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

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

In Nigeria, DTM conducts Flow Monitoring activities in several important transit locations in Sokoto and Kano to monitor the movements of passenger buses to and from Niger. The Sokoto FMP covers three migratory routes in Illela, Gada and Sabon-Birnin. And the Kano FMP (Kofar Ruwa Park and Yankaba Park) covers two migratory routes in Dala and Nasarawa Local Government Areas in Kano state.

This report presents Flow Monitoring Registry data collected in January 2021. It presents key data on flows, routes, provenance, destination and demographic profiles of travellers observed at the FMPs.

Additional information on Flow Monitoring methodology is available on the last page.
Mobility trends: During the reporting period, on average, 1,290 individuals were observed at FMPs on a daily basis. This represents a decrease of 5 per cent in comparison to the 1,360 individuals observed on a daily basis in December 2020. Few movements were recorded on 1-2 January, with most travellers tending not to travel around New Year festivities. Furthermore, the Local Government Area election conducted in Kano state (where majority of the movements were recorded) was the reason for the decline in movements recorded on 16 January.

Types of flows: All observed travellers were conducting cross-border movements (30% were entering the country, while 70% were leaving the country).

Departure/Origin and destination: In January 2021, the main cities from which individuals travelled from (inflow) were Maradi (43%), Tahoua (24%), Zinder (23%) and Diffa (7%) in Niger. Travellers from Nigeria (outflow) were primarily headed to Maradi (43%), Zinder (41%) and Diffa (9%) in Niger. The main modes of transportation were Car (57%) and Bus (38%).

Traveller profiles: While 64 per cent of travellers were adult male, 21 per cent were adult female and 15 per cent were children (6% female children, 9% male children).

COVID-19 Awareness: 99% of individuals were aware of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Presentation of FMP: The Sokoto Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) was set up in March 2017 covering three migratory routes in Illela, Gada and Sabon-Birnin. The FMP monitors cross-border flows of migrants between Nigeria and Niger to better understand dynamics of migration covering these routes.

Mobility trends: In the reporting period, at the Sokoto FMP, on average 167 individuals were observed daily. This represented a decrease of 2 per cent since December, during which 171 individuals had been observed. The slight decrease may be attributed to the tight security at the Nigerian border and port health authorities ensuring strict compliance to COVID-19 measures. Over the month, peaks were observed on 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th which corresponded to market days in Gada, Illela, Sabon-Birnin, Yarbulutu, Mailalle (in Nigeria), Tumfai, Dandadi and Souloulo (in Niger Republic). Meanwhile, the number of individuals observed remained steady during non-market days.

Types of flows: All observed travellers were conducting cross-border movements (70% were entering the country, while 30% were leaving the country).

Departure/Origin and destination: In January 2021, the main cities from which individuals travelled from (inflow) were Tahoua (54%) and Maradi (46%). Travellers from Nigeria (outflow) were primarily headed to Maradi (71%), Tahoua (25%) and Zinder (3%). The modes of transportation were car (41%), bus (21%), motorbike (11%), foot (10%), bicycle (10%) and riding animals (3%).

Traveller profiles: While 59 per cent of travellers were adult male, 24 per cent were adult female and 17 per cent were children (6% female children, 11% male children).

Movements observed at Sokoto in January 2021

**TRAVELLER PROFILES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAIN MODES OF TRANSPORT**

- Car: 41%
- Bus: 21%
- Motorbike: 11%
- Foot: 10%

**PROVENANCE & DESTINATION OF FLOWS**

**Origin of flows**
- Country: Niger, Nigeria
- % of flows: 70%, 30%

**Destination of flows**
- Country: Niger
- % of flows: 70%, 30%

**DIRECTION OF FLOWS**

- Incoming flow: 70%
- Outgoing flow: 30%
**KANO**

**PRESENTATION OF FMP:** The Kano FMP (Kofar Ruwa Park and Yankaba Park) has been collecting data since March 2017, covering two migratory routes passing through Dala and Nasarawa Local Government Areas in Kano state. The FMP was installed to monitor cross-border flows of migrants between Nigeria and Niger and to better understand dynamics of migration covering these routes.

**Mobility trends:** In the reporting period, at the Kano FMP, on average, 1,124 individuals were observed daily. This represents a decrease of 5 per cent in comparison to the number of individuals observed in the previous month, (1,188 individuals). The first two days in January 2021 recorded very low inflow and outflow as a result of the New Year celebration. Also, there was a notable dip in flows on the 16th because of elections held in Kano at the Local Government level.

**Types of flows:** All observed travellers were undertaking a trans-boundary movement (26% were entering the country, while 74% were leaving the country).

**Departure/Origin and destination:** In January 2021, the main cities from which individuals travelled from (inflow) were Zinder (42%), Maradi (42%) and Diffa (12%) in Niger. Travellers from Nigeria (outflow) were primarily headed to Zinder (46%), Maradi (39%) and Diffa (10%) in Niger. The modes of transportation were car (59%) and bus (41%).

**Traveller profiles:** While 65 per cent of travellers were adult male, 20 per cent were adult female and 15 per cent were children (6% female children, 9% male children).

**Movements observed at Kano FMP in January 2021**

**TRAVELLER PROFILES**

1,124 AVERAGE / DAY INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MODES OF TRANSPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROVENANCE & DESTINATION OF FLOWS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin of flows</th>
<th>% of flows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination of flows</th>
<th>% of flows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIRECTION OF FLOWS**

- **Incoming flow:** 26%
- **Outgoing flow:** 74%

**DAILY EVOLUTION OF FLOWS**

- **Inflow:**
  - 1/1: 280 individuals
  - 2/1: 280 individuals
  - 3/1: 280 individuals

- **Outflow:**
  - 1/1: 280 individuals
  - 2/1: 280 individuals
  - 3/1: 280 individuals
INTRODUCTION: Flow Monitoring, a tool of IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), was set up to provide a better understanding and an overview of mobility through West and Central Africa, through the collection of key data on the magnitude, provenance and destination and profiles of flows in areas of high mobility throughout the region.

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

The FMR collects data at FMP through direct observation and interviews with key informants, including staff working at coach stations, border patrol officers, local authorities, bus drivers or travellers themselves. The FMR gathers data on the number of travellers crossing FMPs, as well as the provenance, next destination, vulnerabilities and means of transport of travellers. At each FMP, data is collected by a team of 6 enumerators. Data collection is carried out daily, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. This corresponds to the peak hours of mobility. Enumerators collect data via a form filled out using information provided by key informants or gathered through direct observation.

The purpose of the FMS is to collect detailed information on the profiles, migration journeys and intentions of migrants. Data is collected through interviews with a random sample of travellers. Migrant interviews are conducted daily with a randomly chosen sample of travellers crossing FMPs. Information is primarily gathered on the nationalities, age, sex, education level, professional status of travellers, as well as their reasons for travel, location of departure, intended destinations, and needs of travellers.

LIMITS : Data collected in the framework of Flow Monitoring activities are the result of direct observations and interviews conducted at FMPs between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. The data are not representative of all migration flows in the country, and, because they only reflect the situation of observed or surveyed individuals, cannot be generalized. Temporal coverage of the data collection exercises is also limited to a specific time window. While data is collected daily, Flow Monitoring activities do not capture all flows transiting through FMPs. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative.

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

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

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

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