INTRODUCTION: IOM works with national and local authorities in order to gain a better understanding of population movements throughout West and Central Africa. Through the setup of Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs), IOM seeks to quantify migration flows, trends and routes to gain a better understanding of the profiles of observed individuals at entry, transit and exit points (such as border crossing posts, bus stations, rest areas, police checkpoints and reception centres). In Nigeria, FMPs were established in March 2017 in several important transit locations in Sokoto and Kano to monitor the movements of passenger buses to and from Niger. This dashboard is an overview of the data collected at these FMPs in March 2020.

Results show that the average daily number of individuals observed in March, at the FMPs in Nigeria, was 1,069. This represents a 15 per cent decrease compared to the daily average of February 2020. The 15 per cent decrease from the previous month is largely due to the outbreak of the novel Corona Virus pandemic. Nigeria recorded its first case of Covid-19 on 27 February 2020 and the first death from the global pandemic was recorded on 23 March. Hence, the decline in migration flow. Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon were the main countries of departure and intended destination for individuals passing through FMPs. In addition, the types of flows identified were: short-term local movements (44% of all flows); economic migration of more than six months (37% of all flows); seasonal migration (10% of all flows); and tourism (9% of all flows).

Two main modes of transport were identified: car (54% of all flows) and bus (40% of all flows).

Nigerian (52%), Nigerien (34%), Chadian (5%), Malian (3%), Cameroonian (2%) and Libyan (2%) nationals were the main nationalities recorded transiting through FMPs this month.

METHODOLOGY: The flow monitoring methodology aims to highlight areas with high internal, cross-border and regional migration. Mobility assessment are conducted at the national level. DTM teams then collect information at the local level to identify key transit points. Enumerators collect data from key informants (KIs) at the FMPs. KIs may be bus station staff, police, customs officers, bus drivers, or migrants themselves.

Data is collected through a basic form filled out by enumerators following interviews with KIs and combined with direct observations – enabling gender and nationality breakdowns. In Sokoto and Kano, each FMP was selected following consultations with local and national key stakeholders involved in the management of migration in Nigeria and based on location and distinctive characteristics of the population flows in each area. Data is collected on a daily basis during peak hours.

LIMITATIONS: Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. They represent only part of the total population flows passing through the Gada – Galmi; Sabon-Birni – Guidan-Roumdji; Illela – Konni; Kano – Maradi and Kano - Zinder routes. The spatial and temporal coverage of this data collection activity is therefore in complete. In addition, although data is collected daily, it is collected only during peak hours (8:00 am – 5:00 pm). The portion of the flows that occur during hours without an enumerator is thus, not represented. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative.
The Sokoto FMP observes the cross-border flows of migrants between Nigeria and Niger. The Sokoto FMP has been collecting data since March 2017, covering three migratory routes in Iliba, Gada and Sabon-Birnin. Six enumerators, two in each location, carry out the task of monitoring flows travelling through the FMP.

Results show that the average daily number of individuals observed in March 2020 at the FMP of Sokoto was 119, this represents a 26 per cent decrease compared to February 2020. One of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic is the massive decline in movements of people across international borders. This has also increased the scrutiny at the land crossing borders as port health officials are also on standby to assess individuals coming into Nigeria. Tahoua (52%), Maradi (46%), Dosso (1%) and Niamey (<1%) in Niger were the regions of departure of individuals passing through Sokoto, whereas Maradi (61%), Tahoua (35%), Dosso (3%) and Zinder (1%) (all of which are located in Niger) were the regions of destination for the observed population.

The types of population flows identified were short-term local movements of less than six months (81% of all flows), economic migration of more than six months (8% of all flows), seasonal migration (8% of all flows), and tourism (2% of all flows).

Four main modes of transport were identified: car (24% of all flows), foot (24% of all flows), bus (18% of all flows), bicycle (15% of all flows) and motorbike (10% of all flows). Nigerian (38%) and Nigerien (62%) nationals were the nationalities recorded this month.

### Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Minors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Average individuals recorded per day:** -26%
- **4% Children under 5**
- **1% Elderly persons**
- **<1% Persons with physical or mental disabilities**
- **3% Pregnant women**

### Origin of the Movements Observed

- **Niger**: 81%
- **Nigeria**: 0%

### Intended Destination of the Movements Observed

- **Nigeria**: 67% (+7 pp)
- **Niger**: 33% (-7 pp)

### Main Nationalities Observed

- **Nigerian**: 62%
- **Niger**: 38%
Weekly peaks on 1, 8, 15 and 22 March are attributed to market days in Illela, Tumfafi and Sabon Birnin at Sokoto FMP. A stark decline in flows and activities was observed from 23 March as a result of Covid-19 outbreak in Nigeria. As well as the partial closure of borders between Niger and Nigeria and other measures to restrict mobility, in an effort to prevent and limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. IOM does not make any warranties or representations as to the appropriateness, quality, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.
The Kano FMP monitors cross-border flows of migrants between Nigeria and Niger. The Kano FMP (Kofar Ruwa Park and Yankaba Park) has been collecting data since March 2017, covering two migratory routes in Dala and Nasarawa Local Government Areas in Kano state. Six enumerators, three in each location, carry out the task of monitoring flows travelling through the FMP.

Results show that the daily average number of individuals observed in March 2020 at the Kano FMP was 950, a 13% per cent decrease compared to February 2020.

Zinder (45%), Maradi (42%) and Diffa (8%) in Niger, Ndjamena (3%) in Chad and Centre (1%) in Cameroon were the regions of departure for travellers passing through Kano, whereas Zinder (47%), Maradi (38%) and Diffa (11%) in Niger, Ndjamena (2%) in Chad and Centre (2%) in Cameroon were the regions of destination of observed flows.

The types of flows identified were economic migration (+6 months) of more than six months (41% of all flows), short-term local movements (38% of all flows), seasonal migration (11% of all flows) and tourism (10% of all flows).

Two modes of transport were identified: cars (58% of all flows) and buses (42% of all flows). Nigerian (57%), Nigerien (32%), Chadian (6%), Malian (3%) and Cameroonian (3%) nationals were the nationalities recorded this month.

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

- **AVERAGE/DAY**
  - **950 INDIVIDUALS RECORDED**
  - **-13%**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Minors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VULNERABILITIES**

- **6% CHILDREN UNDER 5**
- **13% ELDERLY PERSONS**
- **1% PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITIES**
- **2% PREGNANT WOMEN**

**ORIGIN AND INTENDED DESTINATION**

**Country of departure**

- **Nigeria** 74
- **Niger** 25
- **Chad** <1
- **Cameroon** <1

**Country of destination**

- **Niger** 71
- **Nigeria** 26
- **Chad** 2
- **Cameroon** 1

Variations calculated based on data from the previous month.
Kano FMP observed a relatively stable flow of individuals in the first half of the month, before observing a steady decline in flows from 18 March as a result of the outbreak of Covid-19 virus in Nigeria being on the increase. As well as the partial closure of borders between Niger and Nigeria and other measures to restrict mobility, in an effort to prevent and limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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