

REPUBLIC OF MALI | SECOND PROFILE 2021

# MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS



The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

---

Publisher: International Organization for Migration  
17 route des Morillons  
1211 Geneva 19  
P.O. Box 17  
Switzerland  
Tel.: +41.22.717 91 11  
Fax: +41.22.798 61 50  
Email: [hq@iom.int](mailto:hq@iom.int)  
Internet: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Required citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2021. *Migration Governance Indicators – Republic of Mali Second Profile 2021*. IOM, Geneva.

---

© IOM 2021



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 IGO License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/legalcode) (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0 IGO).\*

For further specifications please see the [Copyright and Terms of Use](#).

This publication should not be used, published or redistributed for purposes primarily intended for or directed towards commercial advantage or monetary compensation, with the exception of educational purposes, e.g. to be included in textbooks.

Permissions: Requests for commercial use or further rights and licensing should be submitted to [publications@iom.int](mailto:publications@iom.int).

\* <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/legalcode>

REPUBLIC OF MALI | SECOND PROFILE 2021

# MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBJECTIVE // 6

**INTRODUCTION // 7**

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK // 9

**KEY FINDINGS // 10**

SUMMARY OF UPDATES SINCE 2018 // 12

**COVID-19 ANALYSIS // 22**

**KEY SOURCES // 25**

**ANNEXES // 28**



## OBJECTIVE

The MGI aims to support well-managed migration policy by helping countries assess the comprehensiveness of their migration governance structures and identify priorities on the way forward.

MGI follow-up assessments identify the migration policy developments that have occurred since the countries' first MGI assessments, thus helping governments track their progress on national priorities as well as commitments taken at the regional and international levels.

The MGI can be used to spark a discussion with governments and other relevant stakeholders in the country on existing migration policy structures. It can help assess whether these structures, which have often been in place for several years, still address the main challenges and opportunities of today's reality.

# INTRODUCTION

This is an era of unprecedented mobility, and the need to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility is becoming increasingly relevant.<sup>1</sup> The need to face the challenges and to maximize the opportunities that this mobility brings has been recognized with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which highlights the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and development. Migration is integrated in a number of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets, such as ending modern slavery and addressing the vulnerability of migrant workers. However, the central reference to migration in the SDGs is target 10.7 on facilitating “orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”.<sup>2</sup>

The incorporation of target 10.7 into the 2030 Agenda created the need to define “planned and well-managed migration policies”. This is why, in 2015, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). This Framework offers a concise view of an ideal approach that allows a State to determine what it might need to govern migration well and in a way that suits its circumstances.<sup>3</sup> The Framework was welcomed by IOM Member States in the same year.

In an effort to operationalize the MiGOF, IOM worked with Economist Impact to develop the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI), a standard set of approximately 90 indicators to assist countries in assessing their migration policies and advance the conversation on what well-governed migration might look like in practice.

The MGI helps countries identify good practices as well as areas with potential for further development and can offer insights on the policy levers that countries can use to develop their migration governance structures. However, the MGI recognizes that all countries have different realities, challenges and opportunities that relate to migration. Therefore, the MGI does not rank countries on the design or implementation of their migration policies. Finally, the MGI does not measure migration policy outcomes or institutional effectiveness. Instead, it takes stock of the migration-related policies in place and operates as a benchmarking framework that provides insights on policy measures that countries might want to consider as they progress towards good migration governance.

MGI follow-up assessments aim at showing the progress that countries have achieved in their migration governance policies since their first MGI assessment. Concretely, this report presents a summary of the main changes and achievements that have taken place in the migration governance structures of the Republic of Mali (hereinafter referred to as Mali) since 2018,<sup>4</sup> as well as the areas with potential for further development, as assessed by the MGI.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> IOM Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance, seventeenth session (S/17/4 of 29 September 2015), article 2.

<sup>2</sup> IOM Council, 106th session, Migration Governance Framework (C/106/40 of 4 November 2015), page 1, footnote 1. Available at <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/106/C-106-40-Migration-Governance-Framework.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> The 2018 Migration Governance Profile of the Republic of Mali is available at [www.migrationdataportal.org/overviews/mgi/mali#0](http://www.migrationdataportal.org/overviews/mgi/mali#0).

<sup>5</sup> The MGI initiative is a policy-benchmarking programme led by IOM and implemented with the support of Economist Impact. Funding is provided by IOM Member States.



# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

## MiGOF

The IOM MiGOF sets out the essential elements to support planned and well-managed migration. It seeks to present, in a consolidated, coherent and comprehensive way, a set of three principles and three objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, orderly, and benefits migrants and society.

### PRINCIPLES

1. **Adherence** to international standards and fulfilment of migrants' rights.
2. **Formulates** policy using evidence and "whole-of-government" approach.
3. **Engages** with partners to address migration and related issues.

### OBJECTIVES

1. **Advance** the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society.
2. **Effectively** address the mobility dimensions of crises.
3. **Ensure** that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

At the basis of

## MGI

### WHAT IT IS



A set of indicators that offers insights on policy levers that countries can use to strengthen their migration governance structures



A tool that identifies good practices and areas that could be further developed



A consultative process that advances dialogues on migration governance by clarifying what "well-governed migration" might look like in the context of SDG Target 10.7

Which supports the measurement of

### WHAT IT IS NOT



Not a ranking of countries



Not assessing impacts of policies



Not prescriptive



### TARGET 10.7

"Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and **well-managed migration policies**."



KEY

FINDINGS

The MGI is composed of around 90 indicators grouped under the 6 different dimensions of migration governance that draw upon the MiGOF categories:



MIGRANTS'  
RIGHTS  
PAGE 14

Indicators in this domain look at the extent to which migrants have access to certain social services such as health, education and social security. It also looks at family reunification, access to work, and access to residency and citizenship. The international conventions signed and ratified are also included.



WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT  
APPROACH  
PAGE 15

Indicators in this area assess countries' institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks related to migration policies. This area also looks at the existence of national migration strategies that are in line with development objectives and overseas development efforts, as well as institutional transparency and coherence in relation to migration management.



PARTNERSHIPS  
PAGE 17

This category focuses on countries' efforts to cooperate on migration-related issues with other States and with relevant non-governmental actors, including civil society organizations and the private sector.



WELL-BEING  
OF MIGRANTS  
PAGE 18

Indicators in this area assess countries' policies on the recognition of migrants' educational and professional qualifications, provisions regulating student migration and the existence of bilateral labour agreements between countries. Aspects of diaspora engagement in the country of origin and migrant remittances are also under this domain.



MOBILITY DIMENSION  
OF CRISES  
PAGE 19

This category looks at the type and level of preparedness of countries when they are faced with mobility dimensions of crises. The questions look at the processes in place for nationals and non-nationals both during and after disasters, including if humanitarian assistance is equally available to migrants as it is to citizens.



SAFE, ORDERLY  
AND REGULAR  
MIGRATION  
PAGE 20

This area looks at countries' approach to migration management in terms of border control and enforcement policies, admission criteria for migrants, preparedness and resilience in the case of significant and unexpected migration flows, as well as the fight against trafficking in persons.

## SUMMARY OF UPDATES SINCE 2018

### Migrants' rights

Since the first MGI assessment in 2018, the Government of Mali, in order to promote the rights of migrants in its strategic frameworks, has prioritized the conclusion of bilateral agreements on the transferability of migrants' social rights and the organization of two regional meetings to harmonize legislative frameworks and strategies to combat migrant smuggling in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union.

### Whole-of-government approach

In 2018, the Government of Mali adopted Decree No. 0901/PRM of 26 December 2018 on the National Policy on African Integration, the goal of which is the free movement of people. Its aim is to promote the vision "of an Africa without borders that is politically united and forms a single economic and social body where free and interdependent citizens circulate like blood in the human body".

In 2019 and 2020, Mali adopted the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (2019–2023) and the Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (2020–2024), respectively, which address and manage most migration-related issues – namely, coordination of migration issues, consideration of the needs of foreign communities living in Mali, gender mainstreaming in migration policy, management of the reintegration of returning migrants, improvements in the system for collecting data on migrants, and management of labour migration and the diaspora.

In 2021, the African Centre for Migration Studies and Research was officially inaugurated in Bamako. The Centre is an African Union institution dedicated to researching, analysing and interpreting data on migration trends, and thereby strengthening the availability of data on migratory movements in Mali.

With its adoption of Law No. 2019-047 of 24 July 2019 establishing the Centre for Migration Information and Management, the Government of Mali introduced a strategic instrument for observing migration issues. It mandated the Centre to conduct studies and research in the field of migration; to help build the capacities of migration stakeholders; to analyse the impact of legislative and regulatory measures on the migration phenomenon; to promote productive investment by the Malian diaspora; to analyse the impact of investment on migration; to contribute to the development and/or revision of migration management policies, strategies and programmes in Mali; to help promote partnerships in the field of migration; to feed and update the database on migration in the country; to contribute to the creation of a better framework for consultation on the issue of migration and local development; and to capitalize on and disseminate reports, documents, tools, procedures and data on migration.

### Partnerships

Since 2019, and for a two-year term, Mali has been chair of the African Union Specialised Technical Committee on Migration, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. The Committee's tasks include strengthening the continent's mechanisms for effective humanitarian action by establishing an African humanitarian agency, protecting and assisting populations in need of humanitarian aid, and formulating and implementing African Union directives.

In 2020, Mali became a member of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

## Well-being of migrants

Since the previous evaluation in 2018, migration focal points appointed at the national and regional offices of the National Agency for the Promotion of Employment and the National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment have been in charge of collecting information on migrants' needs.

Pursuant to the Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali, the Government has conducted two studies – one on the establishment of the Bank of Malians Abroad, the other on existing mechanisms to encourage the diaspora to invest productively and to promote investment opportunities in Mali – as part of efforts to mobilize and enhance diaspora contributions.

In 2021, the Government of Mali adopted the Strategy to Promote Productive Investment by the Malian Diaspora, which aims to help enhance the human, economic and financial capital of the diaspora in the development of Mali by providing information to potential diaspora investors on the devices, mechanisms and opportunities for productive investment in the country.

## Mobility dimension of crises

In 2019, the Government of Mali adopted the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development which aims, in particular, to improve the country's institutional and operational framework for humanitarian action and crisis management, to strengthen the resilience of populations who are victims of terrorist acts and violent extremism, and to bolster the State's capacity for preventive action. The Framework also covers capacity-building in relation to the prevention and management of risks and natural disasters, by facilitating the incorporation of climate challenges into sectoral policies and strategies for socioeconomic development, and into planning processes at the national and territorial levels.

Between 2018 and 2020, the Government of Mali put in place a system of intervention, control, monitoring and protection of Malians established abroad, which it endowed with an assistance fund that enabled the return and reintegration of over 6,000 Malian migrants.

## Safe, orderly and regular migration

Between 2018 and 2020, the Government-built Reception and Information Centre for Malians from Abroad registered and accommodated more than 11,000 Malian migrants in emergency situations.

In 2018, Mali adopted the National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2018–2022), which aims to prevent trafficking in persons, engage criminal prosecutions, protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons, and promote coordination and cooperation in the fight against trafficking in persons.



## 1

## ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FULFILMENT OF MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

### 1.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Since the previous evaluation in 2018, Article 6 of Order No. 08-2716 of 6 October 2008, relating to the Patient Charter in hospitals, continues to govern hospital care for both nationals and foreigners, but it does not refer explicitly to migrants. In addition, Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter make it compulsory to provide care for the poor.<sup>6</sup>

Only migrant workers holding a work permit under Article 5 of Law No. 09-015 of 26 June 2009, establishing the compulsory health insurance scheme, can become members of the scheme. Article 7 of the Law stipulates that workers as defined by the Labour Code (the only possibility for foreigners to work in Mali) and their families must be affiliated with the scheme. However, under Article 3 of Law No. 09-030 of 27 July 2009 establishing the medical assistance scheme, “needy” persons (and members of their families) may receive free care in certain hospitals, but it is not specified whether the patient must be Malian or not.

As part of the implementation of its new vision for development, the Government of Mali has drawn up the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (2019–2023), one of the objectives of which is to fight impunity, xenophobia and crimes against foreigners, although migrants are not specifically mentioned. In addition, the Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (2020–2024) provides for the organization of two regional meetings on the harmonization of legislative frameworks and strategies to combat migrant smuggling in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union.

### 1.2. Areas with potential for further development

Mali has ratified the Inter-African Conference on Social Welfare (CIPRES) (2000) and concluded a social security agreement with France (1979). However, as of September 2021, it has yet to ratify International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention Nos. 97 and 143 on migrant workers.

Elections in Mali are governed by Law No. 2016-048 of 17 October 2016 as amended by Law No. 2018-014 of 23 April 2018, which provides that all citizens who have reached the voting age (18) and retained their civil and political rights are entitled to vote, under the conditions established by the Law. However, Article 35 of Law No. 2018-014 introduced a change providing that to be registered on the electoral roll, voters must appear in the civil registry biometric database or have resided for six months in the municipality or jurisdiction of the embassy. In addition, as of September 2021, Malians living abroad could vote only in presidential elections and referendums.

<sup>6</sup> There has also been a slight rise in the ratio of doctors, from 0.083 per 1,000 inhabitants in 2010 to 0.124 per 1,000 inhabitants in 2018, as per World Bank figures for 2020.



## 2

## FORMULATES POLICY USING EVIDENCE AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

### 2.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

On 3 September 2014, the Government of Mali adopted the National Migration Policy of Mali, in order to promote greater mobilization of and the sustained contribution by diasporas (Malian and foreign) to the country's development. The Policy was developed in a participatory and consensual manner, with regional and international consultations being organized with the diaspora. Upon completion of the implementation of the first 2015–2019 Action Plan, a new 2020–2024 Action Plan was developed. Coordination and monitoring of the Action Plan's implementation are ensured by the Ministry of Malians Established Abroad and African Integration. In addition, Objective 5.5 under Axis 5 of the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (2019–2023) covers migration issues.

Improving knowledge of internal and international migration is part of the Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (2020–2024). The regularly updated Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is an IOM tool that tracks and monitors population movements and mobility. Its transfer to the Government by IOM, by virtue of a protocol signed in November 2014 and two partnership agreements between the Government and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (on the management and coordination of displaced person sites and the registration of returnees), enabled the National Directorate of Social Development of the Ministry of Health and Social Development to centralize and better harmonize data on population movements and to assess the needs of displaced and returning populations.

In addition, on 19 March 2021, the African Centre for Migration Studies and Research<sup>7</sup> was officially inaugurated in Bamako. The Centre is an African Union institution dedicated to the research, analysis and interpretation of data on migration trends collected by the Observatory of Morocco, as well as the compilation of periodic reports on migration trends and patterns in Africa and between Africa and other regions. It fills a gap in terms of migration data analysis and the use of data for researching and formulating migration policy. The Centre will help build the capacity of staff in national statistics offices, ministries and immigration departments to analyse and use good-quality, reliable and up-to-date data on migration, including in Mali.

### 2.2. Areas with potential for further development

In Mali, the National Institute of Statistics collects, produces, analyses and disseminates sociodemographic, health, economic and cultural information. It does so, in particular, through the General Census of Population and Housing (which is usually carried out once every 10 years) and other surveys that also provide data on the migrant population in Mali. Data disaggregated by sex and migration status are available. The last census dates back to 2009. The Border Police Directorate, which answers to the Ministry of Internal Security and Civil Protection, also collects data on migrants and is responsible for collecting data on entry and exit flows and on foreigners living in the country; the General Delegation of Malians Abroad, under the Ministry of Malians Established Abroad and African Integration, deals with nationals living abroad. However, these data are not published on a regular basis.

Gender issues feature prominently in the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development, whose Objective 5.4 stipulates the creation of “conditions for the empowerment of women, children and the family”. In this regard, the Government of Mali has taken a number of measures.

<sup>7</sup> See: National Directorate for Social Development and IOM, 2021; Government of Mali, 2019a.

In particular, it has established the Support Fund for the Empowerment of Women and the Development of the Child, which is the support programme for the empowerment of women in the shea value chain; the Agricultural Land Law, which grants at least 15 per cent of the land developed by the State and the communities to women; and the National Support Fund for Agriculture, which grants at least 15 per cent to rural women and young people (CFA 600 million, or more than USD 1 million in 2018).<sup>8</sup> However, it is not mentioned whether migrant women are eligible.

---

<sup>8</sup> See: Government of Mali, 2019a.





# 3

## ENGAGES WITH PARTNERS TO ADDRESS MIGRATION AND RELATED ISSUES

### 3.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

As part of its efforts to manage migration issues, Mali has concluded many partnerships and participates in several forums. In 2018, for example, it signed the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. In 2019, it started a two-year term as chair of the African Union Specialised Technical Committee on Migration, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons, whose tasks include strengthening the continent's mechanisms for effective humanitarian intervention by establishing an African humanitarian agency, protecting and assisting populations in need of humanitarian aid, and formulating and implementing African Union directives.

The Government of Mali also works with the High Council of Malians Abroad, whose tasks are to bring together all Malian emigrants without distinction, encourage the participation of Malians living abroad in the country's development, and participate in the formulation of an appropriate reintegration policy for returning Malians. The High Council has carried out many activities since 2015, as part of the implementation of the National Migration Policy of Mali.

### 3.2. Areas with potential for further development

Since the previous assessment, Mali has not signed other conventions, nor has it concluded any readmission agreements.



## 4

## ADVANCES THE SOCIOECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY

### 4.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Since the last assessment, no national mechanism has been developed to assess the demand for foreign workers in the labour market. However, the National Agency for the Promotion of Employment (which was established by Ordinance No. 01-016/P-RM of 27 February 2001) and the National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment (which was established by Law No. 03-031/AN-RM of 25 August 2003 as amended by Law No. 2014-068/AN-RM of 31 December 2014) have the following tasks respectively: bring a new dynamic to the structures for reducing unemployment and contribute to the implementation of the National Employment Policy; and help create jobs for young men and women aged 15 to 40, in rural and urban areas, residents or expatriates, by facilitating their access to the labour market and to credit. Both agencies have focal points at the regional and national levels for migration issues. The National Agency for the Promotion of Employment has also drawn up a handbook on labour migration management, which presents the challenges of labour migration, its experience in managing labour mobility (international placement, support for returnees, etc.), a clear description of international placement procedures, and educational guidance for potential migrants.

The Government of Mali also works with the National Employment and Training Observatory, the main task of which is to conduct studies and research in order to provide decision makers and users with reliable and regularly updated information on the national and regional labour markets – and thus to improve labour market regulation. The Observatory helps to better match the needs and potential of the economy with the training system.

In order to enhance diaspora capacities, the Government of Mali carried out two studies in 2018, one on the feasibility of establishing the Bank of Malians Abroad and the other on existing mechanisms for encouraging productive investment on the part of the diaspora and for promoting investment opportunities in Mali. The Strategy to Promote Productive Investment by the Malian Diaspora was adopted in 2021.

### 4.2. Areas with potential for further development

While the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (2019–2023), which was adopted in 2020, is intended to ensure “better promotion of social transfers (cash transfers, coupons, productive support, construction/reconstruction, livelihoods) in favour of vulnerable populations and to increase the contribution of the financial sector to economic growth through better inclusion”, it does not explicitly mention consideration of the needs of migrants and members of their families.

The Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (2020–2024) sets out activities to be undertaken in favour of foreigners living in Mali, but those activities do not take into account the needs of all the migrants present in the country according to their migratory status (reception, transit and departure).



## 5

EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSES THE  
MOBILITY DIMENSIONS OF CRISES

## 5.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The protection and security of migrants is the first axis of the Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (2020–2024), the objective being to set up an intervention, control, monitoring and protection system for Malians from abroad. It is within this framework that the Government established an assistance fund for Malian migrants in emergency situations in 2016, through the Ministry of Malians Established Abroad and African Integration and with the support of the European Union through IOM; the fund has an annual endowment of CFA 800 million (approximately USD 1,417,000). The Ministry's Special Investment Budget also finances another programme that assisted more than 6,000 returning migrants and potential returnees between 2016 and 2020.

One of the secondary objectives of the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (2019–2023), on expanded solidarity and the fight against social exclusion, provides for assistance to internally displaced persons, returnees and refugees.

## 5.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Government of Mali has no specific strategy for providing assistance to migrants in the event of a crisis. However, the Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development proposes, among other activities, to improve the country's institutional and operational framework for humanitarian action and crisis management, strengthen the resilience of populations suffering from terrorist acts and violent extremism, and bolster the State's capacity to take preventive action. It also proposes to build the country's capacity to prevent and manage risks and natural disasters.

Mali does not have a strategy for dealing with mass movements related to climate change. In 2007, it drew up the National Programme of Action for Adaptation to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change. The Programme aims to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on the most vulnerable populations, with a view to promoting sustainable development and poverty reduction in the country. While it has not been updated as of September 2021, the Government established in 2020 the National Drought Plan (2021–2025), in order to better cope with natural hazards, limit the country's vulnerability to droughts, and put in place an integrated drought detection and management system.



## 6

## ENSURES THAT MIGRATION TAKES PLACE IN A SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MANNER

## 6.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The reintegration of returning Malians is the subject of Axis 3 of the National Migration Policy of Mali and its 2020–2024 Plan of Action. Several initiatives are being implemented to help returning migrants.

Under the reintegration pillar of the EU–IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration, returning Malians have benefited from training and reintegration materials to start their new activities. Others have received medical and psychosocial care, access to housing, or assistance for their children's education. As of September 2021, nearly 1,000 young Malians who have returned since May 2017 benefited from this assistance, as well as from the reintegration assistance programmes for returning migrants implemented in partnership with the French Immigration and Integration Office and the General Delegation of Malians Abroad, in the form of activities to assist and protect the interests of migrants established abroad, along with coordination and monitoring of the various return assistance activities.

Mali has also adopted the National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2018–2022), which aims to prevent trafficking in persons, engage criminal prosecutions, protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons, and promote coordination and cooperation in the fight against trafficking in persons.

As part of the implementation of Axes 1 and 3 of its National Migration Policy, on the protection and security of migrants and members of their families and on support for better reintegration of returning migrants, the Government of Mali set up a fund to assist Malians in emergency situations and opened the Reception and Information Centre for Malians from Abroad in 2018. The building used to house migrants was equipped by IOM under the EU–IOM Joint Initiative in Mali, which is funded by the European Union. From its opening until 2020, more than 11,000 Malian migrants have been registered and accommodated there. The fund, since its inception in 2014, has been used to help more than 32,000 Malians. In addition, more than 6,000 returning migrants and potential returnees have received support to improve the possibility for their reintegration.

## 6.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Border Police Directorate, a unit of the Ministry of Internal Security and Civil Protection, is in charge of border management, handles immigration and ensures border control. However, border agents and staff do not benefit from regular capacity-building. The most recent session took place in 2020 for border police, members of the *gendarmerie* and customs officers. It was focused on standard operating procedures that had been developed by IOM in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for front-line border officers at points of entry.

Under Axis 2 of the National Migration Policy of Mali and its 2020–2024 Action Plan, the Government of Mali intends to put in place appropriate mechanisms and management systems to better organize migration. Thus, entry, stay and residence conditions are governed by the relevant law. As of September 2021, no provision has been made for the detention of migrants with irregular status.

The Government does not have an official website that gives details on the conditions of entry into its territory, although information on the conditions of entry and stay is available elsewhere online.

There are, moreover, no provisions for the search for or identification of missing migrants on the national territory.

The Government of Mali has set up the National Coordination Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Assimilated Practices, and in 2019 it adopted the new National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2018–2022). However, the Plan’s implementation could be hampered by a lack of coordination and how the Committee’s members have not taken ownership of its activities yet.



## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

This page summarizes key national COVID-19 policy responses in Mali from a migration governance perspective. It is based on 12 questions that were added to the standard Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment in Mali in order to effectively assess national migration governance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



In Mali, access to health services for nationals and foreigners is governed by Article 6 of Order No. 08-2716 of 6 October 2008 relating to the Patient Charter.<sup>1</sup> As part of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Mali has adopted the Action Plan for Preventing and Managing COVID-19, which provides for the reactivation of 15 border security zones and resource mobilization at entry points.<sup>2</sup>

In June 2021, the Government of Mali also updated the Stakeholder Mobilization Plan, incorporating the complaint management mechanism of the Vaccine AF MALI COVID-19 Emergency Response Project,<sup>3</sup> which aims to enable affordable and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. The Plan does not, however, refer to migrants.



In order to protect the populations affected by the impact of COVID-19 and support vulnerable households, the Government of Mali has set up a special fund to provide the poorest households with targeted support and massive distributions of cereals and food for livestock; to furnish consumers in that social bracket with electricity and water free of charge in April and May 2020; and to finance a three-month VAT exemption on electricity and water rates and a three-month exemption from customs duties for the import of basic foodstuffs (rice and milk). These measures do not mention the migratory status of the beneficiaries.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Government of Mali, Order No. 08-2716 of 6 October 2008 relating to the Patient Charter (Arrêté no. 08-2716 du 6 octobre 2008 portant sur la charte du malade). Available at <http://41.73.116.156/chugabrielourea/docs/pdf/arretes/arrete-08-2716-charte-du-malade.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Health and Social Development, Action Plan for Preventing and Managing COVID-19 (Plan d'Actions pour la Prévention et la Réponse à la Maladie à COVID-19). March 2020. Available at [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/plan\\_covid19\\_mali\\_4mars.pdf\\_0.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/plan_covid19_mali_4mars.pdf_0.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> More information is available at <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/674721622810098560/pdf/Staholders-Engagement-Plan-of-Mali-Covid-vaccin-AF-P176347-MALI-COVID-19-EMERGENCY-RESPONSE-PROJECT-P173816.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> International Monetary Fund, Policy responses to COVID-19. Available at [www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19](http://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19) (accessed 1 April 2021).



## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



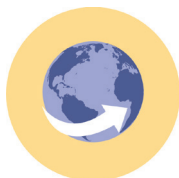
Stays and residence in Mali are governed by Article 2 of Decree No 05-322 establishing the terms and conditions for the application of Law No. 04-058 of 25 November 2004 on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali,<sup>5</sup> which has not been modified in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Through the COVID-19 Humanitarian Plan, the Government of Mali has introduced actions to distribute additional tents to households of refugees and internally displaced persons, in order to ease overcrowding and lower population density, maintain social distancing, and limit transmission of the virus. It has also identified high-mobility crossing points and strengthened the health system at 28 registration points, establishing a health security zone and assessing and responding to the risks of transmission at unplanned sites, as well as among host families taking in displaced persons.<sup>6</sup>



The Government of Mali engages in online communication, continuously broadcasts messages about the coronavirus on television and radio, and has designed billboards to make people aware of the dangers of COVID-19. Its messages are broadcast in Bambara, Songhay and French but do not take into account the specific needs of migrants.



Article 17 of Law No. 04-058, on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali, provides that foreigners may not exercise any paid professional activities in Mali unless they have been authorized to do so in accordance with the legislation in force.<sup>7</sup> The Action Plan for Preventing and Managing COVID-19 contains no specific measures in that regard. The existing measures have remained in force.

<sup>5</sup> Government of Mali, Decree No. 05-322 establishing the terms and conditions for the application of Law No. 04-058 of 25 November 2004 on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali (Décret no. 05-322 du 19 juillet 2005 fixant les modalités d'application de la loi 04-058 du 25 novembre 2004 relative aux conditions d'entrée, de séjour et d'établissement des étrangers en République du Mali). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=96988](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=96988).

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Cycle de Programmation Humanitaire, *Plan Humanitaire COVID-19 : Mali* (2020). Available at [www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/mali\\_plan\\_covid-19\\_revision.pdf](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/mali_plan_covid-19_revision.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> International Labour Organization (ILO), Law No. 04-058 of 25 November 2004 on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali (Loi no. 04-058 du 25 novembre 2004 relative aux conditions d'entrée, de séjour et d'établissement des étrangers en République du Mali). Available at [http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=fr&p\\_isn=71446&p\\_country=MLI&p\\_count=234](http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=fr&p_isn=71446&p_country=MLI&p_count=234).





## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Mali, acting through the Ministry of Health and Social Development and as part of the effort to monitor the prevention of and response to the disease, has published monthly data on positive cases, deaths, and recovered and vaccinated people. However, these data are not disaggregated by migratory status.<sup>8</sup>



In June 2020, in response to the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Malians Established Abroad and African Integration, acting through the Technical Co-development Unit and with the financial support of the European Union and the French Development Agency, launched an appeal for diaspora COVID-19 applications, in order for the diaspora to contribute to the humanitarian response and help fight the impact of the pandemic.

Mali has also introduced a strategy to ensure food security for all populations, including in areas of high migration flows.<sup>9</sup>



As part of its implementation of Axes 1 and 3 of the National Migration Policy of Mali, which address the protection and reintegration of returning migrants, the Government of Mali plans to provide psychosocial and health assistance (for COVID-19 cases and other pathologies)<sup>10</sup> in collaboration with IOM. About 3,000 Malian migrants stranded between closed borders have been repatriated on flights and buses chartered by the Government and with the help of IOM.<sup>11</sup>

Under the COVID-19 Humanitarian Plan, protection and assistance are to be provided to the victims of forced displacement (i.e. internally displaced persons, returnees, repatriated Malians, mobile populations, refugees) and host communities that are particularly vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Health and Social Development, Communiqués. Available at [www.sante.gov.ml/index.php/actualites/communiques](http://www.sante.gov.ml/index.php/actualites/communiques).

<sup>9</sup> International Monetary Fund, Policy responses to COVID-19. Available at [www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19](http://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19) (accessed 1 April 2021).

<sup>10</sup> Government of Mali, 2020–2024 Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (Plan d'Action 2020–2024 de la Politique Nationale de Migration du Mali (PONAM)). Available at <https://rodakar.iom.int/fr/news/r%C3%A9vision-du-plan-d%E2%80%99action-2020-2024-de-la-politique-nationale-de-migration-ponam-%C3%A0-s%C3%A9gou>.

<sup>11</sup> Interview with Mr Boulaye Keita, Technical Adviser with the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration, 26 April 2021.







# KEY SOURCES

## Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission

- 2008 ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration. 33rd Ordinary Session of the Head of State and Government, Ouagadougou, 18 January. Available at [www.unhcr.org/49e47c8f11.pdf](http://www.unhcr.org/49e47c8f11.pdf).

## Government of Mali

- 2001 Ordinance No. 01-016/P-RM of 27 February 2001 (Ordonnance no. 01-016/P-RM du 27 février 2001 portant création de l'Agence nationale pour l'emploi). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=103501&p\\_country=MLI&p\\_count=11](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=103501&p_country=MLI&p_count=11).
- 2004 Law No. 04-058 of 25 November 2004 on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali (Loi no. 04-058 du 25 novembre 2004 relative aux conditions d'entrée, de séjour et d'établissement des étrangers en République du Mali). Available at [http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=fr&p\\_isn=71446&p\\_country=MLI&p\\_count=234](http://ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=fr&p_isn=71446&p_country=MLI&p_count=234).
- 2005 Decree No. 05-322 establishing the terms and conditions for the application of Law No. 04-058 of 25 November 2004 on the conditions governing the entry, stay and residence of foreigners in Mali (Décret no. 05-322 du 19 juillet 2005 fixant les modalités d'application de la loi 04-058 du 25 novembre 2004 relative aux conditions d'entrée, de séjour et d'établissement des étrangers en République du Mali). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=96988](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=96988).
- 2007 National Programme of Action for Adaptation to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change (Programme d'Action National d'Adaptation aux Changements Climatiques). Available at <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/mli147201.pdf>.
- 2008 Order No. 08-2716 of 6 October 2008 relating to the Patient Charter (Arrêté no. 08-2716 du 6 octobre 2008 portant sur la charte du malade). Available at <http://41.73.116.156/chugabrieltoire/docs/pdf/arretes/arrete-08-2716-charte-du-malade.pdf>.
- 2009a Law No. 09-015 of 26 June 2009 establishing the compulsory health insurance scheme (Loi no. 09-015 du 26 juin 2009 portant institution du régime d'assurance maladie obligatoire). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=96990](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=96990).
- 2009b Law No. 09-030 of 27 July 2009 establishing the medical assistance scheme (Loi no. 09-030 du 27 juillet 2009 portant institution du régime d'assistance médicale). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=en&p\\_isn=103747&p\\_count=13&p\\_classification=15](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=103747&p_count=13&p_classification=15).
- 2014a National Migration Policy of Mali (Politique Nationale de Migration du Mali). Not available online.
- 2014b Law No. 03-031/AN-RM of 25 August 2003 as amended by Law No. 2014-068/AN-RM of 31 December 2014 (Loi no. 03-031/AN-RM du 25 août 2003 modifiée par la loi no. 2014-068/AN-RM du 31 Décembre 2014). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p\\_lang=fr&p\\_isn=103441&p\\_count=10&p\\_classification=08](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=fr&p_isn=103441&p_count=10&p_classification=08).
- 2018a Law No. 2016-048 of 17 October 2016 as amended by Law No. 2018-014 of 23 April 2018 on elections (Loi no. 2018-014 du 23 avril 2018 portant modification de la loi no. 2016-048 du 17 octobre 2016 portant loi électorale). Available at [https://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/africa/ML/mali-loi-n2018-014-modification-loi-electorale/view?set\\_language=fr](https://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/africa/ML/mali-loi-n2018-014-modification-loi-electorale/view?set_language=fr).
- 2018b National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Plan d'action national de lutte contre la traite des personnes, 2018–2022). Available at [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/glo-act/le-gouvernement-du-mali-lance-son-nouveau-plan-daction-national-contre-la-traite-des-personnes-2018-2022.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/glo-act/le-gouvernement-du-mali-lance-son-nouveau-plan-daction-national-contre-la-traite-des-personnes-2018-2022.html).
- 2018c Decree No. 0901/PRM of 26 December 2018 on the National Policy on African Integration. Not available online.
- 2019a Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (Cadre Stratégique pour la Relance Economique et le Développement Durable (CREDD) 2019–2023). Available at [www.maliapd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Version-Finale-CREDD-2019-2023.pdf](http://www.maliapd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Version-Finale-CREDD-2019-2023.pdf).
- 2019b Manuel pour la gestion des migrations professionnelles au Mali.
- 2019c Law No. 2019-047 of 24 July 2019 establishing the Centre for Migration Information and Management (Loi no. 2019-047 du 24 juillet 2019 portant création du Centre d'Information et de Gestion des Migrations (CIGEM)). Available at [www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC191656/](http://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC191656/).
- 2020a 2020–2024 Action Plan for the National Migration Policy of Mali (Plan d'Action 2020–2024 de la Politique Nationale de Migration du Mali (PONAM)). Available at <https://rodakar.iom.int/fr/news/r%C3%A9vision-du-plan-d%E2%80%99action-2020-2024-de-la-politique-nationale-de-migration-ponam-%C3%A0-s%C3%A9gou>.
- 2020b Rapport provisoire de l'évaluation à mi-parcours du Plan d'Action (2015–2019) de la Politique Nationale de Migration du Mali. Bamako.

- 2020c National Drought Plan for 2021–2025 (Plan National Sécheresse du Mali 2021–2025). Available at [https://knowledge.unccd.int/sites/default/files/country\\_profile\\_documents/PLAN%20SECHERESSE%20DU%20MALI%20VERSION%20FINALE.pdf](https://knowledge.unccd.int/sites/default/files/country_profile_documents/PLAN%20SECHERESSE%20DU%20MALI%20VERSION%20FINALE.pdf).
- Government of the United States of America
- 2020 *Trafficking in Persons Report*. 20th edition. Department of State, Washington, D.C. Available at [www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-TIP-Report-Complete-062420-FINAL.pdf](http://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-TIP-Report-Complete-062420-FINAL.pdf).
- International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for West and Central Africa
- 2015 *A Survey on Migration Policies in West Africa*. Vienna and Dakar. Available at [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/survey\\_west\\_africa\\_en.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/survey_west_africa_en.pdf).
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- 1949 Ratifications of C097 – Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) (Organisation Internationale du travail (OIT), Ratifications de C097 – Convention (no. 97) sur les travailleurs migrants (révisée), 1949, Date d'entrée en vigueur : 22 janvier 1952). Available at [www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11300:0::NO:11300:P11300\\_INSTRUMENT\\_ID:312242](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11300:0::NO:11300:P11300_INSTRUMENT_ID:312242).
- International Organization for Migration (IOM) and European Union (EU)
- n.d. EU–IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration. Available at [www.migrationjointinitiative.org/](http://www.migrationjointinitiative.org/) (accessed 1 April 2021).
- National Directorate for Social Development and IOM
- 2021 Rapport DTM – Avril 2021. Matrice de suivi de déplacements (DTM). Bamako. Available at <https://reliefweb.int/report/mali/mali-rapport-matrice-de-suivi-des-d-placements-dtm-avril-2021>.
- United Nations
- 2020 Report of the seventy-first session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme. A/AC.96/1209, 12 October. Available at [www.unhcr.org/excom/excomrep/5f96879c4/report-seventy-first-session-executive-committee-high-commissioners-programme.html](http://www.unhcr.org/excom/excomrep/5f96879c4/report-seventy-first-session-executive-committee-high-commissioners-programme.html).
- World Bank
- n.d. DataBank. Available at <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/health-nutrition-and-population-statistics> (accessed 1 April 2021).



# ANNEXES

## MiGOF: Migration Governance Framework<sup>9</sup>

In an attempt to define the concept of “well-managed migration policies”, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) devised a Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), which was welcomed by the IOM Council in November 2015. For the purposes of the Migration Governance Framework, IOM defines governance as “the traditions and institutions by which authority on migration, mobility and nationality in a country is exercised, including the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies in these areas”.

The Framework sets out the essential elements of “good migration governance” – 3 principles and 3 objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, safe and orderly, and that it provides benefits for migrants and societies.<sup>10</sup> IOM’s view is that a migration system promotes migration and human mobility that is humane and orderly and benefits migrants and society:

When it:

- (i) Adheres to international standards and fulfils migrants’ rights;
- (ii) Formulates policy using evidence and a “whole-of-government” approach;
- (iii) Engages with partners to address migration and related issues.

As it seeks to:

- (i) Advance the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society;
- (ii) Effectively address the mobility dimensions of crises;
- (iii) Ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

The MiGOF does NOT create new standards or norms. In drafting the Framework, IOM relied on its expertise and analytical work, as well as on existing commitments, non-binding declarations and statements. It does NOT address global migration governance that is the international architecture for dealing with issues related to migration and human mobility. Instead, the focus is on the governance and management of migration from the point of view of the State as the primary actor. It does NOT propose one model for all States. The Framework presents a “high road” or ideal version of migration governance, to which States can aspire.

The MiGOF is based on the understanding that, as the primary actor in migration, mobility and nationality affairs, a State retains the sovereign right to determine who enters and stays in its territory and under what conditions, within the framework of international law. Other actors – citizens, migrants, international organizations, the private sector, unions, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, religious organizations and academia – contribute to migration governance through their interaction with States and each other.

<sup>9</sup> IOM Council, Migration Governance Framework, 106th session, C/106/40 (4 November 2015). Available at <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/106/C-106-40-Migration-Governance-Framework.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Migration Governance Framework infosheet (2016). Available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-governance-framework>.

## The MGI process



# 1

### Launch of the MGI process

The first step of the process is to explain what the MGI entails to key government officials, in order to ensure full understanding of the project and complete buy-in.



# 2

### Data collection

The second step of the process is to start the collection and analysis of data, based on about 90 indicators grounded in the 6 dimensions of the MiGOF. A migration governance profile based on the analysis of the findings is then drafted and shared with the government counterparts.



# 3

### Interministerial consultation

The third step of the process is to convene an interministerial consultation where all relevant ministries and other stakeholders discuss the good practices and main areas that could be developed further as identified in the draft migration governance profile, as well as priorities on the way forward. It is also an opportunity for them to comment and provide suggestions on the draft profile.



# 4

### Publication of the report on the Global Migration Data Portal

After the migration governance profiles are finalized and vetted by government counterparts, they are published on the Global Migration Data Portal<sup>11</sup> and uploaded on the IOM Publications Platform.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> You can find the profiles at <https://migrationdataportal.org/overviews/mgi#0>.

<sup>12</sup> Please see <https://publications.iom.int/>.







[www.migrationdataportal.org/mgi](http://www.migrationdataportal.org/mgi)

 @IOM

 @UNmigration

 @UNmigration

 MGI@iom.int