



RDH
IOM REGIONAL DATA HUB
West and Central Africa

Regional Data Hub

Missing Migrants

IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa

The **Missing Migrants Project (MMP)** is an initiative of IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Center (GMDAC) working with various government and non-government entities to collect data on cases of death and disappearance of migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees, who disappeared during their journey to a country other than their country of residence.

Since 2019, in West and Central Africa, the Regional Data Hub supports the MMP in collecting, compiling and monitoring events relating to the deaths and disappearances of migrants, conducting data analysis and reporting at the regional level, with a focus on the risks and consequences of irregular migration across the main migration routes (Central and Western Mediterranean routes, Western Atlantic route).

REGIONAL/GLOBAL, RELIABLE, REGULAR DATA ON DEATHS & DISAPPEARANCES OF MIGRANTS

REGIONAL/GLOBAL

The Missing Migrants Project currently hosts the only open access database in existence of death and missing records of migrants during the travel process, both in West and Central Africa and worldwide. As such, the MMP is the sole comprehensive database on migrant deaths and disappearances, in a region where migration routes are frequently hazardous, isolated and dangerous. These data are used to inform indicator 10.7.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals on the "number of people deceased or missing during a process of migration to an international destination" and Objective 8 of the Global Compact on Migration, which commits the signatory states to "save lives and to put in place coordinated international efforts on missing migrants"

RELIABLE

Reliability of the data collected is guaranteed through a number of safeguards. The Missing Migrants Project gathers information from a variety of sources. For each incident, data is drawn from a combination of sources. New entries are checked against existing records to ensure that no deaths are double counted. The Missing Migrants Project also focuses on strengthening existing data sources and partnerships with relevant state and humanitarian agencies. Consistency is also made possible through the continued engagement of partner States, NGOs, media outlets and civil society organizations and the presence of IOM in the region.

REGULAR

The Missing Migrants Project collects data on migrant deaths and disappearances on a daily basis. Information gathered from various sources or directly from migrants is shared with the RDH's MMP focal point every day. This ensures that numbers on migrants deaths and disappearances are up-to-date and events leading to the deaths of migrants is instantly recorded in the MMP database.

METHODOLOGY

The Missing Migrants Project (MMP) records the deaths and disappearances of migrants in transport accidents, shipwrecks, attacks, or medical complications during the migrants' journeys. Data is collected from a variety of sources, such as official documents – including from coastguards and forensic authorities – NGO and media reports, as well as surveys and interviews with migrants.

Data is shared with the MMP focal point at the Regional Data Hub, who also performs a daily media monitoring and assembles all reported incidents into a database. This database is sent to the GMDAC team in Berlin, which assesses the quality of the data source(s) for each incident through the 'Source quality' variable before producing a clean, publicly available dataset of incidents.

REGIONAL FOOTPRINT

The Missing Migrants Project tool is active in eight countries in West and Central Africa (Cameroon, Chad, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Gambia) and is supported by IOM missions, several States and Non-Governmental Organizations on data collection.

Reports, datasets and methodologies accessible online: missingmigrants.iom.int



ONGOING MISSING MIGRANTS PROJECT EXERCISES IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

