



IOM  
CONTINENTAL  
STRATEGY  
FOR AFRICA  
2020–2024

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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.

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# FOREWORD

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The momentum created by the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in December 2018 and the continuous support of our African Member States throughout the entire process has been a catalyst for IOM's engagement on the continent.

IOM's close collaboration with African Member States builds on African Union landmark policy frameworks that shape continental guidance on governing human mobility in all its dimensions.

This joint endeavour towards good migration governance was the foundation of IOM's support to the African Union-led political forum on migration dialogue, creating a platform for exchanges and significant thematic orientation to enrich policy formulation and foster coordination at the continental level.

Following on from the launch of the Pan-African Forum on Migration, IOM's 2020–2024 Continental Strategy on migration provides an excellent opportunity to further develop synergies for more robust migration dialogues and outcomes across regions and with all relevant partners. The document was conceived to reinforce our joint commitment towards safe, orderly and regular migration within and outside of the African continent. Through multi-stakeholder engagement, it will hopefully give impetus for adaptive measures for better migration management and scale up the positive impact, opportunities and benefits of migration for the whole of society.

IOM's strong presence on the ground contributes to enhancing understanding of current and future migration and mobility trends and the multidimensional humanitarian, development and peace-related challenges of migration. IOM's strong advocacy role for a human rights-based approach to migration is key to including protection measures in tailored, data-driven, and well-informed policy responses. Developing national skills and talent through capacity building and technical expertise remains central in addressing these fundamental challenges and ensuring the sustainability of such responses.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on migration and human mobility have been extensively showcased. This unprecedented situation of reduced mobility illustrates the interlinkages of our world and the strong relationship between human mobility, migration, development, and global health to ensure human security. It reveals the critical role of migrants, notably youth and women, in delivering life-saving services in our societies.

This challenging time shows that migration benefits all if governed in an inclusive manner and its human dimension is central in policy formulation and implementation.

I am proud to present IOM's integrated and inclusive Continental Africa Strategy that will help lay the foundations for maximizing the benefits of migration and reducing negative perceptions, thus contributing to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its goals across the continent.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to its formulation and review. I am looking forward to broad support for its implementation, in close coordination with IOM's partners at all levels.



**António Vitorino**  
Director General  
International Organization for Migration

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The IOM Continental Strategy for Africa 2020–2024 was developed within the framework of the Director General’s Strategic Vision to guide IOM’s policy orientation on migration and human mobility in Africa.

The Continental Strategy is drawing on extensive consultations with IOM’s four Regional Offices based in Africa and the Special Liaison Office to the African Union, as well as various technical units. Its drafting process was preceded by two brainstorming sessions to discuss key priorities in the context of human mobility trends and dynamics affecting the continent. This strategy underlines the needs and priorities of African countries and is consistent with the African Union Agenda 2063 and other relevant international and regional instruments. This document aims to frame IOM’s new orientation with Africa at policy and strategic levels and to ensure its consistency with the goals and objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, to which the vast majority of African countries have adhered.

The strategy benefited greatly from rich and substantive contributions from Regional Liaison Policy Officers of the IOM Regional Offices in Nairobi (Alice Kimani), Dakar (Sophie Nonnenmacher), Pretoria (Naomi Shiferaw) and Cairo (Kristina Mejo), and the Addis Ababa liaison office technical team, notably Carolyne Tumuhimbise and Phumza Manqindi. It benefited as well from the support of Liz Collett, Special Adviser on Policy and her team to ensure consistency with the main pillars of the Strategic Vision of the Director General for the period 2020–2024. Contribution from the Secretariat of the United Nations Network for Migration was well-received to reflect the 360-degree shift of global migration governance.

Substantive inputs and contributions were also provided by various departments and units at IOM Headquarters to ensure alignment with the Organization’s priorities and other policy thematic areas.

The present strategy has been prepared by Mr Ibrahima Amadou Dia, international consultant, under the guidance and supervision of Ms Aissata Kane, Senior Regional Advisor for sub-Saharan Africa.

The preparation of this strategy benefited as well from continued and constructive guidance, rich inputs, and review by the Department of Social Affairs (DSA) of the African Union Commission to ensure coherence with relevant African Union policy frameworks on migration, mobility and development.

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# ACRONYMS

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<b>ACBC</b>	African Capacity Building Centre
<b>AUC</b>	African Union Commission
<b>African CDC</b>	African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>COVID-19</b>	coronavirus disease 2019
<b>CSO</b>	civil society organization
<b>EUTF</b>	European Union Emergency Trust Fund
<b>FMP Protocol</b>	Free Movement of Persons Protocol
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>MPFA</b>	African Union Migration Policy Framework for Africa
<b>NEPAD</b>	New Partnership for Africa's Development
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>PAFoM</b>	Pan-African Forum on Migration
<b>RECs</b>	regional economic communities
<b>RCPs</b>	regional consultative processes on migration
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>UNECA</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
<b>UN DESA</b>	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

# 1.

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## RATIONALE FOR THE IOM CONTINENTAL STRATEGY FOR AFRICA 2020–2024





# 1. RATIONALE FOR THE IOM CONTINENTAL STRATEGY FOR AFRICA 2020–2024

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African governments wish to maximize the potential of migration as a fundamental driver for inclusive and sustainable development, as highlighted in the African Common Position on Migration and Development. Increasing irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling in persons, and mixed migration remain significant concerns. While policymakers and international media coverage focus on migration out of the African continent, the lion's share of African migration<sup>1</sup> remains within the continent. Migration is fundamental to the policy debate in Africa and is expected to become more prominent in the foreseeable future.

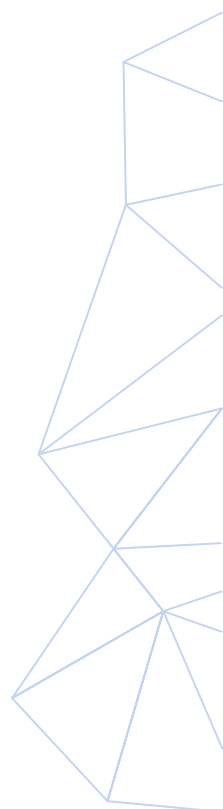
The African Union's Agenda 2063 provides the building block for Africa's peace, prosperity, democracy, good governance, inclusive growth, economic integration and sustainable development. The African Union's 2006 Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA), as well as the 2018 Revised MPFA, point to the central need to strengthen the capacities of African member States and regional economic communities (RECs) for effective migration governance. The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) and other international and regional frameworks offer foundational architecture for achieving migration-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which would help to ensure fundamental respect for migrants' rights and well-being, foster resilience among both migrants and host communities, and create conducive conditions for inclusive socioeconomic development.

IOM's core values and principles are at the heart of its work. The Organization is guided by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including upholding human rights for all. Respect for the rights, dignity and well-being of migrants remains paramount. IOM has always assisted governments in the effective implementation of international standards in its programming and will continue to do so. In addition to the values enshrined in the IOM Constitution, the Organization continues to adhere to the core United Nations values of integrity, professionalism and respect for diversity, ensures that it is accountable to its beneficiaries, and plays an active role in preventing sexual exploitation and abuse.

IOM is an essential international actor in the field of human mobility, supporting migrants across the world, developing effective responses to the shifting dynamics of migration, and serving as a key source of advice on migration policy and practice. The Organization works in both emergency and non-emergency situations, developing the resilience of all people on the move, particularly those in situations of vulnerability, as well as building capacity within governments to manage all forms and impacts of mobility. As the United Nations Migration Agency, and also a highly responsive operational actor on the ground, IOM is well-positioned to support governments in addressing the fundamental challenges of twenty-first-century African migration and explore innovative ways to realize its opportunities.

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<sup>1</sup> See, for instance: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) Population Division (2019), "International migrant stock 2019", data set (New York, United Nations, 2020), available at [www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/international-migrant-stock-2019.html](http://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/population/international-migrant-stock-2019.html) (accessed May 2020); IOM, *World Migration Report 2020* (Geneva, 2020), pp. 54–56, available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/world-migration-report-2020>.



As such, IOM has developed this Continental Strategy for Africa, which lays the foundations for renewed and strengthened cooperation with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations system for better governance of African migration to foster inclusive and sustainable development in Africa.

The IOM Continental Strategy for Africa takes stock of the experience and best practices of high-level regional dialogues on migration, between the African Union and the European Union and their member States, such as the Valletta Summit<sup>2</sup> and the flagship European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa.<sup>3</sup> It will build on lessons learned and, as well as opportunities and challenges experienced, while supporting the implementation of the five pillars of the Joint Valletta Action Plan<sup>4</sup> through the existing mechanisms of the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process, as well as the Joint Africa–European Union Strategy, and direct assistance. The Continental Strategy will encourage a multifaceted and balanced approach to regional migration dialogues that integrate return and reintegration programmes for migrants within the overarching socioeconomic development plans of countries of origin to ensure both the protection of migrants and sustainable development impact in their communities. The iteration of the tripartite African Union–European Union–United Nations task force on stranded migrants and refugees in Libya may serve as a blueprint for future cooperation mechanisms to address the challenges of migration in other parts of Africa.

The Continental Strategy is strongly linked to the IOM Strategic Vision (2019–2023), which sets out how the Organization can support States to respond more effectively to these dynamics and, ultimately, to ensure the well-being of migrants. This global vision highlights a set of strategic principles and priorities that would enable IOM to meet emerging migration dynamics while serving as a compass towards the future.

The IOM Continental Strategy for Africa is a direct contribution to the United Nations' Decade of Action to fast-track progress towards the SDGs and is based on IOM's Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development.<sup>5</sup> It brings greater coherence to IOM's activities and ensures that they have greater development impact. It allows for a joined-up approach to the way the Organization designs and delivers its operations, as called for in the IOM Strategic Vision. With its entry into the United Nations system, IOM has, among other priorities, a clear mandate to align its activities to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; strengthen its partnership with the African Union in implementing its Agenda 2063; provide support to African Member States in achieving the commitments therein; and contribute to global discussions on migration and sustainable development.

<sup>2</sup> For more information on the Valletta Summit, visit <https://africa-eu-partnership.org/en/stay-informed/news/2015-valletta-summit-migration>.

<sup>3</sup> The EUTF is a funding channel for programmes supported by the European Union and the European Union Military Staff (EUMS), in particular. The flagship EU–IOM Joint Initiative, launched in May 2017, is one such programme funded by the EUTF. It is the first comprehensive European Union programme of this kind that aims to save lives, protect and assist migrants along key migration routes in Africa and focus on sustainable reintegration.

<sup>4</sup> The Joint Valletta Action Plan, adopted at the Valletta Summit, has these five pillars or strategic areas:

- (a) Address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement;
  - (b) Enhance cooperation on legal migration and mobility;
  - (c) Reinforce the protection of migrants and asylum seekers;
  - (d) Prevent and fight irregular migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings;
  - (e) Work more closely to improve cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration.
- (European Union and International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), 2016)

<sup>5</sup> The full document of the strategy is available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/iom-institutional-strategy-migration-and-sustainable-development>.

In addition, taking into account the overwhelming support of the Global Compact for Migration by African countries, this strategy is aimed at enhancing cooperation, coordination and collaboration on migration not only among United Nations agencies, but also African Union entities, RECs, regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs) and civil society organizations, through the newly created United Nations Network on Migration, which operates at the global, regional and national levels and of which IOM is the Coordinator and Secretariat.

The IOM Continental Strategy for Africa is underpinned by the priorities of African Member States, as well as IOM's strategic direction in Africa. Active AUC–IOM collaboration, based on a spirit of complementarity, partnership and synergy, and the priorities of African States will significantly contribute to a common understanding of the complexities of migration dynamics among African stakeholders and to the advancement of the continental agenda on migration and development.

# 2.

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## BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AFRICA'S MIGRATION DRIVERS AND PATTERNS



## 2. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AFRICA'S MIGRATION DRIVERS AND PATTERNS

African mobility is not a recent phenomenon, and today millions of Africans are moving within and out of the continent. Over the last few decades, there has been increasing international migration, particularly within Africa. International migration to, from and within Africa amounted to a total of more than 41 million international migrants in 2017, according to calculations by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) based on United Nations estimates.<sup>6</sup>

According to estimates by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the total international migrant stock of the sub-Saharan African region in 2019 was around 26.5 million, approximately 53 per cent of whom were male and 47 per cent were female.<sup>7</sup> According to UN DESA estimates for the same year, the total international migrant stock of the Northern African region alone was around 3 million, of whom 57 per cent were male and 43 per cent were female.<sup>8</sup>

Many policymakers and international media outfits focus on migration of Africans out of the continent. Intra-African migration remains a dominant trend in African migration, with just 17 million Africans living outside Africa and less than 5 million emigrating from other regions of the world to Africa in 2017, according to UNCTAD calculations that draw on UN DESA estimates.<sup>9</sup> Migration is also increasingly feminized, with the stock of female international migrants rising from 7 million in 2000 to 12.5 million in 2019 (the number of male international migrants rose from 8 million to 14 million over the same period).<sup>10</sup>

Contemporary African migration patterns reflect several drivers, including increasing migration<sup>11</sup> pressures due to unfavorable structural conditions. African migration is also driven by educational, professional, family reunification, and socioeconomic motives, the existence of transnational social networks, as well as pathways for regular migration and skills shortages, among other factors.

Protracted conflicts, violence, violent extremism and poverty, along with climate change and environmental degradation, weak governance and other development challenges, have fuelled forced displacement in Africa,<sup>12</sup> with wide-ranging consequences for those displaced and their host communities. The primary hosts of refugees and asylum seekers tend to be neighbouring countries. For instance, the most significant proportion of refugees from South Sudan are mostly hosted in neighbouring countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan and Uganda, which also happens to be the most significant host country of refugees on the

<sup>6</sup> In 2017, UNCTAD calculations drawing on UN DESA estimates pointed to about “41 million international migrants from, to, or within Africa”: 19 million residing on the continent, 17 million residing outside of Africa, and 5.5 million being immigrants from other parts of the world. (UNCTAD, “Economic development in Africa: migration for structural transformation”, webpage, available at <https://unctad.org/en/Pages/ALDC/Africa/EDAR2018-Key-Statistics.aspx> (accessed 5 May 2020). See also: UN DESA Population Division, “International migrant stock 2019”; IOM, *World Migration Report 2020*, pp. 54–56.

<sup>7</sup> These estimates are based on official figures and are likely to be considerably underestimated.

<sup>8</sup> See Annex, [Table 5](#).

<sup>9</sup> See Annex, [Figure 1](#).

<sup>10</sup> For more insights about the increasing feminization of African migration, see Annex, [Table 1](#) and [Table 5](#).

<sup>11</sup> See Annex, [Table 1](#) and [Figure 1](#).

<sup>12</sup> See Annex, [Figure 2](#).



African continent.<sup>13</sup> In the sub-Saharan African region in 2019, there were 3,448,000 new internal displacements driven by natural disasters and 4,597,000 driven by conflicts and violence, representing 24 per cent of the global total of new internal displacements. In the same year, the number of new internal displacements in the Middle East and North Africa driven by disasters was 9.6 per cent of the global total.<sup>14</sup>

Europe is currently the main destination for extracontinental African migration – with Germany, Portugal, the Netherlands, Italy and Spain representing significant attractive destinations in addition to more traditional destination countries such as France and the United Kingdom. However, reduced opportunities for regular (labour) mobility have resulted in the exploration of other parts of the world. Northern Africa remains the primary sending region of African migration to countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).<sup>15</sup> At the same time, the United Nations estimates an increase of 4.9 per cent (around 1.5 million migrants) in the number of African migrants in North America between 2000 and 2017.<sup>16</sup>

However, migration dynamics are rarely static. In the coming decades, migration driven by environmental and climate change – from rapid-onset flooding and slow-onset desertification – is likely to increase, exacerbated by the limited capacity to respond to humanitarian and development challenges. A rising feature of Africa’s international migration is the movement of Africans to the Gulf region (notably to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar), Asia<sup>17</sup> (notably to China), and Latin and Central America (notably to Argentina, Brazil and Mexico), and a diversification of migration corridors, both traditional and new.<sup>18</sup>

With the accelerating demographic trends<sup>19</sup> and urbanization in the foreseeable future, migration will remain a central issue on the African continent. Growing internal migration (rural–urban migration, and migration from cities to cities) and its underlying challenges need increasing attention in the formulation of migration and development policies, in accordance with the relevant SDGs and with Agenda 2063. Migrants are often settled in slums or precarious suburbs with limited access to basic services, social protection and decent employment opportunities, which can impede their living conditions, health, and well-being. There is a need for enhanced partnerships between national and local authorities, municipalities and civil society organizations (CSOs), and other relevant stakeholders to ensure life-saving and social assistance to vulnerable populations, including migrants and other displaced persons, in line with the New Urban Agenda in Africa. Such partnerships will be crucial to addressing the challenges underlying internal migration in Africa, especially rural–urban migration and the attendant rapid urbanization, increasing poverty and socioeconomic inequalities.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>13</sup> IOM, *World Migration Report 2020*, pp. 59–60.

<sup>14</sup> Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, *Global Report on Internal Displacement 2020* (Geneva, 2020).

<sup>15</sup> See Annex, [Table 3](#).

<sup>16</sup> See: UN DESA Population Division, *International Migration Report 2017: Highlights* (New York, United Nations, 2017), p. 13.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> See Annex, [Figure 3](#).

<sup>19</sup> See Annex, [Table 4](#).

<sup>20</sup> United Nations, Common African Position on Habitat III and the Abuja Declaration on “Africa’s Priorities for the New Urban Agenda” of the Habitat III Africa Regional Conference. Abuja, 2017. Available at <http://habitat3.org/wp-content/uploads/Abuja-Declaration.pdf>.



# 3.

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## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



## 3. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The IOM Continental Strategy for Africa will be underpinned by the following cross-cutting issues that are fundamental in addressing Africa's migration agenda.

### 3.1. HEALTH

IOM will strengthen its efforts to address the nexus between migration and health within and across African regions, building on the African Union Health Strategy (2016–2030) and other relevant regional and international health policy frameworks. IOM will aim to strengthen access to health care and other basic social services for vulnerable migrants and communities without discrimination and particularly during health emergencies and pandemics. IOM will enhance cooperation with the AUC, as well as the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (the African CDC), United Nations agencies and relevant partners. It will contribute to addressing emerging and protracted pandemics and diseases, health emergencies, and transnational public health security threats and their implications on the health of migrant and non-migrant populations, as well as their long-term socioeconomic impacts. Drawing from its expertise gained during the Ebola crisis, IOM will reinforce its support to national public responses for an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will contribute to strengthening the capacities of health personnel, building on the lessons and best practices learned from its current interventions<sup>21</sup> in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, with mobility restrictions and lockdowns of borders. IOM will coordinate with various partners to ensure that the human rights of people on the move and stranded persons are protected and respected, so as to avoid all forms of discrimination, xenophobia, hate speech and exclusion from basic services (i.e., access to water and sanitation and public health care), among others. IOM will respond with agility, adaptability and effectiveness to extend essential support to migrants, displaced persons and affected communities to address the socioeconomic impacts of health emergencies and pandemics.

### 3.2. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

Where a large proportion of the population is dependent on environmental resources, pastoralism and rain-fed agriculture, IOM will support African governments in strengthening their migration management in relation to the adverse impacts of climate change, which has steadily become a driver of migration and forced displacement today. IOM is also a prominent actor in supporting initiatives linking environmental sustainability and migration.<sup>22</sup> It will do this drawing on the environment and climate change agenda of the Global Compact for Migration, its Engagement and Action in the Global Compact for Migration on Environment and Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the African Union Strategy on Climate Change, the African Common Position on Climate

<sup>21</sup> IOM support to Member States' national responses in the fight against the COVID-19 outbreak includes various forms of assistance such as awareness-raising, screening and support at points of entry, including for health professionals and for improving quarantine measures and facilities, and, most recently, with COVID testing through its network of laboratories across the continent.

<sup>22</sup> See, for example: IOM, "Update on policies and practices related to migration, the environment and climate change and IOM's environmental sustainability programme" (S/24/5), Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance update on policies and practices related to migration, the environment and climate change and IOM'S Environmental Sustainability Programme at its twenty-fourth session of 23 May 2019 (Geneva, 2019). Available at [https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/scpf/24th/S-24-5-Update%20on%20policies%20and%20practices%20related%20to%20MECC\\_0.pdf](https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/scpf/24th/S-24-5-Update%20on%20policies%20and%20practices%20related%20to%20MECC_0.pdf).

Change and other relevant international policy frameworks. Support will be carried out as well through the provision of up-to-date evidence on climate change-related migration challenges, such as rural–urban migration, protracted displacement and challenges linked to transhumance, and through the mainstreaming of climate change and environment in policy-planning. IOM will support building and strengthening the resilience and adaptability of vulnerable migrant and non-migrant populations, along with providing them with assistance and enhancing their livelihoods to cope with and mitigate environmental degradation and climate change. The Organization will seek to identify and take advantage of opportunities, for example, in promoting renewable energy and climate-resilient agriculture and work towards long-term, durable solutions to contribute to sustainable development, thereby benefiting vulnerable populations and society as a whole.

### 3.3. HUMAN RIGHTS

Drawing on core international human rights instruments, IOM will continue upholding a rights-based approach to migration and displacement in close conjunction with the AUC, African RECs and Member States, and partner United Nations agencies such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Promoting the rights, dignity and well-being of migrants, refugees and displaced persons, and protecting them against discrimination, exclusion, racism, xenophobia, marginalization, exploitation and inequality in all its forms will remain fundamental to IOM’s work, core policy and advocacy frameworks, operational instruments and partnerships.

In line with the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights (the “Banjul Charter”) and the Social Policy Framework for Africa and other relevant instruments, IOM will support the development of inclusive social and economic policies and programmes for Africa’s youth, women, disabled, elderly, children on the move, including unaccompanied minors, and other vulnerable migrant groups.

### 3.4. GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

IOM will support the AUC and African RECs and Member States in addressing the challenges and opportunities underlying the increasing feminization of African migration. This will build on the African Union Gender Policy, the African Union Strategy for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment 2018–2028, and the African Union MPFA, along with the IOM Gender Equality Policy, which is consonant with the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. IOM will promote gender-sensitive migration and social inclusion policies and will work closely with the African Union to address the increasing human rights violations, abuses, exploitation and discrimination faced by African migrant women and girls.

### 3.5. DATA AND RESEARCH

IOM will prioritize strong, disaggregated African migration data collection and dissemination, statistics, research, and knowledge management. The operationalization of the African Migration Observatory in Morocco, the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration in Mali, and the Continental Operational Centre (for Information Sharing), in Khartoum, established and led by the African Union, are opportunities to reinforce cooperation on African migration data, research and policy analysis. IOM will support the AUC and African RECs and Member States in developing reliable and disaggregated data and evidence for coherent policy formulation in different areas of migration management and governance.

Through its various and specialized tools and dedicated centres, as well as its role within the United Nations system, IOM will provide data and capacity-building support and training to facilitate evidence-based policies and coherence of migration programming, including by convening relevant expertise from other United Nations agencies and other stakeholders. In this regard, IOM will support the AUC in implementing its Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa and establishing the African Union Institute of Statistics in Tunisia.

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# STRATEGIC APPROACH





## 4. STRATEGIC APPROACH

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The IOM Strategic Vision sets out three pillars through which it views its work: Governance, Mobility, and Resilience. These are equally relevant in the African context.

### 4.1. GOVERNANCE

Given the demographic and migration trends across the continent, there is a need for the AUC and IOM to support African Member States to manage regular migration and address irregular migration effectively. Better migration governance is the primary objective of the MPFA, which lays the foundation for more robust governance of various aspects of African migration. The African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) in Moshi, United Republic of Tanzania,<sup>23</sup> needs to be strengthened to respond to different training and capacity-building requests from African Member States and RECs beyond the current focus on border management. IOM will contribute significantly to building the capacities of Member States and RECs and ensuring policy coherence and coordination mechanisms for migration governance in Africa.

IOM will contribute to building the capacities of State and non-State actors in Africa's migration governance across various thematic areas and enhance intraregional dialogue on migration. The Organization can be an effective agent of change towards multilateral policies that support sound migration, integration, and protection policies and programmes that will act as catalysts for more diverse, inclusive and cohesive societies in which African migrants, host communities and diasporas play a vital role.

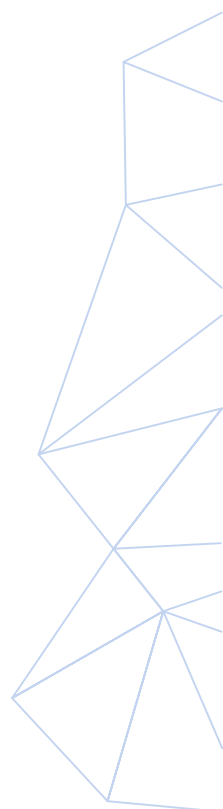
IOM can assist the AUC in establishing and operationalizing a Migration Technical Advisory Group or use the existing platforms of the African Union, such as the Pan-African Forum on Migration (PAFoM), to address implementation gaps of core regional and international instruments<sup>24</sup> and discuss ways to realize the goals and aspirations of Agenda 2063.

### 4.2. MOBILITY

Mobility patterns are constantly changing, which means that policies to address them also need to evolve. It is crucial that opportunities for safe and regular migration within the African continent are widened by easing visa regimes and removing unnecessary barriers to mobility. In the same vein, it is also essential to support the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and various protocols of the RECs on the free movement of persons, while also addressing underlying challenges, including those related to legal identity and documentation. Promoting social and economic inclusion in origin and host countries,

<sup>23</sup> Established in 2009 to respond to a request from IOM African Member States and hosted by the Tanzanian Regional Immigration Training Academy (TRITA), the ACBC has supported and promoted good migration governance by building and enhancing the migration management capacity of border and immigration officers. The ACBC benefits from general administrative support from the IOM Office in the United Republic of Tanzania and works in close coordination on substantive matters with IOM's Department of Migration Management.

<sup>24</sup> For example, the African Union MPFA, the Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa (once adopted); the 2006 African Common Position on Migration and Development (2006); the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa ("Kampala Convention"); and the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, especially Women and Children (2006).





protecting migrants' rights, and facilitating and promoting pathways for regular migration will be paramount.

Addressing the mobility dimensions of crises is central to saving lives and reducing humanitarian risk, vulnerability and need. More than a humanitarian imperative, it is critical for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Alongside these, curbing irregular migration, particularly trafficking and smuggling in persons, is a fundamental priority of both the AUC and IOM, and the Organization will strengthen its efforts to prevent violence, exploitation and abuse, and the increasing situations of vulnerability faced by African migrants and displaced persons.

IOM will reinforce its support to governments in managing rights-based return through capacity-building and direct assistance. It will strengthen its interventions in access to basic services and assisted voluntary return and reintegration throughout the continuum. It will support Member States and RECs in the design of sustainable voluntary return and reintegration policies and programmes.

### 4.3. RESILIENCE

Building the resilience of migrants and displaced persons is fundamental to fostering self-agency in addressing the links between migration, poverty and conflict – one of the cross-cutting issues of the MPFA. This is particularly important at a time when climate change and environmental degradation are increasingly posing migration-related challenges and are a source of community tension and mass displacement. There is a need for concerted action with other relevant United Nations agencies to enhance the institutional, policy, technical and operational capacities of governments, and to help them identify durable solutions to mitigate the negative impacts of conflict, disaster and environmental degradation, including effective recovery programmes for vulnerable populations. IOM will strengthen its work on the nexus between humanitarian assistance, peace, development and security to promote lasting responses to challenges related to human mobility within and outside Africa.

Transition, recovery and community stabilization programmes offering access to services and livelihoods can foster the empowerment of migrants and displaced persons and strengthen their resilience, allowing them to support their families and communities. African migrants and the African diaspora play a significant role in building resilience and restoring livelihoods in emergency crises and post-crisis situations. IOM will invest in robust preparedness measures in the context of emergencies, crises and disasters, in addition to responding quickly in times of need.



# 5.

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## KEY STRATEGIC AREAS IN AFRICA





## 5. KEY STRATEGIC AREAS IN AFRICA

The following have been identified as key strategic areas for future collaboration. These strategic priorities have been inspired by the goals and aspirations of Agenda 2063, alongside deliberations within IOM about what may be the most relevant to achieve over the next decade.

### 5.1. CONTRIBUTE TO AFRICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION THROUGH THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS PROTOCOL

The African Continental Free Trade Agreement, African Union passport and Free Movement of Persons (FMP) Protocol<sup>25</sup> are game-changing initiatives with the potential to accelerate Africa's economic growth and development, in addition to promoting African continental integration. The signing of these landmark documents has prompted proactive joint efforts to strengthen the capacities of African countries to realize new opportunities for dynamic mobility within the continent.

#### 5.1.1. Main objective

IOM will support the free movement of persons, social and economic integration, and cross-border trade to enhance decent employment and regular labour migration opportunities and prospects for inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development. It will reinforce the capacities of African Member States and RECs by fostering collaboration within United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) on migration governance and regular, safe and facilitated mobility, to accelerate the implementation of the FMP Protocol and the AfCFTA.

#### 5.1.2. Key priorities

- (a) Support the AUC's, RECs' and Member States' efforts and steps towards implementing relevant policies, legal frameworks and programmes related to migration, including the Global Compact for Migration, the African Union MPFA and its 10-year plan of Action, the FPM Protocol, the AfCFTA, and other core African Union instruments related to migration, trade and border management.
- (b) Support Member States and RECs in harmonizing national laws, legislation and policies on migration with international and regional instruments.
- (c) Support Member States in designing and implementing policies in the area of border management in a holistic, integrated and multisectoral manner, ensuring protection and addressing socioeconomic, humanitarian and security concerns.
- (d) Continuously support the institutional capacity-building of African governments to manage legal identity management systems in order to enhance capacity for border facilitation and control. IOM will support access to legal identity and documentation for all migrants, in line with Objective 4 of the Global Compact for Migration.

<sup>25</sup> Full title: Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment.

- (e) Provide additional policy support, training and capacity-building for migration, trade, labour and social protection issues, migration governance and migrant workers' rights, cross-border trade governance, border management, visa policies and operations, and border infrastructure and equipment, as well as migration data capabilities to underpin these areas.

## 5.2. INCREASE EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE GENDER- AND YOUTH-SENSITIVE

Deficiencies in the labour market and lack of employment opportunities in countries of origin and expectations of more attractive salaries and working conditions in destination countries are significant triggers of African internal and international migration. Effective labour migration governance can enable regular labour migration opportunities and student mobility through policies to facilitate the portability of skills and social security benefits, mutual recognition of qualifications and credentials, and the establishment of more effective labour market information systems.

### 5.2.1. Main objective

IOM will contribute to facilitating decent employment and regular labour migration opportunities within and across African regions, as well as beyond the continent, through bilateral and multilateral labour agreements and dialogue. This will contribute to reducing youth and women unemployment, socioeconomic vulnerabilities and irregular migration. IOM will work closely with the AUC in strengthening skills development and job creation for youth, in accordance with the African Union youth employment strategy, the African Youth Charter and Agenda 2063. In the same vein, IOM will support the AUC's 1 million by 2021 Initiative, which "targets direct investments in millions of African youth on [the] four key elements of Employment, Entrepreneurship, Education and Engagement, through leveraging partnerships and private sector opportunities."<sup>26</sup>

### 5.2.2. Key priorities

- (a) Strengthen its partnership with the AUC on labour migration governance in Africa through the Joint Labour Migration Program (JLMP) for Africa and other regional programmes, in close collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), ILO, United Nations agencies, and other stakeholders where necessary. IOM will promote fair and ethical recruitment practices and protection of migrant workers' rights. It will enable cross-border trade, circulation of skills and knowledge, and transnational scientific, technological, entrepreneurial and business linkages.
- (b) Design innovative solutions to mobilize African migrant workers through diaspora engagement strategies for socioeconomic development, facilitate their integration in the host country and their development linkages with the homeland, and ensure the dignified return and successful reintegration of migrants.

<sup>26</sup> AUC, "Launch of the "1 Million by 2021 Initiative"", *Youth Forum*, 24–27 April 2019. Available at: <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20190424/launch-1-million-2021-initiative-pan-african-youth-forum>.

- (c) Strengthen the capacities of African governments to address brain drain and brain waste issues and support brain gain and brain circulation. IOM will build on its substantial experience to respond to the recommendations of the MFPA and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD, the development agency of the African Union) to reverse African "brain drain" and retain and attract African talent abroad, thus contributing towards the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration and the migration-related SDGs.
- (d) Work to ensure better governance of African students' migration and mobility within and outside the continent, to address the underlying challenges and maximize the opportunities.
- (e) Foster dialogue and cooperation on labour migration and youth and women's employment, promote fair and ethical recruitment practices and labour relations, and address abuses, exploitation and human rights violations of migrant workers, especially women, girls and those working in the informal economy. Further support the improvement of data collection and harmonization on the above topics through ongoing initiatives at the subregional and regional levels.

### 5.3. ADDRESS CHALLENGES RELATED TO IRREGULAR MIGRATION, TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS, AND ENSURE PROTECTION OF THE MOST VULNERABLE

The MPFA and various plans and strategies in the past two decades<sup>27</sup> underline the strong need to strengthen prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships to address the problem of trafficking and smuggling in Africa while protecting the human rights of victims.

#### 5.3.1. Main objective

IOM will support the AUC and African RECs and Member States in the development and implementation of sound migration policy and legal instruments, and will facilitate dialogue aimed at reducing incidents of and eventually eradicating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. In this regard, continued engagement through ongoing initiatives, such as the African Union–Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (AU–HoAI), will be a priority. Support will also be geared towards capacity-building of institutions and policymakers, building on IOM's solid experience in Africa and its convening capacity within the United Nations system as Coordinator and Secretariat of the United Nations Network on Migration, with a focus on protection and human rights.

#### 5.3.2. Key priorities

- (a) Enhance support to African RECs and Member States to address individual vulnerabilities to trafficking and exploitation, especially among women and girls, through prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships. Additionally, IOM will promote legal migration options, support human rights-based border management policies and strengthen States' capacities to embed procedures and processes that permit law enforcement to target organized migrant-smuggling more effectively.

<sup>27</sup> For example, the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, especially Women and Children (2006); the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy) (2004); the African Union–Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants (AU–HoAI) (2014); the African Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa ("Lomé Charter") (2017); the African Union Social Policy Framework for Africa; and the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (one of the "Palermo Protocols", the others being the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition).

- (b) Strengthen efforts to address smuggling of migrants, in line with international law. Specifically, support the development and implementation of relevant policy and legal instruments and the African Union’s Continental Operational Centre in Khartoum to foster AUC–IOM cooperation on curbing irregular migration, and especially trafficking and smuggling, and on related data collection.
- (c) Support awareness-raising of the wide-ranging forms of human trafficking, including sex trafficking, forced labour and trafficking in human organs, and foster partnerships and cooperation in these areas, including by supporting regional and continental initiatives such as the African Union–Horn of Africa Initiative.
- (d) Contribute to a deeper understanding of maritime migration (especially irregular maritime migration). Assist in better management of maritime migration to address mixed migrant flows along maritime routes and develop and strengthen the capacity of frontline border officials to effectively combat migrant-smuggling, while respecting human rights and meeting protection needs.
- (e) Facilitate voluntary humanitarian return and reintegration and strengthen the capacities of African governments in sustainable recovery and reintegration policies and programmes, with a focus on enhancing the livelihoods, access to essential services, and well-being of returnees and communities, especially in regions with significant out- and re-migration.
- (f) Support governments in developing and enhancing existing inter-State cooperation and partnerships in the field of return and readmission by facilitating dialogue (such as by broadening mobility partnership discussions to include regular migration pathways and visa facilitation schemes), providing policy and legal advice, building capacity on return and readmission, and providing technical support in case management.
- (g) Enhance collaboration with States and UNODC to support policy development that facilitates, without stigmatization, care, remedy and redress for victims of trafficking, to enable more sustainable reintegration in the country of origin.

## 5.4. ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT WITH MIGRANTS AND THE DIASPORA TO CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT

It is essential to enhance the fundamental role of migrants and diasporas in contributing not only remittances but also social, cultural and human capital to host and home communities. Migrants and the diaspora can contribute to poverty eradication and local development, not least by focusing on rural areas and secondary towns, rather than urban centres, and by supporting education, incomes and decent jobs. The Constitutive Act of the African Union invites and encourages full participation of the African diaspora as an essential part of Africa, recognizing it as the “sixth region” of the African Union.

### 5.4.1. Main objective

IOM, in collaboration with African RECs and Member States and other migrant-receiving regions beyond Africa, can help boost the structural transformation of African economies through capacity-building to mainstream migration and the diaspora in sectoral development, diaspora-mapping, and in designing diaspora engagement policies and programmes.

#### 5.4.2. Key priorities

- (a) Support the AUC in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit (2012), including the so-called “Legacy Projects”.
- (b) Support the AUC and African RECs and Member States in developing sound diaspora engagement policies and strategies to enhance diaspora contributions to African development. This includes developing methodologies for and the actual conduct of diaspora-mapping.
- (c) Support the efforts of the AUC and African RECs and Member States to mobilize the skills and resources of the diaspora to enhance the institutional capacities of national and regional governments.
- (d) Engage in fostering the development potential of the African intracontinental diaspora (given the prominence of intra-African migration).
- (e) Enhance collaboration with the African Institute of Remittances (AIR) to foster the role of remittance transfers in inclusive growth and in the socioeconomic development of Africa, alongside partners such as the African Development Bank (AfDB) and UNECA.
- (f) Strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) to address the consequences of the international migration of health professionals on the health systems and socioeconomic development of African countries.
- (g) Support African diaspora engagement efforts in addressing challenges related to disease, pandemics and poor health; education, social welfare systems and unemployment; environmental and climate migration; conflicts, disasters and forced displacement; and irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling.

#### 5.5. STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENTS' AND OTHER KEY ACTORS' EFFORTS AND CAPACITIES TO BETTER RESPOND TO THE DRIVERS OF CRISES AND DISPLACEMENT, AND TO ACHIEVE DURABLE SOLUTIONS

An increasing number of African States are confronting conflicts and violent extremism, as well as crises due to disasters, climate change and environmental degradation, thereby undermining prospects for peace, development, prosperity and security. Displacement is both a consequence of disasters and conflicts and a driver of heightened disaster risk. It significantly increases the physical, social, psychological and economic vulnerabilities of affected communities by disrupting family and community life, commercial activities and livelihoods, and psychosocial and mental well-being. In fragile and conflict-affected settings, this heightened vulnerability can interact with pre-existing risks to both amplify their impact and generate new compound risks.

Aspiration 3 of Agenda 2063 envisions an Africa with good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and rule of law, all of which would minimize forced displacement. To enable the AUC and African RECs and Member States to respond to forced displacement and address its root causes, the African Union adopted the 2009 African Union Convention for the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (“Kampala Convention”) and the 2018 Model Law for its implementation, the African Union Humanitarian Policy Framework (2015), and the African Common Position on Humanitarian Effectiveness (2016), among other strategies, and other related instruments. These efforts have further been strengthened by the Thirty-first African Union Summit decision to fast-



track the establishment of an African Humanitarian Agency and declare 2019 as “Year of Refugees, Returnees and IDPs: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa.”

#### 5.5.1. Main objective

The AUC and IOM will strengthen efforts to find durable solutions to internal displacement and forced migration. They will remain committed to the human rights of migrants and displaced persons and reinforce the importance of safe, orderly, and regular migration to ensure that migration is a choice rather than a necessity.

#### 5.5.2. Key priorities

- (a) Support African governments and RECs to protect lives and reduce morbidity in complex emergencies and natural disasters, while investing in Member States’ capacity to prepare for and respond to other humanitarian shocks, including natural disasters, conflict and displacement.
- (b) Support the AUC, RECs and Member States in the development and implementation of policies and legal frameworks aimed at addressing the root causes of displacement and finding durable solutions to displacement.
- (c) Support more effective interventions through the development of robust data collection, statistics, information, research, evaluation and monitoring as regards the drivers and causes of migrants’ and displaced persons’ vulnerabilities to crises and emergencies.
- (d) Support collaboration with the UNCTs to find durable solutions to displacement and humanitarian crises through transition and recovery, peacebuilding, disaster risk reduction, sustainable socioeconomic development, and emergency preparedness response policies and programmes, in cooperation with United Nations agencies and other relevant partners.
- (e) Contribute to preventing and countering violent extremism, focusing on youth at risk and vulnerable social groups, while increasing awareness-raising and advocacy, as jointly as possible with other United Nations agencies, to address the tendency to stigmatize migrants (including pastoralists), displaced persons and refugees as potentially fuelling violent extremism.
- (f) Work closely with the forthcoming African Union Humanitarian Agency to address the fundamental challenges of forced displacement in Africa.

## 5.6. CONTRIBUTE TO GOVERNMENTS' EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

The devastating impacts of increasing drought, unpredictable and often intense rainfall, and rising temperatures, along with environmental degradation, pose significant challenges for communities that rely on natural resources, especially in rural areas where rain-fed agriculture is practised, triggering the growth of forced displacement and climate change-induced migration. With droughts and desertification hampering livelihoods in arid and semi-arid regions, there are growing clashes between migrating herdsman and farmers competing for scarce resources. The integration of migration in climate change policy is vital to ensuring that vulnerable communities can use regular migration as an adaptation strategy if and when they choose to, rather than resorting to irregular migration as a desperate coping strategy. Climate change has worsened regional outlooks by generating increasingly extreme and unpredictable weather patterns and heightening systemic disaster risk. The severity and frequency of climate-related disasters are particularly acute in conflict-affected and fragile contexts, further impeding States' capacity to adapt to shocks and manage disaster risk. Across the continent, there is growing vulnerability to several critical hazards, including water scarcity, rising sea levels, flooding, land degradation and unsustainable increases in temperature.

### 5.6.1. Main objective

IOM will support the development of innovative approaches to the migration–climate change nexus and address displacement caused by climate change and environmental degradation.

### 5.6.2. Key priorities

- (a) Support African governments in enhancing their understanding of environmental and climate migration and on developing policies and programmes that stabilize vulnerable communities and allow them to choose safe and regular migration as an adaptation strategy.
- (b) Strengthen the capacities of State and non-State actors in preparedness, disaster management, and in building the resilience of migrants and displaced persons facing climate change, environmental degradation and disasters.
- (c) Help to foster a holistic, integrated and coordinated approach to address the interrelationships between migration, displacement, climate change and environmental degradation, especially in emerging and protracted crises.
- (d) Support the implementation of frameworks, plans and policies relating to migration and climate change, as well as the mainstreaming of the migration–environment–climate change nexus in development policy-planning and the SDGs at the national and regional levels.

6.

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PARTNERSHIPS





## 6. PARTNERSHIPS

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IOM will support intra-African, South–South, North–South, and African Union–European Union partnerships on migration alongside cooperation on migration between Africa and other continents.

IOM will work closely with African Union stakeholders and African Union-related institutions and agencies (e.g. the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), NEPAD, the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the Pan-African Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC)), RECs, Member States, and United Nations agencies, as well as other relevant partners, to enhance coordination and cooperation on migration governance, mobility and resilience. The Organization, in its capacity as Secretariat, will continue to support RCPs and foster intra-RCP dialogues,<sup>28</sup> such as the PAFoM and the newly established Nairobi Process and its regional Secretariat based in Nairobi.

Given the increasing relevance of new destinations in Asia and the Americas for African migrants, the IOM Continental Strategy for Africa can provide avenues for facilitating intercontinental dialogue on migration with other regions around the world, including through existing (intra)regional processes. IOM, as Coordinator and Secretariat of the United Nations Network on Migration, will develop multi-stakeholder and multipronged partnerships for the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration and accompany regional reporting efforts and reviews that would align fully on the migration-related SDGs and relevant Agenda 2063 objectives.

IOM will consider the wide-ranging actors involved (directly and indirectly) in migration governance and management: State actors (e.g. governments officials, national statistical offices, specialized agencies, subnational or provincial stakeholders), and non-State actors (e.g. local communities, grassroots organizations, religious and traditional leaders, women and youth CSOs, migrants and diaspora associations, as well as employers' and workers' organizations). IOM will strengthen its valuable partnerships with local authorities and CSOs that are the primary implementing partners in the field to provide tailored and inclusive interventions.

The Organization will strengthen its partnerships with international organizations, diplomatic missions and embassies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, international financial institutions, academic and research institutions, the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions, and media, to name a few, to ensure migration-sensitive operational responses and the development of policy and advocacy frameworks.

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<sup>28</sup> Visit [www.iom.int/interregional-forums-migration](http://www.iom.int/interregional-forums-migration) for more information on various RCPs.

7.

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LOOKING FORWARD





## 7. LOOKING FORWARD

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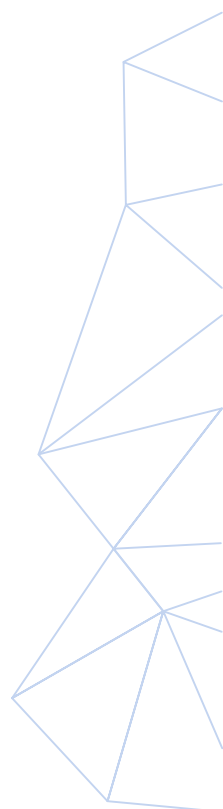
Within the IOM–African Union partnership on migration and in collaboration with African RECs and Member States, United Nations agencies and relevant partners, it is crucial to strengthen all aspects of migration governance and management through innovative and dynamic approaches connected to African realities and values systems. To achieve this, implementation of the upcoming adopted Plan of Action for the Global Compact for Migration, integration of migration into the SDGs and sectoral development policy-planning, revitalization of regional and interregional consultative processes, and improvement in the validity and quality of relevant migration data will all be essential. Effective and strong migration governance frameworks that can promote a positive narrative about the role of migration are foundational to success.

Building on its comparative advantages as the lead actor in migration, IOM will ensure effective, timely and coordinated United Nations system-wide support to African Member States, drawing from various areas of expertise at the global level and engaging with United Nations teams at the country and regional levels. IOM will contribute to strengthening the significant development outcomes of African migration, consonant with Agenda 2063 for effective integration, lasting peace, prosperity and inclusive, sustainable development of the African continent.

IOM will draw from its expertise and extensive experience to consolidate its interventions and explore avenues of opportunities within the humanitarian–development–peace nexus and in accordance with core international norms and human values to accompany Member States on the continent in initiating and sustaining migration policies that protect and assist people on the move.

While the COVID-19 pandemic is first and foremost a health crisis, it is having an unprecedented and devastating impact on migration, human mobility and displacement, both in terms of migration and border management systems, and on the situation of all people on the move.

The ability to develop successful responses to COVID-19 that protect both people on the move and their host communities and communities of origin and harness the power of migration for “recovering better” depends on a solid understanding of the effects of the pandemic on human mobility. Concerted and coordinated actions and responses are needed in a spirit of shared responsibility among States and other national and international stakeholders.



# ANNEX. SELECTED DATA ON AFRICAN MIGRATION

**Table 1. International migrant stock in Africa at mid-year by sex, 1990–2019**

International migrant stock at mid-year (both sexes)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
15 689 666	16 357 077	15 051 677	15 969 835	17 804 198	23 476 251	26 529 334
International migrant stock at mid-year (male)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
8 279 127	8 619 901	7 996 691	8 666 607	9 542 242	12 505 720	14 060 898
International migrant stock at mid-year (female)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
7 410 539	7 737 176	7 054 986	7 303 228	8 261 956	10 970 531	12 468 436

Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) Population Division, "International migrant stock 2019", data set (New York, United Nations, 2020). Available at [www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/index.asp](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/index.asp) (accessed in May 2020).

**Table 2. Top 10 African migrant-sending countries for Gulf Cooperation Council countries**

Country	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017
Chad	12 557	11 440	9 300	5 790	6 693	7 156	7 488
Egypt	700 369	732 802	812 226	1 052 392	1 760 225	2 374 997	2 479 365
Eritrea	8 141	8 702	10 428	12 686	24 194	26 045	27 070
Ethiopia	67 206	69 158	72 058	87 713	117 755	138 123	165 603
Morocco	5 099	5 467	6 268	6 582	11 691	12 372	13 704
Nigeria	3 075	3 231	3 814	7 891	18 219	24 864	25 965
Somalia	5 138	5 553	6 793	7 415	13 267	10 930	14 535
South Sudan	5 081	6 433	7 990	8 735	17 190	14 425	20 010
Sudan	252 683	266 270	289 303	342 971	493 680	538 690	656 875
Tunisia	2 568	2 744	3 266	3 955	7 538	8 646	9 023

Source: Kennedy Atong, Emmanuel Mayah and Akhator Odigie, *Africa Labour Migration to the GCC States: The Case of Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda (An African Trade Union Overview)* (Lomé, African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation, 2018), p. 13 (calculations based on UN DESA data compiled in 2018). Available at [www.ituc-africa.org/STUDY-on-AFRICA-LABOUR-MIGRATION-TO-THE-GCC-STATES-THE-CASE-OF-GHANA-KENYA.html](http://www.ituc-africa.org/STUDY-on-AFRICA-LABOUR-MIGRATION-TO-THE-GCC-STATES-THE-CASE-OF-GHANA-KENYA.html).

**Table 3. Top ten countries in terms of share of African migration to OECD countries, 2000/2001, 2005/2006 and 2015/2016**

2000/2001	% share	2005/2006	% share	2010/2011	% share	2015/2016	% share
Morocco	23.4	Morocco	23.8	Morocco	24.1	Morocco	23.8
Algeria	18.5	Algeria	15.8	Algeria	14.3	Algeria	12.5
Tunisia	6.4	Tunisia	5.5	South Africa	5.3	Nigeria	5.7
South Africa	5.0	South Africa	5.3	Nigeria	5.2	South Africa	5.1
Egypt	4.6	Nigeria	4.3	Tunisia	5.1	Tunisia	5.0
Nigeria	3.6	Egypt	3.8	Egypt	4.0	Egypt	4.1
Kenya	2.8	Ghana	2.8	Ghana	3.1	Ethiopia	3.4
Angola	2.7	Ethiopia	2.7	Ethiopia	2.9	Ghana	3.3
Ethiopia	2.3	Kenya	2.7	Somalia	2.7	Somalia	2.9
Ghana	2.3	Somalia	2.4	Kenya	2.5	Senegal	2.5

Note: These numbers include only immigrant populations aged 15 years old and over.

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Database on Immigrants in OECD and non-OECD Countries, cited in: "Are the characteristics and scope of African migration outside of the continent changing?", *Migration Data Brief*, June (Paris, 2019). Available at [www.oecd.org/migration/mig/Migration-data-brief-5-EN.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/migration/mig/Migration-data-brief-5-EN.pdf) (accessed on 10 May 2020).

**Table 4. Total African population at mid-year, by sex, 1990–2019**

Total population of both sexes at mid-year (thousands)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
630 350	717 270	810 984	916 154	1 039 304	1 182 439	1 308 064
Total male population at mid-year (thousands)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
314 377	357 598	404 163	456 648	518 253	590 281	653 514
Total female population at mid-year (thousands)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
315 972	359 673	406 821	459 506	521 051	592 158	654 550

Source: UN DESA, "International migrant stock 2019".

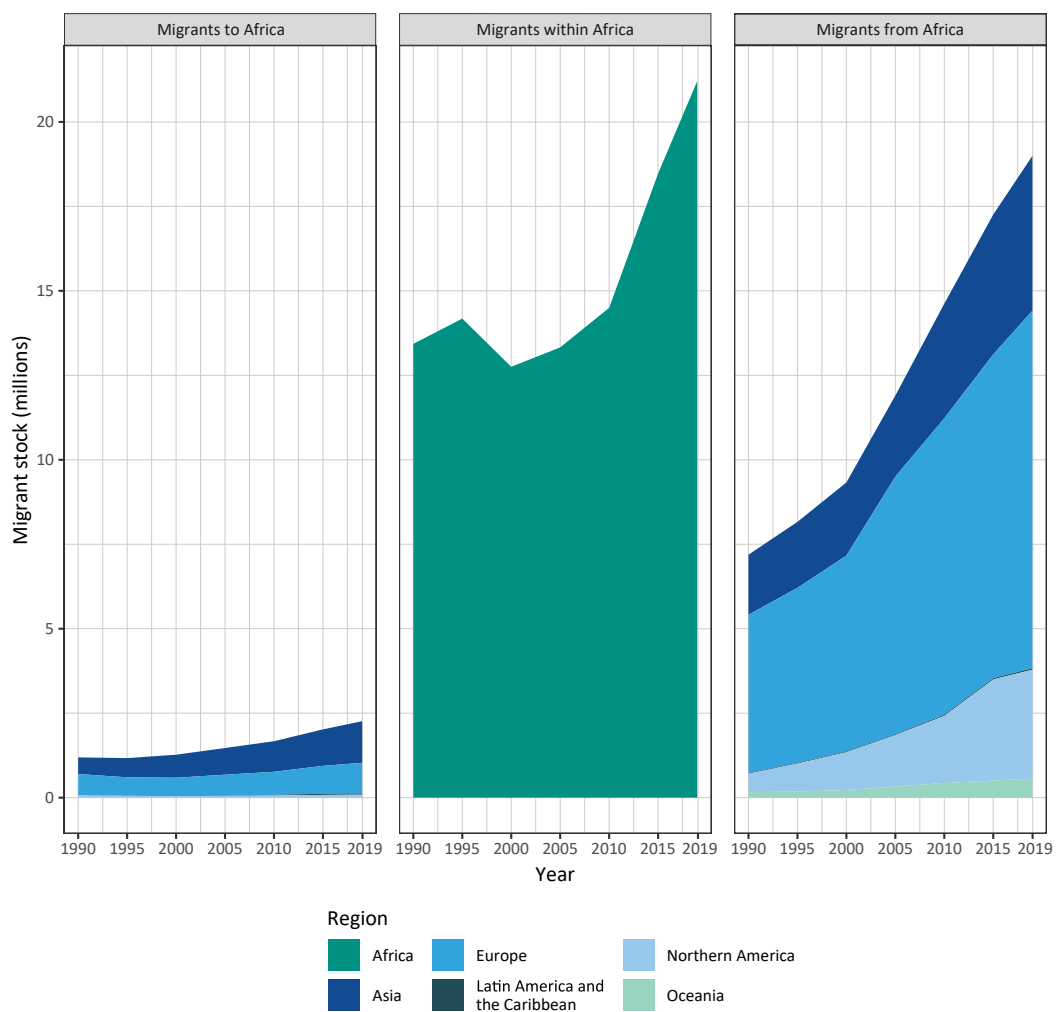
**Table 5. International migrant stock in North Africa at mid-year by sex, 1990–2019**

International migrant stock at mid-year (both sexes)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
2 403 325	2 081 640	1 900 448	1 747 369	1 948 262	2 138 918	2 955 849
International migrant stock at mid-year (male)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
1 230 710	1 105 808	1 056 699	1 044 925	1 153 706	1 273 692	1 674 872
International migrant stock at mid-year (female)						
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
1 172 615	975 832	843 749	702 444	794 556	865 226	1 280 977

Source: UN DESA, "International migrant stock 2019".

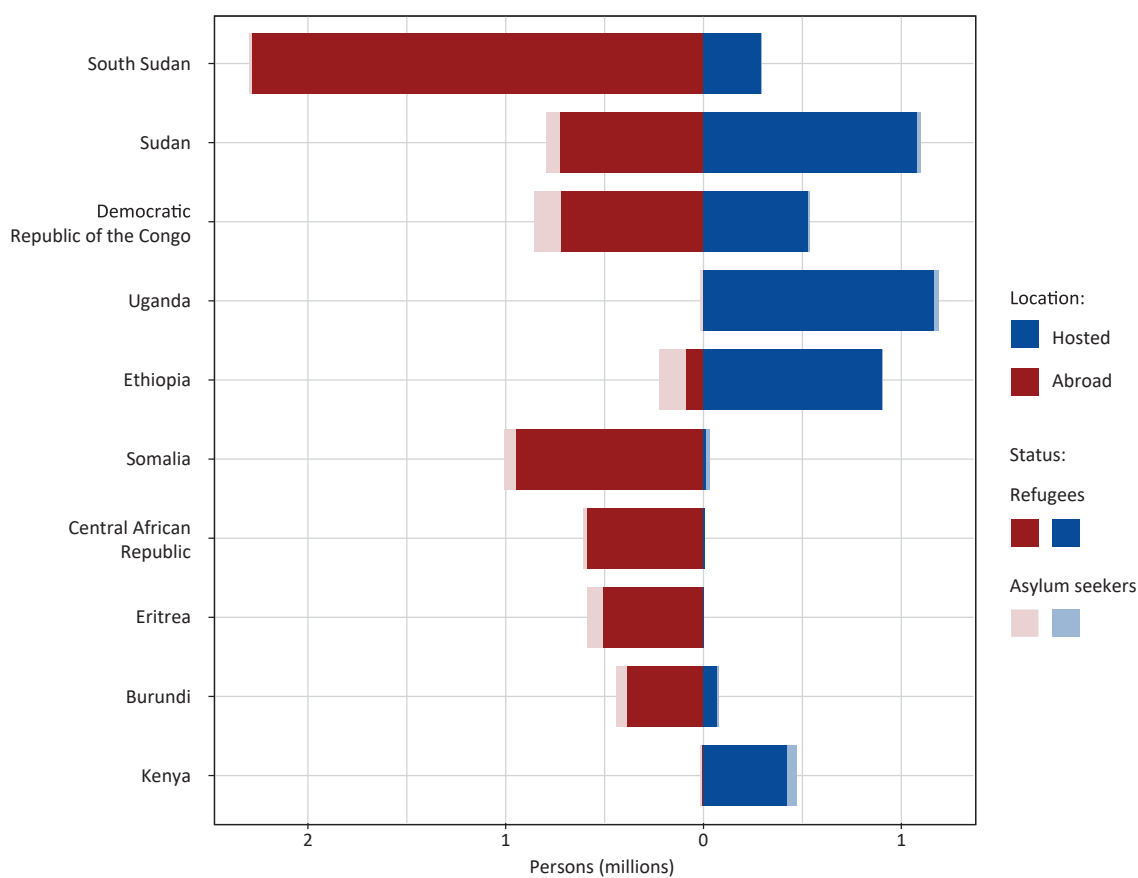


Figure 1. Migrant population to, within and from Africa, 1990–2019



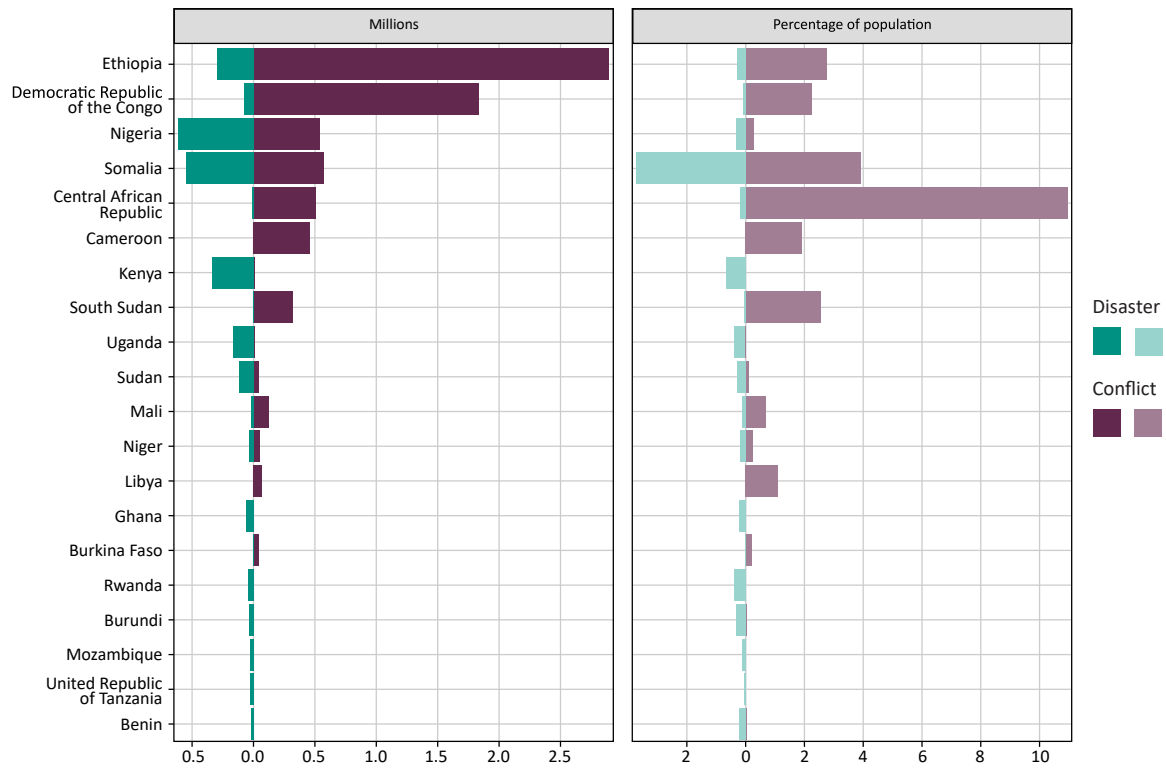
Source: IOM, *World Migration Report 2020* (Geneva, 2019), p. 55. Available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/world-migration-report-2020>.

Figure 2. Top 10 African countries by total number of refugees and asylum seekers, 2018



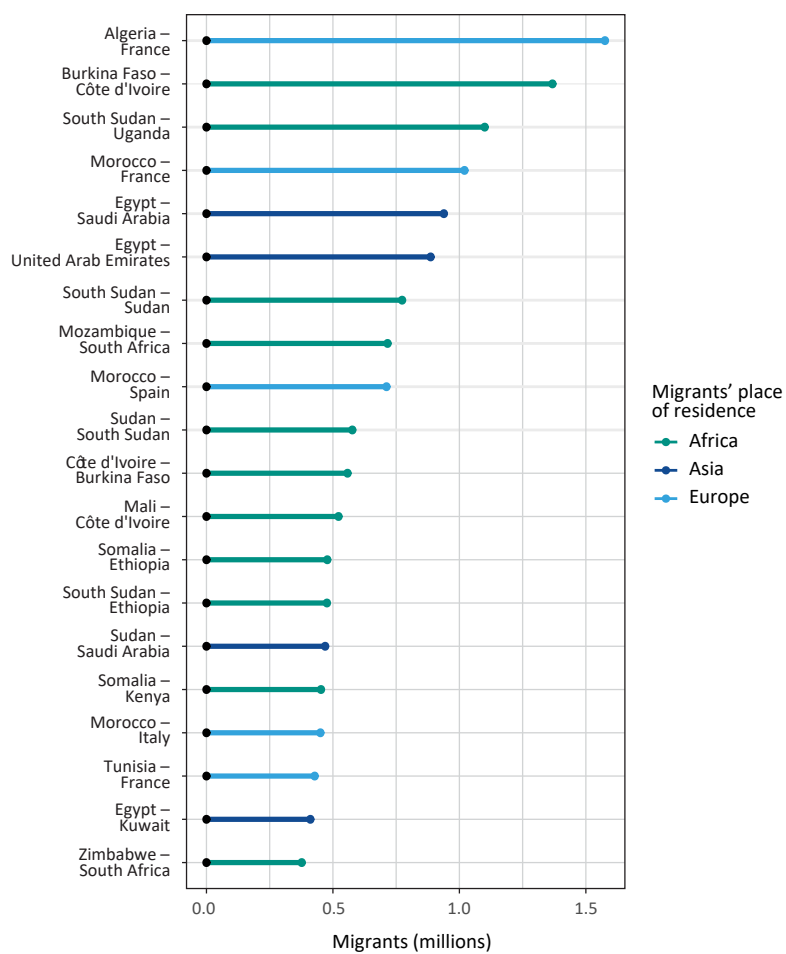
Source: IOM, *World Migration Report 2020*, p. 59.

Figure 3. Top 20 African countries by new internal displacements (disaster and conflict), 2018



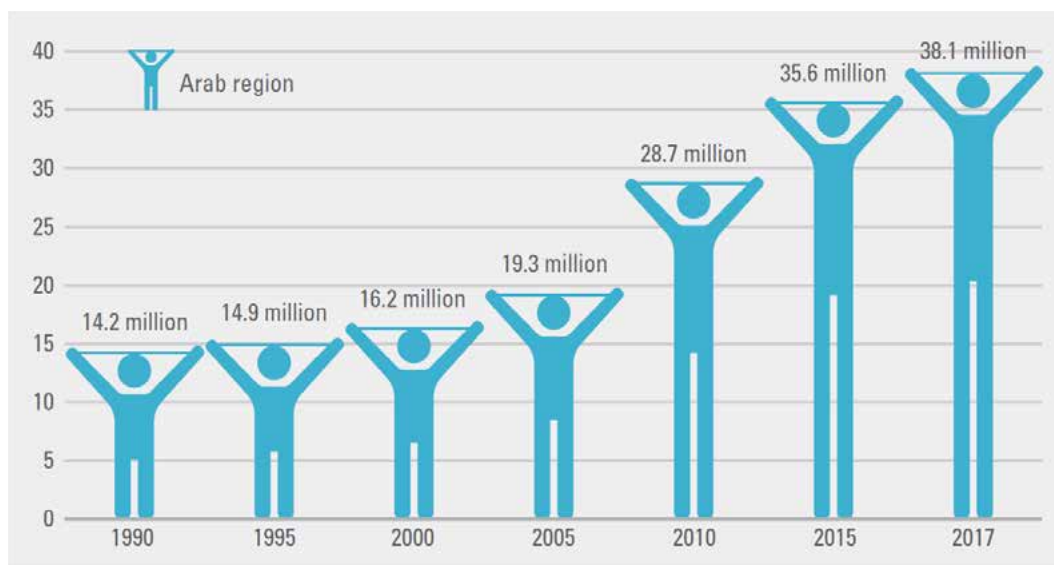
Source: IOM, *World Migration Report 2020*, p. 60.

Figure 4. Top 20 migration corridors involving African countries, 2019



Source: IOM, *World Migration Report 2020*, p. 58.

Figure 5. Number of migrants and refugees in the Arab region, 1990–2017



Source: Calculations by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), based on: UN DESA Population Division, “International migrant stock: the 2017 revision”, data set (New York, 2017). Available at [www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2017/estimates17.asp](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2017/estimates17.asp) (accessed on 7 August 2018). In: ESCWA and IOM, *Situation Report on International Migration 2019: The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the Context of the Arab Region* (Beirut, United Nations and Geneva, IOM, 2019), p. 16. Available at [www.unescwa.org/publications/situation-report-international-migration-2019](http://www.unescwa.org/publications/situation-report-international-migration-2019).



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