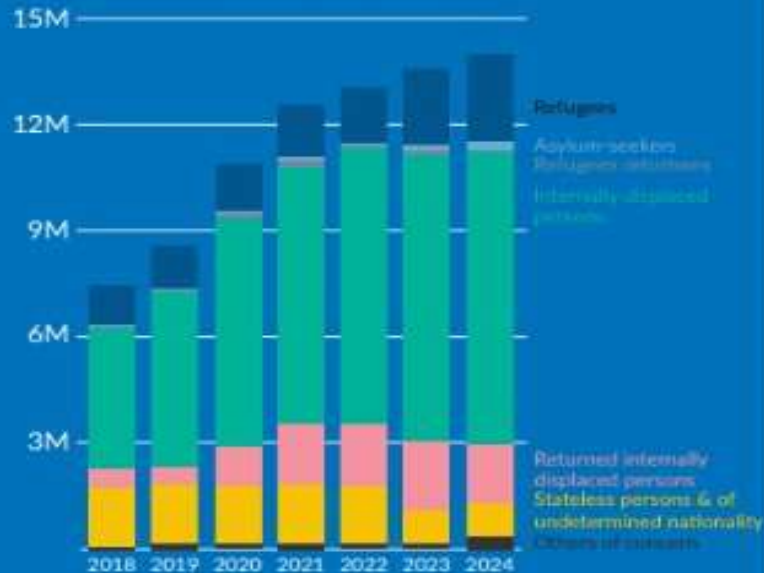
Patrick Eba, Deputy Director, Policy & Law Service,
UNHCR

Unprecedented levels of forced displacement

14.0 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PERSONS

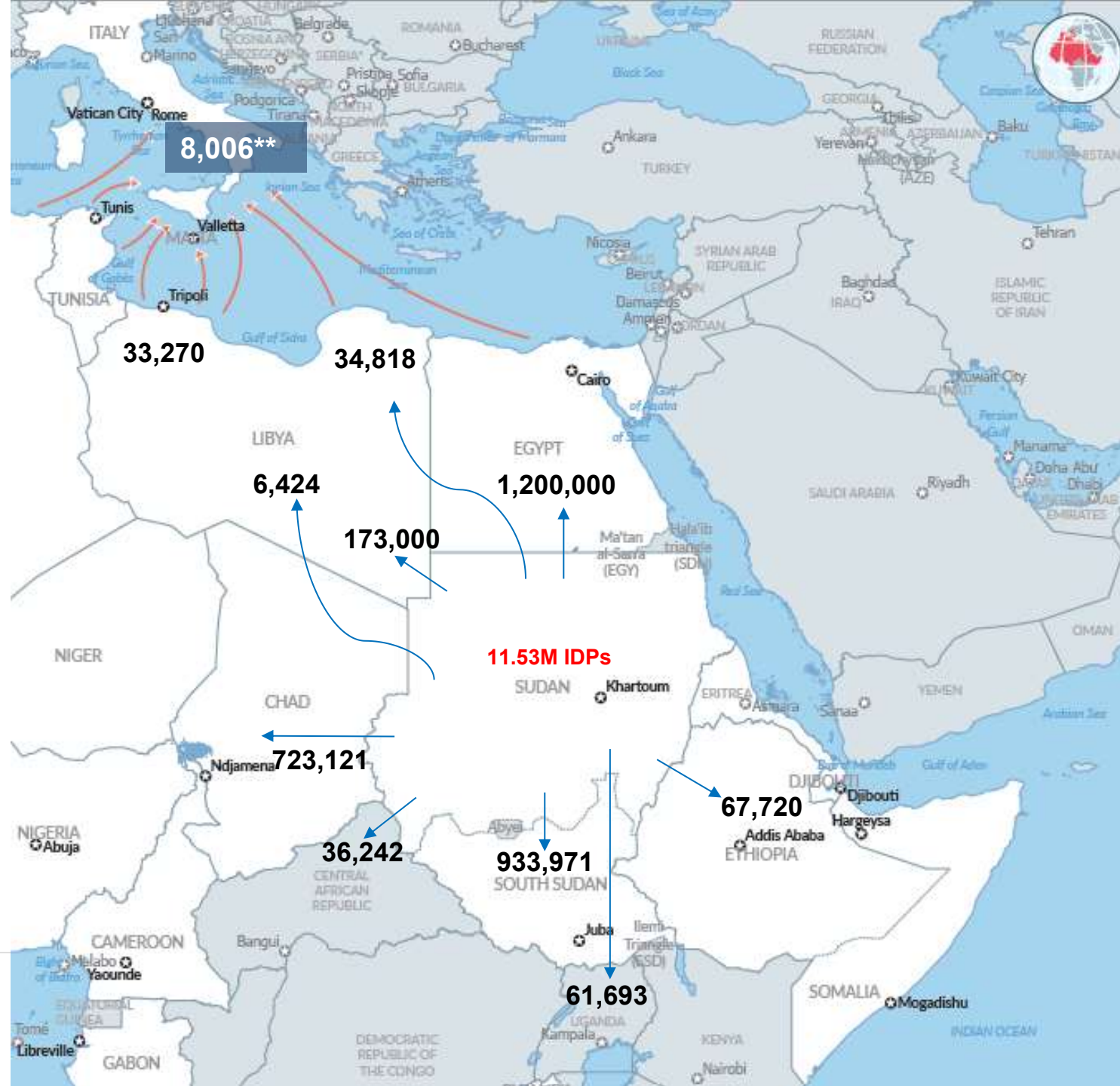


Populations trends
2018 - 2024



Sudan Situation

Figures updated as of 21 December 2024



Movements from Sudan



Sudanese arrivals to Italy through the CMR
Jan 23 – Nov 24



12.3M

Total Forcibly Displaced



8.8M

New IDPs in Sudan

Since the commencement of
the conflict in April 2023



264.1K

Self-Relocated Refugees in
Sudan



3.2M

Refugees, Asylum Seekers
and Returnees



706.3K

Refugee Returnees



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Country of Origin	Displacement in WCA and Sudan Situation		Number of arrivals in Europe <i>*source : Frontex</i>	
	IDPs <i>(as of 30 November)</i>	Refugees <i>(as of 30 November)</i>	2023	2024 <i>(as of 31 October)</i>
Burkina Faso	2,062,534	273,650	8,410	508
Cameroon	1,036,776	97,665	6,309	1,216
Central African Republic	465,499	472,457	50	26
Mali	378,363	368,000* (*estimate)	12,251	14,885
Nigeria	3,558,038	400,979	3146	945
Sudan	8,795,874	1,132,384	7,648	3,478

Climate change is a **vulnerability multiplier**, fueling protection needs and displacement



3 in 4 forcibly displaced & stateless persons are hosted in countries with high to extreme exposure to climate hazards.

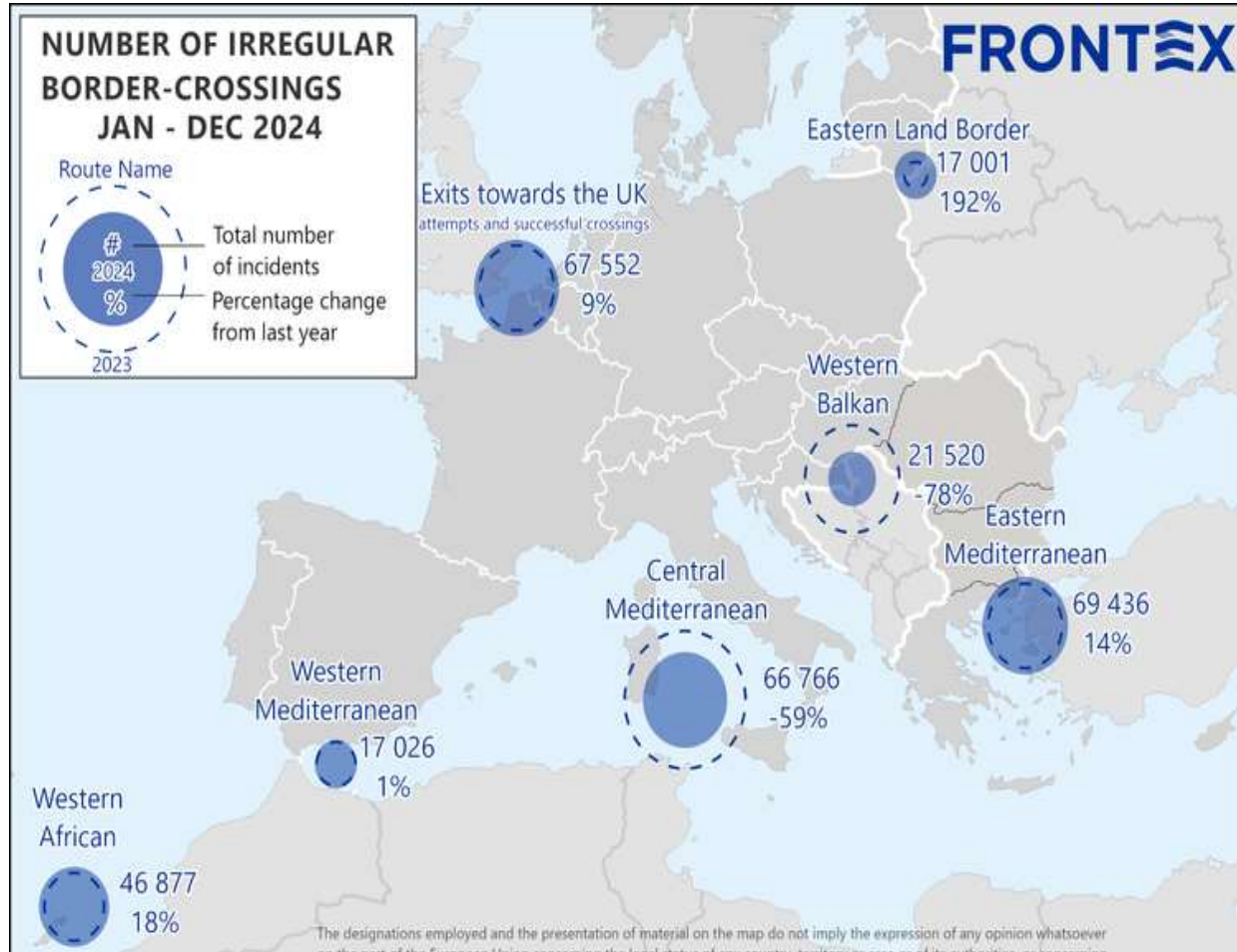


Source: Own estimations based on Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative Country Index (ND-GAIN) (2024), University of Notre Dame. Available at <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/>

Note: The ND-GAIN Country Index summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience.

Key shifts in mixed movements in 2024

- Irregular border crossings into the European Union dropped by **38% in 2024** (source: Frontex) – lowest level since 2021
- **Over 90% of movements in West & Central Africa are intra-regional** (source: IOM)
- Increased movements of Malian, Burkinabe, Sudanese nationals
- More sea departures from West Atlantic in 2024 & expulsions from Tunisia/Libya/Algeria affecting other countries



Key Shifts in Sea Departures

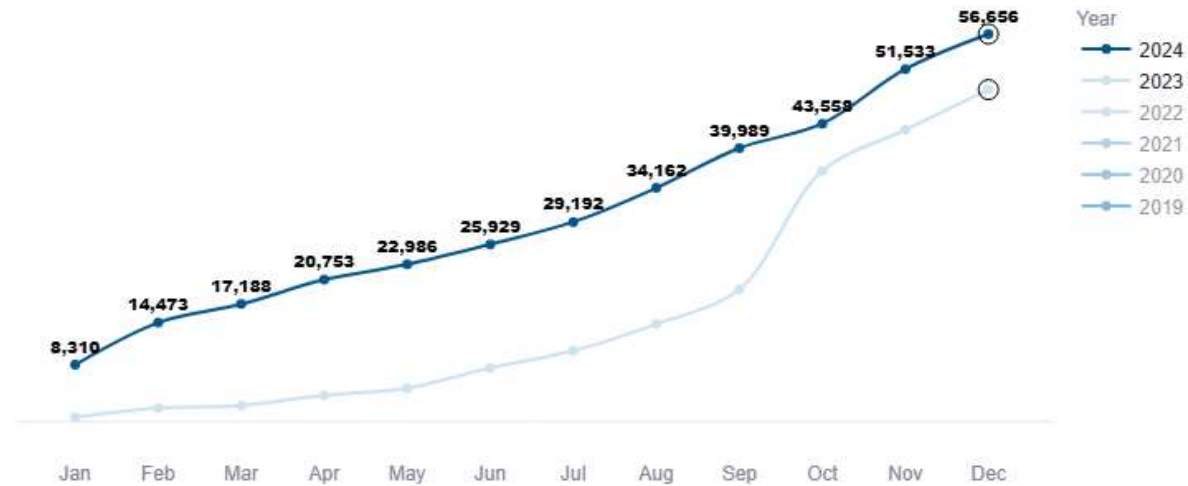
Central Med Route (CMR)

Cumulative Departures by Month and Year



North Wes Africa Maritime (NWA)

Cumulative Departures by Month and Year



▼ -45% change from 2023 in **Departures from Africa**

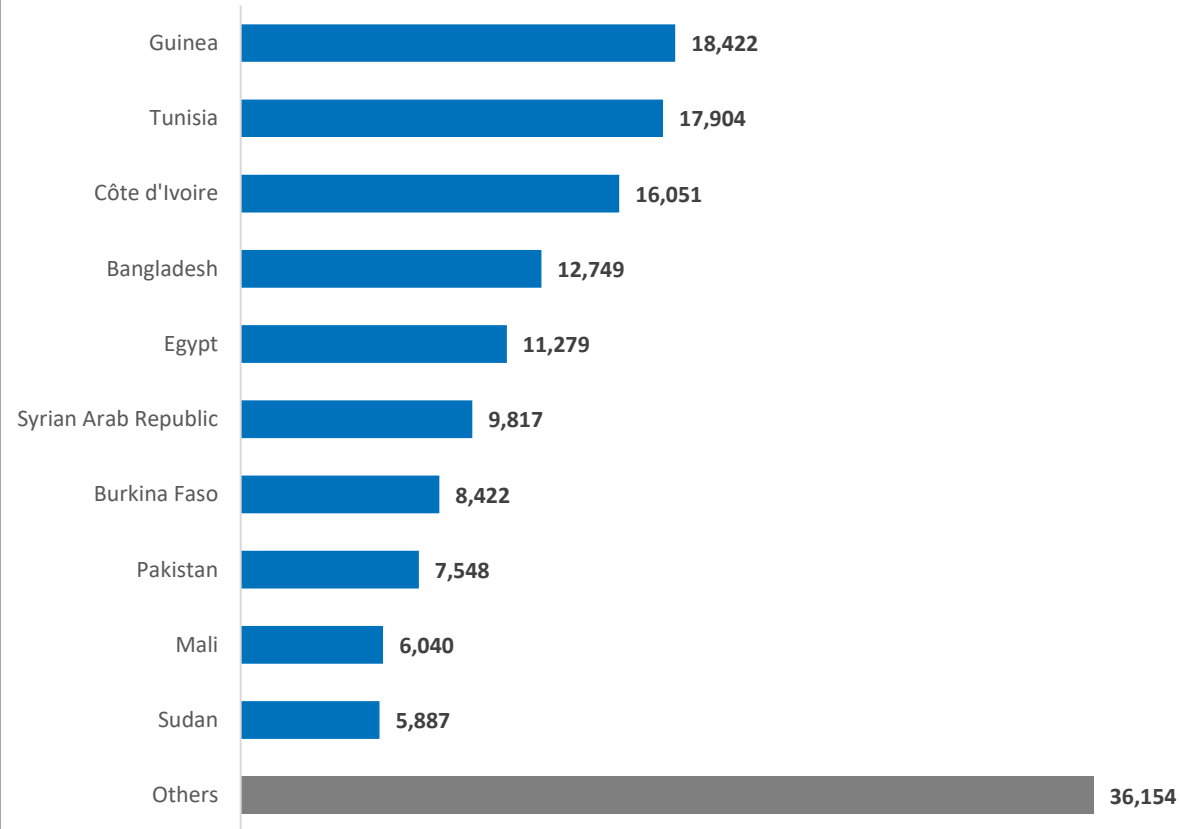
▲ 166% change from 2022 in **Departures from Africa**

▼ -58% change from 2023 in **Arrivals to Italy and Malta**

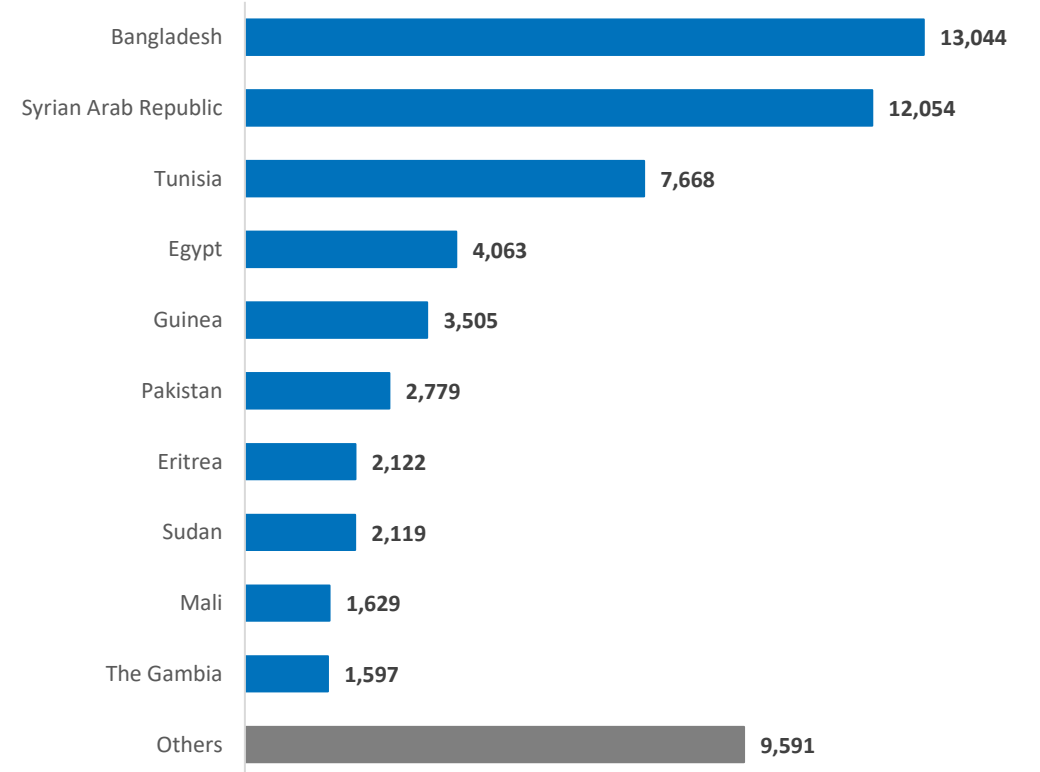
▲ 157% change from 2022 in **Arrivals to the Canaries**

Italy – Top 10 Nationalities Arriving 2023 Vs 2024

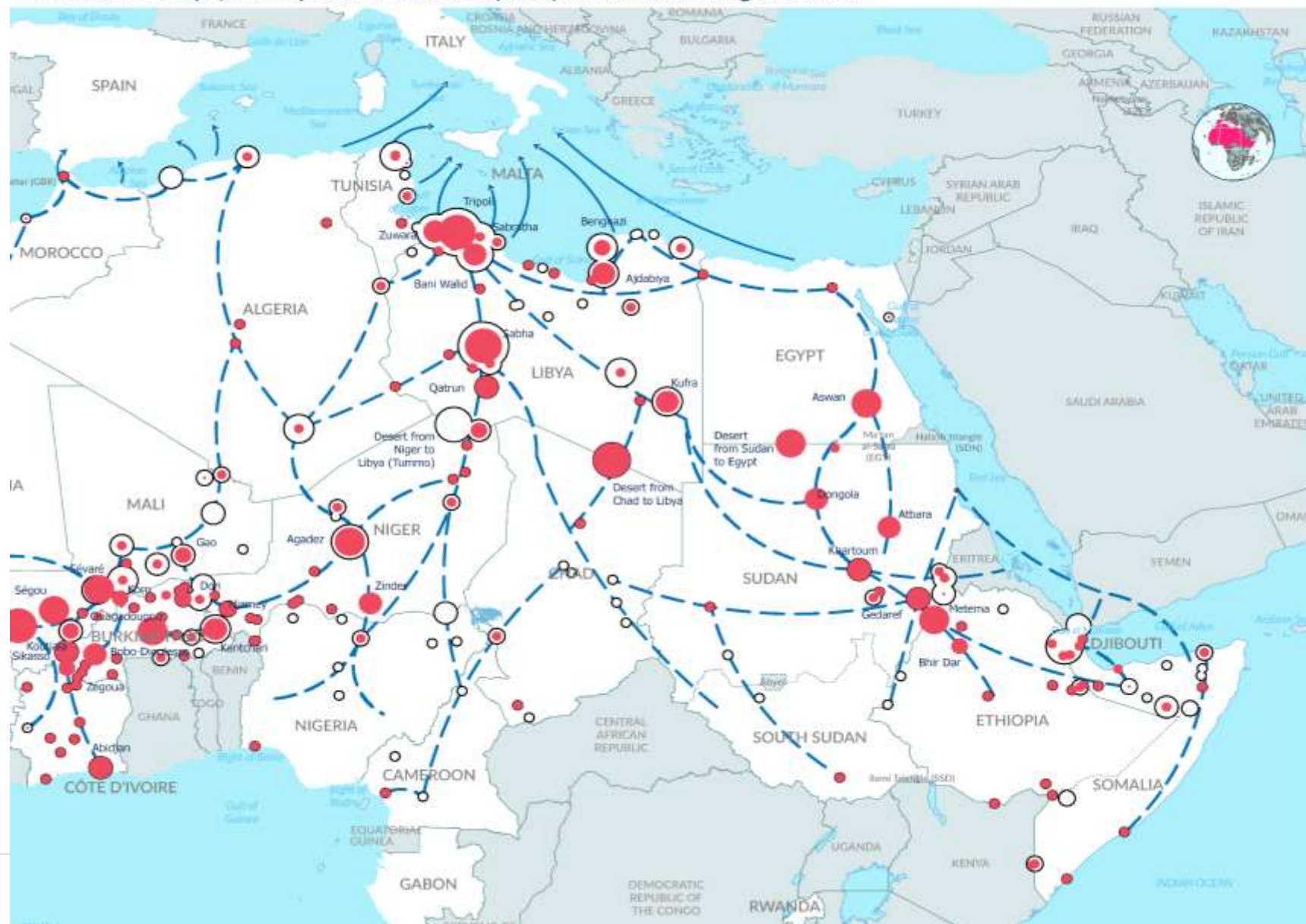
Top 10 Nationalities Arriving to Italy in 2023



Top 10 Nationalities Arriving to Italy in 2024
(Jan-Nov)



th Africa and Europe, and reported abuses and perception of Risks along the routes



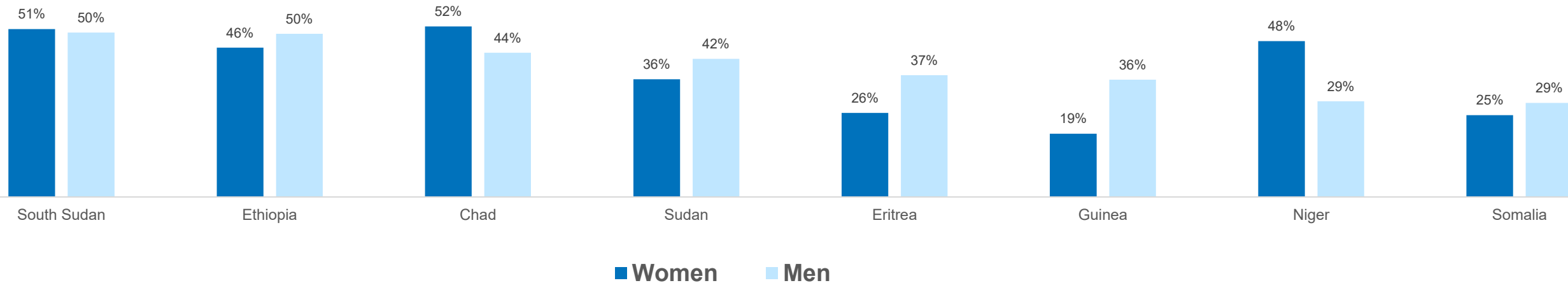
As refugees and migrants move further along the route, they experience more dangers and protection risks

Challenges:

- Shifting routes
- Missing/ unsustainable services

Although two thirds of the people on the move are young men, the journey is often **more dangerous for women**

Percentage of people interviewed in African countries along the route who have personally experienced physical violence during their journey

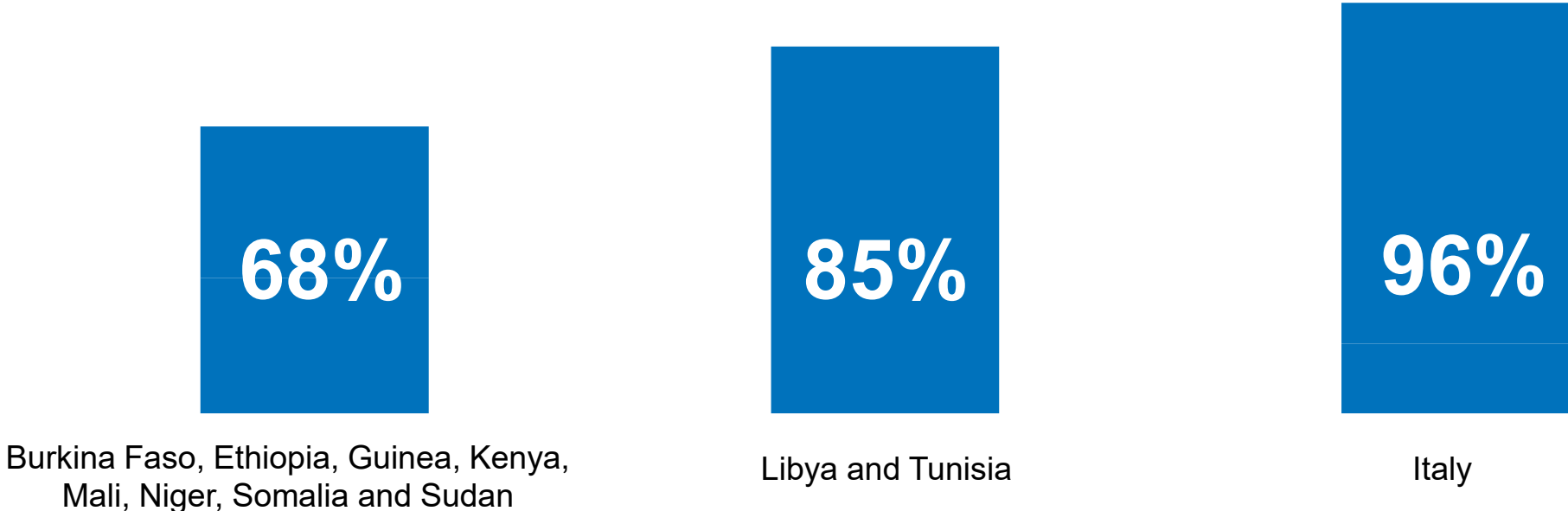


Sources:

- Own estimations using Mixed Migration Center (2024) .4Mi data covers 9 African countries along the route. Data collected between January 2023 and June 2024. Countries listed are in the 20 countries with the largest samples in the data

Most refugee, asylum seeker and migrant **children** are exponentially exposed to dangers and risks along the routes

Percentage of refugee and migrant **children** identified as **highly or very highly exposed to dangers and risks on their journeys**
(by location of interview)



Source:
• Own analysis using Mixed Migration Center (2024) 4Mi data. Available at <https://mixedmigration.org/4mi/4mi-interactive/data-on-mixed-migration/>.

Notes:
• 4Mi collects data from adults on the move that are away from their country of departure on mixed migration routes, irrespective of status, though often engaging (at least for parts of the journey) in irregular migration.
• Risks include: physical violence, kidnapping, death, sexual violence robbery, trafficking, detention, etc.

A blue-tinted photograph of a busy street scene. In the foreground, several people are walking away from the camera. One person on the left is wearing a brown jacket and a large white backpack. Next to them is a person in a dark jacket and a white turban. In the center, a person in a light blue jacket is walking. To the right, a person in a dark jacket and a white cap is walking, and further right, a person in a white jacket is walking. The background shows a street with buildings and parked cars. The overall scene is a busy urban environment.

Route-based approach as a response

Route Based Approach

Pillar 1

Protection sensitive entry and admission

Pillar 2

Strengthening asylum systems for refugees and rights-focused migration management

Pillar 3

Addressing immediate protection & assistance needs and comprehensively addressing trafficking and smuggling

Pillar 4

Protection and rights centered options in countries (inclusion & development)

Pillar 5

Safe, legal and complementary pathways

Pillar 6

Safe and dignified return, readmission and reintegration of migrants and voluntary repatriation of refugees

Enablers and cross-cutting elements:

Data, analysis, research and route mapping

Partnerships & Collaboration

Advocacy for protection and rights, leveraging convening power

Strengthened engagement with communities & people on the move

Resource mobilization

Capacity development

Rationale for a Route-Based Approach

- Beyond programmatic country approach - focus on the **whole route**
- Beyond preconceptions - better **understanding of movement patterns**, trends and data
- Beyond piecemeal responses - comprehensive, **holistic approaches**
- Beyond humanitarian response - **development, peace** interventions to address root causes
- Beyond traditional partnerships: **Government-centered, support to national systems**

Applying the route-based approach on specific routes: the case of West Africa

Strengthening asylum systems in West and Central Africa

- Regional dialogue (23-25 Sep 2024) on strengthening asylum systems (20 countries attended)
- Need for stronger asylum institutions
- Shift towards sustainable and development approaches
- Importance of differentiated approaches, including prima facie to ensure effective protection

Initial phase of implementation

Sahel/Central Mediterranean Route

Chad and Niger: Multi-Purpose-Hubs and mobile teams along key routes to offer local protection and solutions alternatives ; Safe houses for survivors of trafficking

Chad: Mixed movement scholarships

Burkina Faso & Mali : Mobile teams

Chad, Niger & Mali : Enhanced Communication with Communities

Western Atlantic Route

Senegal and Gambia: Strengthening asylum systems and identification of persons in the move and in need of international needs (including through community based mechanisms).

Full Scale Operationalization in West & Central Africa 2024 and beyond

September 2024: **Regional workshop** with the Governements of Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal

– 5 governments, 5 partners (IOM, UNICEF, ICRC, IFRC and CARITAS), 5 locations per country

Identification of **key routes, key locations, key services** (mapping of existing/missing services)

Ongoing: national level operationalization (**desk review, field** visits under Gov leadership and with partners, **development of workplans**)

Donor interest and engagement (Italy, Sweden, EU, Spain...)

Phased approach: Phase 2 Gulf of Guinea; Phase 3 Central Africa



**Recommendations for
Priorities, with a focus on the
Rabat Process**

Addressing root causes and specific groups

- Focus on addressing root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement
- Focus on special groups – UASC; women and GBV victims; missing migrants and refugees
- Step up response to trafficking and smuggling
- Enhance data and evidence with a Route-Based-Approach



Expanding legal pathways for refugees and for migrants

- Enhance access to regular migration and mobility, promoting the access of refugees to regular pathways of migration:
 - Integrate refugees into skills, labour, mobility programmes
 - Role of Multi-purpose hubs/integrated services
 - Focus on documentation
- Enhance safe return, including from transit countries, readmission, the sustainable reintegration of migrants.



LATEST UNODC RESEARCH ON SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Dr. Claire Healy, Coordinator of UNODC
Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants

Rabat Process Senior Officials Meeting

Porto – 29 January 2024

**Session 1 Latest migration-related
developments in the Rabat Process region**



Photo credit: UNODC Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants
www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/som-observatory.html

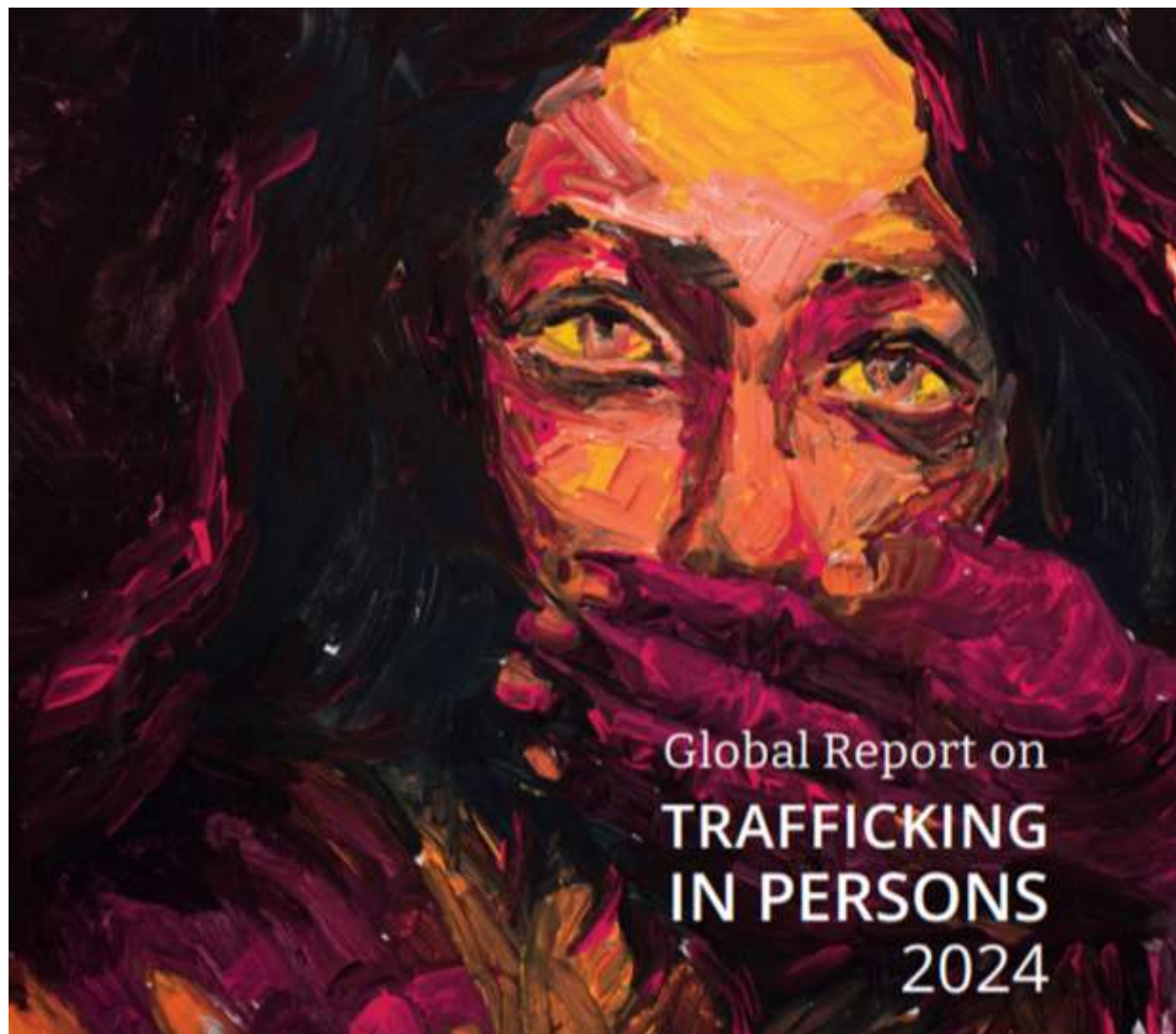
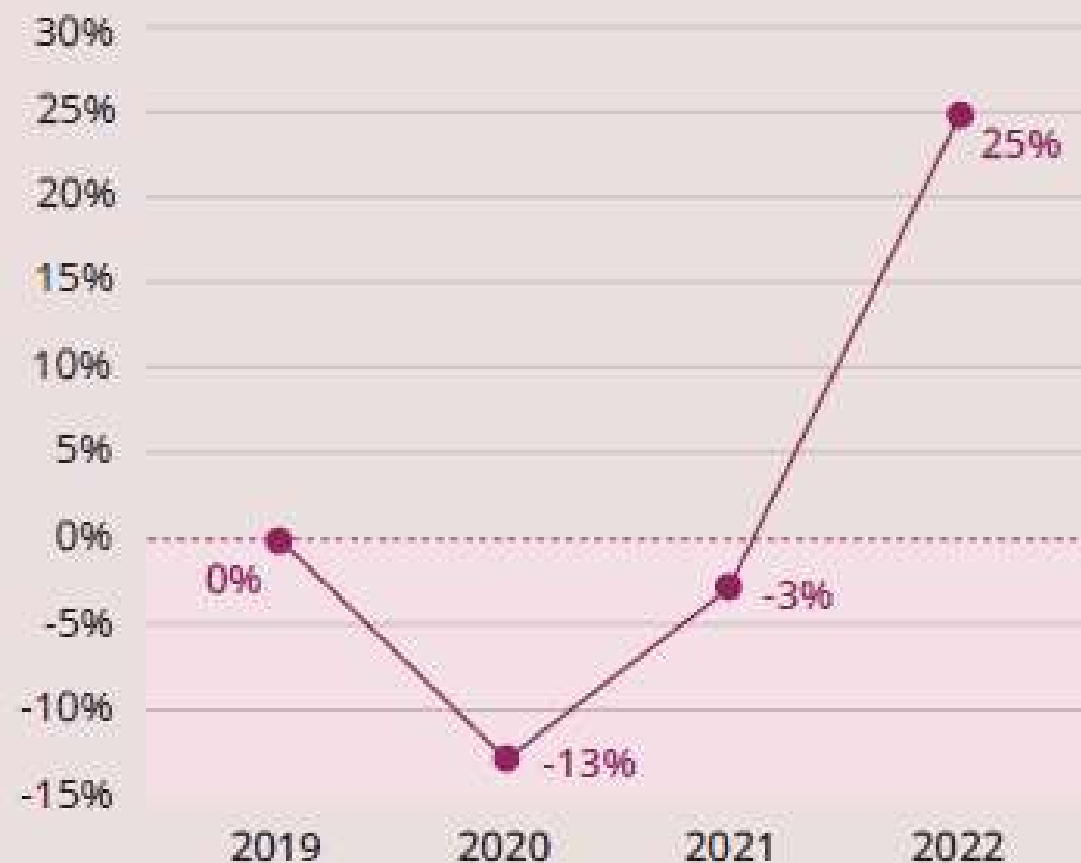


Fig. 1 Global trend of detection rates, base year 2019*

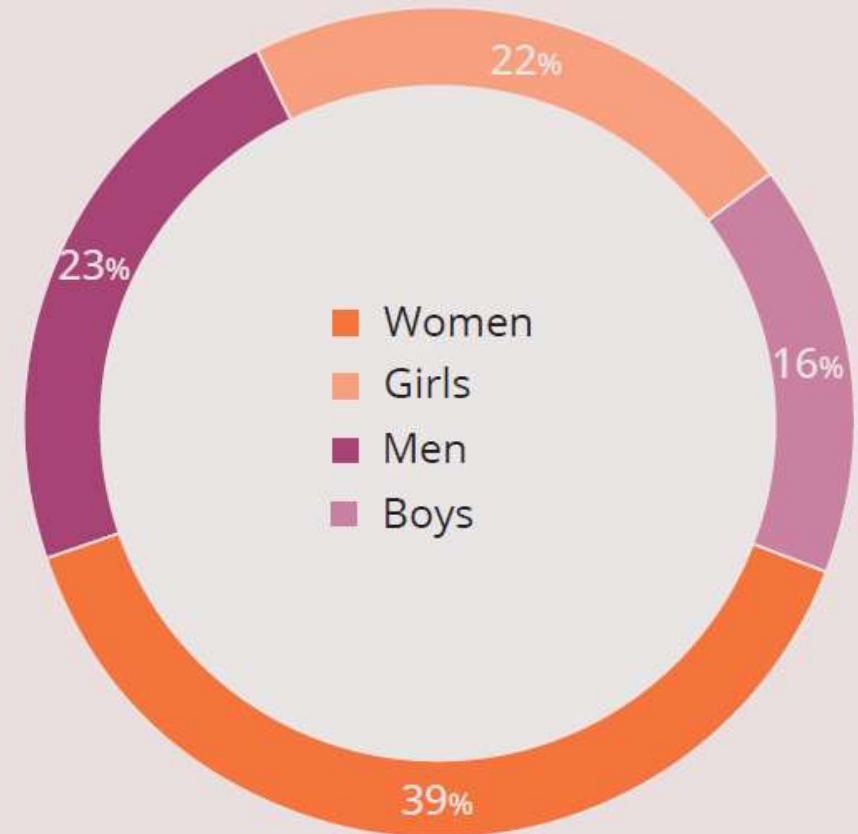




Child victims increasingly identified

- Global identification of trafficked children **increased 31%** in 2022 compared to 2019
- Especially **trafficked girls** in North Africa and Middle East, Americas, Europe, East Asia and Pacific
- More victims identified in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly children.

Fig. 9 Share of detected victims of trafficking, by age group and sex, 2022 (or most recent)*

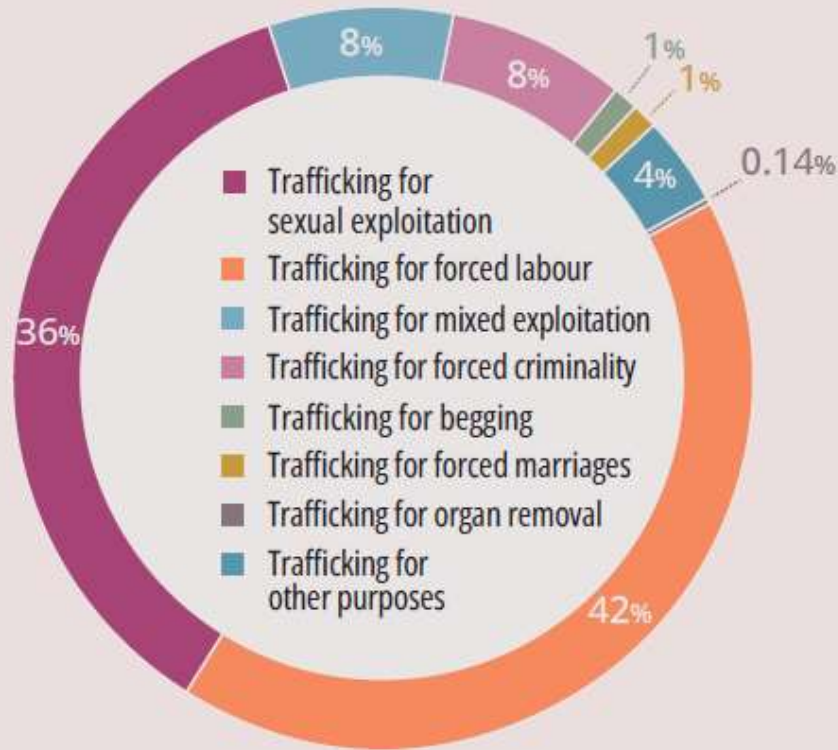


Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



Trafficking for forced labour is increasingly identified

Fig. 7 Share of detected victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation, 2022 (or most recent)*



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

* Based on information from some 65,339 victims detected.

Fig. 8 Share of convictions for trafficking in persons, by form of exploitation, 2022 (or more recent)*



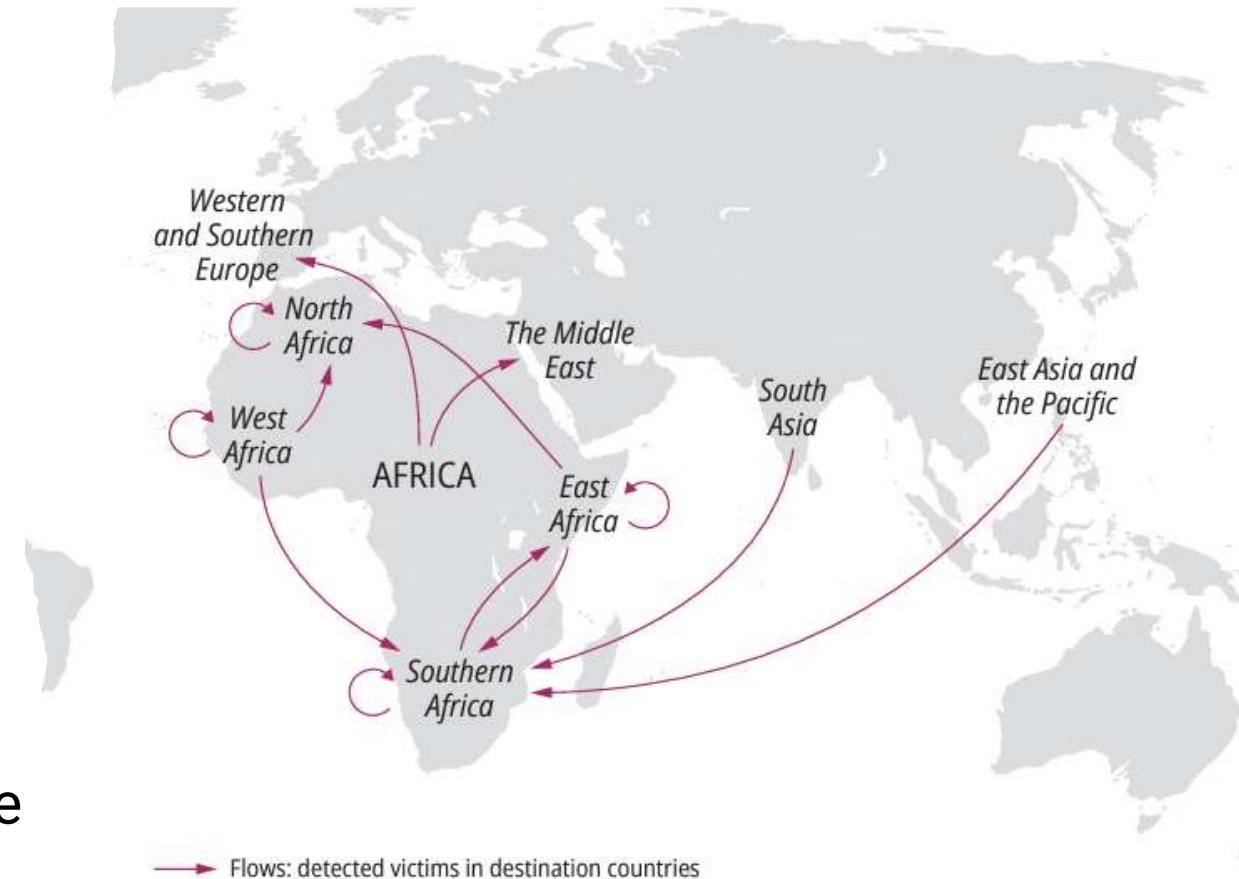
Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

* Based on information from some 3,969 persons convicted.



Increasing complexity of trafficking routes

- Most victims trafficked within national borders (58%)
- Victims from Sub-Saharan Africa identified in 60 countries in Africa, Middle East, Europe, East Asia
- Cross-border trafficking identified particularly in Western and Southern Europe and Middle East
- 1/3 of cross-border victims identified globally are Africans



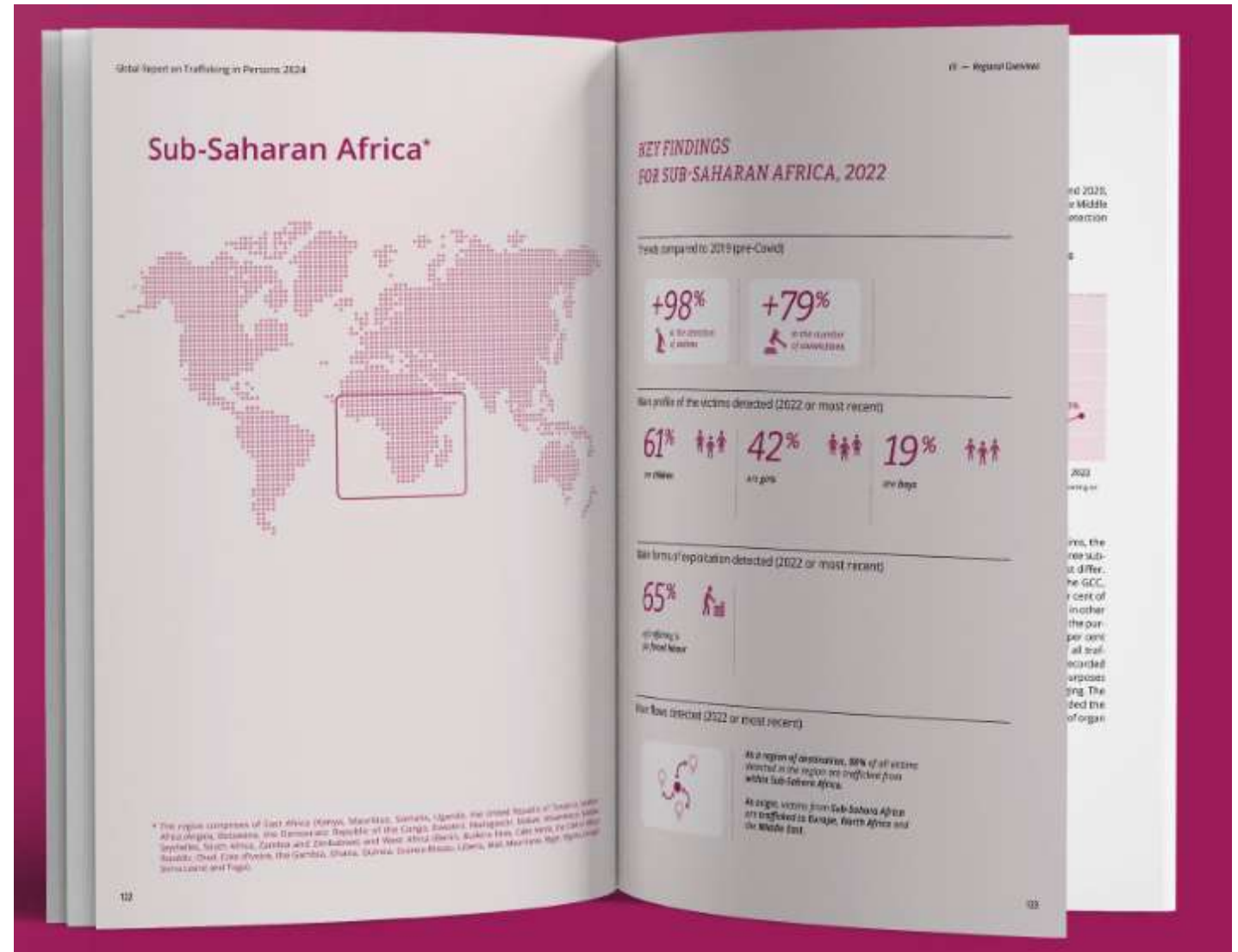


United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

Special Chapter: Trafficking in, to and from Africa

Data from 40/54 African
Member States covered

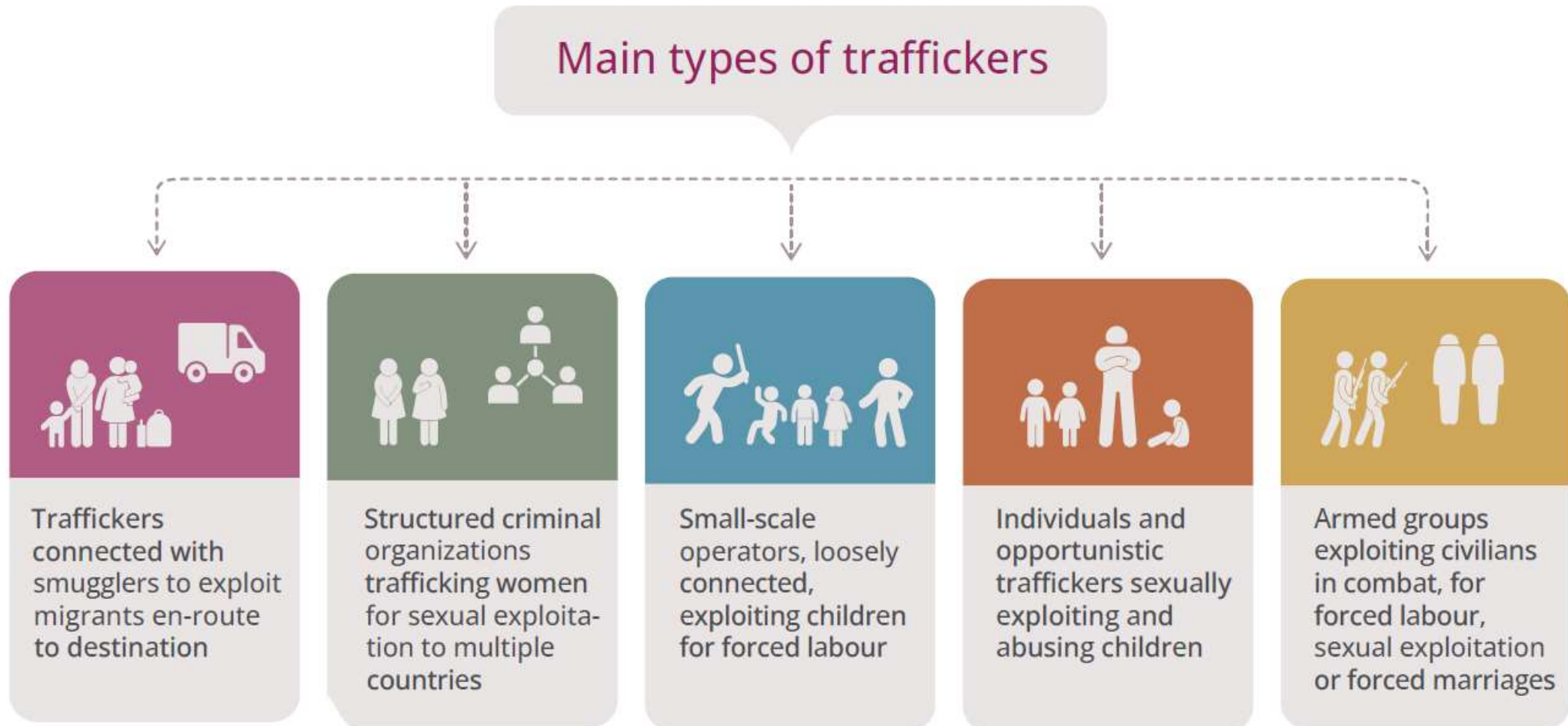
Through partnership and
joint activities with AU,
ECOWAS, SADC, UNDPPO &
IOM





TYPE OF TRAFFICKERS' STRUCTURE REPORTED IN AFRICA

Main types of traffickers

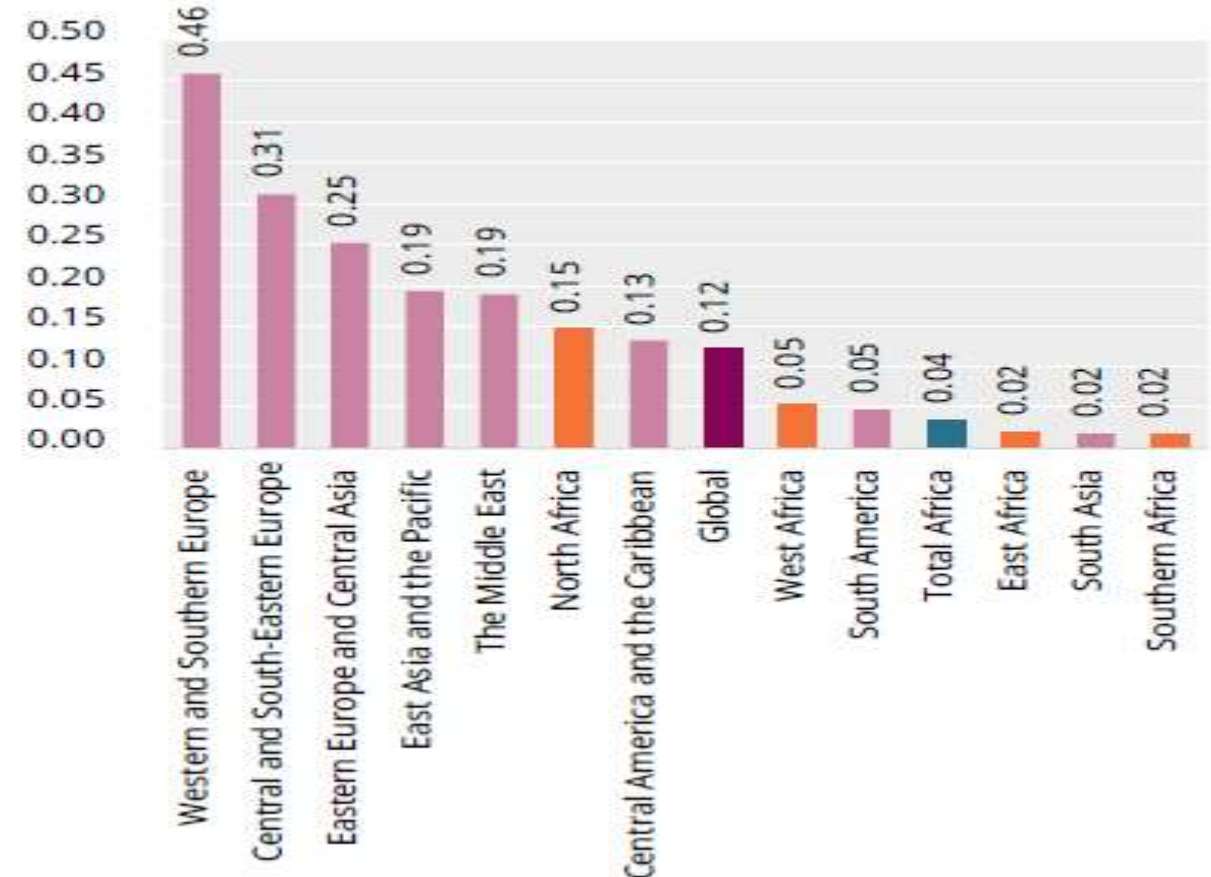




Criminal justice responses to trafficking

- Significant increases in the number of trafficking convictions
- **Total number of convictions** remains limited compared to **other regions**
- Criminal justice response in Africa focuses mainly on small scale operators and non-organized traffickers

Fig. 24 Persons convicted per 100,000 population, by region, 2022 (or most recent)



Latest trends from the UNODC Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

SOM
OBSERVATORY
on Smuggling of Migrants

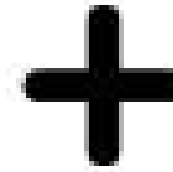
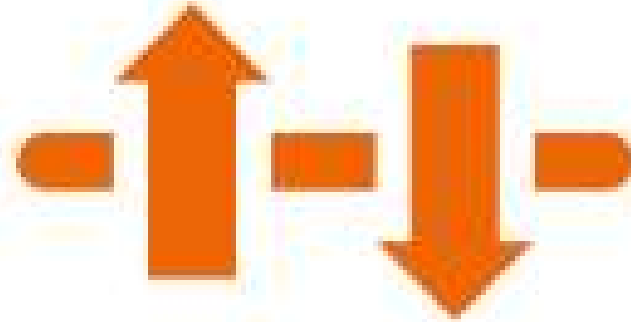
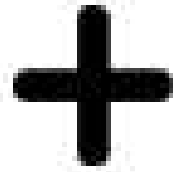


Photo courtesy of the Spanish Police – UNODC Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants

SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



**FACILITATION OF IRREGULAR ENTRY
INTO A COUNTRY FOR PROFIT**

How the research is carried out

10,025 surveys with migrants

([Burkina Faso](#), [Indonesia](#), [Libya](#), [Malaysia](#), [Mali](#), [Niger](#), [Thailand](#), [Tunisia](#));



326 key informant interviews

([Afghanistan](#), [Australia](#), [Bangladesh](#), [Bosnia i Herzegovina](#), [Burkina Faso](#), [Indonesia](#), [Iraq](#), [Italy](#), [Libya](#), [Malaysia](#), [Mali](#), [Morocco](#), [Netherlands](#), [Niger](#), [Nigeria](#), [Pakistan](#), [Spain](#), [Thailand](#), [Tunisia](#));

149 in-depth interviews with migrants

([Indonesia](#), [Malaysia](#), [Morocco](#), [Nigeria](#), [Spain](#) and [Thailand](#));

500 interviews with migrant

smugglers ([Burkina Faso](#), [Libya](#), [Mali](#),
[Niger](#) and [Tunisia](#))



Smuggler profiles and modus operandi

1. Different actors, from highly organized to low-level individual perpetrators.
2. Crime groups, militias, terrorist groups, **profit indirectly** from smuggling by extorting fees
3. Most prosecutions focus on **low-level actors**.
4. Smuggling fees mostly paid in **cash, also formal & informal money transfer (e.g. *hawala*)**
5. 5. Smuggling drivers: (1) **impunity**, (2) **corruption**, (3) **insecurity**, (4) **absence of legal migration alternatives (conflict/climate)**

Boat Drivers and Smuggling Networks: New UNODC Research Questions Assumptions about Smuggling of Migrants by Sea



Senegalese Cajuco, Canary Islands (Spain), 2021. Source: © Spanish National Police.

Canary Islands (Spain), 9 August 2022 - In the final months of 2020, when the world was still reeling from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of smuggled people arrived on the Canary Islands of Spain, in numbers not seen on the islands for over a decade.

A crackdown on migrant smuggling on certain sea routes can lead to increased use of alternative routes, worsening the risks for people who are smuggled by sea. New research by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) [Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants](#) shows that an increasing number of West and North African people are smuggled by sea from the [Northwest African coast](#) - Senegal, The Gambia, Mauritania, Morocco, and the Disputed Territories of Western Sahara - to the Canary Islands. The research links this increase to a decrease in smuggling from northern Morocco to mainland Spain on the [Western Mediterranean Route](#).

Smuggling of Migrants

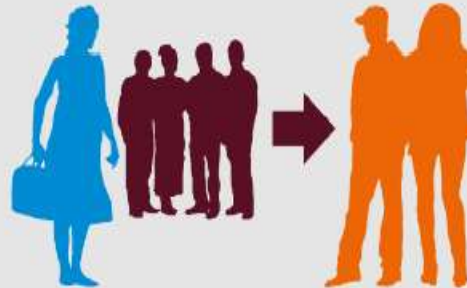
First contact with smugglers

FIRST CONTACT OF MIGRANTS WITH SMUGGLERS

Migrants and refugees approach smugglers, not *vice versa*

MET THE SMUGGLER
THROUGH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

48%



APPROACHED THE SMUGGLER
THEMSELVES

38%



APPROACHED BY
THE SMUGGLER

14%



BY PHONE



IN PERSON



ON SOCIAL



IN PERSON



BY PHONE

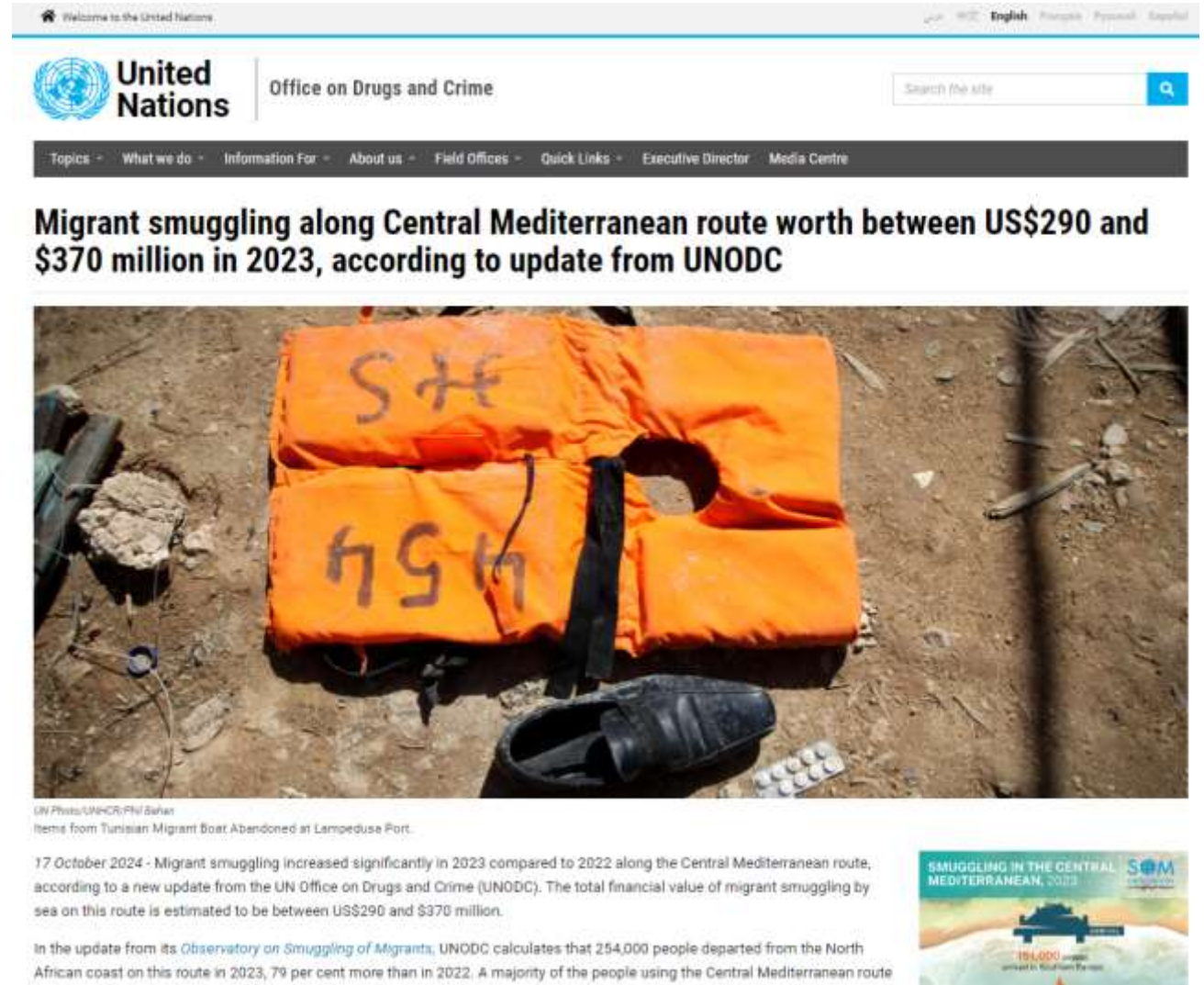


ON SOCIAL

Update on Central Mediterranean route

Smuggling **increased** significantly in 2023 compared to 2022 on Central Med, **decreased** again in 2024


Total financial value of smuggling by sea on this route in 2023 estimated **US\$290 - \$370 million**



UN Photo/UNHCR/Phil Sultan
Items from Tunisian Migrant Boat Abandoned at Lampeduse Port.

17 October 2024 - Migrant smuggling increased significantly in 2023 compared to 2022 along the Central Mediterranean route, according to a new update from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The total financial value of migrant smuggling by sea on this route is estimated to be between US\$290 and \$370 million.

In the update from its *Observatory on Smuggling of Migrants*, UNODC calculates that 254,000 people departed from the North African coast on this route in 2023, 79 per cent more than in 2022. A majority of the people using the Central Mediterranean route



How many people were smuggled?

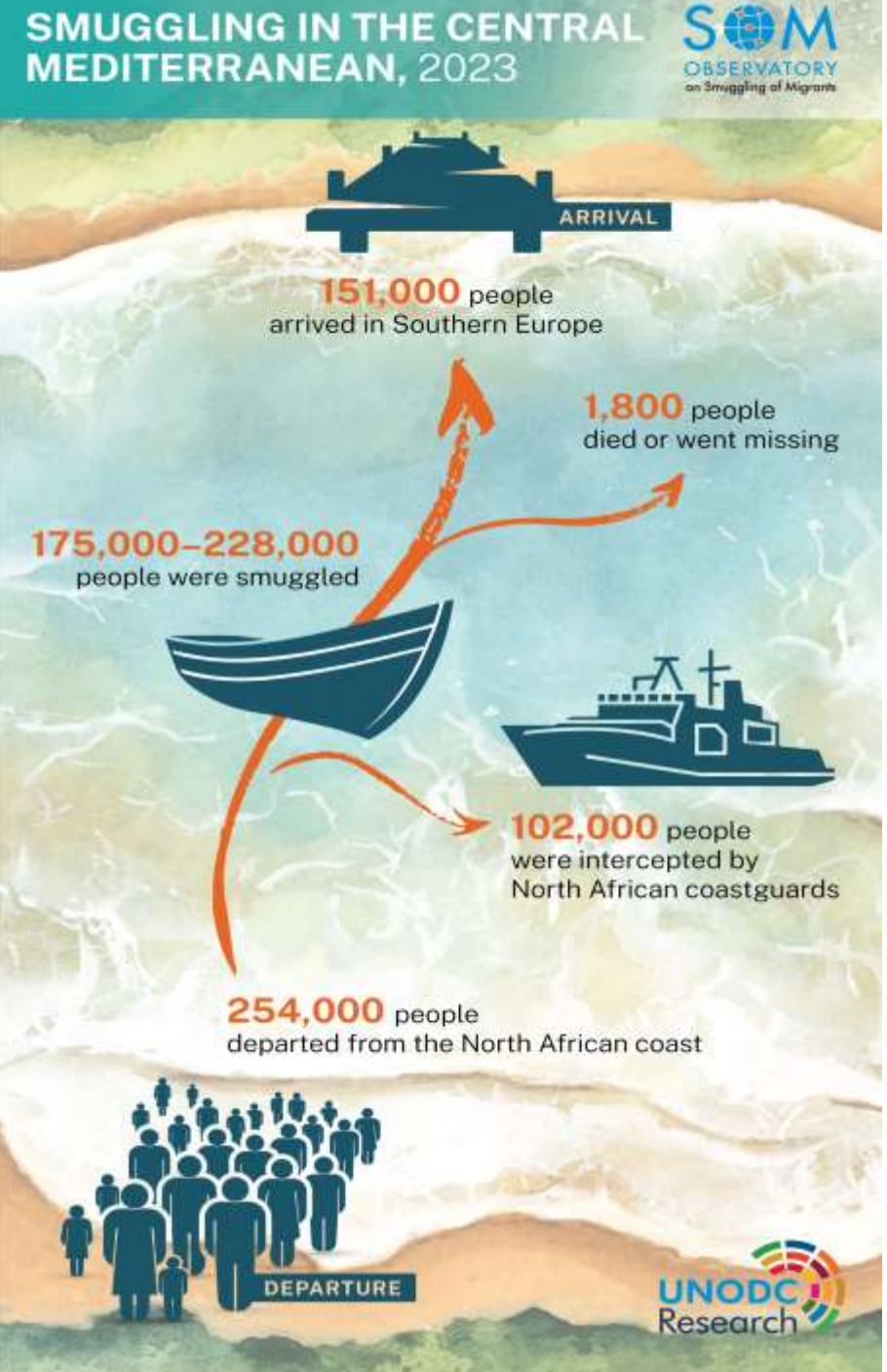
Arrivals

Interceptions

Dead or missing

Departures

Smuggling as a proportion of departures



Latest trends in smuggling by sea

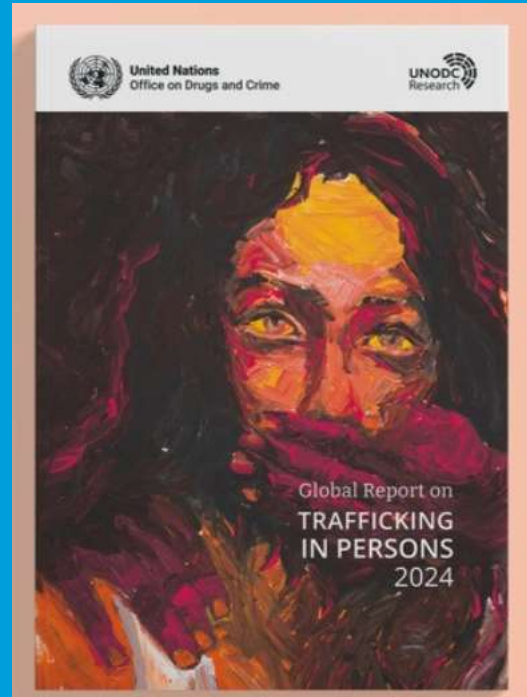
- Increases and decreases on sea routes from Africa to Europe: Northwest African, Western Mediterranean, Central Mediterranean
- Malians, Guineans, Gambians, Syrians smuggled on multiple routes
- Intercontinental smuggling from outside Africa



UNODC © Yasser Rezahi



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



谢谢您
Thank you
شكراً جزيلاً

Merci beaucoup
Muchas gracias
Спасібо

Contact:

Dr. Claire Healy
UNODC Research and
Trend Analysis Branch

Email:
claire.healy@un.org





The Humanitarian consequences of migration triggered by armed conflict and climate shocks

Senior Official Meeting- Rabat Process

Porto (Portugal), 29-30 January 2025

Manal AL CHAARANI- ICRC Legal Advisor

The Impact of Armed Conflict on Individuals

Armed Conflict

Disruption of the political, economic and social fabric

Lack of security

Loss of homes,
livelihoods and
limited access to
food

Limited access
to essential
services (e.g.
health care and
water)

The Impact of Climate Risks on Individuals facing an Armed Conflict

The convergence of climate risks and conflict further worsens:

- Economic insecurity
- Lack of food & water
- Limited access to essential services (e.g. health care)

Illustration with the Health Sector

Armed conflict impedes the work of health personnel /compromises health structures and medical supply chains

Climate change worsens this situation :

- i) health structures & supply chains destroyed by extreme weather events
- ii) grounds for spread of certain infectious diseases

Heightened risks for individuals and communities

Limited capacity to adapt to climate change in times of armed conflict

Armed conflict has an adverse impact on individuals' resilience to adapt to climate change as:

- It might hinder coping mechanisms put in place by individuals to react to climate change (e.g. insecurity on the roads limits mobility as a coping strategy...)
- It is difficult to carry out the required ambitious concerted and long-term efforts to adapt to climate change in times of war (weak institutions; focus on restoring national security & revitalizing the economy....)

The Mutual effects of Climate Change and Armed Conflict

- Not only **armed conflict** limits the capacity of populations to adapt to climate change, it might also exacerbate climate shocks by degrading the environment during hostilities (targeting of critical infrastructures such as dams, oil refineries....)
- **Climate change** may indirectly increase the risk of conflict by exacerbating factors that can, in a complex interplay, ultimately lead to conflict (e.g. social exclusion, economic risks, tensions over the management of resources....)

The Impact of Conflict & Climate Risks on Mobility (I)

- ▶ Mobility is one of the coping mechanisms adopted by affected communities to react to the cumulative impact of conflict and climate crisis (preventive v. reactive mobility)
- ▶ In contexts affected by armed conflict, extreme weather events and climate shocks are more likely to lead to displacement than in places with solid institutions focused on reducing risks and people's exposure to them (e.g. severe storms in coastal areas).

The Impact of Conflict & Climate Risks on Mobility (II)

BUT

- Mobility is NOT the primary adaptive response of entire households
- Climate factors amplify existing factors that contribute to people's movement and only sometimes lead to direct displacement
- Evidence shows that individuals facing climate change & armed conflict move internally in their country or to neighboring countries
- The perception of climate change induced mobility as mass migration across multiple borders DOES NOT correspond to the reality

The Impact of Conflict & Climate Risks on Mobility (III)

Risk of multiple displacement for people compelled to move due to the cumulative effect of conflict and climate change as:

- Displaced people often reside in “hot spots”/land more prone to disasters far from water sources or unsuitable for agriculture
- Camps and informal settlements are often built for short-term habitation and not designed for continual exposure to climate and environmental risks

The Impact of Conflict & Climate Risks on Mobility (IV)

Limitation of people's mobility in a situation of armed conflict & climate shocks due to :

- Lack of security on the road resulting from armed conflict (e.g. women fearing to sell crops on market in remote locality due to security risks on the road...)
- Restrictions of movement imposed by a party to the conflict on a segment of the population (people trapped in area of origin)
- Restrictive migration policies may also alter people's mobility by preventing or re-routing movements forcing them to abandon mobility strategies that previously served as coping mechanisms

Recommendations

- ▶ Global efforts to limit climate change & help communities adapt to changing climate – responses to people affected by armed conflict must integrate climate and mobility-related considerations
- ▶ Respect for international legal obligations relevant to human mobility in the context of armed conflict & climate change (incl. IHL, IHRL, International Refugee Law....)
- ▶ Anticipate risks and strengthen resilience to help people develop resilient livelihoods and shelters while reinforcing their access to hazard-resilient essential services and ensure they are adequately informed of risks and adaptation pathways
- ▶ Mobilize for improved climate action and finance to ensure that climate action reaches places in crisis and that funding is more equitably balanced between mitigation and adaptation efforts