

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)



Labor Migration Statistics Report in Africa *Second edition: Regional Migration Profile*

SECOND EDITION OF THE AFRICA LABOR MIGRATION STATISTICS REPORT |

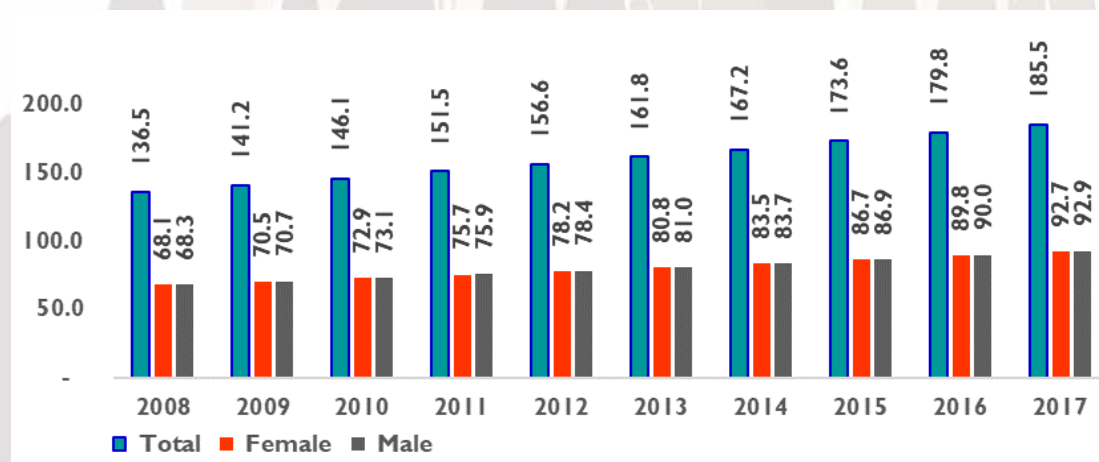
Introduction

The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS; Communauté Économique des États de l'Afrique Centrale, CEECCAS) is an Economic Community of the African Union for promotion of regional economic co-operation in Central Africa. The region aims to promote and strengthen harmonious cooperation particularly in the fields of industry, transport and communications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, trade, customs, monetary and financial matters, human resources, tourism, education, culture, science and technology and the movement of persons with a view to achieving collective self-reliance, raising the standards of living, maintaining economic stability and fostering peaceful relations between the member States to foster development in the African continent. Its members are the nations of Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe.

POPULATION

The total population for the region in 2008 was 136.5 million. This has increased over the years with 2017 recording a total population of 185.5 million people which shows an increase of 35.9 percent from the year 2008 and an annual growth rate of 3.47 percent.

Figure 1. Population of ECCAS Region by sex, 2008-2017 (millions)



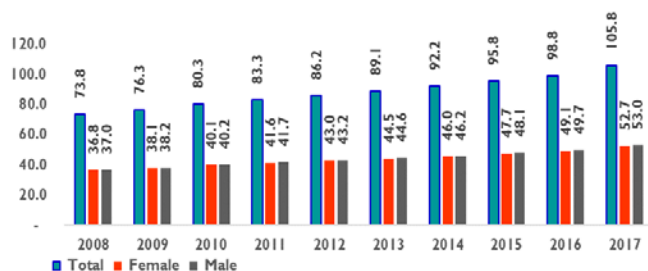
Source: JLMP Database, 2018

The number of females in the year 2008 was 68.1 million while that of 2017 was 92.7 million, which indicates an increase of 36.0 percent. Likewise, the number males in the year 2008 in the region was recorded as 68.3 million while in 2017 there were 92.9 million. This represents an increase of 35.9 percent in the number of males over the decade.

WORKING AGE POPULATION

The working age population of the region in 2008 was 73.8 million while in 2017 was 105.8 million people, which represents an increase of 43.3 percent (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Working-age population in ECCAS region, by sex, 2008–17 (millions)



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

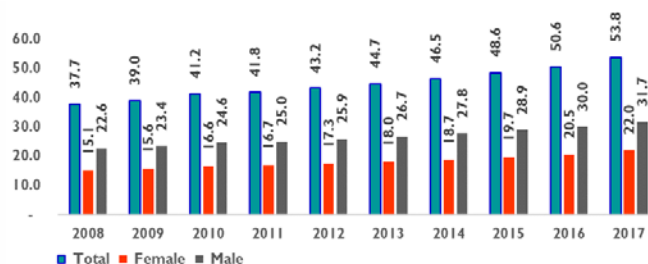
The proportion of the males in the working-age population of the region increased from 37.0 million in 2008 to 53.0 million in 2017 (an increase of 43.5 percent), while that of females in working-age population in the region increased from 36.8 million in 2008 to 43.1 million in 2017 (an increase of 43.1 percent).

LABOUR FORCE AND LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

The labour force in the ECCAS region in 2008 was reported to be 37.7 million people while in 2017 the region recorded 53.8 million people, which represents 42.7 percent increase on the labour force in the region. The population of females in the labour force in 2008 was 15.1 million while that of 2017 was 22.0 million, thus representing a 14.0 percent increase. On the other hand, the population of males in the labour force increased from 22.6 million in 2008 to 31.7 million, which represents 40.5 percent increase. The number of males in the labour force in the region are more than females in the labour force in all the years. In 2017, the male population accounted for 59.0 percent of the labour force while the females accounted for 41.0 percent, this indicates that there was a difference 18.1 percent

in the representation of males and females in the labour force. Therefore, there is need to create policies to foster gender equity and equality at member states and regional levels in ECCAS.

Figure 3. Labour force in ECCAS region, by sex, 2008–17 (millions)



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

The labour force participation rate of the region for the year 2017 was 50.8 percent with males having a higher proportion of 59.8 percent while the females recorded a significantly lower proportion of 41.8 percent.

Figure 4. Labour force participation rate in ECCAS region by sex, 2017 (%)



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

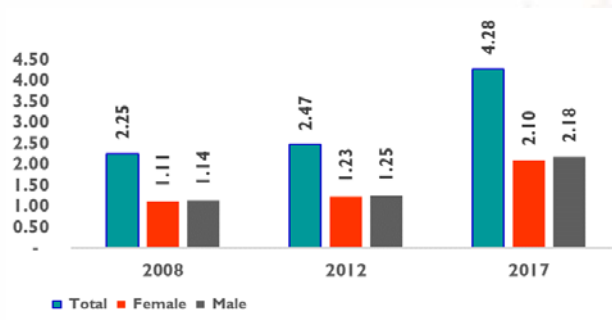
This trend is consistent over the years evaluated in this report with 2017 recording an 18.1 percent difference between males and females. This clearly indicates that there is need to look more into the aspect of having more females joining the labour force as well as understand some of the impediments that are hindering gender equity. This includes but not limited to development of policies that advocate for more inclusion and participation of females in the labour force in the region.

Stock of international Migrants

TRENDS IN THE SIZE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT POPULATION

The number of migrant workers in ECCAS region has been increasing steadily over the years. In 2008, there were 2.3 million migrants in the region while in 2017, the total number of migrants recorded in the region were 4.3 million. This represents an increase of 90.1 percent.

Figure 5. International migrant population in ECCAS region by sex (millions)



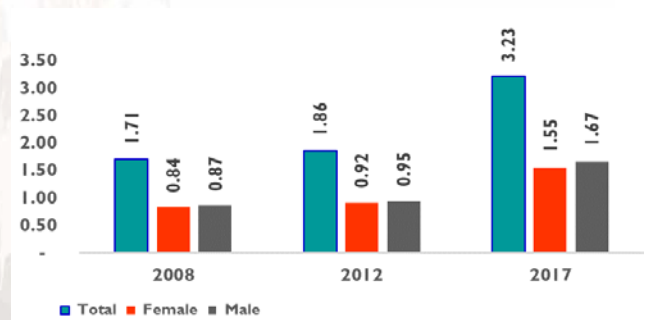
Source: JLMP Database, 2018

Similarly, disaggregating the number of migrants by gender, the number of male migrants recorded in 2008 was 1.14 million while in 2017 the region recorded 2.18 million, which translates to an increase of 91.1 percent. Likewise, the number of female migrants in 2008 was 1.11 million while in 2017, the region recorded 2.10 million female migrants, which represents an increase of 89.0 percent.

WORKING-AGE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

The number of working age migrants in the ECCAS region has increased significantly over the last decade. In 2008 there were 1.71 million working age migrants in the region while in 2017, the region recorded 3.23 million migrants, which represents an increase of 89.1 percent on the working age migrant population in the region.

Figure 6. Working-age international migrants in ECCAS region by sex (millions)



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

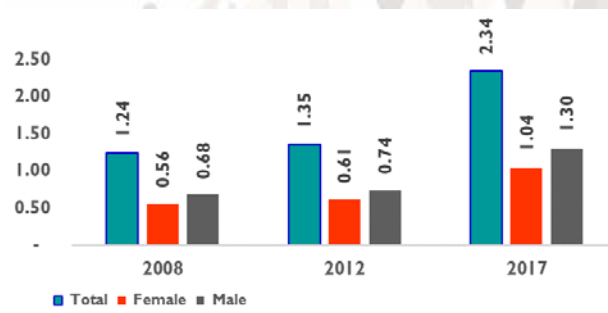
Similarly, in terms of gender a similar trend was shown on both males and females. For instance, in 2008 the number of working age female migrants in the region was recorded as 0.84 million and this increased over the years with 2017 recording 1.55 million working age population of female migrants in the region. On the other hand, the working age male migrants showed a similar trend over the years with 2008 recording a total of 0.87 million

working age population of male migrants while 2017 recorded 1.67 million working age population of male migrants in the region.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

The number of international migrant workers in the ECCAS region in 2008 was 1.24 million while that of 2017 was 2.34 million, which represents an increase of 89.3 percent. A similar trend is shown when disaggregating the number of international migrant workers by sex. In 2008, there were 0.56 million female international migrant workers while in 2017 the region recorded 1.04 million female international migrant workers. Similarly, the number of male migrant workers in the region in 2008 was 0.68 million while in 2017 there were 1.30 million male international migrant workers.

Figure 7. International migrant workers in ECCAS by sex, 2017 (millions)



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

Even though the number of female migrant workers in 2008 was low, this has continued to increase significantly over the years. However, this increment is still lower than that of their male counterparts. Therefore, there is more that needs to be done to bridge the gender gap in the work force between males and females for the international migrant workers in the region.

YOUNG INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

Majority of the population in the region comprises of youths (15-35 years) spread across various member states. However, when assessing the number of youth migrant workers (15-35), many of the countries were not able to provide this information. For instance, in 2016, only Chad was able to provide the number of youth migrant workers. Also, Chad was able to provide information on this indicator from the year 2010 to 2016.

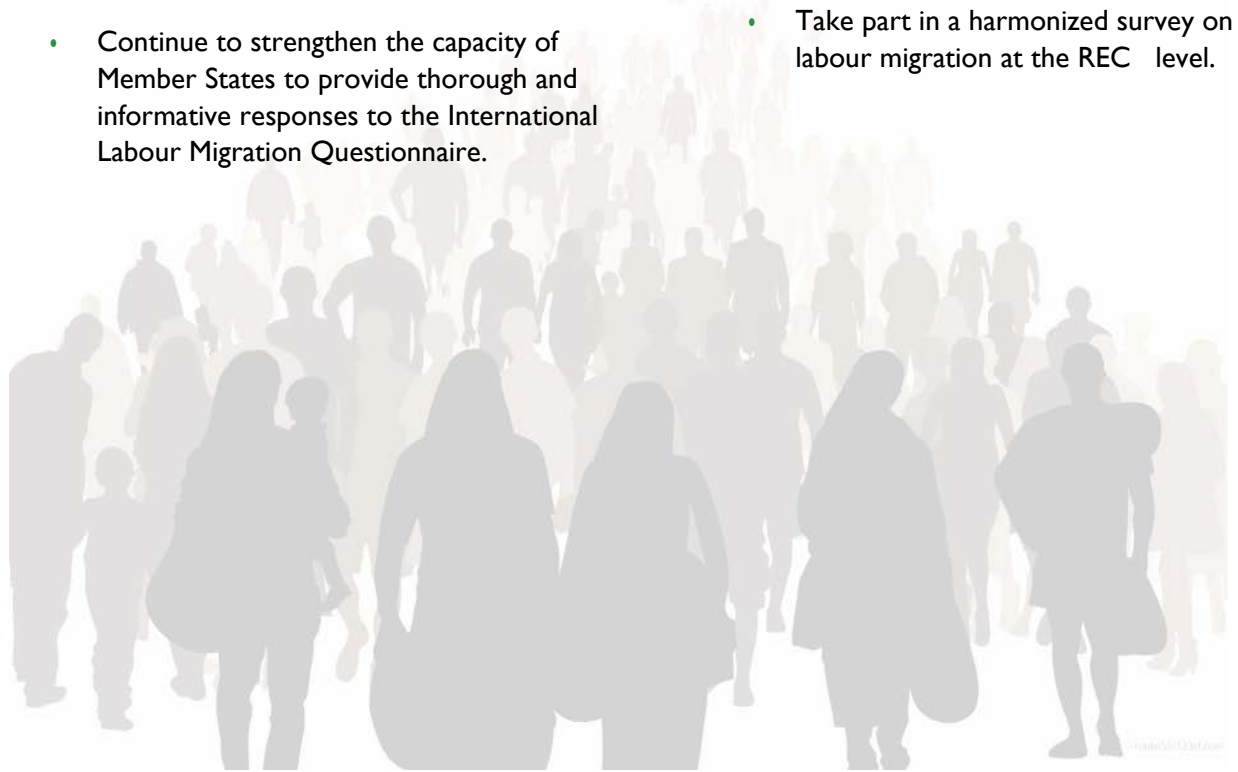
ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

Additional migrant profiles were also assessed during the period 2008 to 2017. These include employment status, economic activity, occupation and level of education. However, in the ECCAS region very few countries were able to provide the information for the year 2016. For instance, disaggregating migrant workers by economic activities, occupation, and profession only Chad was able to provide this information. The disaggregation by education level was not provided by any of the member states in the region. The need for these indicators is key to understanding migrant trends in the region. Therefore, more efforts and measures should be put in place to capacitate member states to produce data disaggregated by these key indicators for a better understanding of migrant needs, trends as well as their impact in the socio-economic aspect.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Bearing in mind the findings from this second edition of labour migration statistics report in Africa, but also the various constraints on the data analysis, the following recommendations were drawn up:

- Continue to strengthen the capacity of Member States to provide thorough and informative responses to the International Labour Migration Questionnaire.
- Monitor and coordinate the collection of data on labour migration within their blocs.
- Promote the use of administrative sources of labour migration data.
- Take part in a harmonized survey on labour migration at the REC level.



African Union Commission



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