INTRODUCTION: IOM works with national and local authorities and local partners to identify and understand migration movements in West and Central Africa. Flow monitoring is an activity that quantifies and qualifies flows, migrant profiles, trends and migration routes at a given point of entry, transit or exit. Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been monitoring migration flows at six points across Niger. The data collected provides an overview of migration in the region. The information is collected from primary sources. Given the immensity of the region of Agadez, a new FMP (Madama) on the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to capture the outflows due to the proliferation of bypass roads. This new FMP complements that of Séguéline which is now only capturing incoming flows. The data collected provides an overview of migratory movements in the region. However, this monitoring of migration flows does not replace border surveillance. Similarly, the results presented in this report do not reflect the total flow of migrants through the Agadez region due to the size of the Sahara Desert, which covers more than 700,000 km² and has a large number of roads crisscrossing the region.

The new FMPs will be piloted in the coming months to understand the added value of the FMPs towards a more holistic understanding of migration trends in Niger. Based on the initial findings from the new FMPs, there may be adjustments to the new FMPs implemented based on an increased understanding of migration patterns and routes.

METHODOLOGY: Flow monitoring is an investigative work that aims to highlight and increase understanding of internal, cross-border and intraregional migration. Areas of high mobility are identified across the country. DTM teams then conduct assessments at the local level to identify strategic transit points. Enumerators collect data using key informants at the flow monitoring points; they may be staff at bus stations, police or customs officials, bus or truck drivers or migrants themselves. A basic questionnaire mixed with direct observations makes it possible to collect disaggregated data by sex and nationality. In Niger, the flow monitoring points were chosen after consultation with national and local stakeholders involved in migration management, and according to the locations and characteristics of the flows transiting through the Sahara Desert. The data collection is done at times when the flows are the most frequent.

LIMITS: The data used in this analysis, including the maps, is an estimate and represents only a part of the existing flows on the routes Agadez - Arlit – Assamaka; Agadez - Séguéline – Sebbah; and southern routes. The spatial and temporal coverage of these surveys is partial, although the collection is done daily and during periods when flows are significant. Finally, no information is collected on existing flows outside the times covered. Vulnerability data is based on direct observations by the enumerators and should be understood only as an estimate.
During the month of January 2019, 65,467 individuals were observed transiting through the 7 active FMPs.

Incoming flows observed (24,808 individuals) represent 38 per cent of all flows, while outgoing flows (21,924 persons) represent 33 per cent.

In addition, 18,735 individuals or 29 per cent of flows were observed moving internally.

The incoming flows were observed at Dan Issa (63%), followed by Magaria (14%), Arlit and Ségouéïne (9% each), Dan Barto (4%) and one per cent at the Tahoua FMP.

Most of the outgoing flows were observed at the FMP of Dan Issa (42%), Arlit and Ségouéïne/Madam (21% each), Magaria (9%) and Dan Barto (7%).

Internal movements are mainly observed at the Arlit FMP (49%), followed by Dan Barto (27%), Magaria (16%) and Tahoua (8%).

**KEY RESULTS IN JANUARY 2019**

**65,467** Number of individuals observed at the FMPs

**24,808** Individuals entering Niger

**21,924** Individuals leaving Niger

**18,735** Individuals observed moving internally

**All data included in this report is based on estimates. IOM makes no guarantees as to the timeliness, suitability, accuracy, reliability, quality or completeness of the data contained in this report.**

- The data in the graph shows the flows observed at the seven active FMPs in Niger in January 2019. An average of 2,112 individuals per day were recorded passing through the seven FMPs during this month.
- While 70 per cent of the flows were cross border, 50 per cent of these were between Niger and Nigeria, followed by 10 per cent with Libya and Algeria respectively.
- A small proportion (30%) of internal movements were observed. Majority of these were observed at Arlit (49%) and Dan Barto (26%). To a lesser extent, internal movements were observed at Magaria (16%) and at Tahoua (9%).
- In January 2019, there were more incoming flows (24,808 individuals) than outgoing flows (21,924 individuals). On a daily average, 800 individuals were incoming while 707 individuals were outgoing.

_The increases of 4, 5 and 10 January are linked to the arrival of Nigerian students from Mariam Abatcha University of Maradi who are returning from their country after celebrating Christmas and the new year._

The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.
IOM N(ger conducts search and rescue SSAR) operation and supports the Government of Niger in the registration process for migrants arriving from Algeria on the official Algerian convoys. These two types of incoming flows are not included in the FMP data in order to ensure data quality and avoid double counting. As such, in order to provide a more holistic understanding of incoming flows to Niger, particularly from Algeria, incoming flows should take into account these two additional figures on top of the figures captured by FMPs.

**Search and rescue operations**: Since October 2016, IOM, in collaboration with the Direction Générale de la Protection Civiles (DGPC), undertakes search and rescue operations to find and bring migrants in distress to the nearest safe urban center in the Agadez region. Search and rescue operations are performed both proactively and reactively to distress calls received. The migrants are often mentally and physically stressed, suffering from trauma, dehydration and/or physical wounds. In January 2019, IOM conducted 6 rescue operations in Assamaka for 1,126 migrants signaling in distress which of those, 1,132 migrants were transported to the nearest urban center in Arlit. (41%) were from Mali, (21%) Guinea Conakry, Côte d’Ivoire and Niger (7% each), (5%) Burkina Faso, Senegal and Cameroon (4% each), (3%) Sierra Leone and other nationalities (8%). *Other SAR operation are conducted in Agadez, Arlit and Dirkou (see monthly SAR Dashboard for more details).

**Official Algerian convoys**: Each year, thousands of migrants, the majority of which are from Niger, are repatriated from Algeria towards Niger within the framework of the agreement between the governments of Niger and Algeria. IOM, through the Migrant Response and Ressource Mechanism (MRRM), provides humanitarian assistance for these migrants upon arrival to Niger including support in registration migrants. In January 2019, 4 official Algerian convoys arrived with 657 migrants (97% Nigerien while 3% or 18 individuals were non-Nigerien).
The Arlit Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, as well as internal movements. The Arlit FMP has been active since February 2016. During this month, more outgoing flows (4,564) than incoming flows (2,146) were observed. The main departure cities included Arlit, Assamaka and Agadez (Niger) while the main destination cities included: Assamaka, Arlit and Algerian villages located near the border (Note: the majority of migrants passing through the Arlit FMP choose not to disclose their final destination given the sensitivities. In reality, most migrants transiting through Assamaka intend to travel to cities within Algeria including Inguezzam, Tamanrasset, Tamanghasset. Additionally, FMP figures do not include migrants refouled or repatriated from Algeria as these are collected separately – see page 2).

In comparison with the previous month, the number of incoming flows decreased slightly while the outgoing flows remain constant. The incoming flow decreased by 7%. The decrease may be liked to the changes of roads because of the recurrent refoulement of migrants from Algeria. The main reasons cited for movement continue to be economic migration (50%) and seasonal migration (50%).

The main nationalities observed crossing the Arlit FMP this month included Nigerien (76%), Chadian (6%), Nigerian and Sudanese (3% each). Other nationalities comprised of Malian, Guinean, Burkinabe, Cameroonian and Senegalese nationals. Please note FMP breakdown of nationalities does not include migrants refouled and/or repatriated from Algeria via the official convoys.

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The Séguédine Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows to and from neighbouring countries, mainly Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since February 2016. Given the vastness of the Agadez region which spans 703,000 km² (greater than the size of France and 21 times larger than Belgium), a new FMP (Madama) located near the Libyan border was activated in January 2019 to better capture cross-border movements due to the proliferation of bypass roads to avoid border control posts. As such, this new FMP complements the one in Séguédine which only captures incoming flows while Madama captures outgoing flows.

During this month, more outgoing flows (4,535 individuals representing 67% of flows observed) than incoming flows (2,273) were observed.

A daily average of 220 individuals were observed crossing through the Séguédine FMP this month, which is an decrease of ten per cent compared to the previous month when 244 were crossing the border each day. The main departure and destination cities included Agadez (Niger) and Sebha (Libya). Compared to the previous month, flows are down by approximately eight per cent. This is possibly linked to the upsurge of insecurity in the northern part of Libya, but also to the increasing attacks of armed groups in the area around the border between Chad, Niger and Libya, which is a “no man’s land”.

The main reasons for movements observed remain the same as in previous months: economic migration (34%) followed by seasonal migration and short term local movement (33%). The main nationalities observed were: Nigerien (85%), Nigerians (6%), Chadians (5%) and other nationalities observed (4%) include Ghanaians, Malians, Sudanese among others.

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The Magaria Flow Monitoring Point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border between Niger and Nigeria, through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass; Nigeria is one of the main sending countries for migrants traveling towards the Mediterranean. The Magaria FMP has been active since August 2018.

A daily average of 267 individuals passing through the Magaria FMP was observed during this month with more incoming flows (41%) than outgoing flows (23%) and a larger proportion of internal movements (36%). All flows observed were heading towards Niger and Nigeria. Primarily coming from the departure cities of Magaria and Zinder (Niger); and Kano and Babura (Nigeria).

The reasons for migration for the majority remain similar with those of the previous month, thus flows were classified as short term local movements (64%) and economic migration (36%).

Magaria is used mostly by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have traditionally maintained an economic exchange.

Two main nationalities were observed passing through this FMP in January 2019: Nigeriens (78%), Nigerians (22%).

Migrants transiting through the Magaria FMP travelled essentially in some private vehicles (96%), in some trucks (3%) and in Buses (1%).

Demographics (collected through direct observation and interviews with bus drivers and station managers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of origin</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Variation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>64</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigería</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>-1 pp</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month

ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of destination</th>
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<th>Variation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigería</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>+1 pp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month
The Dan Barto Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria, often traveling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. The Dan Barto FMP has been active since August 2018.

A daily average of 245 individuals passing through the Dan Barto FMP was observed during this month with more outgoing flows (20%) than incoming flows (14%). The majority of individuals transiting through the Dan Barto FMP are short term local movements (66%). Compared with last month, movements remain constant.

The main reasons cited for migrating were short-term local movements (38%), seasonal migration (35%) and economic migration (26%); while one percent cited tourism.

Dan Barto is mostly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who maintain a close economic relationship. Nigerien nationals travel to Nigeria to purchase goods while Nigerian nationals travel to Niger to purchase animals and food (millet, beans, etc.).

Two main nationalities observed crossing the FMP: Nigeriens (96%) and Nigerians (4%).

The majority were observed travelling by bus (50%), private vehicles (47%), followed by trucks (2%), and motorbikes (1%).

**MAIN TYPES OF MOVEMENTS OBSERVED**

- Short term local movement
- Seasonal migration (+6 months)
- Economic migration (+6 months)
- Tourism

**INTENDED DESTINATION OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED**

- Niger
- Nigeria

**ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENTS OBSERVED**

- Niger
- Nigeria

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of origin</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Variation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>-1 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>+1 pp</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**COUNTRY OF DESTINATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of destination</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Variation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>-6 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>+6 pp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month.

pp: percentage point
The Dan Issa Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria through which high volumes of flows originating from Nigeria pass, often traveling towards the Mediterranean via Agadez and Liby. The Dan Issa FMP has been active since September 2018.

A daily average of 804 individuals passed through the Dan Issa FMP this month with more incoming flows (63%) than outgoing flows (37%). All flows observed were heading towards Niger and Nigeria. The main cities of departure are: Maradi, (Niger); Jibiu, M’aga, Katsina, Kano, Abuja, Zamfara and Kaduna (Nigeria).

A significant increase of 75% was noted during this month. This increase may be linked to the improvement in the road conditions as well as the successful measures of the Niger and Nigerian defense forces to secure the road from armed robbers.

It is also linked to the movement students of the Mariam Abatcha University going on vacation and the arrival of students for short term programs.

The main reasons cited for migration were economic migration (54%) and short-term local movements (46%).

The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigeriens (70%) and Nigerians (30%).

The majority were observed using private vehicles (54%) and buses (46%).

**Demographics**

- **AVERAGE/DAY**
  - **Individuals recorded**: 804
  - **X**: 8.6

### Male

- **Female**: 31%
- **Male**: 40%

### Minor

- **Female**: 14%
- **Male**: 15%

**Children under 5**: 4%

**Elderly persons**: 3%

**Persons with physical or mental disabilities**: 1%

**Pregnant women**: 4%

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month.

**Country of origin**

- **Nigeria**: 63 -12 pp
- **Niger**: 37 +12 pp

**Country of destination**

- **Niger**: 63 -12 pp
- **Nigeria**: 37 +12 pp

**Main nationalities observed**

- **Niger**: 70%
- **Nigeria**: 30%

**Intended destination of the movements observed**

- **Niger**: 70%
- **Nigeria**: 30%

**Main types of movements observed**

- **Economic migration (+ 6 months)**: 54%
- **Short term local movement**: 46%
The Tahoua Flow Monitoring Point captures both cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a city in central Niger, where migrants transit. They mainly originate from Nigeria and other west Africa, such as Mali, Cameroon and Burkina Faso. They tend to take the Agadez route toward Algeria and Libya, while some reach Algeria through Tchinta, about 300km near the Algerian border. The Tahoua FMP has been active since August 2018.

A daily average of 64 individuals passing through the Tahoua FMP was observed in January 2019. This represents a 100% increase in comparison to the previous month. 81% of the flows observed were internal (34%) of these movements come from Niamey the capital, (32%) from Agadez, (18%) from the city of Tahoua, (9%) from Maradi, (3%) from Assamaka, (2%) from Arlit. The (3%) comes from Guidan-Roundji and the Tchinbarakaten gold site. The outflows represent six per cent while the incoming flows are quantified at 13 per cent.

The main reasons cited for migrating were short term local movements (42%), followed by seasonal migration (29%) and economic migration (23%). 16 per cent of observed individuals did not respond to the question.

The main nationalities observed crossing the FMP include: Nigeriens (85%), Nigerians (4%), Beninese (3%), followed by Cameroonians and Ivoirians (2% each). The other nationalities include Burkinabé and Chadian among others and represent 4 per cent.

The majority were observed travelling by buses (73%), followed by private vehicles and (21%) and trucks (4%).

**Demographics**

- **Adults**
  - Female: 5%
  - Male: 91%

- **Minors**
  - Female: 1%
  - Male: 3%

**Main Nationalities**

- **Niger**: 85%
- **Algeria**: 3%
- **Benin**: 4%
- **Côte d'Ivoire**: 3%
- **Nigeria**: 2%

**Travellers’ Profile**

- **Short term local movement**: 29%
- **Seasonal migration (+6 months)**: 23%
- **Economic migration (+6 months)**: 6%
- **No answer**: 2%

**Origin of the Movements Observed**

- **Niger**: 29%
- **Nigeria**: 39%

**Intended Destination of the Movements Observed**

- **Niger**: 1%
- **Algeria**: 0%
- **Côte d’Ivoire**: 3%
- **Nigeria**: 21%

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