Strengthening information systems and statistics capacities in Africa

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Labour migration trends in Africa

REPORT ON LABOUR MIGRATION STATISTICS IN AFRICA

THIRD EDITION (2019)

International migration within Africa increased from 17.2 million in 2010 to 26.3 million in 2019 women have accounted for around 45 per cent throughout the period
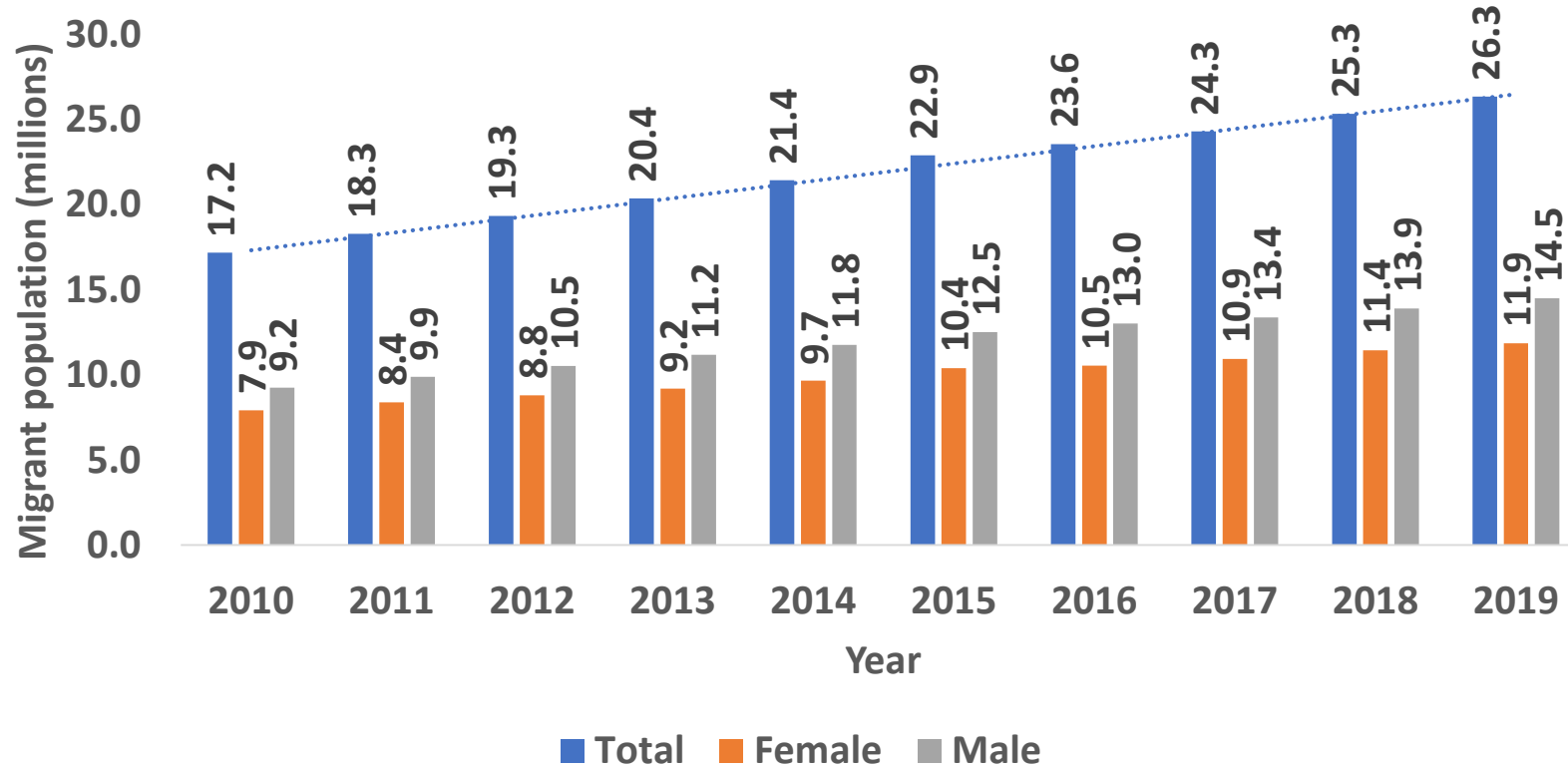
Working-age international migrants in Africa increased from 13.2 million in 2010 to 20.2 million in 2019;

Migrant workers are estimated to be around 14.5 million in 2019, with an average annual growth rate of 4.8 per cent and a migrant labour force participation rate of 72 per cent

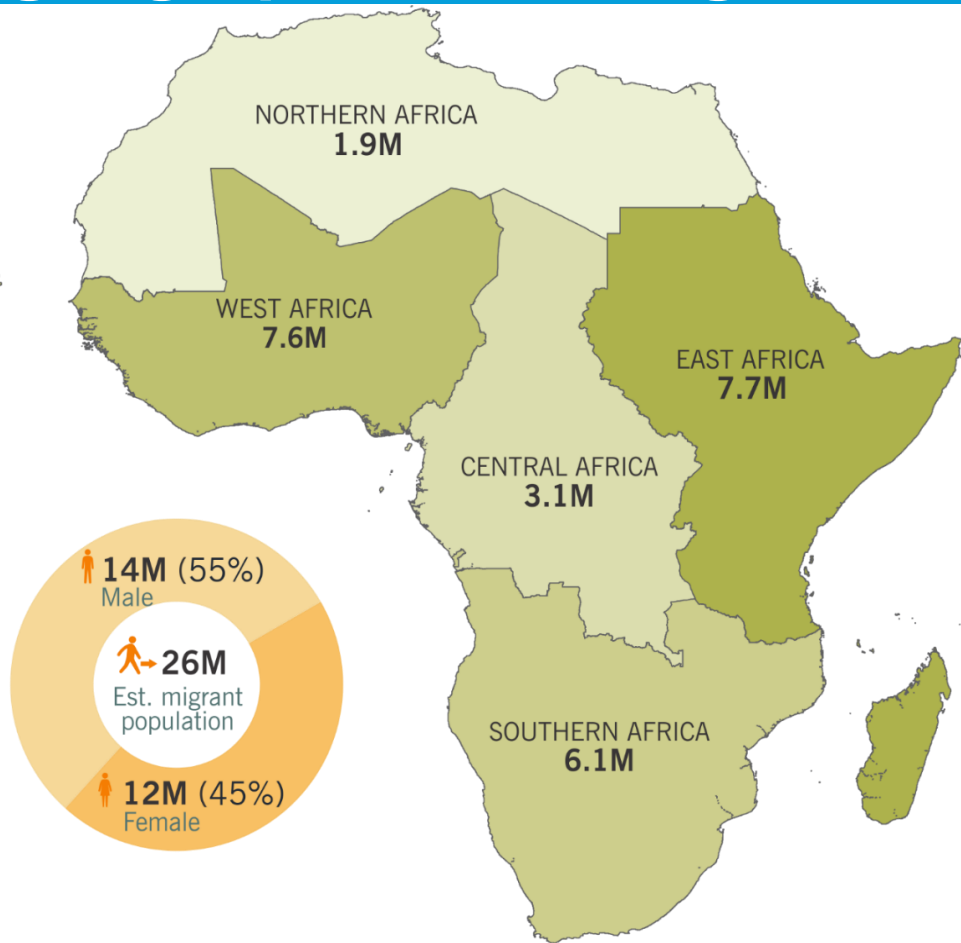The share of migrants in the total population was 2 per cent

Labour migration trends in Africa

Migrant population (millions)

Year	Total	Female	Male
2010	17.2	7.9	9.2
2011	18.3	8.4	9.9
2012	19.3	8.8	10.5
2013	20.4	9.2	11.2
2014	21.4	9.7	11.8
2015	22.9	10.4	12.5
2016	23.6	10.5	13.0
2017	24.3	10.9	13.4
2018	25.3	11.4	13.9
2019	26.3	11.9	14.5

■ Total ■ Female ■ Male

Women have accounted for around 45 per cent throughout the period

The share of migrants in the total population was 2 per cent.

International Forum on Migration Statistics
IFMS 2023
24-26 January • Santiago, Chile

African Union

Distribution of the international migrant population in Africa across geographical subregions

NORTHERN AFRICA
1.9M

WEST AFRICA
7.6M

EAST AFRICA
7.7M

CENTRAL AFRICA
3.1M

SOUTHERN AFRICA
6.1M

14M (55%)
Male

26M
Est. migrant
population

12M (45%)
Female

The share of international migrants in the total population of Africa increased from 1.7 per cent in 2010 to 2 per cent in 2019

Only stock of migrant workers is reported

East Africa, West Africa and Southern Africa together hosted more than 80 per cent of the migrant workers in Africa

Pilot Studies - Expanding the use of Administrative data sources

Conducted under the auspices of the AU-ILO-IOM-ECA Joint Programme on Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa (JLMP) in coordination with Statistics South Africa and the Institute of National Statistics in Cameroon

Labour migration policies need more nuanced reliable and up-to-date data to inform policy actions such as the development of labour migration programmes targeting specific occupations and skill level

Focused on Stock (number) at a point in time and flows over time

Pilot Studies - Expanding the use of Administrative data sources

01 Assess and expand the use of administrative data sources and new data types

02 Identify key administrative data sources and assess the quality of the information collected

03 Identify labour migration indicators collected by various agencies

04 Develop a methodology for conducting the assessment of administrative and other data sources

Expanding the use of Administrative data sources

Some findings

Cameroon

01 Effective coordination of the production of labour migration statistics – Human resource, logistical, technological - Legal, institutional and partnership framework

02 **Develop an effective system**
Develop a national archiving and dissemination system

03 **Use of big data**
Consider the potential usage of new data sources

04 **Harmonization of tools, definitions and indicators**
Use harmonized data collection instruments, common indicators, and standard modules

SOUTH AFRICA

01 Prioritizing Migration Data - coordination of data gathering and analysis, Collaborate with Regional and Sub-Regional Platforms

Migration Modules

02 Introduction of an emigration and migration module into the labour force, community and census surveys

03 **Develop an effective system**
Establishment of a Labour Market Information System with clear linkages to labour migration, Build Open Data Portals,
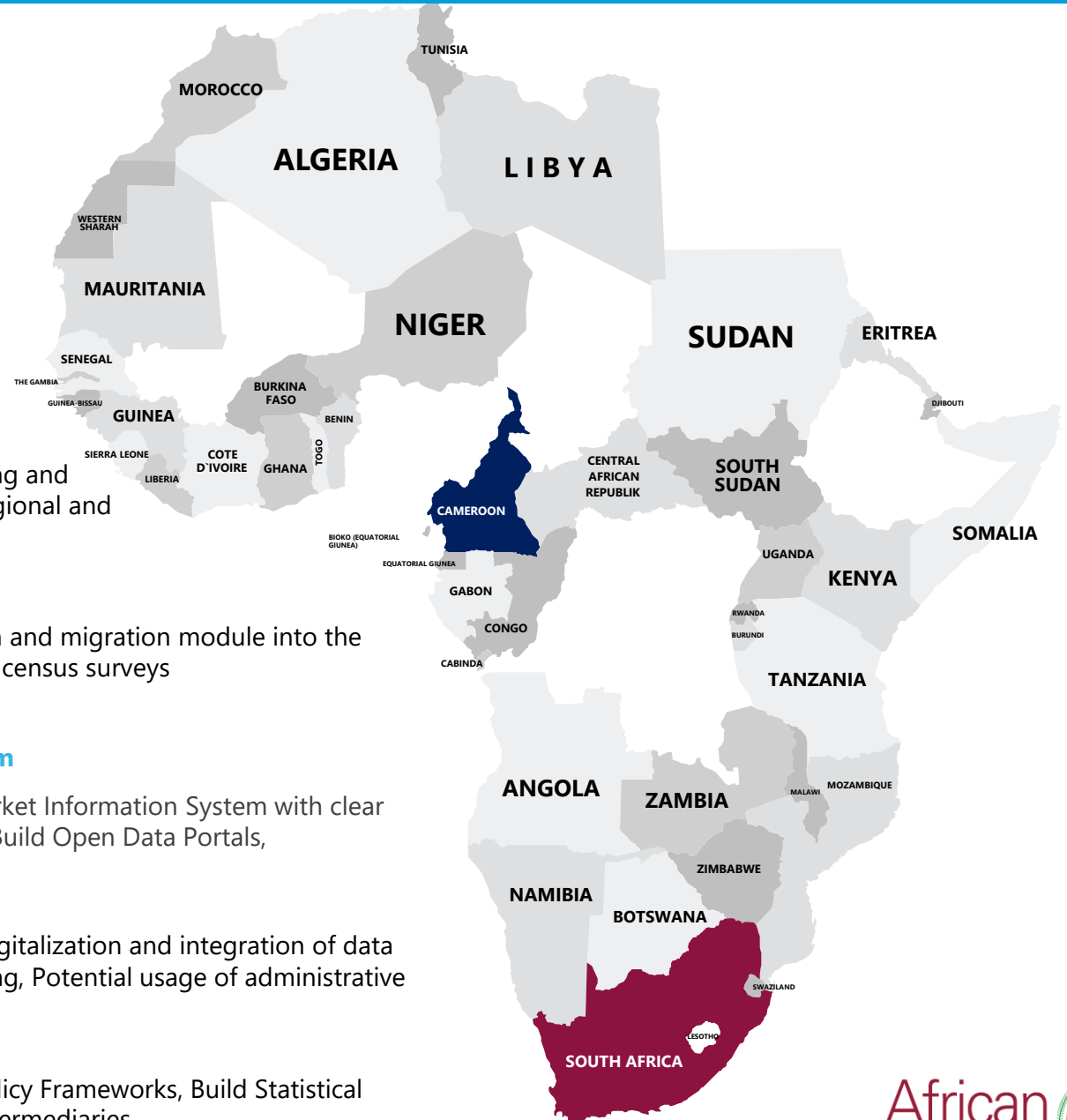
04 **Administrative Data Capture**
Policy and legal framework, Digitalization and integration of data collection systems, Data Sharing, Potential usage of administrative data

05 **Policy Recommendations**
Prioritize Migration Data in Policy Frameworks, Build Statistical Capacities, Encourage Data Intermediaries,
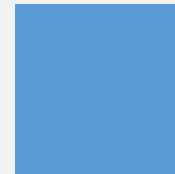
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Establishment of Joint Ventures to bring together key actors producing labour migration data

Involvement of the private sector, PES,

Conduct Regular Data Assessments/collection

Incorporate Labour Migration Data Indicators and generate a minimum list of indicators

Challenges

Resource mobilization for the production of statistics on international labour **migration**

Human resources Capacity in the collection, analysis, publication, dissemination and archiving of statistics on international labour migration

Strengthening the framework for collaboration between the various actors involved in the collection, analysis, publication, dissemination and archiving of statistics on international labour migration**;**

Lack of an effective system for producing and disseminating labour migration data

Coverage and production quality of international labour migration statistics in line with international standards

Legal and policy frameworks

Opportunities

IMPROVE DATA COORDINATION, COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP AT NATIONAL LEVEL

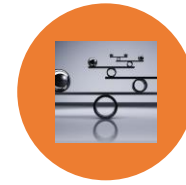**ESTABLISHMENT OF INTEGRATED LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

DEVELOP AND INTEGRATE STANDARD LABOUR MIGRATION MODULES INTO SURVEYS AND CENSUS

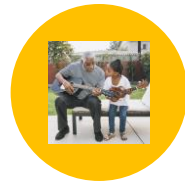**DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA FOR LABOUR MIGRATION STATISTICS**

CONDUCT RESEARCH STUDIES ON GENERATION OF LABOUR MIGRATION DATA FROM ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCES AND BIG DATA INCLUDING DEVELOPING STREAMLINED PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSING BIG DATA SETS FOR RESEARCH

HARMONIZATION OF CONCEPTS, DEFINITIONS, TOOLS AND METHODOLOGIES

EXTENDED SUPPORT FROM MIGRATION CENTRES AND AU ORGANS

CAPACITY BUILDING

African Union

Thank You!