

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)



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

SECOND EDITION OF THE AFRICA LABOR MIGRATION STATISTICS REPORT |

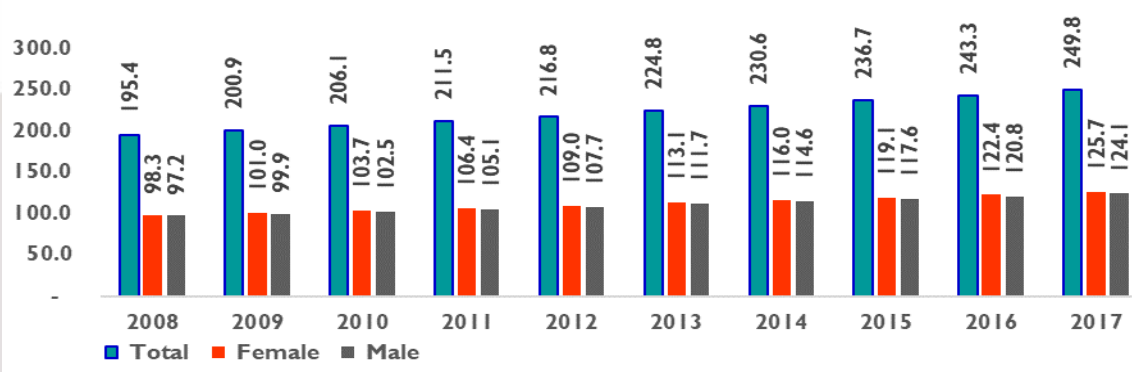
Introduction

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is an organizational structure that is located in the Horn of Africa with a revitalized ambition of expanding cooperation in food security and environmental protection, peace and security, economic cooperation and integration among its member States. The region aims to promote joint development strategies and gradually harmonize macroeconomic policies and programmes in the social, technological and scientific fields; harmonize policies with regard to trade, customs, transport, communications, agriculture, and natural resources, and promote free movement of goods, services and people within the region as well as create an enabling environment for foreign, cross-border and domestic trade and investments. Its members are the nations of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda.

POPULATION

The total population for the region in 2008 was 195.4 million. This has increased over the years with 2017 recording a total population of 249.8 million people, thus indicating an increase of 27.8 percent from the year 2008 and an annual growth rate of 2.76 percent.

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



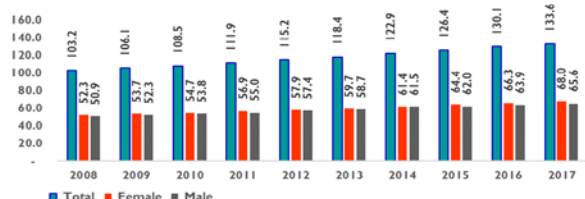
Source: JLMP Database, 2018

The number of females recorded in the region in 2008 was 98.3 million while in 2017 the number of females recorded in the region was 125.7 million, this indicates an increase of 27.9 percent. Likewise, the number males in the population recorded in 2008 was 97.2 million while in 2017 the region recorded 124.1 million males in the population. This represents an increase of 27.7 percent in the number of males in 2017 as compared to 2008.

WORKING AGE POPULATION

The working age population of the IGAD region in 2008 was 103.2 million while in 2017 was 133.6 million people, which represents an increase of 29.5 percent (Figure 2).

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



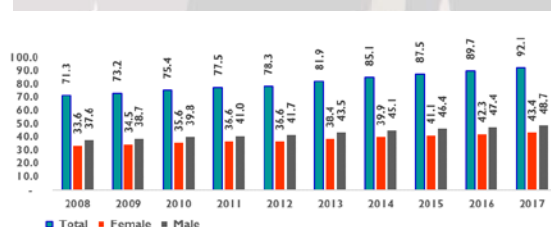
Source: JLMP Database, 2018

The proportion of males in the working-age population of the region increased from 50.9 million in 2008 to 65.6 million in 2017 (an increase of 28.8 percent), while that of females in working-age population in the region increased from 52.3 million in 2008 to 68.0 million in 2017 (an increase of 30.2 percent).

LABOUR FORCE AND LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

The IGAD region recorded 71.3 million people in the labour force in 2008 while in 2017 the region recorded 92.1 million people, which represents 29.3 percent increase on the labour force in the region.

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



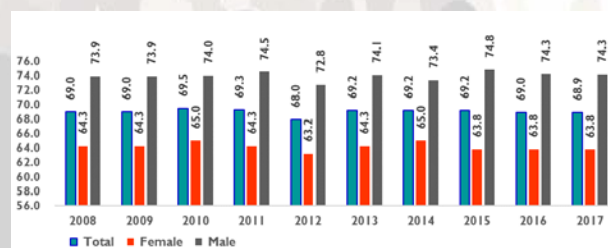
Source: JLMP Database, 2018

The population of females in the labour force in 2008 was 33.6 million while that of 2017 was 43.4 million, thus representing a 29.2 percent increase in the number of females in the labour force in the region. On the other hand, the population of males in the labour force increased from 37.6 million in 2008 to 48.7 million, which represents 29.3 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 despite the fact that we have more females in the working age population in the region.

For instance, in 2017, the male population accounted for 52.9 percent of the labour force while the females accounted for 47.1 percent. Therefore, there is need to create policies to increase the number of women in the labour force.

The labour force participation rate for the region for the year 2017 was 68.9 percent with males having a higher proportion of 74.3 percent while the females recorded a significantly lower proportion of 63.8 percent.

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



Source: JLMP Database, 2018

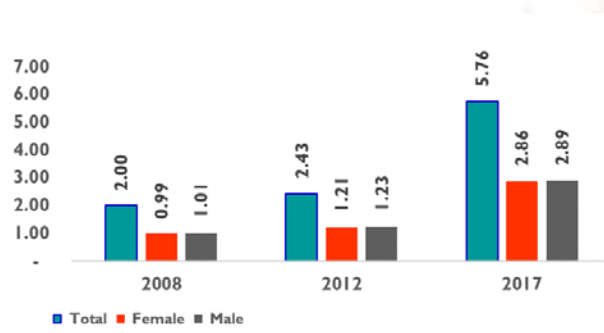
This trend is consistent over the years evaluated in this report with 2017 recording a difference of 10.5 percent between males and females. This clearly indicates that there is need to look more into the aspect of having more females joining the labour force as well as understand some of the impediments that are hindering gender equity.

Stock of international Migrants

TRENDS IN THE SIZE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT POPULATION

The number of migrant workers in IGAD region has been increasing tremendously over the years. In 2008 there were 2.00 million migrants in the region while in 2017 the total number of migrants recorded in the region were 5.76 million. This represents an increase of 188.3 percent.

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



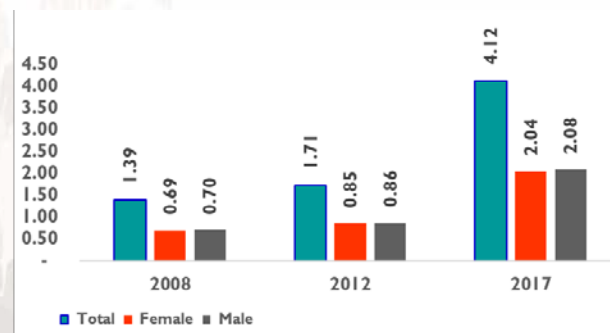
Source: JLMF Database, 2018

The disaggregation of the migrant population by sex also shows a similar trend. 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. These trends depict the increased migratory movements at the Horn of Africa region thus necessitating for better migration governance for socio-economic development and management of migration issues.

WORKING-AGE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

The number of working age migrants in the IGAD region has increased significantly over the last decade. In 2008 the region recorded 1.39 million working age migrants in the region while in 2017, the region recorded 4.12 million migrants, which represents an increase of 196.1 percent on the working age migrant population in the region.

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



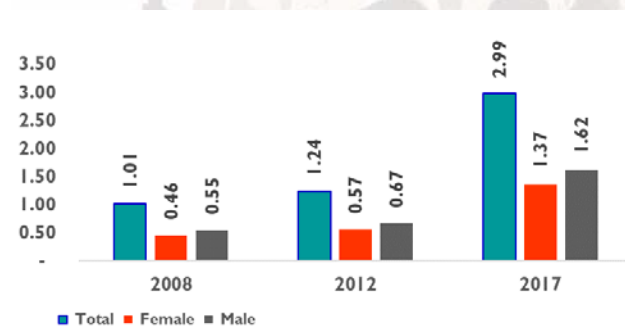
Source: JLMF Database, 2018

Similarly, in terms of gender a similar trend was shown on both males and females. In 2008, the number of working age female migrants in the region was recorded as 0.69 million and this has increased over the years with 2017 recording 2.04 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 0.70 million working age population of male migrants while 2017 recorded 2.08 million working age population of male migrants in the region.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

The number of international migrant workers in the IGAD region in 2008 was 1.01 million while in 2017 the region recorded 2.99 million international migrant workers, which represents an increase of 196.1 percent. A similar trend is shown when disaggregating the number of international migrant workers by gender. In 2008 there were 0.46 million international female migrant workers while in 2017 the region recorded 1.37 million international female migrant workers. Similarly, the number of male migrant workers in the region in 2008 was reported as 0.55 million while in 2017 the region recorded 1.62 million international male migrant workers

Figure 7. International migrant workers in IGAD 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 2013, only Uganda was able to provide the number of youth migrant workers. Many member states from the region haven't provided information on this indicator.

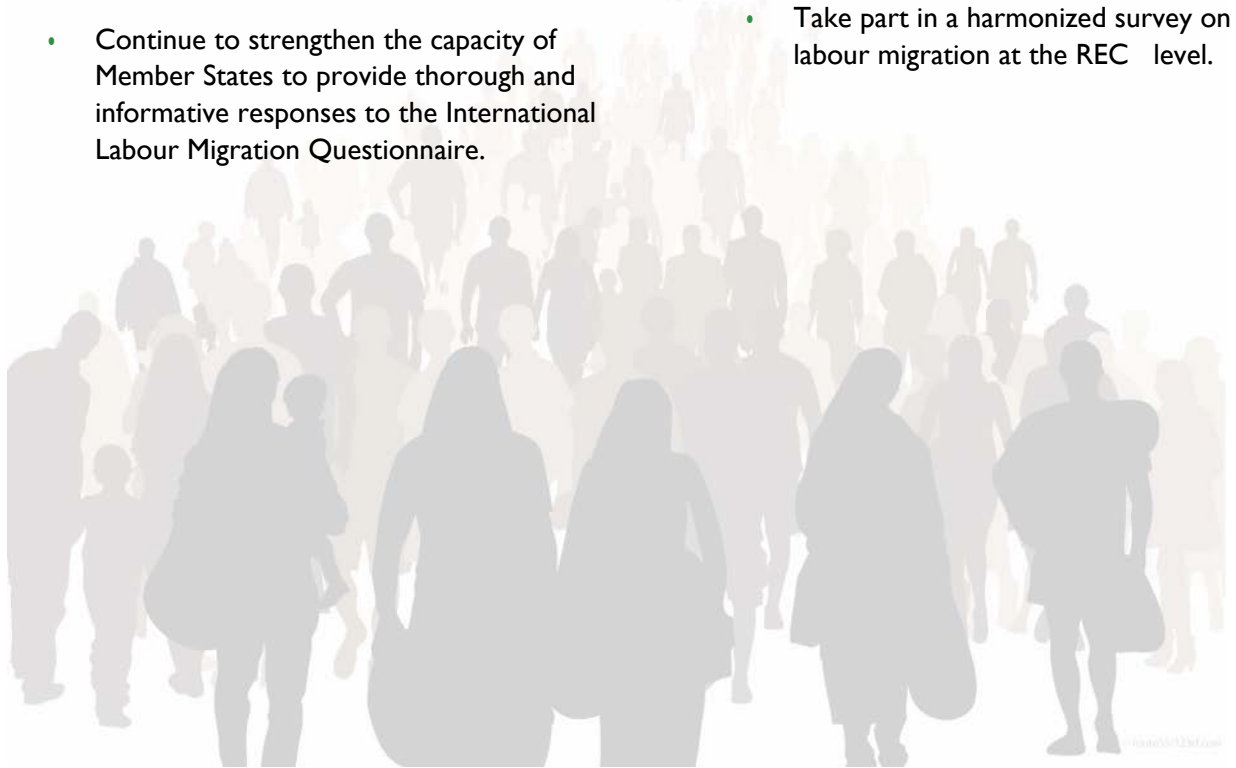
ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

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 IGAD region many countries were unable to provide the information. For instance, in 2016, when disaggregating migrant workers by economic activities, occupation, education and profession only Ethiopia was able to provide information on economic activities for the year. The disaggregation by education level, occupation, and profession 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 given that the number of migrants continues to increase significantly. 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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