In January 2020, several significant mobility trends and events were observed in the West and Central Africa region, including:

- Large increases in migration flows throughout the region linked to the resumption of gold panning activities.
- The increase in the number of migrant arrivals by boat to the Canary Islands (Spain) from 40 in January 2019 to 708 in January 2020.
- The return of 116 Nigerien migrants from Libya on board humanitarian charter flights.
- The return of 1,300 Sub-Saharan migrants from Algeria to Niger.
- Multiple attacks by Non-State Armed Groups in the Lake Chad Basin, leading to the displacement of over 13,000 individuals in Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad.

In Burkina Faso, data is collected at five FMPs located at strategic transit points throughout the country. In January 2020, an average of 2,138 individuals were observed crossing the FMPs daily – an 11 per cent increase from the December 2019 figures (1,921). This increase overlaps with the return of migrants who had gone home for the end-of-year holidays and the resumption of gold panning activities in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, which attract large numbers of labor migrants. The majority of travellers (61%) were adult men, while 24 per cent were adult women and 15 per cent were children. Seven per cent of individuals were children under five and 6 per cent were pregnant women.

Across all FMPs in the country, a large majority of travellers had departed from Burkina Faso (72%, a 3 p.p. decrease when compared to November, pointing to a decrease in outgoing flows in January) followed by Niger (9%), Côte d’Ivoire (9%) and Togo (5%). Following a trend first observed in December 2019, the three primary destinations of flows differed sharply from previous observations, with the share of travellers headed for Burkina Faso growing by 9 p.p., in the past two months (to reach 28% of flows).
This indicates that the number of incoming travellers grew substantially when compared to previous months. Côte d’Ivoire (37%) nevertheless remained the primary destination of flows, although it decreased by 5 p.p. when compared to December 2019. In numbers similar to that of previous months, seasonal migration (36%), short-term local movements (32%) and long-term economic migration (30%) were the main reasons for travel.

The main nationality groups observed at the FMPs were Burkinabé (64%), Niégré (26%) and Malien (4%) migrants. These figures were similar to those observed in December 2019 and returned to numbers generally observed, after witnessing significant changes in November 2019.

The Kousseri FMP, in the Far North region of Cameroon, which was activated in November 2019, primarily records flows to and from Chad. Kousseri borders Chad (the neighbouring city on the Chadian side of the border is N’Djamena, Chad’s capital).

In January 2020, an average of 554 individuals were recorded at the Kousseri FMP each day. This represents a 49 per cent increase since December 2019 (364), which follows a significant decrease (of 42%) between November and December 2019. The majority of travellers (56%) were male, while 44 per cent were female. Sixteen per cent of travellers were children.

Large numbers of vulnerable individuals were observed in January 2020, including 9 per cent of children under five years old, 7 per cent of pregnant women and 5 per cent of elderly travellers.

The main destinations of travellers evolved drastically between December 2019 and January 2020. While Cameroon remained the main destination of flows crossing Kousseri, with 87 per cent of travellers headed to Cameroon, this figure reflected a 6 p.p. increase in the share of incoming travellers. Meanwhile, the share of travellers going to Chad (9%) and Nigeria (3%) witnessed relative drops, of 4 p.p. and 1 p.p. respectively. The provenance of travellers was also subject to large shifts: the share of travellers coming from Cameroon jumped by 15 p.p. (from 70% to 85%) of travellers, while the proportion of individuals travelling from Chad dropped by 14 p.p. (from 28% to 14%).

Reasons for travel experienced significant shifts since the previous month: seasonal migration (40% of movements) overtook both long-term economic migration and short-term local movements as the primary reason for travel, increasing by 14 p.p. since the previous month. It was followed by short-term movements (25%) and long-term economic migration (24%). The share of tourists continued to grow (from 3% to 6%), while the share of forcibly displaced individuals remained stable (5%).

With the Kousseri FMP located along to the Chadian border, the vast majority of travellers transiting through the FMP were either nationals of Cameroon (62% of travellers) or Chad (27%). Further, because Kousseri is located relatively close to the border with Nigeria, a significant proportion of individuals (8%) from Nigeria.

In Chad, data is collected at FMPs in Zouarkè, Faya (in northern Chad), Rig-Rig (located close to the Niger border) and Sarh (situated in southern Chad).

Over the reporting period, an average of 969 individuals per day were recorded at the four FMPs, a 42 per cent increase when compared to December 2019 (685). This large increase was a result of the resumption of gold panning activities in northern Chad and in Niger, as well as the rumoured discovery of a gold mine in the Central African Republic (CAR).

The primary reasons for travel were short-term economic movements (representing 77% of flows) and long-term economic migration (47%). The share of seasonal migrants observed in January 2020, meanwhile, represented 1 per cent of travellers and was overtaken by tourism (5%) as the third-most reason for travel.

The majority of travellers (72%, a 5 p.p. increase from the previous reporting period) were adult men, while the share of women was 16 per cent (a 5 p.p. decrease from December 2019). The share of children represented 12 per cent of travellers observed. Four per cent of travellers were children under five years old, while 6 per cent were pregnant women, 3 per cent were elderly and 4 per cent were living with a mental or physical disability.

The vast majority of identified individuals (98%) were Chadian nationals, while an incidental share of travellers were CAR (1%) or Niégré (1%) nationals.

In Guinea, data is collected at three FMPs located in Boundoufournoudou (along the border with Senegal), Kouremalé and Nafadjé (both along the border with Mali), which observe flows to and from Mali and Senegal.

In January 2020, a daily average of 1,483 individuals was observed at the FMPs. A very similar number of daily travellers had been observed in December 2019.

When compared to other countries in the region, larger shares of the observed migrants were adult women (34%) and children (23%), including 7 per cent of children under five years old. In contrast, a much smaller proportion of travellers (43%) identified in Guinea compared to other countries were adult men. The largest share of migrants observed (69%) were Guinean nationals, while the rest originated from a variety of countries in the West and Central Africa region (including 6% from Mali, 5% from Sierra Leone and 3% from Côte d’Ivoire).

The primary reasons for travel were long-term economic migration (47%), short-term local movements (38%) and seasonal migration (12%).

The majority of individuals observed (53%) were leaving the country: most outgoing travellers (primarily observed in Kouremalé and Nafadjé) were headed to Mali (27%), while Senegal, the second-most mentioned destination of outgoing flows (mainly by travellers in Boundoufournoudou) accounted for 22 per cent of total flows.

In Mali, the Gogui FMP, located on the border between Mali and Mauritania, observes mobility flows between the two countries, while the Wabaria (in the city of Gao), Timbuktu, Inhald (in Kidal region), Place Kidal and Ménaka FMPs mainly capture travellers heading towards Algeria or travelling within Mali. The other FMPs (Bamako, Sévaré, Here, Makonono, Benara) are major transit stations dispatched throughout the country.

Average daily flows observed in January 2020 grew by 4 per cent (from 283 to 293 observed on average each day). This follows a 6 per cent growth between November and December. A large majority of observed individuals (83%) were adult men, while 13 per cent were adult women and 4 per cent were children.
Malian nationals were the most prevalent nationality group amongst travellers observed at FMPs in Mali (representing 40% of travellers, or 5 p.p. more than the previous month). Guinean (15%), Burkinabé (8%) Ivoirian (7%), and Gambian (6%) nationals were other well-represented nationality groups, reflecting the breadth and diversity of individuals transiting through Mali during their migration journey.

In terms of destination of travellers, the majority of individuals were travelling to a destination in Mali (58%, 5 p.p. more than in December 2019). Algeria, the foremost destination until March 2019, in November 2019 ranked fourth, accounting for 7 per cent of flows. Other significant destinations of flows included Burkina Faso (15%, or a 5 p.p. decrease compared to December 2019) and Mauritania (15%).

The vast majority of migrants (95%) were undertaking long-term economic migration. Five per cent of travellers were seasonal migrants. Moreover, for the second month in a row, no migrants conducting short-term movements was reported at Mali FMPs.

In Nigeria, the Sokoto FMP captures flows between Nigeria and Niger (mainly to Maradi, Tahoua and Agadez) with observed travellers split between those departing Nigeria for Niger and those arriving to Nigeria from Niger. The Kano FMP captures flows between Nigeria and Niger, Chad, and, in smaller numbers, Cameroon. Observed flows are mainly composed of outflows from Nigeria to Niger, or internal travel within Nigeria.

The number of individuals observed at the Kano and Sokoto FMPs in January 2020 (1,208) witnessed a 5 per cent decrease from the previous month (1,269). This trend may possibly be a result of tighter security and stricter controls linked to insecurity in the border area with Niger.

The majority of observed individuals (63%) were adult men, while 20 per cent were adult women and 17 per cent were children, including 6 per cent of children under five. A significant share of travellers (13%) were elderly (aged 60 or older). Travellers were primarily carrying out short-term local movements (43%), long-term economic migration (36%) or seasonal migration (11%). Notably, 10 per cent of individuals were tourists.

The main nationalities observed were Nigerian (51%), Nigerien (34%) and Chadian (5%) nationals. The majority of travellers were travelling to Niger (62%), while 36 per cent were travelling to Nigeria and 1 per cent to Chad and Cameroon respectively. Similarly, the majority of travellers (64%) were coming from Nigeria, while 35 per cent were travelling from Niger.

In Niger, the Airlit and Séguedine FMPs primarily observe movements to and from Algeria and Libya, respectively. Three of the FMPs (Dan Issa, Dan Barto and Magaria) are located along the border between Niger and Nigeria. The FMP at Tahoua, situated in central Niger, between the Tillabery region in the east, Nigeria in the south and the Agadez region in the north, was established to help understand internal movement flows. Finally, the Madama FMP, located on the Libyan border, was set up to capture flows that were not caught by the Séguedine FMP because of the proliferation of bypass routes.

An average of 1,680 individuals were observed daily at the seven FMPs in October 2019, representing a slight 2 per cent decrease as compared to November 2019 (1,707). The majority (70%) were adult men, while 19 per cent were adult women and 11 per cent were children. The share of children under five was 6 per cent. Four per cent of individuals crossing through FMPs were pregnant women, 2 per cent were elderly and 1 per cent were living with a physical or mental disability.

The majority of flows observed were internal movements (54%). This represents a 4 p.p. increase from the previous month. Meanwhile, outgoing flows represented a per cent of all flows, a 3 p.p. decrease from the previous reporting period, and incoming flows accounted for 18 per cent of flows, a 1 p.p. decrease. The primary reasons for migration were long-term economic migration (40%), seasonal migration (34%) and short-term movements (25%).

Niger and Nigeria were the main countries of provenance, although important evolutions were observed in December 2019: 72 per cent of travellers were going to Niger, corresponding to a 10 p.p. decrease when compared to November, and 9 per cent of travellers were headed for Nigeria. In addition, 9 per cent of migrants were travelling to Libya, an increase of 4 p.p. from the previous reporting period. Similarly, Niger was the main country of destination of travellers (72%). Meanwhile, 9 per cent of travellers intended to go to Nigeria and Libya. Importantly, for the first time since March 2019, travellers were going to Algeria; this was the case for 9 per cent of individuals observed at the Niger FMPs.

The majority of individuals observed at the seven FMPs were Niger nationals (78%, 7 p.p. less than the previous month), with the next most-represented nationality being Beninese (14%, a 4 p.p. increase).

In Senegal, data is collected at Flow Monitoring Points in Kidira (situated on along the border with Mali) and Moussala (located close to the Malian and Guinean borders).

Between December 2019 and January 2020, the number of individuals observed at the two FMPs grew by 21 per cent, going from 317 to 383. This large increase may be a result of forced displacement from Mali. Most travellers (67%) were adult men, while 31 per cent were adult women (an 8 p.p. decrease from December 2019). Eight per cent were children, including 3 per cent who were under five years old. Additionally, 4 per cent of travellers were elderly and 2 per cent were pregnant women.

The most notable trends observed this month was the increase in travellers who were being forcibly displaced: their share tripled, from 3 per cent to 9 per cent. This increase may be explained by displacement generated by insecurity in neighbouring Mali. In line with what had previously been observed but in a stark reversal from the previous reporting period, primary reasons for travel were equally shared between long-term economic migration (40%) and short-term local movements (34%). It is worth noting that a significant share of travellers (14%) were tourists.

The vast majority of observed travellers (87%) had travelled from Mali, followed by Senegal (10%) and The Gambia (2%). Meanwhile, the share of migrants travelling to Senegal witnessed an increase of 2 p.p. (to reach 82% of flows), while the share of travellers headed to Mali (13%) and The Gambia (4%) remained relatively stable.

The majority of observed individuals (58%), a 5 p.p. increase from December 2019) were Malian nationals. Meanwhile, Senegalese travellers represented 23 per
cent of observed individuals. The remaining travellers were from a variety of West African countries, including The Gambia, Nigeria, Niger, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Burkina Faso.

**Internal Forced Displacement**

**Burkina Faso**

- Current Implementation Round
- Round 2 (TBD)

Latest count of populations tracked and monitored
- As of Round 1 – August 2019
  - 10,293 Internally Displaced

Total number of displaced individuals identified in the country, as of 31 January 2020
- 790,959 Internally Displaced (OCHA)

Implementation Components
- Household Survey, Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Registration
- Current Geographical Coverage
  - 34 locations in Est Region
- Published Information Products
  - Household Profile, Displacement Dashboard, Displacement Report

**Cameroon (North-West + South-West)**

Implementation Components
- Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Mobility Tracking (Site)
- Current Geographical Coverage
  - 1,163 locations in North-West and South-West, Littoral and West Regions

Total number of displaced individuals identified, as of 31 January 2020
- 679,000 Internally Displaced (OCHA)
- 237,349 Returnees (OCHA)

IOM Cameroon conducted Round 2 of Mobility Tracking (Baseline) and Multi-Sectoral assessments in August 2019 to evaluate the evolution in numbers, living conditions and sectoral needs of populations displaced and affected by the crisis. These assessments were carried out in collaboration with the Organisation for the United Nations Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

DTM assessments were suspended as a result of growing insecurity. No date has yet been set for the resumption of activities.

IOM Cameroon monitors sudden and large population movements in North West and South West through implementation of the Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT). In January 2020, IOM identified several events which generated population displacements in the two regions.

**Central African Republic**

- Current Implementation Round
- Round 9 (December 2019)

Latest count of populations tracked and monitored
- As of Round 8 – July 2019
  - 537,285 Internally Displaced
  - 600,479 Returnees (former IDPs)
  - 263,497 Returnees (from abroad)

Total number of displaced individuals identified in the country, as of 31 January 2020
- 681,708 Internally Displaced [CMP]

Implementation Component
- Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Mobility Tracking (Site), Survey
- Current Geographical Coverage
  - 1,426 location in 9 préfectures (Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou, Nana-Gribizi, Ouaka, Ouhang-Pendé)

Published Information Products
- Displacement Dashboard, Displacement Report, Maps, Return Intention Survey, Report Site Profiles, Neighbourhood Profile, Rapid Assessment, Flash Updates

**displacement.iom.int/cameroon**

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Between 5 May and 10 July 2019, DTM carried out Round 8 of its Baseline Mobility Tracking assessments, identifying a total of 1,401,261 displaced people, including 537,285 IDPs, 600,479 returnees (former IDPs) and 263,497 Returnees from abroad.

Round 9 of DTM assessment has been completed, and results are expected to be published in February 2020.

DTM assessments cover nine of the sixteen prefectures of the Central African Republic (CAR). DTM figures consequently refer to the number of displaced individuals in the area covered and are not representative of total displacement in the country. The CAR government’s Commission sur les mouvements de populations (CMP), with the support of UNHCR, provides estimates of the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country.

** Chad (Lac) **

Current Implementation Round
Round 10 (January 2020)

Latest count of populations tracked and monitored
As of Round 9 – September 2019
169,003 Internally Displaced
15,053 Returnees (former IDPs)
32,311 Returnees (from abroad)
5,652 Third Country Nationals

Implementation Component
Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Mobility Tracking (Site), Emergency Tracking, Household Registration

Current Geographical Coverage
194 sites in Lac Province

Published Information Products
Displacement Report, Site Profiles, Maps

Between August and September 2019, DTM Chad conducted Round 9 of Mobility Tracking (Baseline) assessments in 184 locations of Chad’s Lac region, identifying 169,003 IDPs, 15,053 Returnees (former IDPs), 32,311 Returnees (from abroad) and 5,652 Third-Country Nationals (TCNs).

DTM Chad began roll-out of Round 10 of DTM Baseline Assessments in January 2020. Results are expected to be published in February 2020.

In the course of its Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) activities, which monitor displacements and events between rounds of Baseline Assessments, DTM Chad identified eight events in January 2020 (four preventive movements following threats or rumors of potential attacks and four instances of attacks by Non-State Armed Groups) during which approximately 8,494 individuals (1,855 households) were displaced.

** Chad (Logone-Oriental + Moyen-Chari) **

Current Implementation Round
Round 3 (TBD)

Latest count of populations tracked and monitored
As of Round 2 – October 2019
77,650 Returnees (from abroad)

Implementation Component
Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Mobility Tracking (Site)

Current Geographical Coverage
88 sites in Logone-Oriental and Moyen-Chari Provinces

Published Information Products
Displacement Report, Displacement Dashboard

As of 1 December 2019, 207,751 IDPs, 561,606 former IDP Returnees and 76,048 Repatriated individuals have been identified.

Following a trend first observed in March 2019, the number of IDPs continued to increase, growing by 3 per cent since November 2019 (up from 201,429) and crossing the 200,000 bar for the first time since April 2014. This sustained growth in displacement is a result of continued violence witnessed in central Mali (notably Gao, Menaka and Mopti) as well as in the region bordering Burkina Faso to the south. The number of former IDP Returnees, while the number of Repatriated individuals grew by 2 per cent.

The CMP reports are produced by the Commission on Population Movement (CMP), a working group within the Protection Cluster led by IOM. While still providing technical support, IOM handed over the management of the DTM in Mali to the government in November 2019 – transferring the data collection process and analysis to the Direction Nationale du Développement Social (DNDs).

** Niger (Tahoua + Tillaberi) **

Current Implementation Round
Round 1 (December 2020)

Latest count of populations tracked and monitored
As of Round 1 – December 2019
104,565 Internally Displaced

Implementation Component
Mobility Tracking (Baseline), Mobility Tracking (Site), Survey

Current Geographical Coverage
49 locations in 2 regions (Tahoua and Tillaberi)

Published Information Products
Displacement Report, Displacement Dashboard, Site Profiles

Round 1 of Mobility Tracking (Baseline) assessments were conducted between 2 and 28 December 2019 in 49 locations (9 départements, 16 communes) of Tahoua
and Tillaberi regions, identifying 104,565 IDPs (15,081 households).

A slight majority of IDPs (52%) were women, while 48 per cent men. In addition, 58 per cent were children, including 28 per cent of children under 5 years old. Seven per cent of IDPs were elderly.

Over three-quarters of IDPs (76%) resided in Tillaberi, while 24 per cent lived in Tahoua. The départements hosting the largest numbers of IDPs were Ayerou (37,401 IDPs), Abala (26,472 IDPs) and Tillia (18,637).

The vast majority of IDPs (94%) were displaced as a result of insecurity and conflict, while 6 per cent fled following natural disasters. The majority of IDPs (52%) were displaced in 2017 and 2018, with 48 per cent having been displaced in 2019, reflecting the increase in violence and insecurity observed over that period.

Most IDPs (93%) lived in spontaneous sites, while the second-most common site type were host communities (6%). In terms of shelter, close to half of IDPs lived in shelter made out of tarp (48%), followed by straw or metal sheets (36%). A large share of IDPs (13%) did not have any shelter.

**Nigeria (North East)**

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In the Round 29 data collection exercise, conducted between 8 August and 11 September 2019, DTM Nigeria identified 2,035,232 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and 1,619,010 Returnees (including 1,488,338 Returnees (former IDPs) and 130,672 Returnees from abroad).

Round 30 of DTM assessments are complete and results will be published in March 2020.

In a Flash Report, DTM Nigeria also reported on an attack by insurgents on GSSSS Monguno Camp on 7 January 2020, rendering 2,728 individuals homeless after the attack destroyed over 300 shelters and properties, and killing 4 individuals. The affected households were in special need of food, shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI).

**Nigeria (North West + North Central)**

![displacement.iom.int/nigeria](displacement.iom.int/nigeria)

In the second round of assessments conducted in North West and North Central Nigeria, which took place in November 2019, DTM identified 537,375 IDPs (89,581 households). The number of IDPs identified witnessed a slight drop of 0.5 per cent (down from 540,049).

Amongst the eight states affected by the crisis, Benue hosts the largest number of displaced individuals (180,258, or 34% of IDPs), followed by Plateau (103,111 IDPs, or 19% of all IDPs) and Kaduna (71,226 ISPs, or 13% of all IDPs).

The majority of IDPs (60%) indicated having been displaced by communal clashes, with the second-most likely factor of displacement being kidnappings and banditry (28%). Most displacements (63%) occurred in 2018 and 2019, with the largest groups of IDPs (37%) being displaced in 2019.

A total of 690 sites are identified across the eight states covered in DTM assessments (459 or 40% fewer than in Round 2), including 630 host communities and 60 camps or camp-like settings. The majority of IDPs (82% or 441,403) live in host communities, while 18 per cent (95,972) lived in displacement camps.

The most urgent needs of IDPs across all sites assessed are food (40% of sites), Non-Food Items (33%) and shelter (17%).

Round 4 of DTM assessments will be carried out in February 2020, with results expected to be published in March 2020.
Latest count of populations tracked in Mali as of 31 December 2019: 207,751 IDPs, 356,606 Returnees, 76,648 Repatriated and 140,800 Migrant Refugees in neighbouring countries (UNHCR).

Round 3 of Mobility Tracking (Baseline) Assessments conducted in North West and North Central Zones identified 537,375 IDPs.

Regional Flow Monitoring Network
- Cameroon (Far North): as of Round 20 – November 2019, 252,285 Internally Displaced, 106,181 Returnees, 47,325 Out of Camp Refugees
- Burkina Faso: as of Round 1 – August 2019, 10,299 Internally Displaced
- Central African Republic: as of Round 3 – July 2019, 532,285 Internally Displaced, 602,792 Returnees, 263,497 Returnees (From abroad)
- Chad (Lac): as of Round 9 – September 2019, 105,031 Internally Displaced, 52,253 Returnees (IDP), 52,253 Returnees (IDP), 32,231 Returnees (From abroad)
- Chad (Logone-Oriental + Moyen-Chari): as of Round 3 – October 2019, 77,600 Returnees (From abroad)
- Mali: as of Round 3 – December 2019, 207,751 Internally Displaced, 561,606 Returnees, 76,648 Repatriated
- Niger (Tahoua + Tillaberi): as of Round 1 – December 2019, 104,965 Internally Displaced
- Nigeria (North East): as of Round 1 – September 2019, 2,234,297 Internally Displaced, 1,496,331 Returnees (IDP), 561,606 Returnees (IDP), 76,648 Repatriated