

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION PAPERS

79E

Labour Migration Statistics in West Africa

Hamidou Ba

With the collaboration of

Babacar Ndione



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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION PROGRAMME

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Forewords

This report comprises part of the ILO working paper series *International Migration Papers* that disseminates current research findings on global migration trends and seeks to stimulate dialogue and policy development on issues of regulating labour migration.

The importance and immediacy of better regulating labour migration in Africa motivated the ILO to establish a programmatic *Africa Labour Migration Initiative* in 2002. The evident starting point for this initiative was to expand the knowledge base as a proper foundation for effective technical cooperation and practical activity. As a result, this report comprises one of a special series of 31 regional and national studies from East, West and Maghreb Africa being published in 2006 as *International Migration Papers*, started with IMP number 76, or posted on the Project website¹.

Migration has come to the top of the political and social agenda across all of Africa. In recent years, regional integration initiatives have made considerable progress in development of frameworks, legislation, and mechanisms for increased economic and social integration among concerned states. At the continental level, the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa have both taken up the challenges of exploring greater labour mobility across the region.

West Africa in particular has always been characterised by strong migratory dynamics due to prevailing political, labour market and political conditions. In Africa, this region has the highest concentration of intra-regional migrants and the highest rate of emigration towards Europe.

Labour mobility and market integration have been explicitly addressed in the context of the regional integration process of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UMEOA). Over the last two decades, ECOWAS has elaborated Protocols on Free Movement of Persons and the Right of Residence and Establishment. However, these Protocols have not been widely implemented. Data necessary to make informed policy decisions is non-existent or at best inadequate. National legislation in ECOWAS member countries has not adequately incorporated the provisions of regional Protocols and international standards. Existing policy and practices often makes little or no reference to relevant labour market and labour migration conditions. Further, the involvement and capacity of labour ministries, worker organizations and employers in addressing labour migration needs to be strengthened by way of new mechanisms for institutionalized social dialogue and effective tripartite committees.

This report is the product of a process initiated by the ILO and supported by the European Commission on the basis of explicit constituent recommendations and requests for engagement. Following consultations with ILO constituent governments and social partners since 2001, West Africa, project activity has been ongoing over the last three years. A pilot phase was begun in 2003, followed by the project “Managing Labour Migration for Integration and Development in the Euromed Region, East Africa and West Africa” established in 2004 with EC support. Main programme aims are:

¹ ILO-EU Project “Managing labour migration for integration and development in Africa” Website: <http://migration-africa.ilo.org>

- to enhance the capacities of ILO tri-partite constituents for managing labour migration as an instrument for development
- to promote social dialogue and to raise awareness among stakeholders regarding regional labour migration issues
- to obtain knowledge and data essential for governments and social partners to effectively set policy and regulate labour migration
- to enhance cooperation between East Africa, West Africa, North Africa and Europe on labour migration.

This report is one of a complementary series of three research studies on West African countries intended to assist governments and social partners to address the fundamental building blocks of effective policy and practice to regulate labour migration. Understanding that good policy depends on good data, this study assesses the current state of data collection and suggests specific measures to improve and harmonize collection and analysis of statistical data on labour migration and to more effectively use it in policy and administration. A second paper analyses existing national legislation on labour migration – the legal foundation for State action on migration-- and in particular notes the extent of incorporation of relevant international normative standards and potential harmonization with neighbouring countries. A third regional study examines a number of key linkages between migration and development in order to identify what action and what policy tools can contribute to ensuring that migration indeed enhances development.

This report synthesises the findings from six specific national studies conducted under auspices of the project in Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, executed respectively by Bonayi Dabiré et François Ilboudo, Jacques Angelo Santos, Seikou JK Trawally, Sékouba Diarra et Mobido Koly Keita, Mohamed Laghdaf Ould Cheikh Malainine, Abdourahmane Barry, Hamidou Ba et Salif Ndiaye. This synthesis study outlines the universal challenges associated with the production of reliable and comprehensive information and statistics on labour migration and reviews existing definitions and the characteristics of the different information systems. The study then offers a systematic review of existing data sources, including of information provided by censuses, administrative records and on nationals residing abroad. Based on this review, the study identifies existing information gaps and weaknesses in data on migrant stocks as well as in coordination among data producers and users. With these elements, the study concludes with specific recommendations to improve collection and application of statistical data to management of labour migration in West African countries. The authors suggest lines for a thorough overhaul of the existing information systems and a greater involvement of ILO constituents in the production and validation of data.

As the research emanating from the project shows, there remains a number of obstacles to the effective management of labour migration within or from the West African region. Key challenges concern the availability of accurate data necessary to make informed policy decisions, the need to fully incorporate relevant provisions of international standards in national law, and the establishment or improvement of institutional structures and mechanisms with specific competence and capacity to regulate labour migration. The suggested lines of response presume common interest in optimizing potential development benefits for both countries of origin and destination to be derived from effective administration of labour migration. We sincerely hope that this report will serve as a building block for our member governments and social partner constituents to address the migration

challenges before them. We also hope that dissemination of these research findings will enhance regional policy dialogue and cooperation on labour migration.

We wish to acknowledge the diligent and arduous work of the researchers who prepared the respective national studies as well as the effective efforts of Prof. Hamidou Ba to synthesize the six national studies into this West Africa regional overview. Appreciation is noted for the cooperation received from various government offices and agencies in Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, as well as in Ghana and Nigeria that shared perspective, concerns and data essential to this effort.

Thanks are also due to the ILO West Africa project team based in Dakar, Prof. Hamidou Ba, Carole Brunet and Racky Sow for their support, editing and coordination efforts, and to the Director of the ILO sub-regional Office in Dakar, Mohamed Ould Sidi, and to Tharcisse Nkanagu for their liaison work with governments and social partners, as well as editorial review of these West Africa studies.

Jason Schachter of the ILO department of statistics (STAT) reviewed this report to ensure its technical accuracy. Finally, we note the dedicated attention by David Nii Addy, ILO Africa Project Officer, to ensuring that the entire research, writing and review process was carried through to completion, and the final editing and publication support by Céline Peyron.

Geneva, June 2006.

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This report is based on the national surveys carried out by ILO consultants from the Dakar Bureau. The members of the Migration Dakar project team, Carole Brunet and Racky Sow, have each in their own way made important contributions to its successful completion. We would like to underline the constant support provided by David Nii Addy and Patrick Taran of the ILO Migration Department in Geneva and we would also like to thank the Director of the ILO Bureau in Dakar, Mohamed A.O. Sidi and M. Tharcisse Nkanagu, Focal Point for the project within the Bureau, for their contribution to the successful completion of the surveys. Finally, we would like to thank all the members of the tripartite partners (government, employers' organisations and trade unions) in the countries included in the Project who have participated to a greater or lesser extent in the validation of the surveys.

1. Introduction

This document provides a synthetic analysis of the national reports on migration statistics produced for the six countries of the West African sub-region covered in the Project “Labour Migration for Integration and Development in the EuroMed, East Africa and West Africa”, i.e. Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal.

Existing statistics on international labour migration in the sub-region are generally agreed to be scarce, unreliable and subject to problems of comparability and availability. These statistics are not easily accessible and do not meet user needs; they are poorly analysed and they do not really meet administrative and policy-making needs either. These difficulties are largely the result of the diversity of migratory systems, legislation and sources of information, among other factors.

These reports have been produced at the request of the ILO constituents who, recognizing the vital importance of statistical data, recommended that a diagnostic analysis of statistical systems be carried out to determine their capacity to collect, process and disseminate relevant information on migratory movements and on the situation of migrant workers, both men and women, in the African sub-region. This information, apart from providing insight into the current situation, should also make it possible:

- to follow the trends in international migration at the national and international levels;
- to assess the effectiveness of migration policies;
- to assess the impact of migration on host societies and societies of origin;
- to guide the political debate on migration control, migration and development and irregular migration;
- to supervise the working conditions of migrant workers and ensure their protection;
- to improve decision-making concerning labour migration and thus enhance migration management;
- to design and implement migration policies, strategies and road-maps;
- to develop inter-governmental exchanges; and finally
- to monitor the introduction of international tools in connection with migrant workers.

1.1 Background

International migration, which according to current estimates may affect nearly 150 million individuals² throughout the world, is characterized by a combination of forces which include strong pressure towards emigration and a reduction in the opportunities which exist. Globalization has brought about major changes which make it more difficult to control its evolution, as a result of greater diversity as regards the geographical origins of migrants and the routes taken, variations in migration flow, etc. Migration processes thus engender new circulation patterns and contribute towards the restructuring of regional migration areas and the creation of new intercontinental migration territories.

² United Nations, *World Population Prospects*, The 2000 Revision, New York, 2001.

The constraints of globalization affect West Africa in the same way as they affect other parts of the world, and one of its main characteristics is a high level of migration. This region has the highest concentration of intra-regional migrants and the highest rate of emigration towards Europe in Sub-Saharan Africa (Stalker, 1995; Robin, 1996). Intra-regional movements, including refugees, remain the most numerous (Grégory et Piché, 1985; Russell et al., 1990; Adepoju, 1990; Cordell et al., 1996). The REMUAO surveys³ indicate no less than 1.556.000 migrations during the period 1988-1992 between the seven countries of the sub-region under review⁴ (Bocquier and Traoré, 1996). One of the characteristics of these migratory exchanges is the polarization by the Ivory Coast of flows originating in Burkina Faso (92% of total emigration from this country towards the other countries of the REMUAO), from Mali (74%) and from Niger (71%). The main destination for emigration from Mauritania is Senegal (68%); emigrants from Senegal flow mainly towards Guinea (36%) and Mauritania (30%)⁵. The survey on Migration, urban integration and the environment in Burkina Faso (*Migrations, l'Insertion urbaine et l'Environnement au Burkina Faso*) (EMIE, 2000) confirms the preponderance of Burkinabe international migratory movements towards the Ivory Coast (93% of the total number of emigrants registered). Figures for West Africa provided by the Emigrant Support Institute (*Institut d'Appui à l'Émigrant*) (IAPE, 1998) reveal that the majority of Cape Verde nationals, an estimated 25,000, emigrated towards Senegal.

These intra-regional migratory movements are closely linked with other migratory routes towards Central and East Africa and the Northern countries (especially the European Union). According to Eurostat data⁶, the West African population in the European Union amounted to 414,942 individuals in 1993, on a level with those in Central Africa, behind those of North Africa (2,076,071) and other African regions (430,076) (Robin, 1996). Senegal accounted for 77,000 individuals within this contingent in 1993, constituting the largest West African group resident in the European Union ahead of Nigeria (72,000) and Cap Verde (43,000). However, Senegalese migration towards the European Union had ups and downs in the nineties, when it was characterised by the appearance of new destinations; although considered for a long time as a source of emigration towards France, the flow of Senegalese immigrants towards Italy and Spain is growing (Robin et al.; 1999; Ndione et al., 2005)⁷. The number of Senegalese living in Italy rose from 27,500 individuals in 1993 to nearly 40,000 in 1999 according to figures provided by the Italian government. 3,190 Senegalese were recorded in Spain in 1993; this figure rose to 11,051 in 2000⁸. Portugal is the most population destination for emigrants from Cape Verde (31,000 in 1993) followed by Italy (5,400), the Netherlands (3,000) and Spain (2,000). A large proportion of Malian emigrants (39,000 in 1993) settle in France (37,693, i.e. 97%) and the same is true of Mauritanian emigrants (8,000 including more than 6,000 in France: 75 %). They originate mainly from the Senegal River valley (the Kayes region in Mali and Guidimakha in Mauritania). The Gambians (11,000) settle mainly in the United Kingdom (3,000), Spain (2,900) and Germany

³ Western Africa Migration and Urbanization Network (REMUAO) coordinated by the Center for Study and Research on Population and Development (CERPOD).

⁴ The seven countries involved are: Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

⁵ Cf. Bocquier and Traoré, 1996, op.cit.

⁶ The EU population in 1993 broken down by nationality, Eurostat, 1995.

⁷ Based on figures provided by the 1997/98 DEmIS survey which includes households resident in Dakar and Touba with at least one member who has left to live abroad in the previous ten years, Italy is the first host country for the Senegalese (45% of migrant households; less than 10% move to France; Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece combined account for 50% of this recent migration).

⁸ According to the Instituto Nacional de Estadística (National Statistics Institute)

(2,600)⁹. Gabon and the Democratic Republic of Congo are the most popular Central African destinations for West African migrants (Ba, 1996; Ndione et Lombard, 2004). However, this flow has shifted towards South Africa since apartheid came to an end. South Africa is seen as a new Eldorado by West African migrants (Bredeloup, 1993; Bouillon, 1996), although this new migratory trend has been quickly reduced by the introduction of administrative obstacles¹⁰.

These international migratory movements exist in a rapidly changing economic, political and social context. Political instability, poor economic performances and the degradation of the environment increase the migratory potential of the source countries. Regions which were not previously affected have gradually turned into areas of economic difficulty and increasing poverty. This extension of the crisis has stimulated the development of new migratory flows in most West African countries. At the same time, host countries both north and south are closing their frontiers, resorting to expulsion in some cases and tightening up their legislation on foreign entrants. Today, more than half the developed countries have introduced measures aimed at restricting the entry of international migrants. Just over 25% of the developing countries are also trying to control the entry of international migrants. In Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in West Africa, the most popular host countries have from the eighties onwards multiplied the dissuasive measures and the constraints imposed on migrants (introduction of identity cards for foreign nationals, major increases in the cost of visas and residence permits, policies to nationalise employment, the expulsion of foreigners...). In this context, migratory networks evolve and contribute to the reinforcement of migratory systems and to the diversification of migratory sectors and zones of circulation. These networks, which develop into strategies for the avoidance of migration policies, facilitate irregular migration and increase the number of illegal migrants, irregular migrants and political asylum seekers, in addition to refugees and legal migrants.

Although migratory movements in West Africa are governed by bilateral agreements and by treaties between economic communities, the phenomenon of migration remains complex and difficult to manage. It constitutes a major issue and poses real challenges to national governments in the region as well as to regional and sub-regional institutions. The operational challenges posed by migration demand the creation of a global policy framework at the regional level. This framework should take into account the various issues connected with the displacement and settlement of migrant workers and provide long-term solutions to them. One of the components of a joint management policy of migratory flow is the availability of information on all the different aspect of the migratory phenomenon. In effect, the current trends of international migration emphasize, if such emphasis was needed, the role and importance of information as an essential resource for governments wishing to develop a migration policy, for international and regional institutions and for other bodies involved in migration. As a management tool, the implementation of a system to provide information on migration would enhance our understanding of the theoretical and practical questions raised by international migration, while at the same time assisting in decision-making.

However, it is difficult to keep track of the migratory phenomenon in time and space given the insufficiency and lack of reliability of existing statistical sources. Currently available data

⁹ Robin, 1996, op. cit. p. 95

¹⁰ The government of Pretoria saw the growing foreign presence as a threat and strengthened its legislation in 1999, introducing an entry visa for the West-African population.

are fragmentary and insufficient for comprehensive, thorough and detailed analysis. A number of countries in the region called on the International Labour Organization (ILO) for assistance in the development of effective policies and practical approaches to migration management, in order to meet this need. In response, the ILO International Labour Migration Programme has developed the “Labour Migration for Integration and Development in West Africa” project, with the financial support of the European Union. This project draws on ILO experience of all aspects of migration and is a response to the concerns expressed by its tripartite constituents in West Africa concerning the implementation of technical cooperation in the management of migrant workers. It constitutes the West African section of a wider project covering three sub-regions of the continent: the Maghreb, West Africa and East Africa. These areas are marked by numerous regional integration initiatives (Arab Maghreb Union, the Euro-Med Process, Economic Community of West African States, Economic Community of East African States).

Within the context of the West African sub-region the project, in addition to a skills development component, includes social dialogue, technical assistance and the completion of surveys aimed specifically at migration statistics and legislation. As a result, national surveys on current legislation and available sources of statistical data have been carried out in the six countries of the sub-region: Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. The present document provides a synthesis of the surveys on international migration statistics carried out in these countries. It is based on the reports produced by the consultants responsible for the national surveys.

After briefly describing the objectives of the survey and our methodological approach, we will first attempt to provide an overview of current sources of statistical data on international migration, based on the national surveys, in order to highlight the nature of the variables recorded on migration, and to make comparisons at the regional level. A second section will be devoted to a critical survey of the concepts and definitions used by the different sources with a view to their harmonization, while highlighting the discrepancies and weaknesses in the current information system and in the databases. We will then address the competencies of the institutions responsible for collecting information on international migrants and the constraints affecting them, followed by the levels of coordination and the use made of statistical data on migration in decision-making. Finally, we will draw our conclusions and make recommendations for the improvement of the statistical information system on international migration at the national and sub-regional levels.

1.2 Aims of the study

The primary objective of this study is to strengthen the capacity of governments and social partners to effectively manage international migration as a tool for development. The aims of the survey, as laid down in the terms of reference, can be summarised in more concrete terms as follows:

- To carry out a survey (listing and analysis) of the information system, sources and statistical databases on migration;
- To assess the nature, definitions, quality and representativity of existing data, and to list the institutions which produce and/or use it;
- To identify the discrepancies in the data, the weaknesses of the databases and institutional constraints affecting the production of reliable information to enhance decision-making at the national and regional levels;

- To recommend priority measures to improve the information system on labour migration.

1.3 Methodology

The national surveys carried out in the six countries are based on documentary and statistical research into the different sources of information which exist on international migration. The methodology adopted by the project used an interview questionnaire designed to elicit an inventory of the sources of data on migration and to obtain information on the nature of the data collected, to list the statistics available, to analyse their methods of operation and to identify the main users of the data. The interview form focussed on four main issues:

- an overall assessment of the statistical information system concerning migrants, in terms of the availability, regularity, reliability and representativity of the data supplied, the soundness of the methods used, the availability of human, material and financial resources to ensure the collection, processing and analysis of the data concerned and the dissemination of the information in the long term;
- several aspects of the interactions between suppliers and users of data concerning migrants (existence and feasibility of a formal collaboration structure for the organisms producing migration data and those using it, the involvement of users by producers in the design of specific surveys on migration or of modules addressing the migratory phenomenon);
- the utilisation of migration data in policies (identification of relevant data for the design and formulation of migration policies, the fit between the real needs expressed by users and decision-makers, and the available statistical data on migration);
- recommendations for the improvement of the statistical data system on migration (identification of specific areas which should be improved, action to be taken to reinforce the links between producers and users of migration data, proposals on how to fill statistical gaps, etc.).

For more detailed information on the contents of the interview form, please see the annex attached to this report.

2. Review of the statistical sources on international migration

In this section, we will consider the various sources of statistical information on international migration listed in the six countries, while at the same time carrying out a critical analysis of the type of information collected, as indicated by the migration variables which are recorded, in order to see to what extent the information collected by source and by country allow comparison at the national and West African regional levels. For greater clarity, we have broken down the sources according to category and to the nature of the information collected on international migration. We have distinguished between four types of source, in line with the as they appear in the national survey reports covering the six countries under review: administrative records, general population censuses, national surveys and local surveys.

2.1 Administrative records

The term “administrative records” is used to designate government departments which collect data for the use of public institutions and not necessarily for dissemination. Analysis

of the national survey reports indicated that the number of administrative sources and types of data collected vary slightly from one country to another (Table 1).

Table 1: Migration statistics based on administrative records, by country

Migration statistics	Entry and Exit flows in and out of national territory	Foreigners living in the country	Nationals living abroad	Migrant workers
Burkina Faso	Department of Surveys and Planning (Ministry of Interior and Security)	Department of Surveys and Planning (Ministry of Interior and Security)	Department of Surveys and Planning (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)	National Agency for Promotion of the Employment National Social Security Funds
Cape Verde	Department of Migration and Borders	Department of Migration and Borders	Institute of Communities	-
The Gambia	Immigration department	Immigration department	Office for the expatriate quota and naturalisation	-
Mali	Department of Police Services (Ministry of Interior Security and Civil Protection)	Department of Police Services (Ministry of Interior Security and Civil Protection)	Department of Malian Abroad (Ministry of Malian Abroad)	-
Mauritania	Department for Control of the Territory	Department for Control of the Territory	Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	National Social Security Funds Department of Employment
Senegal	Department of the Police for Foreigners and Permit to Travel (Ministry of Interior)	Department of the Police for Foreigners and Permit to Travel (Ministry of Interior)	Department of Senegalese Abroad (Ministry of Senegalese Abroad)	Department of Labour and Social Security Department of Employment

Generally speaking, the most plentiful administrative records were those of the border police, the files on foreign residents kept by each country and the registers of emigrants kept by diplomatic and/or consular missions abroad.

The information collected by the border police consists of the entries and exits of passengers in and out of the national territory of each country. The data is based on embarkation and disembarkation cards collected daily at international air- and seaports, as well as from terrestrial frontier posts. These cards usually provide information on:

- the identity of the person and their entry/exit dates;
- their country of origin/destination and nationality;
- planned length of stay and reasons for travelling.

These documents constitute a rich mine of information which may be combined to indicate chronological series charting migratory flows over time and to calculate the international migration balance for each country in real time.

The files on foreigners are based on the visas and identity cards (residence permits) issued to foreign nationals resident in each country. These files usually provide information on:

- nationality and country of origin;

- age, sex, family status and level of education;
- the type of visa or residence permit; the length of validity of the visa or residence permit;
- date of entry on national territory;
- job occupied, sector of activity and occupational status.

This administrative source provides the necessary data to calculate the foreign resident population as well as the numbers of migrant workers resident in each country.

The registers of nationals living abroad provide information on the demographic and occupational status of those registered and their families (spouse(s) and child(ren)) as well as their address in the host country and reference address in the country of origin. This source thus provides the information required to estimate the number of nationals legally resident abroad.

Apart from these three sources, the reports on Mauritania, Senegal and Burkina Faso describe other types of administrative data on international migration. These are as follows:

Mauritania:

- the National Social Security Fund (CNSS), which is responsible for the administration of social security pensions for all workers, in particular foreign residents. The CNSS database provides the following information on each person insured: the name of the employee, their nationality, age, sex, the name and address of their employer, the year of registration. The CNSS database is computerized.
- the Employment Directorate, which issues work permits to foreign nationals to enable them to take up employment in the formal sector. This body has statistics on foreign nationals authorized to take up an economic activity. The following information is available for each permit which is issued: reference number, the name of the employee, the nationality of the employee, the post occupied, the name and address of the employer, the validity of the permit. Data is stored in an Excel file.

Senegal:

- The Employment and Social Security Department, responsible for the administration of information on Senegalese workers actively employed abroad and for the issuing of work permits to foreigners resident in Senegal;
- The Employment Department which is responsible for the administration of statistical information on employment for both the national and foreign populations in Senegal.

Burkina Faso:

- The National Employment and Occupational Training Agency which records job applications and also organises recruitment tests on behalf of employers. It produces statistics on both national and international job applications and offers (three-monthly, six-monthly and annually). It also monitors employment contracts for foreign workers.
- The National Social Security Fund which processes old age, accident and occupational disease insurance files and family allowances. It pays three-monthly pensions for Burkinabe nationals who have worked abroad.

The diplomatic missions accredited in each country also constitute an equally valuable source of statistical information on registered nationals. The data they collected relate in particular to:

- the number of nationals of the country to which the diplomatic and/or consular mission belongs who are resident in the host country;
- the number of nationals of the host country resident in the country to which the diplomatic and/or consular mission belongs;
- the number of visas and residence permits issued by the country to which the diplomatic and/or consular mission belongs, to nationals of the country in which it is located;
- the number of actively employed nationals of the country to which the diplomatic and/or consular mission belongs, broken down by sex, age, employment sector, length of residence, etc.
- the number of nationals of the host country working in the country to which the diplomatic and/or consular mission belongs, broken down by sex, age, employment sector, length of residence, etc.

The report on Mauritania provides a good example and shows the special value of the data collected by the diplomatic and/or consular services, which provided the necessary data for the following calculations:

- Senegalese Embassy: 250 000 Senegalese were registered (with 80% actively employed). This figure applied to Senegalese nationals having lived at one time or another on Mauritanian territory. It must not be confused with the number of Senegalese currently resident in Mauritania. The Embassy estimated the number of Mauritians resident in Senegal at 250 000 (including 1 300 students).
- Malian Embassy: there were 15 000 Malians of voting age living in Mauritania according to the recent administrative census carried out by the Embassy staff at the time of the 2001 presidential election in Mali. The Embassy estimated that a further 15 000 Malians did not register at the time of the census.
- Moroccan Embassy: 1963 nationals were registered.
- Chinese Embassy: 1 000 Chinese nationals were registered in Mauritania (including 30 women). Among them, 800 worked in the fishing sector, 113 in the road building and oil sectors, 27 on medical projects in Mauritania and 60 in catering services and trade.
- Ivory Coast Consulate: 350 Ivorians were registered and approximately 100 were not registered.
- Russian Embassy: 630 were registered including 500 sailors.

Administrative structures have the – potential – advantage of providing information on the flows and stocks of international migrants on a continuous basis. They thus provide an opportunity to obtain complementary information on:

- nationals of each country resident abroad;
- the foreign population resident in each country;
- the foreign population legally resident in the host country (specifically);
- the nationals of each country legally resident in a foreign country (specifically);
- the number of nationals registered with the diplomatic and/or consular authorities (specifically);

- migrant workers resident in each country;
- international emigration and immigration.

Administrative sources, once created or up-dated, may constitute an important network for the collection and transmission of information on international migration with a view to the creation of a reliable statistical information system, thus providing governments with the tools they need for the efficient management of both their nationals resident abroad and also foreigners resident in their country.

However, the structures which supply the data do not often have the technical capacity to exploit and process it which would enable them to provide sophisticated statistical products. In the end, although they record almost all categories of migrants, these sources are often imprecise and of little help for the detailed measurement and analysis of international migration. Censuses and surveys are required as a source of information on international migration in order to compensate for these deficiencies.

2.2 General population censuses

Census reports are the main source of information concerning the population status of a country. A census provides a detailed inventory of a given population at the most detailed geographical level¹¹. A United Nations definition describes it as “the group of operations which consists of collecting, grouping, evaluating, analysing and publishing demographic, economic and social data concerning all the inhabitants of a country or a defined area of a country, at a given moment in time”¹².

Questions related to migration which are usually included in a census concern:

- 1) the place (country) of residence at the time of the census;
- 2) the place (country) of birth;
- 3) the situation of residence;
- 4) the place of residence prior to a given date;
- 5) the length of residence in the country where the census is being carried out;
- 6) nationality or citizenship.

The crossing of these variables enables international migrants to be grouped into several categories:

- sedentary population (non-migrants) for whom the place of birth, the previous (or earlier) place of residence at the time when the data is collected, is located in the country where the census is being carried out. These are residents who are natives of the country and have not migrated internationally since their birth;
- “life-time” migrants (“settled” immigrants): they are the result of a comparison between the country of birth and the country of residence at the time of the census. These are non-natives (born outside the country where they are registered and declaring the same country of residence at the time of the census and at an earlier date);
- “recent” immigrants; this category is the result of a comparison between the residence at the time of the census and the previous country of residence (or

¹¹ CEPED, (1994), « La démographie de 30 états d’Afrique et de l’Océan indien » eds du Ceped, 351p.

¹² United Nations (1958), quoted by CEPED (1994), op. cit.

earlier). It concerns individuals registered in a country whose previous place of residence is in another country;

- multiple migrants who declare three different countries (the country of birth; the country of prior residence and the country of census are not the same);
- returning migrants, i.e. individuals born in the country where the census is being carried out but whose earlier (or previous) residence was abroad.
- Foreigners who declare a different nationality (or citizenship) to that of the country where they are included in the census;
- Emigrants who are recorded either at their place of residence, where the population covered by the census is classified in 4 groups (current resident, absent resident, visitor and emigrant), or in a special section of the census questionnaire.

Several census operations have been carried out in the six countries of the sub-region targeted by the project. The following table summarizes these data collection operations by year and according to the migration variables which were included.

Table 2: Three most recent censuses by country, year and migration variables included

Country	Year of the Census	Place of birth	Place of residence at the time of the census	Previous place of residence	Length of stay in current residence	Nationality or citizenship	Migrant (residence status)	Migrant (section of questionnaire)
Burkina Faso	1975	X	X	-	-	X	X	-
	1985	X	X	X	-	X	-	-
	1996	X	X	X	X	X	X	-
Cape Verde	1980	X	X	X	-	X	-	X
	1990	X	X	X		X	-	X
	2000	X	X	X		X	-	X
The Gambia	1983	X	X	X	-	-	-	-
	1993	X	X	X	X	-	-	-
	2003	X	X	X		X	-	-
Mali	1976	X	X	-	-	X	-	-
	1987	X	X	-	-	X	-	-
	1998	X	X	X	X	X	-	-
Mauritania	1977	X	X	-	-	X	-	-
	1988	X	X	X	X	X	-	X
	2000	X	X	X		X	-	
Senegal	1976	X	X	-	-	X	-	-
	1988	X	X	X	X	X	-	-
	2002	X	X	X	-	X	-	X

As the table shows, the migration variables recorded in different censuses are not always identical, and this applies within the separate countries as well as between the six countries. This variation in the choice of variables between one data collection project and another raises the problem of the comparability of the data collected by the different censuses. We will come back to this issue later.

In general terms, Table 2 indicates that most of the census information on international migration is provided by cross comparison between the place of birth and the place of residence at the time of the census. The number of residents born abroad (life-time immigrants) can be estimated on the basis of this information. This method does not provide information on migration flows over time; it excludes foreigners, returning migrants and emigrants (born in the country in question and resident abroad).

In addition the variables: place of birth, place of residence prior to a given date and place of residence at the time of the census are fairly frequently included in different censuses, especially from 1980 onwards. Their cross-analysis provides opportunities to measure certain other aspects of the phenomenon of international migration. It also enables the definition of a relatively large sub-population group of returning migrants, who were classified as international migrants at an earlier date indicated in the census.

Questions concerning length of residence which would provide information on the recent or older nature of the migration are not often included, particularly in the most recent censuses (Senegal 2002, Mauritania 2000). In this respect, few West African countries follow the United Nations recommendations of the eighties, intended to introduce the concept of length of residence alongside the already existing place of birth, in order to provide basic data on the volume of migration flows at various times in the past (Ricca, 1990).

Nationality, on the other hand, is often declared and should theoretically permit the measurement of the foreign population in the country where the census has been carried out. However, it is important to pay careful attention to how this factor is used. As certain writers emphasize (Ricca, 1990; Dackam-Ngatchou, 1996), the definition of “foreigner” varies depending on whether it is based on nationality or place of birth. In certain countries the place of birth constitutes the most reliable indicator concerning foreign status. This approach, which includes nationals born abroad among the immigrants, provides results which are incompatible with those of countries where the notion of “foreigner” is based on citizenship. As indicated in the section on concepts and definitions, a foreigner (based on nationality) is different to an immigrant (based on birthplace). Increasingly strict legislation concerning border crossing makes the determining role of nationality on international migration obvious, particularly when focusing on the main types of migration (workers and refugees). However, the measurement of the foreign population based on nationality provides indications concerning the effects of migration on age and generation as well as on the contribution of foreigners to the natural flow of the population within the host country.

Certain countries including Burkina Faso (1975, 1996), Cape Verde (1980, 1990, 2000) Mauritania (1988) and more recently Senegal (2002) have included specific variables in their censuses in order to obtain information on emigrant populations. Nevertheless, the evaluation of international emigration frequently remains fragmented, concentrating only on recent emigrants (during the previous 12 months in the 1975 Burkina Faso census; during the previous 5 years in the 2002 Senegal census). The censuses carried out in 1996 in Burkina Faso and in 1988 in Mauritania covered their respective national populations resident abroad for more than 6 months. Only Cape Verde seems to include all nationals living abroad and members of their families in all their censuses.

Censuses could thus constitute a major source of useful information on international migration. In order to tap this source, however, countries which share the same poles of

migration must agree to harmonize the concepts and variables used in connection with these surveys, and adopt a rhythm that would enable the data to be collected in the same year in all the areas concerned.

2.3 National Surveys

Demographic surveys based on sampling, when carried out at a national level and applied to representative population groups, provide better opportunities for measurement and analysis than censuses. Such surveys, less cumbersome to implement and less costly than censuses, provide data on both structure and flow. In this respect it is worth noting at this point that national surveys are often a response to specific concerns on a particular subject (fertility, health, mortality, poverty, migration, etc.) Unless specifically aimed at the subject, they provide only indirect information on the phenomenon of migration, in the same way as censuses.

Until the late eighties there were few studies specifically aimed at the observation and analysis of international migration in West Africa. J. Condé and K.C. Zachariah were responsible for one of the earliest studies on the subject in the seventies (Condé and Zachariah, 1978). This study, which was financed by the World Bank, enabled them to identify migratory levels and trends in West Africa based on the results of national censuses available at the time. Based on “life-time” migration indices, the authors concluded that three countries were the destination of most international migrants in West Africa: Senegal, Ivory Coast and Nigeria.

Another national survey on migratory movements was carried out in the Haute Volta (Burkina Faso) in 1974-5 by the CVRS¹³ and the INSD¹⁴, with the support of the University of Montreal. The survey provided information on migratory routes, the characteristics of international migrants and their destinations which was used as the foundation for a historical analysis of internal and international migratory labour movements from the period of colonisation until independence (Cordell et al., 1996).

Finally, the Senegal River Valley Survey was carried out in 1982 by the OECD and the Sahel Institute operating in the three countries through which the river flows (Senegal, Mali and Mauritania). This survey focused mainly on migration towards Europe, and France in particular (Condé et al., 1986).

Although few and far between, migration surveys have helped to stimulate increased interest in population movements in West Africa, particularly in connection with policy-making on population issues (Bocquier and Traoré, 1996). This region is now believed to have one of highest concentrations of migrants in the world (Grégory and Piché, 1985); Russel et al., 1990; Adepoju, 1990; Cordell et al., 1996). This changed situation underlined the need for specific studies on West-African migration at both the sub-regional and national levels, and/or the inclusion of more migration variables in censuses and national surveys not directly focused on the subject. It is what led to the initiation of the surveys carried out by REMUAO (West African Migration and Urbanisation Network).

¹³ Centre Voltaïque de Recherches Scientifiques (Haute Volta Centre for Scientific Research)

¹⁴ Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie (National Institute of Statistics and Demography)

The REMUAO West African Migration and Urbanisation surveys were the first of their kind undertaken in the sub-region which specifically address internal and international migration. They were carried out in 1992-93 within the framework of a multi-disciplinary research network covering eight West African countries (Burkina Faso, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal) and coordinated by the CERPOD (Centre for study and research on population and development). They consist of national one-off retrospective surveys based on samples of representative households in each country involved¹⁵. The following immigration variables are included in the household survey: place of birth, previous place of residence, current place of residence and length of residence in the current location. The biographical questionnaire provides further information on the migratory history of selected migrants aged 15 years and over. Finally, emigration is captured by means of an emigrant questionnaire submitted to the household respondent, concerning members of the household who left the country between 1988 and 1993 and who were still resident abroad at the time of the survey.

The aim of these data collection operations was to record and understand social relations based on the conditions and ways and means of migrants' integration and their relationships with their original environment. The operations have provided substantial information on the volume, form and direction of internal migration within each country, in addition to providing information on international migration. As a result, these surveys are a very rich source of data for the measurement and analysis of migration. They now constitute the primary reference on migration in West Africa.

Table 3 provides a list of the three most recent national surveys carried out in each of the six countries under review, directly or indirectly related to issues of international migration. Please note that only data collection operations of a demographic type likely to provide substantial information on international migration are taken into account here.

¹⁵ With the exception of Nigeria where the survey covered only 22 of the 31 States of the Federation.

Table 3: The three most recent surveys by country and year, showing the migration variables

Country	Survey	Migration variables
Burkina Faso	1991 Demographic survey (INDS)	Migratory routes; place of birth; length of residence; destination; previous place of residence; most recent migration; place of residence at the time of the survey, emigrants
	1993 Survey on migration and urbanisation in Burkina Faso (INDS/CERPOD)	Place of birth, previous place of residence, current place of residence, migrant status; emigrants in the previous 5 years and in particular age at the time of departure and country of destination; migration routes (all periods of at least 6 months residence from time of birth up to the time of the survey), especially places of residence, principal activity (type, status, sector), age at the end of each period, reason for departure; immigrants living outside their place of birth giving the reasons for migration, the conditions under which migration took place, gains for the place of origin, goods and cash transmitted to the place of origin; migrants who have returned to their place of birth in the ten years prior to the survey (same questions for immigrants)
	2000 survey on migration, urban integration and the environment in Burkina Faso (UERD)	Migration routes; place of birth; length of residence; destination; previous place of residence; previous migration; place of residence at the time of the survey; emigrants.
Cape Verde	The report does not mention national surveys	
The Gambia	Nation-wide migrations study 1978	The report does not mention the migration variable included in the survey
Mali	Migration survey in the river valley (1982/83)	The report does not mention the migration variables included in the survey
	1993 Survey on migration and urbanization in Mali	Same variables as for the survey carried out in Burkina Faso in 1993 (REMUOA)
	Permanent survey of households	Place of birth, previous place of residence, current place of residence
Mauritania	1993 Survey on migration and urbanisation in Mauritania	Same variables as for the survey carried out in Burkina Faso in 1993 (REMUOA)
	Demographic and health survey in the year 2000.	The report does not mention the migration variables included in the survey
	Survey on living conditions in households in 2004	The report does not mention the migration variables included in the survey
Senegal	Survey on Migration and urbanization in Senegal (1993)	Same variables as for the survey carried out in Burkina Faso in 1993 (REMUOA)
	123 Survey	The report does not mention the migration variables included in the survey
	Senegalese Household Survey	Place of birth, current place of residence, nationality, emigrants broken down by age on departure, country of destination, reasons for migration, cash transfers towards Senegal.

2.4 Local surveys

In addition to national statistical sources, migrant populations have been included in local surveys in all six countries targeted by the project. These are usually restricted to one village or suburb, one town or at best a group of locations scattered over one region or province. Such surveys do not measure the phenomenon; instead, they contribute to our understanding of them. They cannot provide precise information on the numbers of international migrants, their geographical distribution and their origin, unlike the national censuses and surveys which provide information on these factors, of varying quality.

The main surveys listed in the national reports are as follows¹⁶:

Burkina Faso

The 1969-71 survey carried out by J.M. Kohler

J.M. Kohler carried out a series of surveys on temporary migration (less than 10 years' duration) among the Mossi population in the western part of Burkina Faso, between October 1969 and May 1971, as part of the Orstom programme. He carried out a census in 19 villages covering approximately 32 000 individuals and questioned a sample of 8 700 people about their migrations, before focusing his attention on a smaller sample of 300 returning migrants. He questioned the latter on various aspects of their migratory movement and particularly their financial savings, their marital status, the comparative profitability of cash crops (especially cotton) and income from migration. Although there is absolutely no information on households, families and smallholdings, there is a fair amount of information on the marital system, on opinions and especially on group thinking about migration.

The further Orstom survey of 1972-73 in Mossi territory

This further survey, carried out under the supervision of A. Quesnel and J. Vaugelade, was strictly limited to the Mossi and Bissa rural territories (the two ethnic groups live in neighbouring regions). Its objective was to carry out a second series of interviews, in 1972, in the concessions which were studied in 1960-61. A detailed questionnaire was used to solicit information on the smallholdings: nature, composition, size, number of inhabitants, family assistance, etc. 5950 smallholdings, involving 61 650 individuals, were covered in the survey. A special module was devoted to each migratory movement by the men of the smallholding after 1961, as well as on the future of all the individuals connected with the smallholding who were present in 1961. 6 800 individuals were questioned. One of the original aspects of this survey was the design of a questionnaire on the matrimonial events affecting each individual since 1961. However, given the cumbersome nature of such a questionnaire, it was used for only a strictly limited sub-sample of individuals.

Without a shadow of doubt, this is the survey which is most rich in information on internal structures (family, household, smallholding, marital system, etc.) in Mossi territory, and it enabled a comprehensive analysis of migration to be carried out which included the structural characteristics of the community of origin. Many studies based on this survey¹⁷ have in fact focused on the effects of internal Mossi social structures on migration.

¹⁶ The reports on Cape Verde and The Gambia do not mention any surveys carried out at the local level.

¹⁷ Quesnel et al (1975, 1977, 1985); Marchal J.Y (1975, 1983), to name but a few.

It is perhaps a pity that the migration questionnaire was administered only to men. Even though masculine migration, particularly across a national boundary, is more frequent and more dependent on economic conditions, this should not make us ignore feminine migration. It is also surprising that a survey of this importance should cover only part of the country, unlike the 1960-61 survey on which it was based.

The further Orstom survey (1976) in Lobi and Dagara territory

This survey, carried out by D. Benoit, P. Levi, J. Papail et F. Sodter, was used to update the demographic survey carried out in 1960-61 by R. Clairin. It covered the Lobi and Dagara territories of the south-western region. It was one of the few surveys which focussed specifically on migration carried out outside the Mossi territory in the seventies. The questionnaires and the methodology were identical to those used in the 72-73 survey, although the period of reference for migration was 3 months (instead of 6) for the survey carried out in the Lobi area. Furthermore, the migration questionnaire was administered to everybody, men and women, in the Lobi area, unlike the survey in the Mossi area which reserved the migration questionnaire exclusively for men. The personal migration histories were written up even for the deceased, based on indirect information obtained from heads of households. The sample covered 22 villages and 5 629 individuals.

The ORSTOM repeated survey

This was carried out between 1986 and 1994 in the Mossi region (Yako, Gourcy and Pissila provinces) and in the south-western region (Niangoloko province). The survey covered 34 villages and reached approximately 30 000 individuals; it was repeated every six months.

Mali

Migration survey in the Senegal River Valley carried out in 1982/83

This survey focussed on international migration among the Senegal River population (Mali, Mauritania and Senegal). It initially covered the households of migrants in France and provided a certain amount of information on the characteristics of migrant workers including place of birth. The second stage of the survey was carried out in the regions where the migrants originated. In Mali, the information was limited almost entirely to the Kayes and Yélimané circles, in the Kayes region. The sample in both circles included both the villages which were not represented in the French sample as well as those which were.

Survey on economic reintegration projects for migrants returning to Mali (Bamako, Kayes) (2002)

This survey, which was initiated by the International Migration Organization (IOM) with the financial support of the Swiss government, covered a sample of 100 returning migrants who had developed economic reintegration programmes in the district of Bamako and the region of Kayes. The survey comprised a series of questions on the socio-economic and geographical characteristics of the emigrants and their impact on the evolution of each reintegration project, the migratory history of the individual and its influence on the start-up and development of the project, long-term evolution of the projects, based on the sense of initiative of the promoters, capital invested, the obstacles which arose and the conditions under which the latter were – or were not – overcome.

Mauritania

1995 Survey on Migrations and urbanization in Mauritania (C.O. Abdellahi) which covered internal migratory movements, the rural exodus, the motives behind migration and the characteristics of migrants.

1998 Survey on the nomad populations (M.L.O Moujtaba) which provided information for the analysis of the characteristics of the nomads, as well as the trend towards sedentarization and the reasons for it.

2002 Survey on the socio-economic determinants of migration (M.M El Mouvide) which analysed the determinants of migration in terms of the characteristics of migration, land distribution and the reasons for migration.

2002 Survey on the socio-economic consequences of migration (S.M.O Jived) which analysed the effects of migration on the living conditions of non-migrants, on the demographic structure of households and their socio-economic development.

New trends in the migratory phenomenon in Mauritania (M.L.C Malainine, 2002) which enabled the analysis of migratory intensity, the evolution of migration over time, migratory behaviour by age cohort and the motives behind migration.

Senegal

In Senegal, the Senegal River Valley has traditionally been the object of special surveys on international migration, which include the following:

Survey on migration among the Senegal River population (Kane F. and Lericollais A., 1975)

The objectives of this research into migratory movements among the population of the Senegal river valley were to measure their amplitude, to discover the circumstances which led up to them and the way they were carried out, integration in the host regions, the preservation of links with the country of origin and their effects on traditional activities. The data was collected by means of an exhaustive survey among all the encampments and villages in the valley (in Senegal and in Mauritania); the aim was to map out and analyse the distribution of the male population, their economic activities and their resources. Emigrants towards foreign countries in Africa and in Europe were listed by "tent" and by "plot". Migration towards the towns and regions of Senegal and Mauritania was not recorded systematically.

Survey on North-South international migration. A case study: Malien, Mauritanian and Senegalese migrants from the Senegal River Valley, in France (Condé J. et Diagne P. S., 1982/83) (see previous paragraphs on Mali)

Surveys in the middle reaches of the Senegal River Valley (Guilmoto C., 1992-93)

These consist of a series of repetitive surveys carried out in the rural area of the middle reaches of the Valley (Podor province), among a sample of nearly 900 households living in 12 clusters. The main data collected concerned family standards of living and the migratory biographies of the adults over the 20-year period prior to the survey. The surveys (carried out at six-monthly intervals) concentrated on information concerning economic activities, changes in family status and geographical location, including of short duration, in the periods between surveys. Following up the sample made it possible to collect information from

3 599 persons 15 years old and over, in 805 households, on both past migrations and recent forms of mobility, as well as on agricultural activities over several years.

More recent surveys on international migration have centred on locations in the Dakar region and regions in the “ground-nut basin” (Diourbel and Kaolack). These include the following:

Survey on determinants of international migration in Senegal (IRD-DPS, 1997/98)

This survey was carried out in the towns of Dakar/Pikine and Touba, covering 1 713 households and 6 311 individual migrants and non-migrants. The information collected from households concerned mainly the economic situation of the household and its living conditions. At the individual level, information was collected on the current marital and work status of individuals and their socio-demographic characteristics. The migratory history of the individual was mapped out including both migration within Senegal and international migration. The composition of the household was documented as well as the economic situation of the individual just prior to the most recent international migration, or five years before the survey for non-migrants. Four modules elicited information on the migratory process: i) the motives for migration, ii) information possessed by the migrants before they moved, iii) assistance provided when leaving and on arrival in the host country, and iv) their professional activities while migrant. A final module dealt with their intentions concerning future migration.

Survey on determinants of international migration in the town of Kaolack (Ndione B., 1997)

This survey was carried out in four neighbourhoods of the town of Kaolack, characterised by a high level of international emigration. 2,546 households were inventoried in these neighbourhoods, 39% being migrant households. Based on this survey sample, 400 households were investigated and 4 044 individuals were listed. Demographic, social and economic information was collected on each member of the household as well as information on the conditions of family life. A more detailed questionnaire was used with returning international migrants and emigrants who were temporarily present at the time of the survey. The latter comprised six modules as follows: i) migratory biography, ii) links and contacts with the host country, iii) links and contacts with the country and region of origin, iv) decision to leave, v) migratory and assistance networks, vi) aims or projects connected with international migration and means of re-integration.

In addition, the four neighbourhoods were included in a qualitative survey based on two partly open-ended question grids, one aimed at key informants (prominent local figures and traditional or religious leaders) and the other at international migrants who were passing through, in a total of 48 interviews. These interviews provided descriptions of the migratory and social history of the district, its mode of functioning and organization as well as neighbourhood links between the inhabitants. The descriptions also provided information on issues such as the spread of the migratory phenomenon within the district, the help and support received at the time of departure and on arrival from relatives or friends in the district, and economic and symbolic transfers within each neighbourhood.

Survey on housing investments in the suburbs of Dakar on the part of international migrants (Tall S.M., 1994)

This survey was carried out in the suburbs of Dakar (the capital of Senegal). Four suburbs with varying histories and origins were investigated, located between the outer suburbs and the edge of the urban area: Grand Dakar, Grand Yoff, Parcelles Assainies and Pikine. The

survey examined the variety of migratory locations and the diversity of the investments in housing made by international migrants. A morphological analysis of these investments revealed a multiplicity of influences: traditional thinking, borrowing from host country models; individual preferences as well as urban and official constraints.

2.5 Other sources listed in the national reports

Other sources of data on international migration were revealed in the six national reports. These consisted of special sources on specific groups of migrants:

The “file” of Burkinabe students with grants abroad

The general administration of career guidance and the department of study grants has a list of students receiving study grants abroad. However, the list is not up-to-date. In addition, it does not provide a complete list of Burkinabe students abroad, because only students on government grants are included.

The “file” of the Burkina Faso Committee for refugees

This Committee produces statistics on refugees at regular intervals, which makes it possible to follow the evolution of political crises in African and to evaluate the efforts made by the United Nations in the management of refugees and displaced persons.

The National Integration Committee

The role of this Committee is to improve the integration process in the countries of the sub-region. In order to fulfil this role, it collaborates with diplomatic representatives installed in Burkina Faso and the associations of the various foreign communities. The structure does not produce statistical data on immigrants. It works towards the integration of these communities within the Burkinabe social system. It does not have the necessary resources to collect statistical information on migrants. The information which it has at its disposal is supplied by the diplomatic representatives and the associations. These data, according to the Permanent Secretary of the Commission, are not reliable. The National Committee estimates that there are approximately two million foreigners living in Burkina Faso.

The Permanent Secretariat of the “Superior Council” for Burkinabe citizens abroad

This is responsible for the administration of Burkinabe citizens abroad. It is in permanent contact with Burkinabe embassies and consulates, but does not produce statistics on Burkinabe emigrants.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The International Organization for Migration opened an office in Burkina Faso in 2003, following the political crisis in the Ivory Coast. Since its establishment, this office has taken over the responsibility for the administration of those repatriated from the Ivory Coast. Between June 2003 and September 2003, the Organization processed the files of 7 500 people repatriated from the Ivory Coast. These included citizens of Burkina Faso; Mali, Guinea, etc. The IOM does not have statistics on the migration phenomenon. It works with certain national and international bodies in order to manage repatriation issues.

The “file” of the Cape Verde General Directorate of Higher and Scientific Education

This source concerns Cape Verdean students following courses of higher education abroad; the statistics for certain countries can be broken down by age, gender and field of study.

The “file” of the National Institute for the promotion of technical and occupational training (INA-FTP)

This Institute carries out studies on certain trades and professions considered likely to offer employment. In 2004, the INA-FTP carried out special surveys on the employment situation and training needs in the following sub-sectors: “car mechanics”, “building and public works”, “cooling and air conditioning”, “office skills and accountancy” and “clothing and textiles”. The surveys provided information on the number of occupied posts and the number of employees in each sub-sector in 2004, by nationality.

The “file” of the Union of Mauritanian Workers (UTM)

The UTM has 54 000 workers registered in 32 federations with 2 branches abroad (Spain, France). The UTM does not have foreign members and therefore has no foreign labour in Mauritania. However, it has carried out a survey on taxi-drivers in three towns (Nouakchott, Nouadhibou and Zouerat), covering 1 650 foreign taxi-drivers. The only information available from the UTM concerns the number of Mauritians working abroad who are registered members of its branch offices in France (2 000 members) and Spain (1 500 members).

The Observatory on International Migration in Senegal

This was set up by the International Organization for Migration (OIM) in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and the Senegalese “Ministère des Sénégalais de l’extérieur” in order to enhance the migration management capacity of the latter two. The data collected has not yet been made public.

Databases on the expertise of Senegalese and Malian managers abroad

These databases were set up by the UNDP as part of the TOKTEN project (Technology Knowledge of Expatriate Nationals). They provide information on the identities and profiles of expatriate managers; their objective is to provide assistance to the country of origin through the transfer of knowledge, and in particular of knowledge acquired in the host country.

In addition, censuses carried out in certain countries have been used to assess the international migrant population. This indirect assessment was produced by Russel et al (1990) based on thirty-three censuses carried out in 1970 and 1980 in Sub-Saharan Africa, and provided a rough picture of intra-African migration movements. The Eurostat data, based on censuses carried out in member countries of the European Union, also provide a considerable amount of detailed information on migration towards Europe from the countries of the sub-region.

To summarise, the image of international migration in the countries covered by the project is based on the simultaneous use of several techniques and the comparison of statistical information obtained by processing data from diverse sources.

3. Concepts and definitions used in migration statistics

Careful and precise definition of the terms used by the various statistical sources on international migration is a prerequisite if the reader is to be provided with clear and

unambiguous information. Our aim here is to define the nature of the criteria and of the statistical categories used, and to clarify their links with the concepts and definitions which are universally recommended. The question is whether the terms used by the statistical systems in the countries under review are in line with international and ILO recommendations and whether the concepts and definitions which are used permit statistical comparison at the level of the West African Region.

3.1 Criteria based on space (location) and time (duration)

The United Nations defines an international migrant as “any person who changes their country of usual residence”. The crossing of an international frontier with a change of normal place of residence is what differentiates international and internal migration; the latter remains within the State borders. At its simplest, the notion of migration therefore involves at least a move from one geographical location to another. Thus defined, the migratory phenomenon comprises two fundamental concepts: time and space.

The concept of space refers to the different places which one individual occupies in the course of a lifetime. The first ambiguity which must be removed concerns the precise location of each place of residence, based on the phenomenon under review (internal or international migration). Taking an international approach implies that the place of residence is any clearly outlined geographical entity circumscribed in concrete terms by a border. As a result, international migration involves a transfer of the place of residence from one country to another.

Time is expressed by the notion of length of residence in a location. There is no consensus in this case on the definition of length of residence; each country applies its own criteria, which are not necessarily those of neighbouring countries, although the population concerned may be the same. The different sources of statistical data on migration available in the six countries under review apply several reference periods or lengths of residence:

- Five or ten years for previous place of residence: these reference periods are often used in censuses but also in a certain number of national and local surveys;
- six-month period of residence (or less than six months with the intention to stay for longer than six months) as a definition of migration: many censuses and national surveys are based on this criterion;
- three-month period of residence (special investigations into migration in Burkina Faso);
- one-year period of residence (or less than one year with the intention of staying for more than one year) to define migration in certain specific surveys (e.g. Survey on determinants of international migration in Senegal).

The concepts of migrant, non-migrant, returning migrant, immigrant/emigrant, migrant worker, migratory flow, emigration/immigration rates, relative migratory intensity and migratory balance are based on these definitions of the migratory phenomenon.

3.2 Categories of migrants and migration indicators

Migrant: any person who has changed their place of residence for a given period of time.

Non-migrant: any person living in a location who has never changed their usual place of residence.

Returning migrant: any individual who has changed their usual place of residence but is again resident in their place of birth when the data is collected.

Immigrant and emigrant: these concepts define a migrant population depending on whether reference is to the sending area or the host area. The term immigrant refers to the host area, while emigrant refers to the point of departure.

Migrant worker: a migrant worker in the strict sense of the word is a migrant who has an employment contract, particularly in the modern sector. In this case, he/she is obliged under the legislation to have a residence permit, and will be issued with an immigrant identity card.

Migratory flow: this term is used to describe overall migratory movements between two geographical areas during a given period.

Emigration rate: the emigration rate is obtained by comparing migratory flows away from a given area with the number of years of residence in it. This area represents the origin of the emigration. The population of the host area does not enter into account.

Immigration rate: the immigration rate is calculated by comparing migratory flows towards a given area with the number of years of residence, the area in question being the destination of the migration. The population of the sending area does not enter into account.

Migratory balance: the migratory balance is the whole number ratio (positive or negative) obtained by comparing migratory in-flows and out-flows to and from a given geographical area.

Net migration rate: the net migration rate (migratory growth) is obtained by comparing the migratory balance of a given geographical area with the total number of years of residence.

Relative migratory density rate: the relative migratory density rate from one area towards another is obtained by comparing the migratory flow from the first towards the second with the sum of the years of residence in each of the two zones. This figure is based on the population of the two areas.

It is therefore important to distinguish between flows (those entering or leaving over a given period) and stocks (population residence at any given time). The concept of “migrant” (emigrant, immigrant), which is based on a geographical criterion (move from one place to another) must not be confused with that of a “foreigner”, which is based on a legal definition: a foreigner is a person who does not have the nationality of the country in which he/she resides.

3.3 Categorization based on the time criterion

- **Lifetime migration**: refers to the displacement of an individual whose place of residence at the time the data is collected is different to that of their place of birth.

- **Recent migration:** is the displacement of an individual whose last migration is what is known as “recent”. In other words, an individual whose place of residence at the time of the data collection is different to their previous place of residence (when it is known) and whose change of residence occurred in the recent past (less than one year or less than 5 years, depending on the reference period).
- **Ancient migration:** is the displacement of an individual whose most recent migration lies in the more distant past. In other words, an individual whose place of residence at the time of data collection is unchanged, but not that of their place of birth. The change in place of residence occurred prior to the period of reference (more than one year or 5 years previously).

3.4 Categorization based on the space criterion

- *Simple migration:* the displacement of an individual whose place of residence at the time of data collection and/or previous place of residence is different to that of their place of birth. When the previous place of residence is different to the place of birth, it is identical to the place of residence at the time the data is collected.
- *Multiple migration:* the displacement of an individual for whom the three places of residence (birth, prior to, and at the time of, data collection) are different.
- *Return migration:* the displacement of an individual whose place of residence at the time of data collection is that of the place of birth but different to the previous place of residence. The return which is thus defined may be either temporary (less than 6 months) or permanent.

Please note that multiple and returning migrants are always “recent” migrants.

4. Data collection institutions: roles, competencies and constraints

This section deals with the evaluation of data collection measures, processing and dissemination of migration statistics in the countries under review. The emphasis will be placed on the data collection projects for which these institutions are responsible, at the same time outlining their strengths and weaknesses.

4.1 The role of data collection institutions

The six countries involved in the current study all have a central specialized institution for the collection; processing and analysis of statistical data, particularly on migration: the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (*Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie*) (INSD) in Burkina Faso, the National Statistics Institute (*Institut National de la Statistique*) (INS) in Cape Verde, the Central Statistics Department (CSD) in The Gambia, the Department of National Statistics and Computing (*Direction Nationale de la Statistique et de l’Informatique*) (DNSI) in Mali, the National Statistics Bureau (*Office Nationale de la Statistique*) (ONS) in Mauritania and the Department of Forecasting and Statistics (*Direction de la Prévision et de la Statistique*) (DPS) in Senegal. These bodies are mainly responsible for:

- carrying out general population censuses and national demographic and socio-economic surveys;
- the design of methodologies for the collection and processing of data through censuses and surveys;
- the exploitation and analysis of data obtained through these data collection projects;
- the coordination and dissemination of official statistics on the population.

a) Immigration services

Each individual country has ministerial departments responsible for issuing travel and residence documents: entry visas, residence permits etc. These are as follows: Study and Planning Department of the Ministry of the Interior and Security (*Direction des études et de la planification*) in Burkina Faso, the Department of Migration and Borders (*Direction des migrations et des frontières*) in Cape Verde; the Immigration Department of the Gambia, the Directorate for the Police services (*Direction des services de police*) of the Ministry of Interior Security and Civil Protection in Mali, the Department of Territory Control (*Direction de la surveillance du territoire*) in Mauritania and the Department of Borders Control (*Direction de la police des frontières*) of the Ministry of Interior in Senegal. These structures encompass the border police authorities and the departments which deal with foreigners. More specifically, these institutions collect information on:

- entries and exits into/out of the national territory by means of embarkation/disembarkation cards at points of entry in airports and ports and notifications provided by the land border police;
- issue of residence permits for foreign residents.

b) Institutions responsible for expatriate nationals

These consist of the Department of Surveys and Planning (*Direction des études et de la planification*) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Burkina Faso), the Institute of Communities (*Institut des Communautés*) (Cape Verde), the Office for the Expatriate Quota and Naturalisation (The Gambia), the Delegation of Malians Abroad (*Délégation des Maliens de l'extérieur*) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (Mauritania) and the Department of Senegalese Abroad (Senegal). These public institutions are responsible for the management of their expatriate nationals. They are responsible for:

- collecting information on emigrants, particularly based on the registration forms provided by the diplomatic and/or consular authorities located abroad;
- the renewal of passports and national identity cards for compatriots living abroad.

4.2 Competences of the structures producing statistics

a) Centralized organisms specializing in data collection

These are usually efficient structures in terms of the collection, processing and analysis of statistical data, particularly concerning migration. They provide relatively well designed descriptive statistics on the population in general and on migration in particular. In addition, such institutions have the appropriate computer services as well as staff who are trained in the techniques of statistical design.

Most of the statistics currently available are supplied through national descriptive reports based on the censuses and national surveys which have been carried out. As regards international migration, the information which is available covers notably:

- immigrants, broken down by age, gender, marital status, level of education, country of origin, type of employment, employment status, employment sector, residential environment, region etc. (national censuses and surveys);
- foreign nationals by country of origin, age, gender, marital status, level of education, type of employment, employment status, employment sector, residential environment, region etc. (national censuses and surveys);
- returning international migrants by point of departure, age, gender, marital status, level of education, country of origin, type of employment, employment status, employment sector, residential environment, region etc. (national censuses and surveys);
- recent emigrants (last 5 years or within a year prior to collection of the data) by country of destination; age on departure, reason for migrating (special surveys on migration and certain censuses);
- migration maps by region or foreign country (special migration surveys);
- emigration and immigration rates, net migration rates (special migration surveys).
- comparative indicators of migration density (specific surveys on migration).

b) Immigration authorities and the institutions responsible for expatriate nationals

These institutions and departments provide information on international migration based on entry and exit cards into/out of national territory and the issue of residence permits for foreigners in the case of the immigration authorities, and based on emigrants' registration files in the case of the institutions responsible for expatriate nationals.

4.3 Constraints affecting data suppliers

a) Centralized bodies specializing in data collection

A general observation based on analysis of the statistics supplied by the specialized bodies is that the data collected have not been thoroughly analysed. The reports which are currently available consist of descriptive analyses based on the simple comparison of migration variables with the socio-demographic characteristics of individuals, although the censuses and in particular the national surveys on migration offer several possible angles of approach for a detailed analysis of migratory movements. This failure to exploit and utilize the available sources more thoroughly restricts the opportunities for widespread dissemination of the data.

b) Immigration authorities and the institutions responsible for expatriate nationals

The data collected are not sufficiently exploited for statistical purposes. The organisms responsible for the management of the information do not have the necessary skills to exploit and analyse quantitative data, neither do they have the financial resources required for computerized recording, processing and analysis of the data collected. There are therefore not in a position to provide refined statistics for potential users and decision-makers.

5. Discrepancies and weaknesses in the current information system

In spite of the relatively high potential of the data sources, the current information system on international migration in West Africa suffers from numerous weaknesses which combine to pose a general problem as regards the reliability of the data collected, their representativity, their coherence, their comparability and their accessibility.

5.1 Reliability of the sources of statistical information on migration

The biggest gap as regards migration in general and international migration in particular, remains the absence of sufficiently up-to-date and reliable information, at the level of both the administrative authorities and the specialized centralized bodies.

a) The administrative authorities dealing with immigration and with the management of expatriate nationals

We would like to make a few general remarks concerning the reliability of administrative sources. The data drawn from the registration records completed by citizens for the diplomatic and/or consular authorities located abroad are subject to two limitations:

- The collection of information (not all of a country's citizens register; the diplomatic and/or consular authorities are not usually informed in the event of the decease or departure from the host country of registered individuals.
- The consulates forward their registration records only at irregular intervals, or not at all.

Information on border statistics is not computerized. The embarkation and disembarkation cards handed in at airports and seaports are usually stored without being archived or exploited, although they constitute a mine of information on the volume, direction and reasons for travel as well as on the socio-demographic characteristics of the individuals concerned.

b) Centralized bodies specializing in the collection of data (censuses, national surveys)

Censuses

It is widely recognized that the main aim of a general population census, particularly in the countries of the Southern Hemisphere, is not to provide sophisticated measurements and a detailed analysis of migration. Its geographical boundaries, since it provides information only on individuals who are present or resident on the national territory at the time the information is collected, enable it to measure both the resident foreign population and internal migration fairly accurately. There is a series of obstacles to description of migratory flows leaving the country, which are related at one and the same time to the definition of the phenomenon and to its measurement. Theoretically, and with a few notable exceptions, censuses do not provide information on the stocks and flows of international emigrants¹⁸. Nevertheless, in the absence of more specific studies they remain one of the major sources of information on the immigrant and foreign populations in Sub-Saharan Africa in spite of three major criticisms which can be levelled against them.

¹⁸ Certain censuses in some West African countries have collected information on emigrant populations (Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mauritania and more recently, Senegal).

In the first place, a national population census provides information only on those persons present or resident on the national territory at the time of collection. Information is not usually included on people born in the country who are resident abroad. This means that the census alone cannot usually provide the information required to assess either the stock or the flow of international emigrants.

In the second place, the immigrant population which is targeted is extremely heterogeneous, if only in terms of length of residence. This means that only information on immigrant stocks can be provided, little or no information is available concerning immigration flow, except in some cases the previous place of residence.

The length of the period of reference, which is sometimes considerable, constitutes a further problem, that of over-simplification of a migrant's itinerary. The temptation when comparing the place of birth with the place of residence based on a census is to reduce migratory movement to just that one¹⁹. However, thanks to the reconstitution of migratory biographies, we know that the itinerary is often complicated, comprising numerous stages, and that it may conclude with a move back to a region which is sometimes the place of birth. Seen in this light, the definition of a migrant based on his/her place of birth may "linearize" a complex migratory itinerary to the exclusion all those who have moved in their lifetimes and then returned to live in their country of birth.

The Senegalese migratory biographies which were collected in the course of the Migration and Urbanization Survey (EMUS) carried out in Senegal in 1993; provide an illustration of these statistical weaknesses. The transformation of this biographical data into several fictitious censuses made it possible to measure, at least partly, the risks of omission and "linearization". Thus transformed, the biographical data gave the places of residence in 1983 and in 1988 for Senegalese citizens born in the country, aged 15 and over, resident in Senegal in 1993. The fictitious censuses showed that 236 204 Senegalese had lived abroad at least once in the course of their lives; however, 153,433 of them, i.e. 65%, would have been classified as sedentary based on the usual information obtained from a census carried out in 1988 which included information on the place of residence in 1983. This situation is similar to that of the 1988 census in Senegal and illustrates the possible margin of error. The risk of "linearization" is equally serious; the transformed EMUS data indicated that more than 20% of the 136,002 foreign individuals born abroad and aged 15 and over who were living in Senegal in 1993 had lived abroad, i.e. they had moved at least once more than the single international move suggested by their place of residence in 1983.

Last but not least, there are those immigrants who deliberately avoid being included in a census. International migrants, probably more than any other individuals, are affected by under-declaration in censuses. Irregular²⁰ and even "legal" immigrants tend to suspect the involvement of the police in an operation. The case of Senegalese nationals living in Mauritania provides a good example of this. The Mauritanian census carried out in 1988 indicated that there were then 17 624 Senegalese resident in Mauritania; however, more than 65 000 left the country at the time of the Senegal-Mauritanian conflict (1989), according to

¹⁹ "Life-long" migration, although a category which is widely used, remains one of the least well-defined.

²⁰ The term "irregular" is preferred to that of "clandestine", insofar as the DEDEAO agreements permit the free circulation of individuals throughout West Africa. However, national migration policies sometimes put the migrant in an irregular situation, particularly in terms of employment legislation.

official Senegalese figures. Data collected by the EMUS survey indicated that 63% of foreigners born abroad declared that they were of Senegalese nationality. This figure rose to 88% for those born in the Gambia and 74% for those born in Guinea-Bissau. Even if this situation can partly be explained through naturalisation or the birth of Senegalese children abroad, these proportions seem too high to be credible. This behaviour is probably even more flagrant among refugees and displaced persons, and migratory policies introduced in several West African countries (Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Ghana ...) have certainly reinforced this tendency to dissimulate.

Furthermore, in certain analyses the definition of international migration does not even refer to crossing a border, but depends exclusively on the nationality declared at the time of the census. In spite of the fairly frequent use of this definition in African censuses, this is clearly bad practice, because foreign nationals will not necessarily have undertaken international migration. Naturalisation often remains the exception in Africa, and it is not unusual for someone who was born in the country where he or she is living, and has therefore not migrated in any way, to retain his or her foreign nationality. The counting of international migrants based on nationality also poses a problem in the case of those who have more than one nationality. For all these reasons it is preferable to exclude nationality in measuring international migration, whenever possible.

All the figures drawn from censuses confirm the large volume of migratory movements in sub-Saharan Africa in general and in West Africa in particular. These estimates, although frequently based on census data, are more often validated by repeated use than by the rigour of the calculations which produce them. Apart from a few general considerations, the correction of census data is not based on explicit scientific methods and analysis. Thus, it is widely accepted that there were approximately 35 to 45 million international migrants and refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa in the late eighties, (Ricca, 1990; Russell et al., 1990; Stalker, 1995). Just as a reminder, there were an estimated 80 million international migrants and refugees throughout the world at that time. Today's estimates give a figure of approximately 150 million (OIM, UN, 2000). The figures for Sub-Saharan Africa are based on census data from the seventies, corrected to take into account an estimated under-declaration of more than 50% for international immigrants and 100% for refugees (Stalker, 1995). However, the origin of these under-recording rates is never clearly stated.

These few remarks are sufficient to highlight one of the paradoxes that appears throughout the scientific literature; West Africa is rightly considered to be one of the areas in the world which is most affected by international labour migration; but it is also one where this major phenomenon has been least accurately measured.

National surveys

These surveys, particularly when they concentrate mainly on migration, provide better opportunities for analysis than even the most sophisticated of censuses. These surveys, however, no matter how rich they may be in information, sometimes have a serious limitation for the study of international migration.

Basically a survey, when international migration is not its main subject, is based on a sample plan which may be unsuitable for the evaluation of this phenomenon. International migration is not a demographic factor which is evenly distributed throughout the national territory. Quite the contrary, it may be affected by clustering to a greater or lesser degree. Furthermore, it is almost

always a rare phenomenon, in the statistical meaning of the term. These considerations may lead to fears of significant sampling errors, particularly if a “classical” plan – i.e. a non-stratified migration criterion – is used.

5.2 Representativity of the data collected on migrants

The immigration authorities and those responsible for the management of expatriate nationals have a relatively low coverage rate of the target population. In most countries in the West African region, migrants are directly registered only if they cross the border at air- and seaports. This source, although it provides information on both entries (immigrants) and departures (emigrants), is fairly incomplete because of the permeability and high number of entries and exists by terrestrial routes. Furthermore, the issue of identity cards concerns only a fraction of the population, usually those located in urban areas and the modern sector. Furthermore, work and residence permits do not take into account unauthorised immigrants, who account for the majority of the foreign population of African origin.

The data collected by the diplomatic and/or consular authorities are not representative of the emigrant population abroad, either. They include only those persons who register, leaving out a majority of migrants (particularly those in an irregular situation who are probably the most numerous).

The information obtained from censuses does not usually target all categories of migrants. Those projects which have tried to measure international emigration have concentrated mainly on recent migrants (those who have left during the preceding five-year period) as was the case in 2000 in Cape Verde and in 2002 in Senegal. They are far from reflecting the reality of migrations abroad. In addition, they remain fairly limited in terms of the information on emigrants which is provided (age, gender, country of destination and reason for migration) and they rarely include variables concerning the employment of migrants in the foreign country.

5.3 Coherence of data on migration

It is worth noting that there is no consensus on the definition of migration; each country has its own criteria, which are not necessarily the same as those of other countries. In this respect, the various sources of statistical data on migration listed for the countries under review indicate that there are several reference periods in the definition of the concepts:

- five or ten years for the definition of previous place of residence;
- a period of residence of six months, three months or one year for the definition of migrant.

In Burkina Faso for example, not all the data collection operations adopted the same definition of migrant. The multi-survey study carried out in 1972 by ORSTOM considered “any individual absent for a period of at least 6 months” as a migrant, while a figure of 3 months was used for the surveys carried out in 73-74 and 1960-61. All the other data collection operations, particularly those carried out after 1975²¹, chose to use a period of 6 months.

²¹ This concerns the two censuses included in the 1991 and 1993 surveys carried out by the INSD and by REMUAO, respectively.

Reference periods of twelve, six and three months are all relative and depend on the object of measurement. It is true that if the data collected includes the date of changes in residence, all movements can be included. However, this presents problems in practice. It is therefore essential to harmonise the definitions used in order to reach a joint understanding of the phenomenon and to obtain comparable data at the national and regional levels.

5.4 Regularity and consistence of data on migrants

The statistical systems on migration in the countries under review in this study suffer from the irregularity of data collection, caused by the lack of a permanent system for the collection, processing and analysis of the data. Most of the information available on migration is produced through surveys and censuses, i.e. through one-off operations. The long periods not only between data collection operations, but also between the collection of data and the publication of the results, mean that major changes can occur in the dynamics of migration in between times. Ten years usually separate national censuses, for example, and special surveys on migration are not carried out at regular intervals at all. To provide further examples, the results of the most recent census in Senegal, carried out in 2002, are not yet available; the last census carried out in Mali in 1998 has not yet been officially published, at least as regards the data on migration.

Furthermore, a great deal of information on international migration, particularly on migrant employment issues, is lacking because of the failure to take into account or quite simply to analyse several variables related to migrant labour.

Generally speaking, existing statistics are not sufficiently used for the study and management of migration, particularly in terms of migration policies.

5.5 Comparability of statistics on migrants

Data users are commonly interested in two types of comparison: diachronic comparison (with other data collection operations carried out previously on the same territory) and synchronic comparison (with data collection operations carried out in other countries at similar dates). The comparison of data, however, raises a number of methodological issues.

In order to compare data from several different sources, the fields of operation of the data collection must be identical (same observation scale), and the subjects tackled must use the same definition and selection criteria. In this respect, the geographical units often vary from one country to another, as well as from one date to another within the same country.

In Burkina Faso, for example, the different data collection operations did not adopt the same geographical boundaries beyond which a displacement was considered as migration. The modification of the administrative boundaries which was implemented after 1975 complicated the situation even more. The Burkinabe national report noted that it was difficult to work out the correspondence between the previous and the new administrative divisions. The study of the chronological evolution of migratory flows frequently turns out to be a perilous task in these circumstances, and one which yields poor results.

As regards the study of international migration, neighbouring countries (or the same sub-regional group) which are subject to major migratory flows would benefit from collecting the

same type of data, if possible in the same year. The collection of census data during the same period of reference would undoubtedly be highly useful for a better understanding of international migration. For Mali and Senegal for example it is difficult, even though information is available, to provide a reliable estimate of migratory trends based on census figures collected four years apart (1998 in Mali and 2002 in Senegal).

Care must also be taken in the way in which results are presented (in the form of gross or net figures), the types of migration taken into account, etc. which may perturb comparative analysis. As an example, the tabulation of foreigners in the course of a national census in a given country may fail to isolate the residents of another country although the census carried out in the latter may have permitted the identification of citizens of the former.

5.6 Accessibility of information on migrants

The manner in which the results of a data collection operation are presented is important in making the best use of a source of statistical information. It justifies all the previous stages and enables the tasks involved in national and/or regional planning to be carried out. However, the results of census and survey operations in the countries of the sub-region are published in the form of national descriptive reports which supply little information on international migration. Many migration variables are left out, and further investigation is often required to access this data. A great deal of pertinent information on labour issues is simply omitted, for instance, in spite of its overriding importance for international migration.

Furthermore, the results of these operations are published a long time after the data is collected, because of the long period which separates the field research and the analysis of the data. Thus, the published results often fail to reflect the current realities of migration, especially since international migration changes enormously from one period to another.

6. Coordination and utilisation of data in decision-making

This refers to the nature of the links between the producers and the users of migration statistics. The emphasis will be on the lack of concordance between the capacities, the methods and the form of dissemination of those supplying the statistics, with the needs of user institutions and decision-makers, particularly in relation to the definition and formulation of migration policies.

6.1 Old, partial and patchy data

The critical analysis of sources of migration data in the six countries has led to the conclusion that the creation and publication of migration statistics is mainly in the hands of national statistics departments. Little data is available elsewhere, mainly because of the absence of other structures for the supply of data, and of appropriate technical services for its recording, exploitation and analysis. As we have already underlined, the current state of the collection system indicates that the administrative records are insufficient to provide very sophisticated statistics on migrants. Certain sources are not exploited or are insufficiently exploited. The national statistics institutes do not carry out collection operations with any regularity and do not often take into account all aspects of the migration phenomenon. In addition, the information obtained from these collection operations is not up-to-date, which means that the information

available is often old. Generally speaking, the information which is available on international migration is insufficient, scarce, unreliable and subject to problems of comparability.

6.2 Lack of exchanges and structures for concertation between the suppliers and users of data

There are no regular discussions between the suppliers and users of migration data, and those that exist are often organized for a special purpose, generally in order to define the main outlines of population policies; they do not provide incitement for any real interest in migration statistics. In this context, political considerations on migration are not taken systematically into account. Globally, there is no sustained network of consultation between decision-makers and data suppliers, which means that the information supplied by the producing structures is not often well-adapted to the needs of decision-making.

However, taking into account the rapid changes which occur in the migration sector, and because of the economic and social implications of this phenomenon, special attention needs to be paid to migration issues not only within the context of national planning, but also in terms of a process of regional integration.

Certain organisms (both suppliers and users), may be called upon to produce (or utilise) migration data from time to time to meet their own planning needs. However, this eventuality is reduced, because of the additional cost involved in a search for more detailed data.

7. Conclusion

The numerous surveys carried out on the West African populations reveal that the latter are highly mobile both within the countries of the sub-region and towards other countries in Africa as well as certain European countries. However, this observation is rarely based on rigorous methods of assessment of the phenomenon – the existing sources of information often give only a partial and approximate measure and a description which is simplified and out of date.

Analysis of the administrative sources shows that they can constitute an important network for the collection and transmission of information on international migration. However, certain elements need to be established while others must be updated if they are to form part of a reliable system of statistical information able to provide the governments of the countries concerned with effective tools for the management of their citizens living abroad, as well as of foreign residents. However, the structures which supply this type of data do not have the specialized technical capacities required to process migration statistics. In the final analysis, although they contain information on nearly all categories of migrants these sources are rarely consulted. The censuses and surveys therefore remain the only source of reference data on international migration.

In spite of the existence of a certain number of surveys specifically designed for the analysis of migration (CVRS/INDS, 1975 ; CERPOD, 1993 ; UERD, 2000), the data available on West African international migration comes first and foremost from national censuses. Although the population surveys have the advantage of being carried out on a national scale, they

provide little information on individual mobility²², this information enabling the observation of the phenomenon only at widely separated intervals. The migratory process cannot, therefore, be subject to analysis (Amassari, 2003). The census data obtained in the eighties and nineties has not been analysed in detail in any of the national reports²³. Neither is there any current regional synthesis of the kind produced by Wachariah and de Condé (1981) and more recently by Bocquier and Traoré (1998), the data being generally unavailable or difficult to access.

The demographic synthesis published by the OECD (Zachariah and Condé, 1981) and the World Bank (Russell, Jacobsen and Stanley, 1990) proposed the first statistical table on population movements in the sub-region, based mainly on census data obtained in the 1970s²⁴. Right up to the most recent surveys (REMUAO, 1993), all the contemporary analyses of international migration in West Africa were based on these census estimates produced in the 1970s and 1980s. The work of Makinwa-Adebusoye (1992), of Russell (1993), of Adepoju (1988) and of Stalker (1995) are without doubt eloquent illustrations of this continuous use of now outdated statistics. The relatively recent surveys carried out by the Réseau Migrations et Urbanisation en Afrique de l'Ouest (West African Migration and Urbanisation Network) (REMUAO) carried out and analysed in seven of the sixteen countries of the sub-region²⁵, have helped to fill the gaps. However, this data is also becoming increasingly out-of-date, since the surveys date back to 1993. Finally, because of their age and excessive use, the official statistics provide an image of international migration which is static, focusing on a bygone age.

Nevertheless and in spite of the long-term nature of certain migratory flows in West Africa, there is reason to suppose that the recent social and economic changes which have hit the West African countries (e.g. the petrol crisis in Nigeria, the economic crisis which affected the West African countries in the 1980s, the adoption of programmes of structural adjustment; the devaluation of the CFA franc) have disturbed – or at least modified – the migratory map of the region whether in terms of the volume or destination of migratory movements. In addition, these flows are highly sensitive to the political situation (e.g., the conflict between Mauritania and Senegal in 1989, civil war in Liberia; the political unrest in Sierra Leone and more recently the political crisis in the Ivory Coast). This is a reality which is both fluid and fragile, and which is part of an unstable world dynamic. For all these reasons, the updating of statistical information on international migration in West Africa seems a necessary pre-requisite for any later more detailed study.

In spite of the weaknesses of the sources, some information is available on migratory systems and movements in West Africa. The African censuses carried out in the period 1980-1990 and recent studies on migration and scientific literature, reveal the presence of major international migratory flows. These movements are above all cross-frontier and sub-regional movements,

²² Usually, general population censuses make it possible to obtain information concerning migration by comparing information on the place of birth and the place of residence of individuals at the time of the census, or by comparing information on the place of residence at the time of the census with the place of residence 5 years previously.

²³ The exception is the report on the Ivory Coast (Republic of the Ivory Coast, 1992).

²⁴ See Condé J. and K.C. Zachariah (1981), "Migration in West Africa. Demographic Aspects", Oxford University Press, World Bank Staff working papers n°414 and 415 and Russell, S.S., K. Jacobsen and W.D. Stanley (1990), "International Migrations and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa", World Bank discussion papers n°101 and 102.

²⁵ The REMUAO surveys were carried out in Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Niger and Senegal. The data concerning Nigeria have been excluded from the analyses because they were collected using different methodology to that used in the other countries.

even though the migratory flows towards other regions of Sub-Saharan Africa and towards Europe play a part that is far from insignificant.

In spite of the relatively high potential of the sources of data, existing statistics are not sufficiently well-exploited as regards the study and management of migration, above all in the context of migration policies. No major disposition has yet been taken to improve our knowledge of the migration phenomenon, although this concern is seen as a real one by the West African governments. There are no appropriate structures for the follow-up and co-ordination of the activities involved in the production, publication and dissemination of statistical data on migration. Cooperation and partnerships between the institutions involved in migration issues remain limited.

The problem of the comparability of data is also a real one in the countries of the sub-region insofar as the institutions which supply the statistics use different methodologies for the collection of data, and sometimes different concepts for the definition of migration. This highlights the need for agreement on concepts and harmonization of methodology as regards the conception of the questions, the sampling methods used and the presentation of the results. The simultaneous implementation of censuses in the countries of the sub-region would enable more comparison between the countries, as regards the number of immigrants and emigrants.

8. Recommendations

Improvements in the data collection system must be based on the following recommendations:

8.1 Recommendations for taking migration issues into account at the national level

- Promote the creation of a – gender disaggregated – migration database for the compilation of existing sources of information and the implementation of research aimed specifically at migrants, both men and women;
- Set up a permanent Observatory and an information system on international migration. This observatory could be split up into sectoral observatories in order to respond to the needs of the establishments producing/using the data;
- Establish concrete national mechanisms for the systematic registration of national citizens living abroad by the diplomatic and/or consular authorities in order to obtain data on their numbers;
- Establish a national body responsible for coordinating the collection of data on migration of different origins and the establishment of a focal point for information on all aspects of migration;
- Provide technical and financial support to reinforce the competences of the structures which supply data on international migration (acquisition of the appropriate equipment, training on issues related to migration statistics and on the processing and analysis of data);

- Development of comparative analyses between the different sources of data, in order to improve the quality of the information that they provide and to underline their complementarity;
- Establishment of functional structural links between the various structures involved in migration issues (central administration; public and semi-public sectors, social partners);
- Organization of regular meetings between users and producers of statistics on migration in order to ensure a better fit between the needs of users and the capacities of those producing the data;
- Implementation of a system of “light” studies on migration and definition of indicators for the follow-up and evaluation of the evolution of migratory movements.

8.2. Recommendations on the integration of the migration variable in regional cooperation between West African countries

- Elaboration of joint guidelines on domestic and international migration for the countries of the West African region;
- Harmonize criteria for the identification of migrants, both national and foreign, emigrants and immigrants, as well as criteria for the definition of international migration in order to comply with United Nations recommendations;
- Use identical variables to describe the various aspects of the migration phenomenon, defining, by joint agreement between the countries of the region, the information to be collected and adopting the same methods for the collection of data in order to study domestic and international migration among the West African populations;
- Based on existing data, adopt common criteria for the tabulation and statistical analysis of international migratory movements based on the United Nations recommendations;
- Promote clearly defined cooperation between the countries of the West African region in order to improve the quality of statistical measures of migration between these countries as regards the migratory exchanges affecting them;
- Provide the national institutions producing statistics with better recommendations on how best to improve international migration statistics, through the production of relatively simple forms for a permanently on-going system of collection on population movements at the national borders;
- Establishment of a sub-regional Observatory on international migration.
- Promote the introduction of a network for the exchange of bibliographic, legal, statutory and statistical information between West African states;

- Develop a sub-regional network of statisticians responsible for migration statistics in order to share their knowledge and experiences concerning the conception, exploitation and analysis of statistical data on international migratory movements;
- Set up a network of sub-regional and regional institutions involved in issues connected with statistics on international migration, employment and poverty such as the ILO, UEMOA, ECOWAS, research centres, etc.
- Promote cooperation between sub-regions (Maghreb and West Africa) and North-South cooperation on migration statistics.

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Annex of Statistics – Series of recent data on international migration

REMUAO

Table 4 : Migration statistics based on administrative records, by country

Dest. Origin	Burkina Faso	Ivory Coast	Guinea	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Senegal	Total REMUAO
Burkina Faso	-	383000	#	13000	#	18000	#	415000
Ivory Coast	380000	-	24000	117000	3000	47000	13000	583000
Guinea	#	38000	-	11000	3000	-	38000	91000
Mali	19000	166000	10000	-	6000	10000	12000	224000
Mauritania	#	8000	2000	5000	-	#	32000	47000
Niger	19000	67000	#	8000	#	-	#	94000
Senegal	1000	18000	37000	14000	31000	1000	-	103000
Total REMUAO	419000	679000	73000	167000	45000	76000	97000	1556000

stocks under 1000 migrations

Source : Bocquier and Traoré, 1996, « Nouvelles tendances des migrations internationales d'après les enquêtes du Réseau Migrations et Urbanisation en Afrique de l'Ouest (REMUAO) »

Table 5 : Three most recent censuses by country, year and migration variables

Dest. Origin	Burkina Faso	Ivory Coast	Guinea	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Senegal
Burkina Faso	-	4,52	0,01	0,28	0,08	0,39	0,01
Ivory Coast	4,48	-	0,45	1,64	0,22	0,67	0,18
Guinea	0,00	0,73	-	0,38	0,55	0,00	1,35
Mali	0,41	2,33	0,35	-	0,74	0,27	0,31
Mauritania	0,04	0,50	0,35	0,57	-	0,02	3,82
Niger	0,41	0,96	0,00	0,20	0,00	-	0,03
Senegal	0,03	0,26	1,28	0,36	3,72	0,03	-

Source : Bocquier and Traoré, 1996, « Nouvelles tendances des migrations internationales d'après les enquêtes du Réseau Migrations et Urbanisation en Afrique de l'Ouest (REMUAO) »

Table 6 : The three most recent surveys by country and year, showing the migration variables included

Migration rate	Burkina Faso	Ivory Coast	Guinea	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Senegal	Total REMUAO
Compared to REMUAO countries	+0,02 %	+0,28 %	-0,13 %	-0,29 %	-0,05 %	-0,10 %	-0,03 %	-
Compared to the rest of the world	+0,04 %	+0,53 %	-0,09 %	-0,61 %	n.a.	-0,48 %	-0,43 %	-0,08 %

n.a. no available

Source : Bocquier and Traoré, 1996, « Nouvelles tendances des migrations internationales d'après les enquêtes du Réseau Migrations et Urbanisation en Afrique de l'Ouest (REMUAO) »

Tableau 7 : Distribution of internal and international migration. Period 1988-92. Population aged 15 and over

Migration rate	Burkina Faso	Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Total REMUAO
<i>Between regions</i>	29,3 %	49,9 %	36,2 %	41,1 %	35,4 %	61,2 %	56,4 %
<i>REMUAO</i>	65,1 %	44,9 %	42,2 %	46,2 %	20,9 %	21,9 %	27,4 %
<i>West Africa</i>	5,4 %	4,1 %	15,7 %	3,1 %	35,6 %	5,3 %	10,7 %
<i>Others</i>	0,3 %	1,1 %	5,9 %	9,6 %	8,1 %	11,6 %	5,5 %

Source : Bocquier and Traoré, 1996, « Nouvelles tendances des migrations internationales d'après les enquêtes du Réseau Migrations et Urbanisation en Afrique de l'Ouest (REMUAO) »

BURKINA FASO

Table 8 : Burkina Faso : Origin of immigrants in 1996

Origin	Stocks	%
Ivory Coast	16008	38.4
Mali	3043	7.3
Ghana	2168	5.2
Gabon	1542	3.7
Togo	1376	3.3
Niger	1668	4
Mauritania	1626	3.9
Gambia	2335	5.6
Other Africa	6795	16.3
Outside Africa	5211	12.5
Total	41688	100

Source : Census in Burkina Faso 1996

Table 9 : Distribution of foreign residents in Burkina Faso in 1996

Nationality	Male	Female	Total
Burkinabé	4941336	5309623	10250959
Foreigners	29546	32104	61650
Béninois	2051	1926	3977
Ivorians	871	1019	1890
Ghaneans	1479	3654	5133
Maliens	11876	12166	24042
From Niger	4189	3415	7604
Nigerians	2187	2247	4434
Senegalese	637	410	1047
Togolese	1287	2714	4001
Other Africans	3099	3053	6152
Européens	962	905	1867
Autres	886	589	1475
No available	22	6	28
Total	4970882	5341727	10312609

Source : Census in Burkina Faso 1996

Table 10 : Burkina Faso : Breakdown by age and sex of migrants in 1999

Age	Immigrants of the last 12 months					Emigrants of the last 12 months					Migratory balance		
	Total	Male	Female	Av.	%	Total	Male	Female	Av.	%	Total	Male	Female
Total	163061	94660	68401	138,4	100	185297	153246	32051	478,1	100	-22236	-58586	36350
<15	60985	32828	28157	116,6	34,7	21520	11849	9671	122,5	7,7	39465	20979	18486
15-19	16926	6044	10882	55,5	6,4	43535	33230	10305	322,5	21,7	-26609	-27186	577
20-24	32222	16340	15882	102,9	17,3	49915	45315	4600	985,1	29,6	-17693	-28975	11282
25-29	18288	13461	4827	278,9	14,2	35210	28280	6930	408,1	18,5	-16922	-14819	-2103
30-34	9872	6930	2942	235,6	7,3	13291	13040	251	5195,2	8,5	-3419	-6110	2691
35-39	11041	7453	3588	207,7	7,9	11886	11815	71	16640,8	7,7	-845	-4362	3517
40-44	3053	2764	289	956,4	2,9	5167	4944	223	2217,0	3,2	-2114	-2180	66
45-49	1892	971	921	105,4	1,0	2642	2642	0	-	1,7	-750	-1671	921
50-54	1791	1791	0	-	1,9	251	251	0	-	0,2	1540	1540	0
55 & +	6991	6078	913	665,7	6,4	1880	1880	0	-	1,2	5111	4198	913

Source : Survey « migration et insertion urbaine au Burkina-2000 »

Table 11 : Burkina Faso : Distribution of emigrants in 1999, by destination

Countries of destination	Male		Female		Total	
	stock	%	stock	%	stock	%
Benin	1429	0,9	122	0,4	1551	0,8
Ivory Coast	145143	92,8	31743	95,0	176886	93,1
Gabon	0	0,0	31	0,1	31	0,0
Ghana	6711	4,3	0	0,0	6711	3,5
Mali	1139	0,7	854	2,6	1993	1,0
Niger	130	0,1	373	1,1	503	0,3
Togo	666	0,4	0	0,0	666	0,4
Ather Afr..	638	0,4	0	0,0	638	0,3
No Afr.	514	0,3	304	0,9	818	0,4
N.A	108	0,1	0	0,0	108	0,1
Total	156478	100	33427	100	189905	100

Source : Survey « migration et insertion urbaine au Burkina-2000 »

Table 12 : Burkina Faso Distribution of immigrants in 1999, by country of origin

Origin	Male		Female		Total	
	stock	%	stock	%	stock	%
Benin	749	0,8	0	0,0	749	0,5
Ivory Coast	78690	83,1	55428	81,0	134118	82,3
Gabon	0	0,0	195	0,3	195	0,1
Ghana	6369	6,7	6931	10,1	13300	8,2
Mali	3294	3,5	2567	3,8	5861	3,6
Niger	2908	3,1	794	1,2	3702	2,3
Togo	1565	1,7	437	0,6	2002	1,2
Other Afr.	770	0,8	1215	1,8	1985	1,2
No Afr.	315	0,3	834	1,2	1149	0,7
Total	94660	100	68401	100	163061	100

Source : Survey « migration et insertion urbaine au Burkina-2000 »

Table 13 : Burkina Faso : Foreign population broken down by age and sex in 2000

Age	Male	Female	Total
<15	15702	13162	28864
15-19	2316	1733	4049
20-24	4292	4241	8533
25-29	3483	3878	7361
30-34	2986	5604	8590
35-39	2572	2543	5115
40-44	437	2498	2935
45-49	1884	1391	3275
50-54	1070	940	2010
55-59	799	22	821
60-64	1000	1102	2102
65-69	227	224	451
70-74	559	1064	1623
75-79	0	392	392
80 et +	463	0	463
Total	37790	38794	76584

Source : Survey « migration et insertion urbaine au Burkina-2000 »

CAPE-VERDE

Table 14 : Cape-Verde : Distribution of immigrants by nationality and sex in 2000 “Most recent migration method”

Nationality / Sex	Male	Female	Total
Cap-Verdeans	7.621	5.907	13.528
Double	1.509	1.090	2.599
Foreigners	2.271	1.681	3.952
Total	11.401	8.678	20.079

Source : INE - RGPH/2000

Table 15 : Cape-Verde: Resident population broken down by sex and nationality (2000)

Sex/Nation	CV alone	CV+ Foreigners	Only foreigners										Unkn	Total
			Total	Senegal	Nigeria	Gambia	G. Bissau	Angola	Portugal	France	China	Others		
Male	202080	2465	2876	266	119	11	474	314	357	68	32	1236	573	207994
Female	219454	2031	2124	111	25	1	217	350	326	52	19	1023	386	223995
Total	421534	4496	5000	377	144	12	691	664	683	120	51	2258	959	431989

Source : INE – RGPH /2000

Table 16 : Cape-Verde : Active population aged 10 and over by nationality and economic sector (2000)

Nationality/Sex	Male	Female	Total
Cap-verdeans only	74457	63849	138306
Cap-verdeans and/or others	3470	1962	5432
Africans	2269	1146	3415
South Africa	6	7	13
Algeria	10	6	16
Sao Tome e Principe	709	514	1223
Angola	453	366	819
Mozambique	14	5	19
Guinea Bissau	478	127	605
Gambia	10	1	11
Ghana	81	8	89
Guinea	50	12	62
Mali	11	1	12
Nigeria	120	19	139
Sierra Leone	28	5	33
Senegal	261	58	319
Other Africa	38	17	55
Europe	1000	621	1621
Portugal	710	468	1178
Germany	25	9	34
Belgium	12	12	24
Spain	16	1	17
France	63	38	101
Italy	64	17	81
The Netherlands	66	20	86
Russia	8	28	36
Other Europe	36	28	64
America	144	159	303
USA	83	57	140
Brazil	18	32	50
Cuba	30	57	87
Other America	13	13	26
Asia	57	36	93
China	28	16	44
Other Asia	29	20	49
Undetermined	93	51	144
Total	78020	65862	143882

Source : INE – RGPH/2000

Table 17 : Cape-Verde : Active population aged 15 and over by nationality and occupational group (2000)

Nationality/Sex	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Undetermined	Total
Cap-verdeans only	34093	25398	75263	3552	138306
Cap-verdeans and/or others	441	987	3823	181	5432
Africans	227	699	2395	94	3415
South Africa	1	1	11	0	13
Algeria	3	0	12	1	16
Sao Tome e Principe	145	268	782	28	1223
Angola	66	176	554	23	819
Mozambique	1	5	13	0	19
Guinea Bissau	2	163	425	15	605
Gambia	0	0	11	0	11
Ghana	1	14	71	3	89
Guinea	1	9	50	2	62
Mali	0	1	11	0	12
Nigeria	0	2	135	2	139
Sierra Leone	0	5	27	1	33
Senegal	4	49	251	15	319
Other Africa	3	6	42	4	55
Europe	202	238	1113	68	1621
Portugal	152	182	803	41	1178
Germany	2	3	27	2	34
Belgium	3	4	17	0	24
Spain	4	3	10	0	17
France	16	13	64	8	101
Italy	2	18	54	7	81
The Netherlands	16	7	57	6	86
Russia	0	2	32	2	36
Other Europe	7	6	49	2	64
America	11	15	260	17	303
USA	10	8	112	10	140
Brazil	1	1	43	5	50
Cuba	0	5	81	1	87
Other America	0	1	24	1	26
Asia	1	35	55	2	93
China	0	0	44	0	44
Other Asia	1	35	11	2	49
Undetermined	18	25	93	8	144
Total	34552	26410	79179	3741	143882

Source : INE – RGPH/2000

Table 18 : Cape-Verde: Active population aged 15 and over by nationality and professional status (2000)

Nationality/Group	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	Undert.	Total
Capverdeans only	1160	5371	5783	3924	17614	29587	22901	7166	36890	317	5442	136155
Capverdeans and/or Others	291	821	389	548	882	404	855	196	1013	12	314	5426
Africans	46	301	177	130	625	203	697	141	927	6	457	3410
South Africa	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	6		1	13
Algeria	0	3	0	2	2	3	0	0	5	0	1	16
Sao Tome e Principe	4	40	37	32	175	122	276	67	422	0	47	1222
Angola	13	84	72	39	121	62	161	39	195	2	29	817
Mozambique	4	0	4	1	4	1	0	1	2	0	2	19
Guinea Bissau	5	112	42	36	92	5	152	23	95	2	40	604
Gambia	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	5	0	1	11
Ghana	0	4	1	0	31	0	33	0	18	0	2	89
Guinea	0	5	1	4	21	1	8	1	16	0	5	62
Mali	0	1	1	0	4	0	2	1	1	0	2	12
Nigeria	0	2	1	0	13	0	6	47	9	91	2	20
Sierra Leone	0	2	1	0	13	0	6	0	10	0	1	33
Senegal	16	39	12	11	65	6	47	9	91	2	20	313
Other Africa	3	7	5	4	13	2	6	0	11	0	4	33
Europe	205	361	183	103	190	191	149	49	79	7	103	1620
Portugal	132	247	141	90	128	146	120	33	67	6	67	1177
Germany	6	6	7	1	5	2	5	1	0	0	1	34
Belgium	3	8	4	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	1	24
Spain	4	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	1	0	0	17
France	18	29	11	3	10	16	2	1	2	0	9	101
Italy	21	12	7	2	13	1	5	3	3	1	13	813
The Netherlands	10	10	3	0	23	14	8	6	6	0	6	86
Russia	3	25	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	36
Other Europe	8	22	4	3	8	6	5	3	0	0	5	64
America	29	150	24	10	33	10	7	6	6	0	28	303
USA	18	46	7	4	29	9	4	5	4	0	14	140
Brazil	2	28	5	2	2	1	2	0	2	0	6	50
Cuba	2	28	5	2	2	4	2	0	2	0	6	50
Other America	3	12	4	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	4	26
Asia	11	9	5	5	34	0	2	0	1	0	26	93
China	6	3	0	3	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Other Asia	5	6	5	4	4	0	4	0	1	0	26	49
Undetermined	3	17	5	10	19	16	27	3	36	0	9	144
Total	1454	6209	6176	4182	18515	30007	23783	7365	37939	330	5765	414725

Source: INE- RPGH/2000

Table 19 : Cape-Verde : Distribution of grant-holders abroad by training sector (Academic year 2004/2005)

Nationality/Group	Workers				Employers	Familial workers no remunerated	Others	Indet.	Total
	Public Admin.	Private Ent.	Public Ent.	Self-employed					
Cape-verdeans only	24770	22231	5570	39884	3277	14449	17933	8041	136155
Cape-verdeans and/or Others	1078	1159	239	1587	245	159	589	370	5426
Africans	631	631	146	1132	112	86	432	240	3410
South Africa	3	2	1	2	0	0	1	4	13
Algeria	4	1	0	0	1	2	6	2	16
Sao Tome e Principe	229	193	66	382	31	38	211	72	1222
Angola	195	178	30	165	43	34	107	65	817
Mozambique	1	9	1	2	1	0	2	3	19
Guinea Bissau	136	167	30	169	15	4	41	42	604
Gambia	0	0	1	9	0	0	1	0	11
Ghana	0	8	0	69	2	0	6	4	89
Guinea	3	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	12
Mali	3	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	12
Nigeria	0	1	1	106	3	4	15	9	139
Sierra Leone	2	1	0	26	0	1	1	2	33
Senegal	40	48	10	147	11	2	30	30	318
Other Africa	9	13	6	17	5	0	4	1	55
Europe	336	438	81	382	108	71	108	96	1620
Portugal	267	305	70	283	68	54	62	68	1177
Germany	4	7	0	12	2	2	7	0	34
Belgium	4	8	0	6	3	0	1	2	24
Spain	5	5	0	3	1	2	1	0	17
France	15	25	3	16	9	8	15	10	101
Italy	3	40	3	17	5	2	7	4	81
The Netherlands	8	19	0	26	16	2	9	6	86
Russia	16	10	3	2	1	0	2	2	36
Other Europe	14	19	2	17	3	1	4	4	64
America	106	41	12	53	19	1	45	26	303
USA	25	17	3	44	18	1	20	12	140
Brazil	14	11	2	2	1	0	16	4	50
Cuba	55	12	5	3	0	0	3	9	87
Other America	12	1	2	4	0	0	6	1	26
Asia	5	49	0	20	6	1	4	8	93
China	3	13	0	17	5	1	1	4	44
Other Asia	2	36	0	3	1	0	3	4	49
Undetermined	30	22	3	44	7	5	15	18	144
Total	25878	23412	5812	41515	3529	14613	18537	8429	141725

Source : INE – RGPH/2000

Table 20 : Cape-Verde: Distribution of grant-holders undergoing training abroad, by sex (Academic year 2004/2005)

Field of activity / country	Brazil	Cuba	Portugal	Czech Rep.	Russia	Total
Arts	2					2
Agrarian Sciences	1					1
Biological Sciences	11		9			20
Health Sciences	50	82	15	1	2	150
True Sciences	47	6	96	1	6	156
Human Sciences	46		30			77
Social Sciences	83	6	149	5	13	256
Literature	9		8		1	18
Others					12	2
Total	249	95	307	7	34	692

Source : DESC

Table 21 : Cape-Verde: Distribution of grant holders following training abroad, by sex (Academic year 2004/2005)

Country /Sex	Male	Female	Total
Brazil	124	125	249
Cuba	50	45	95
Portugal	150	157	307
Czech Rep.	2	5	7
Russia	12	22	34
Total	338	354	692

Source : DESC

Table 22 : Cape-Verde : Estimated number of Cape-verdeans by host country (1998)

Country/Continent	Number
USA	264.900
Argentina	5.200
Brazil	3.000
Canada	300
<i>Total - America</i>	<i>273.400</i>
Angola	45.000
Mozambique	1.000
S. Tome & Principe	20.000
Guinea-Bissau	2.000
Senegal	25.000
Gabon	200
<i>Total - Africa</i>	<i>93.200</i>
Norway	300
Portugal	80.000
Luxembourg	3.000
France	25.000
The Netherlands	16.580
Italy	10.000
Spain	12.000
Switzerland	2.400
Belgium	800
Sweden	700
Germany	800
<i>Total – Europe</i>	<i>151.580</i>
Total General	518.180

Source : IAPE (1998)

Table 23 : Cape-Verde : Transfers made by emigrants, by country of origin and year (millions of escudos)

Country/Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
USA	780.9	768	749	1238	1470	1143.9	1184.8	1399.6	1625.1	1948.9	2321.1	2515.6	2193.5	1886.4	1689.8
The Netherlands	611.9	679	674	888	914.1	1024.1	898.2	839.2	1137.8	1386.5	1136	1352	881.4	798.5	759.5
France	459.4	510	561	696	688.8	794.8	760.8	673	824.1	877.7	1034	1532.9	1719.9	1896	1988.9
Italy	270.6	329	358	340	345.2	443.4	557.5	484.4	552.1	637.9	608.5	720.1	387	492.2	651.2
Germany	150.5	162	200	216	200	242	258.6	241.9	235.1	245.4	273.4	237.6	80.6	88.6	102.3
Portugal	238.5	370	4563	440	779.9	1271.9	1481.4	1057	1878.7	1490.1	1578.1	1726.2	2023.9	2025.9	2553.6
England	73.3	78	64	66	75.4	147	180.4	176.6	235.9	258.2	142	122.4	105.2	63.3	78.8
Switzerland	102.8	122.3	144.9	133.2	193.5	237	209.1	219.8	187.8	195.5	160.9	164.9	132.2	150.1	164.9
Angola	32.1	9	13	10	0	0	0.6	10.4	9.7	17.7	16.1	14.2	3.9	9.4	7.6
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	160.5	108.1	90.3	130.3	159.3
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	219.7
Others	379.9	467	577	595	551	542.4	595.1	518	474.8	395.6	302.9	357.7	320.1	388.2	365.4
TOTAL	3135.9	3494.3	3793.9	4622.2	5127.8	5843.5	6126.5	5620.2	7161	7456.6	7733.5	8851.8	8010	7928.5	8741

Source : BCV

MALI

Table 24 : Mali : Distribution of returning international migrants by region of residence at the time of the 1998 census and most recent country of destination

	Guinea	Côte d'Ivoire	Burkina Faso	Niger	Mauritania	Senegal	Other West Africa	Other Africa	France	Other rest of the world	Total
Kayes											
N	179	1179	55	19	250	453	184	337	747	52	3455
%	5,2	34,1	1,6	0,5	7,2	13,1	5,3	9,8	21,6	1,5	100,0
Koulikoro											
N	263	5158	65	20	173	310	118	279	75	39	6500
%	4,0	79,4	1,0	0,3	2,7	4,8	1,8	4,3	1,2	0,6	100,0
Sikasso											
N	149	8490	416	13	22	97	53	38	7	21	9306
%	1,6	91,2	4,5	0,1	0,2	1,0	0,6	0,4	0,1	0,2	100,0
Ségou											
N	51	3264	405	19	163	61	136	76	6	58	4239
%	1,2	77,0	9,6	0,4	3,8	1,4	3,2	1,8	0,1	1,4	100,0
Mopti											
N	97	4550	839	61	259	74	208	126	5	180	6399
%	1,5	71,1	13,1	1,0	4,0	1,2	3,3	2,0	0,1	2,8	100,0
Tombouct											
N	61	699	124	329	4082	239	125	216	1	26	5902
%	1,0	11,8	2,1	5,6	69,2	4,0	2,1	3,7	0,0	0,4	100,0
Gao											
N	17	185	665	900	8	7	736	60	3	36	2617
%	0,6	7,1	25,4	34,4	0,3	0,3	28,1	2,3	0,1	1,4	100,0
Kidal											
N		3	2	17	2		21	486	2	2	535
%		0,6	0,4	3,2	0,4		3,9	90,8	0,4	0,4	100,0
Bamako											
N	189	1326	157	68	39	205	170	298	214	205	2871
%	6,6	46,2	5,5	2,4	1,4	7,1	5,9	10,4	7,5	7,1	100,0
Total											
N	1006	24854	2728	1446	4998	1446	1751	1916	1060	619	41824
%	2,4	59,4	6,5	3,5	12,0	3,5	4,2	4,6	2,5	1,5	100,0

Source: RGPH, 1998

Table 25 : Mali : Returning migrants by region of residence and most recent destination outside the region (1998)

	Kayes	Koulikoro	Sikasso	Ségou	Mopti	Tombouct	Gao	Kidal	Bamako	Total
Other Africa	337	279	38	76	126	216	60	486	298	1916
	17,6	14,6	2,0	4,0	6,6	11,3	3,1	25,4	15,6	100,0
France	747	75	7	6	5	1	3	2	214	1060
	70,5	7,1	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,1	0,3	0,2	20,2	100,0
Other Rest of world	52	39	21	58	180	26	36	2	205	619
	8,4	6,3	3,4	9,4	29,1	4,2	5,8	0,3	33,1	100,0
Total	1136	393	66	140	311	243	99	490	717	3595
	31,6	10,9	1,8	3,9	8,7	6,8	2,8	13,6	19,9	100,0

Source: RGPH, 1998

Table 26 : Mali : Distribution of Malian university students by country (2003)

Continents	Country	Stocks	%
Europe	France	49	20,6
	Germany	25	10,5
	Other Europe	11	4,6
Africa	Senegal	25	10,5
	Côte d'Ivoire	24	10,1
	Niger	13	5,5
	Burkina Faso	6	2,5
	Guinea	1	0,4
	Gabon	17	7,1
	Zimbabwe	1	0,4
	Maghreb	2	0,8
America	USA	29	12,2
	Canada	29	12,2
	Other America	4	1,7
Asia	Japan	2	0,8
Total		238	100

Source : University –Rectorat/Procjet TOKTEN, August 2003-Bamako

Table 27 : Mali Transfers of funds from migrants compared with GDP from 2000 to 2002 (in billions of CFA)

	2000	2001	2002	Average
Total of remittances (TR)	111,23	118,7	157,38	129,10
Foreign Direct Investments (FDI)	55,84	76,58	88	73,47
GDP	1 883,00	2 204,00	2 359,00	2 148,67
TR/FDI	199,19%	155,00%	178,84%	177,68%
TR/GDP	5,91%	5,39%	6,67%	5,99%
FDI/GDP	2,97%	3,47%	3,73%	3,39%

Source : M.K.Keita / Etudes nationales sur les transferts de fonds des migrants : Cas du Mali

MAURITANIA

Table 28 : Mauritania Nationals abroad by host countries (2004)

Host countries	Stock total
Saudi Arabia	20.000
Congo Brazzaville	2.500
Cote d'Ivoire	50.000
United Arab Emirates	4.000
France	20.000
Gambia	20.000
Guinea Bissau	3.000
Canaries Islands	2.000
Mali	40.000
Niger	5.000
Senegal	10.000
Other Africa	15.000
Other World	58.500
Total	250.000

Source : MAEC.

Table 29 : Mauritania : Actively employed population by sex and nationality (1988)

	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Nationals	251.628	92.121	343.749
Foreigners	--	--	21.210
Total Residents	--	--	364.959

Source : RGPH 1988, volume I, tableaux 16 et 26.

Table 30 : Mauritania : Actively employed population by occupational sector, nationals and migrant workers (1988)*

Occupational Branch	Nationals	Foreigners	Total
Agriculture	134.052	2.050	136.102
Breeding	81.734	933	82.667
Activities related to agriculture	860	43	903
Hunting	34	2	36
Silviculture	1.173	22	1.195
Fishing	7.385	1.482	8.867
Mine industry	6.322	190	6.512
Manufacturing and eating industries	5.530	1.226	6.756
Water, Gas and Electricity	1.326	107	1.433
Constructions	12.291	1.968	14.259
Trade	71.986	3.788	75.774
Transportation	9.378	1.345	10.723
Bank & insurance	1.465	50	1.515
Administration & social services	86.807	7.723	94.530
Non registered	21.974	993	22.967
Total	442.317	21.922	464.239

Source : RGPH 1988

* Data comprise employed active population and unemployed who have already worked.

Table 31 : Mauritania : Population by sex and nationality 1988

Nationality	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Algeria	637	754	1.391
Saudi Arabia	169	123	292
Other African countries	460	170	630
Other Arab States	17	11	28
Benin	258	213	471
Cameroon	160	176	336
Democratic Republic of Congo	18	12	30
Cote d'Ivoire	105	63	168
Egypt	112	82	194
United Arab Emirates	38	22	60
Gabon	42	32	74
Ghana	133	46	179
Guinea Conakry	1.880	755	2.635
Guinea-Bissau	760	263	1.023
Iraq	44	30	74
Kuwait	20	8	28
Lebanon	65	37	102
Libya	69	50	119
Mali	4.075	2.422	6.497
Morocco	163	131	294
Niger	84	46	130
Palestine	75	55	130
Qatar	5	5	10
Senegal	18.384	14.345	32.729
Sudan	34	17	51
Syria	77	43	120
Chad	23	23	46
Togo	77	23	100
Tunisia	128	84	212
Yemen	3	3	6
Other nationalities	1.232	916	2.148
Total Foreigners	29.347	20.960	50.307
Total Mauritaniens	893.858	920.071	1.813.929
Total Residents	923.205	941.031	1.864.236

Source : RGPH 1988.

Table 32 : Mauritania: Actively employed population by status, nationals and migrant workers (1988)*

Occupation	Nationals	Foreigners	Total
Self-employed	234.864	9.808	244.672
Employers	4.206	292	4.498
Fix salaried workers	57.162	4.099	61.261
Temporary salaried workers	51.235	5.075	56.310
Apprentices	2.259	548	2.807
Domestic workers	68.464	1.193	69.657
Others	1.671	100	1.771
Un-registered	21.556	807	22.363
Total	441.417	21.922	463.339

Source : RGPH 1988

SENEGAL

Table 33 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment, sex and age on departure

Age of the emigrant	Area of residence																					
	Dakar urban				Other cities				Urban area				Rural area				Total				Total	
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female			
	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock	%
Less than 15	707	1,7	721	6,2	165	0,6	261	5,3	872	1,3	982	5,9	3643	4,9	1112	10,9	4515	3,2	2094	7,8	6608	3,9
15-34 years old	29910	73,4	8541	73,4	18440	66,3	3186	65,1	48350	70,5	11728	71,0	46403	63,0	8092	79,4	94753	66,6	19820	74,2	114573	67,8
35-54 years old	8928	21,9	2010	17,3	8991	32,3	1324	27,1	17919	26,1	3334	20,2	22170	30,1	982	9,6	40089	28,2	4317	16,2	44406	26,3
55-74 years old	834	2,0	134	1,2	220	0,8	124	2,5	1054	1,5	259	1,6	1330	1,8			2384	1,7	259	1,0	2642	1,6
75 years old and more	106	0,3							106	0,2							106	0,1			106	0,1
ND	269	0,7	227	2,0					269	0,4	227	1,4	122	0,2			391	0,3	227	0,8	618	0,4
Total	40754	100,0	11634	100,0	27816	100,0	4896	100,0	68570	100,0	16529	100,0	73668	100,0	10186	100,0	142238	100,0	26716	100,0	168953	100,0

Table 34 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment, ethnic group or nationality

Ethnic/ emigrant's nationality	Areas of residence							
	Dakar urban	Other cities	Rural areas	Urban areas		Rural areas		Total
	%	%	%	Stock	%	Stock	%	Stock %
Wolof/Lébou	52,0	51,4	41,5	44058	51,8	34784	41,5	78841 46,7
Poular	20,6	24,3	34,0	18751	22,0	28531	34,0	47282 28,0
Sérère	4,8	5,0	6,8	4140	4,9	5667	6,8	9807 5,8
Diola	3,5	2,4	4,6	2647	3,1	3849	4,6	6496 3,8
Manding/Sossé	1,8	8,7	2,3	3785	4,4	1952	2,3	5737 3,4
Soninké	6,7	0,9	2,9	3804	4,5	2428	2,9	6232 3,7
Other Senegalese	7,3	6,3	4,9	5893	6,9	4087	4,9	9980 5,9
Africans	2,4	1,0	3,0	1550	1,8	2557	3,0	4107 2,4
Other foreigners	0,9			470	0,6			470 0,3
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	85099	100,0	83854	100,0	168953 100,0

Table 35 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment and marital status on departure

Matrimonial status of the emigrant before departure	Areas of residence				
	Dakar urban	Other cities	Urban areas	Rural areas	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Maried monogamous	34,6	44,6	38,5	43,7	41,1
Marié(e) polygamous	6,3	6,9	6,5	14,6	10,6
Single	57,3	44,6	52,4	40,5	46,5
Widowed	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,3	0,4
Divorced	1,3	3,6	2,2	0,8	1,5
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 36 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment and region

Region of residence of the emigrant	Areas of residence				
	Dakar urban	Other cities	Urban areas	Rural areas	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Dakar	100,0		61,6	0,4	31,2
Ziguinchor		7,9	3,0	4,7	3,9
Diourbel		10,1	3,9	15,9	9,9
St Louis		13,5	5,2	31,8	18,4
Tamba		5,7	2,2	9,1	5,6
Kaolack		6,1	2,3	3,5	2,9
Thiès		25,9	10,0	9,2	9,6
Louga		18,4	7,1	8,1	7,6
Fatick		5,9	2,3	4,4	3,3
Kolda		6,5	2,5	12,8	7,6
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 37 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment and destination

Destination of emigration	Areas of residence				
	Dakar urban	Dakar urban	Dakar urban	Milieu rural	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Benin	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,5
Burkina Faso		1,6	0,6	0,7	0,7
Côte d'Ivoire	2,1	7,7	4,3	9,0	6,6
Guinea-Bissau	1,5	4,4	2,6	3,8	3,2
Mali	0,9	4,8	2,4	2,4	2,4
Niger	0,2		0,1		0,1
Togo		0,6	0,2	0,3	0,3
Other African countries	13,7	24,0	17,7	42,7	30,1
Europe	63,9	47,3	57,5	34,3	46,0
USA or Canada	11,8	6,9	10,0	5,0	7,5
Other	5,0	1,8	3,8	1,2	2,5
Nsp		0,5	0,2	0,2	0,2
ND	0,2		0,1		0,1
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 38 : Senegal : Distribution of the emigrant population by residential environment and principal occupation on departure

Main occupation of the emigrant Before departure	Areas of residence				
	Dakar urban	Dakar urban	Milieu urban	Milieu rural	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Employed	42,4	40,5	41,7	50,2	45,9
Unemployed	21,0	35,9	26,7	31,3	29,0
Student	26,9	12,5	21,4	7,0	14,2
House-wife/husband	5,6	6,2	5,9	7,4	6,6
Other un-employed	4,1	4,8	4,4	4,1	4,2
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

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