Overview

In April 2019, the Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) conducted 534 in-depth interviews with refugees and migrants in West Africa. 168 people were interviewed in Burkina Faso (in Bobo Dioulasso, Dori and Kantchari), 191 in Mali (in Ber, Gao, Kayes, Mopti and Timbuktu), and 175 in Niger (in Agadez, Diffa, Niamey and Tillabery).

Profiles

31% of respondents (167) were women vs. 69% (367) men. The average age of respondents was 29 years. The main countries of origin are Burkina Faso (14%), Guinea (12%), Nigeria (10%), Mali (8%), and Niger (8%). As is consistently the case, the majority of respondents (93%) cite economic reasons as their main motivation for departure, followed by personal and family reasons (32%) and violence and general insecurity (15%). Gender disaggregated data reveals several of the same differences as in previous monthly updates: women cite economic reasons less often (women: 88% and men: 95%) and personal and family reasons more often (women: 45% and men: 26%) as reason for departure than men.
Asylum

Among the respondents, 42% had the intention to apply for asylum in their country of destination. Nationalities with the highest intention of applying for asylum were Guinea (16%), Nigeria (14%), Burkina Faso (13%), Côte d’Ivoire (8%) and Senegal (8%). Sixteen people (from Mali, Senegal, Ghana, Benin, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Niger, Nigeria and Togo) responded that they had already applied for asylum.

Intention to apply for asylum in destination country
Nationality of those with the intention to apply for asylum

The Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative (4Mi) is an innovative approach for the collection and analysis of data along major mixed migration corridors, responding to the need for better data on protection issues with regards to asylum seekers, refugees and other people on the move. In Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, 4Mi seeks to help fill the knowledge gaps regarding the nature of mixed migratory movements and the protection risks for refugees and migrants on the move within and from West Africa.

4Mi data, graphics and analysis are based on the accumulated, ongoing data collection by 4Mi field monitors through direct interviews with refugees and migrants on the move. Sample sizes are clearly indicated and represent a limited section of those on the move. All findings derived from the surveyed sample of migrants/refugees should not be used to make any inferences about the total population.