Data collected at each point (location) is triangulated with key informants and cross-referenced by DTM’s experts. However, considering that migrants adjust their routes according to opportunities and obstacles they encounter along their journey, their intended transit and destination locations are often subject to change. This renders the systematic assessment of their mobility throughout West and North Africa more complex. Therefore, data collected in destination locations may not always accurately reflect flows detected in transit locations. All data included in this report is based on estimations. IOM expressly disclaims all warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, including, but not limited to, the appropriateness, quality, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.

Since February 2016, IOM Niger has been carrying out flow monitoring of migrants at two points in Niger in the region of Agadez. This flow monitoring does not replace border monitoring nor does it claim to observe all migratory flows in the Agadez region. Flow monitoring points (FMPs) are active in Séguéidine and Arlit, two towns in the Agadez region. Flow monitoring points are placed at known migrant transit points along the Niger migratory route. The data collected provides a snapshot of migrant movements through the region.

**Definitions Used**

- **Incoming individuals observed:** This refers to individuals who arrive in the flow monitoring points (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading further in towards Niger. They are represented by the yellow arrows on the map.

- **Outgoing individuals observed:** This refers to individuals who arrive in the flow monitoring points (which are not located at borders) with the intention of heading outwards towards the borders of Niger. They are represented by orange arrows on the map.

**Main Findings for February 2017**

- **Incoming individuals observed:** 27,239
- **Outgoing individuals observed:** 6,329
- **Total FMPs in Niger:** 2

**Cumulative Detected Flows in Niger Flow Monitoring Points Since February 2016**

**Compiled Flows Observed in Niger in 2016 and 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total observed flows</th>
<th>Outgoing flows observed through Niger FMPs</th>
<th>Incoming flows observed through Niger FMPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>333,891</td>
<td>111,230</td>
<td>222,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>12,853</td>
<td>35,663</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main Map Source:** ESRI This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.
The main mode of transport used by migrants in the Agadez region are four wheel drive vehicles driven by transporters and smugglers with the migrants sitting in the back of the vehicles.

The main nationalities recorded at the flow monitoring points vary depending on the incoming or outgoing flows. Indeed, the main nationalities evident in the incoming flows are Nigeriens as returns into Niger are done by migrants who can easily cross the border from Algeria or Libya due to their Nigerien nationality.

The main nationalities in the outgoing flows are more varied and they are further broken down by flow monitoring point in the pages below. These differing nationalities relative to flow monitoring points can be related smuggling/transport networks. The networks for one or another nationality group could be more established towards one destination than another, demonstrating the importance of communication between migrants and smugglers and of knowledge networks.

The presence of approximately 9 000 minors (under 18 years of age) has been noted in the recorded monthly flows. Among these minors, the presence of unaccompanied minors was recorded. The curve of presence of minors mirrors the general curve of individuals recorded at the flow monitoring points and as the number of individuals recorded has decreased since September 2016, so has the presence of minors also decreased proportionally.

Due to IOM’s data protection principles, data on minors is presented in such a way as to give an idea of the phenomenon however without including specific information due to the vulnerability of this population group. More specific information is available upon request.
**FLOW MONITORING POINT 1: ARLIT, AGADEZ REGION, NIGER**

| Total observed flows in 2017 (January to February) | 8,724 | Outgoing flows observed Arlit in 2017 | 4,251 |
| Total observed flows in 2016 (February to December) | 291,912 | Outgoing flows observed Arlit in 2016 | 87,982 |

- # Outgoing flows detected in Séguedine during the reporting period: 4,277
- # Incoming flows detected in Séguedine during the reporting period: 25,458

**ASSESSMENT TYPE:** DAILY

**Main modes of transport for migrants arriving in Arlit: Private vehicle and bus**

There are many nationalities present at the Arlit flow monitoring point with a similar representation of nationalities in the incoming and outgoing flows. The main nationality present in both the outgoing and incoming flows are Nigeriens with 28% in the outgoing flow and 21% represented in the incoming flow. There is then a mix of nationalities present with migrants from Mali, Guinea Conakry, Cameroon and Nigeria mostly represented.

**FLOW MONITORING POINT 2: SÉGUÉDINE, AGADEZ REGION, NIGER**

| Total observed flows in 2017 (January to February) | 8,724 | Outgoing flows observed Séguedine in 2017 | 4,251 |
| Total observed flows in 2016 (February to December) | 291,912 | Outgoing flows observed Séguedine in 2016 | 87,982 |

- # Outgoing flows detected in Séguedine during the reporting period: 4,277
- # Incoming flows detected in Séguedine during the reporting period: 25,458

**ASSESSMENT TYPE:** DAILY

**Main modes of transport for migrants departing from Séguedine: Private vehicle**

Séguedine is one of the northernmost towns in Niger, over 600 km from Agadez and 300km from Libya. Due to increased insecurity in the region, government authorities have regulated migrant convoy departures. Departures to Séguedine are now regulated more strictly and migrant movements are taking roads around Séguedine to avoid some of the tighter security.
FLOW MONITORING METHODOLOGY

WHAT IS FLOW MONITORING?
Flow Monitoring is a component of IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). It has been developed to track migrant flows (groups or individuals) through data collections carried out at key points of origin, transit and/or destination. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is to provide regularly updated information on the scale and profiles of population movements (migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees, etc.) through specific locations. The information and analysis provided through the flow monitoring methodology also helps to better understand and define shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/ migratory routes. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is not to replace border monitoring or border surveillance. Data collected by IOM flow monitoring exercises does not replace government border controls and should not be interpreted as such.

A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF MIGRATORY FLOWS, A REGIONAL INITIATIVE IN WEST AFRICA?
Monitoring population movements in West and Central Africa represents an important regional initiative. It allows for a better understanding of intentions, trends, routes, risks as well as demographic and socio-economic profiles of migrants. It serves as a common source of data contributing to informed policymaking by authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination. IOM aims to install over thirty of these flow monitoring points throughout the West and Central African region to assist 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.

HOW IS FLOW MONITORING SET UP IN FIELD ENVIRONMENTS?
Flow monitoring is composed of three tools. Assessment of areas with high mobility, regular monitoring of locations with high mobility and in-depth surveys with migrants at these locations. These tools can be deployed simultaneously or separately.

1. ASSESSMENT OF AREAS OF HIGH MOBILITY
   DTM experts in the field identify strategic locations for the establishment of monitoring locations/points from where data collection will take place. The identification of the flow monitoring points (FMPs) can be done either while conducting baseline assessments, through specific field assessment, or through consultation with key informants and/or desk review of secondary data.

2. REGULAR FLOW MONITORING IN PRE-DEFINED LOCATIONS
   This tool consists of collecting information on the number and frequency of individuals transiting or moving through a particular location. Several techniques of flow monitoring and population movement tracking are available and are deployed depending on the context and volume of flows identified.

3. FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS
   DTM teams carry out regular surveys with migrants at flow monitoring point locations (flow monitoring surveys FMS). The purpose of these surveys is to collect individualised data on the demographic and socio-economic profile of migrants as well as collecting more specific information related to vulnerabilities, intentions, journeys and risks faced by migrants.

DATA QUALITY CONTROL
The methodology employs multi-layered data collection with various levels of granularity to allow for consistency checks. The team rigorously checks for data quality during the data collection, processing and analysis process.

DATA PROTECTION
Personal data collected by IOM and the protection of such data is subject to IOM’s data protection principles.

A full methodological document is available on request.