



# Integrating Internal Migrants In Social Protection Systems

Global good practices to inform Adaptive Social  
Protection Programs in the Sahel

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# Associated Materials



Click on the images to visit the associated **Policy Note, Technical Paper and Blog**

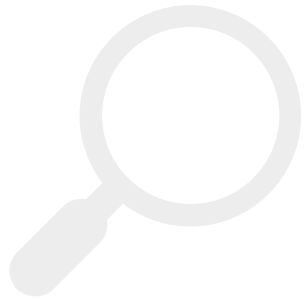


# 1. INTRODUCTION

# Introduction

## Aim of this research

- Migration offers opportunities, but also presents risks for migrants and those at home, exacerbated by factors such as gender, age, and ethnicity.
- Social protection can potentially play a positive supporting role for different types of migrants, their families and communities, and the economy.

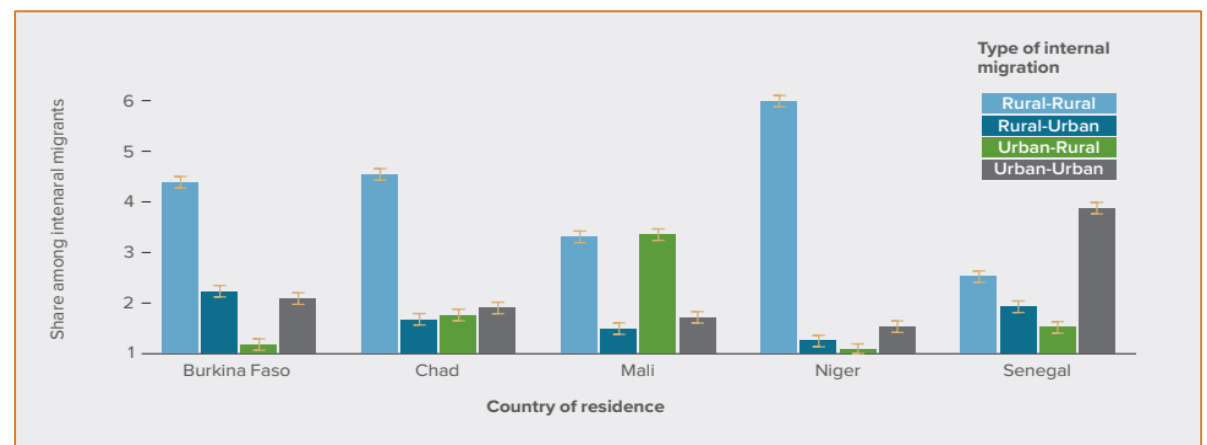
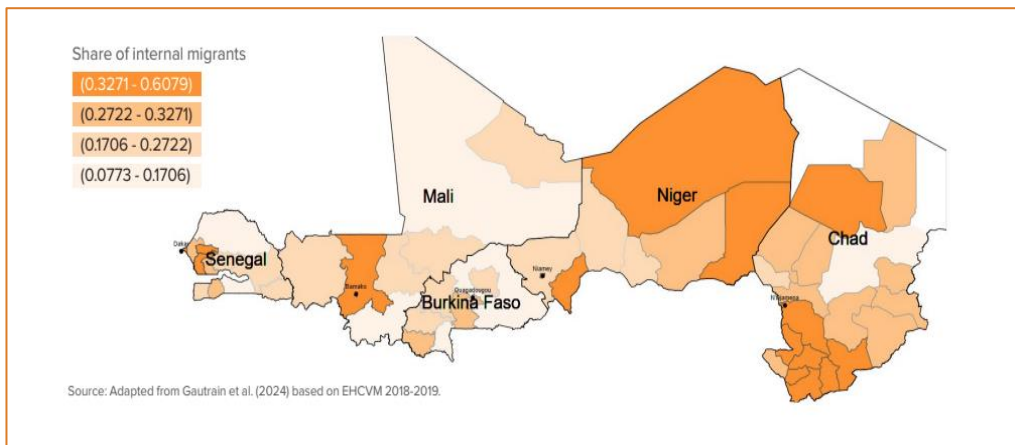
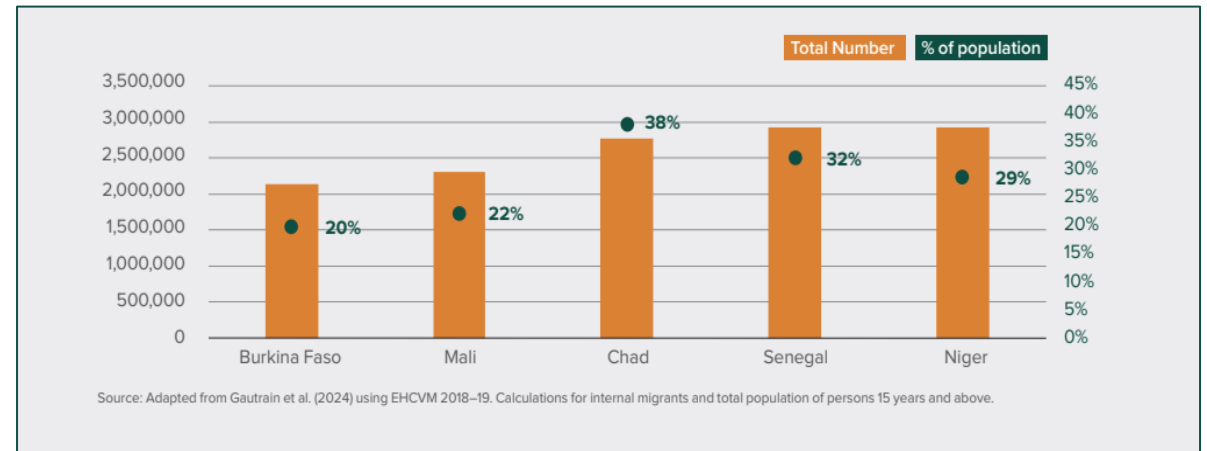


**Drawing on international evidence, this presentation provides perspectives on internal mobility to inform Adaptive Social Protection programs in the Sahel and strengthen their capacity to address population mobility dynamics and be supportive of internal migrants.**

# Overview of Internal Mobility in the Sahel

## Internal mobility in the Sahel is a large and multi-faceted phenomenon

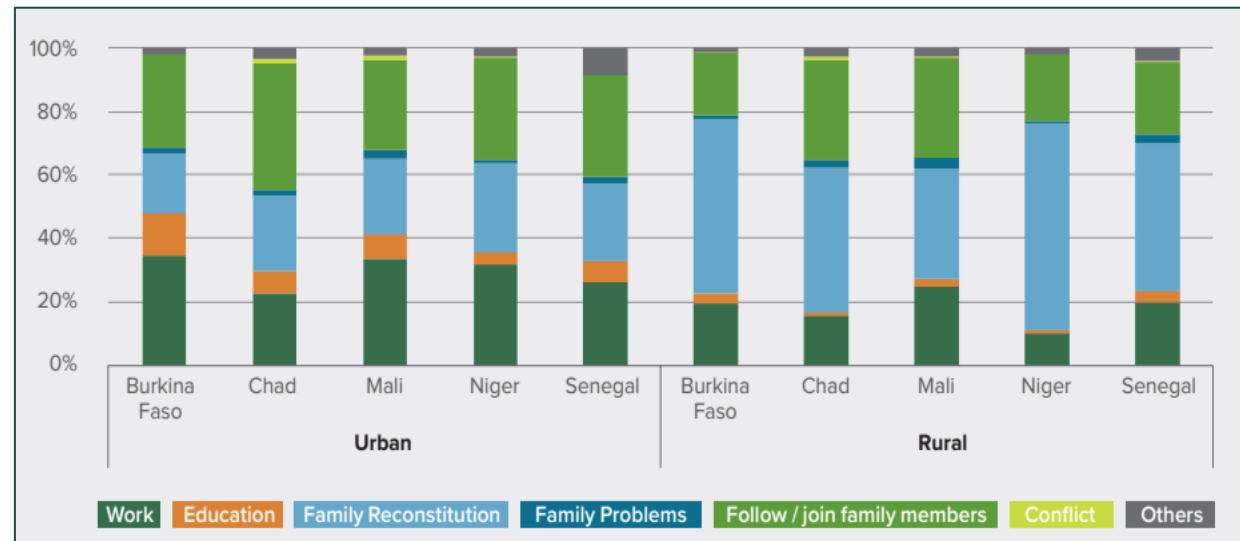
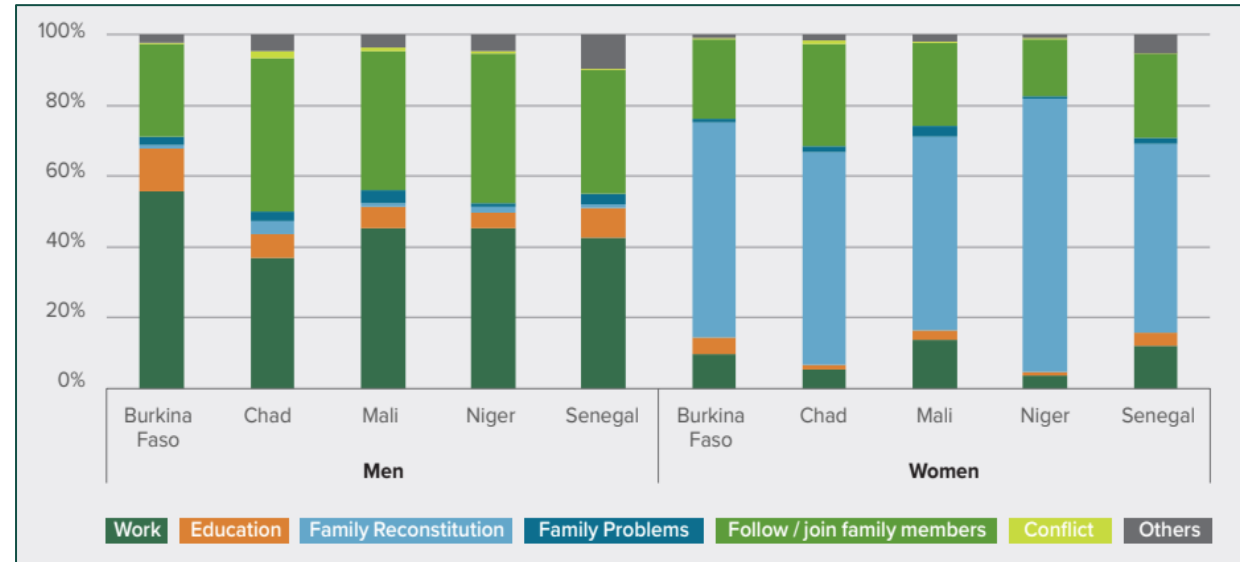
- Over **47 million internal** migrants in 5 Sahel countries ~ 27 percent of people aged 15+ have migrated internally.
- Traditional forms of mobility motivated by seasonality, economic, and cultural considerations along with new drivers including conflict, climate change.
- Rural to rural movements are most common.



## Motives for migration

- Work-related moves are more common among men, and among those moving to urban areas.
- Family reasons – marriage, separation, or following members is much more common among women and among those moving to rural areas.
- Migration for education is still more common among men, and to urban destinations.
- Conflict and other drivers (e.g., climate change) don't appear as proximate motives but may underlie economic/ family reconstitution considerations.

## Main reason to move internally, by country





## Vulnerabilities faced by internal migrants

1. Long and arduous Journeys
2. Poverty and Unemployment – including at destination
3. Social tensions in destination areas that hinder integration
4. Disconnection from social networks
5. Lack of IDs and documentation, which limits access to jobs, services,
6. Inadequate access to services due to administrative or affordability constraints
  - Housing, sanitation, security, health, education

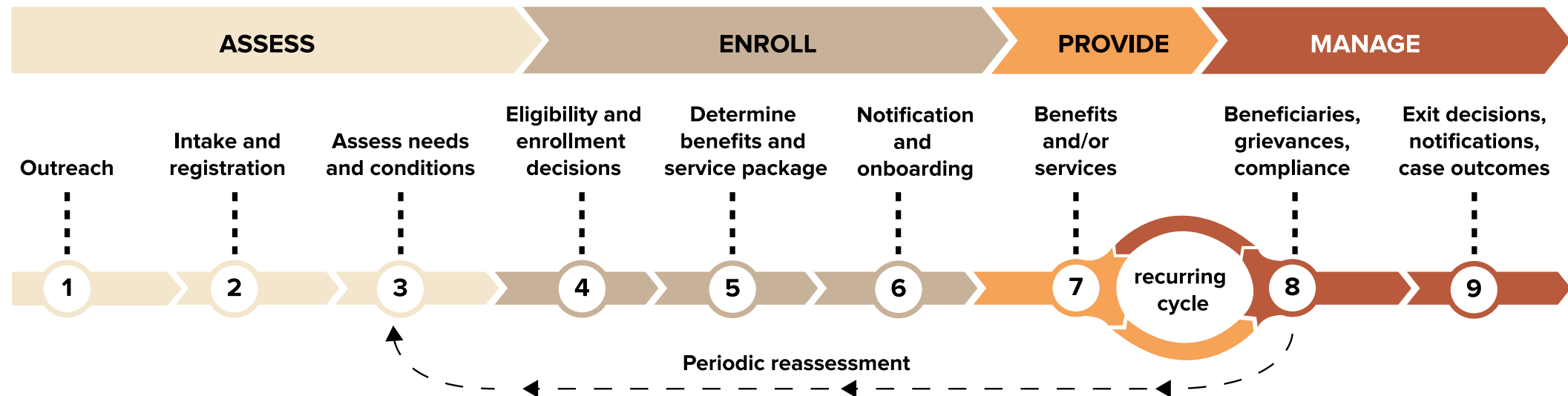
# Methodology and analytical framework

## Desk-based review

## Interviews

- ✓ Productive Inclusion component Yook Koom Koom of the Senegal Adaptive Safety Net
- ✓ Burkina Faso Social Safety Net Operation under preparation
- ✓ Mauritania Youth Employability Project

## SOCIAL PROTECTION DELIVERY CHAIN

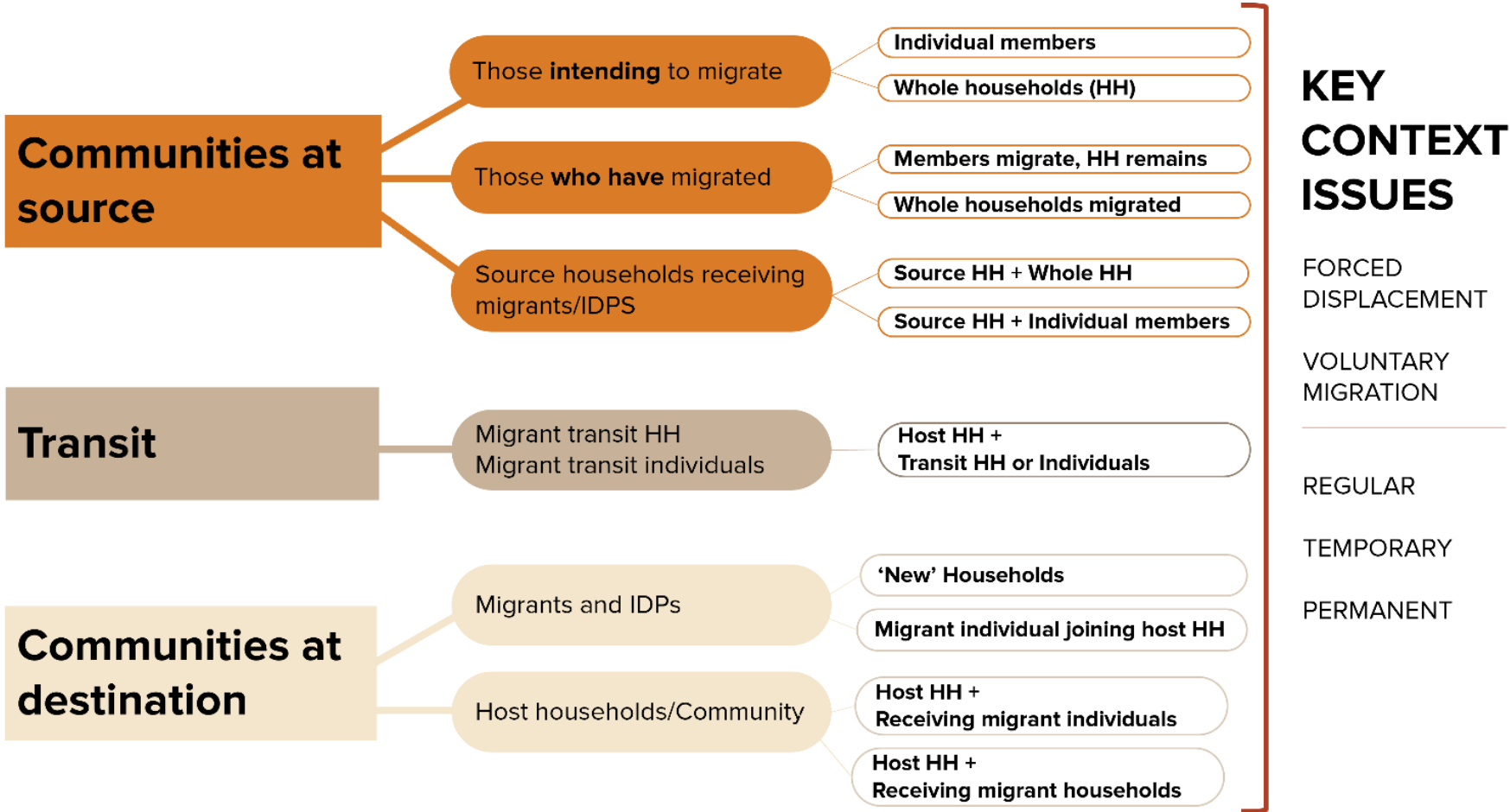




# Methodology and analytical framework

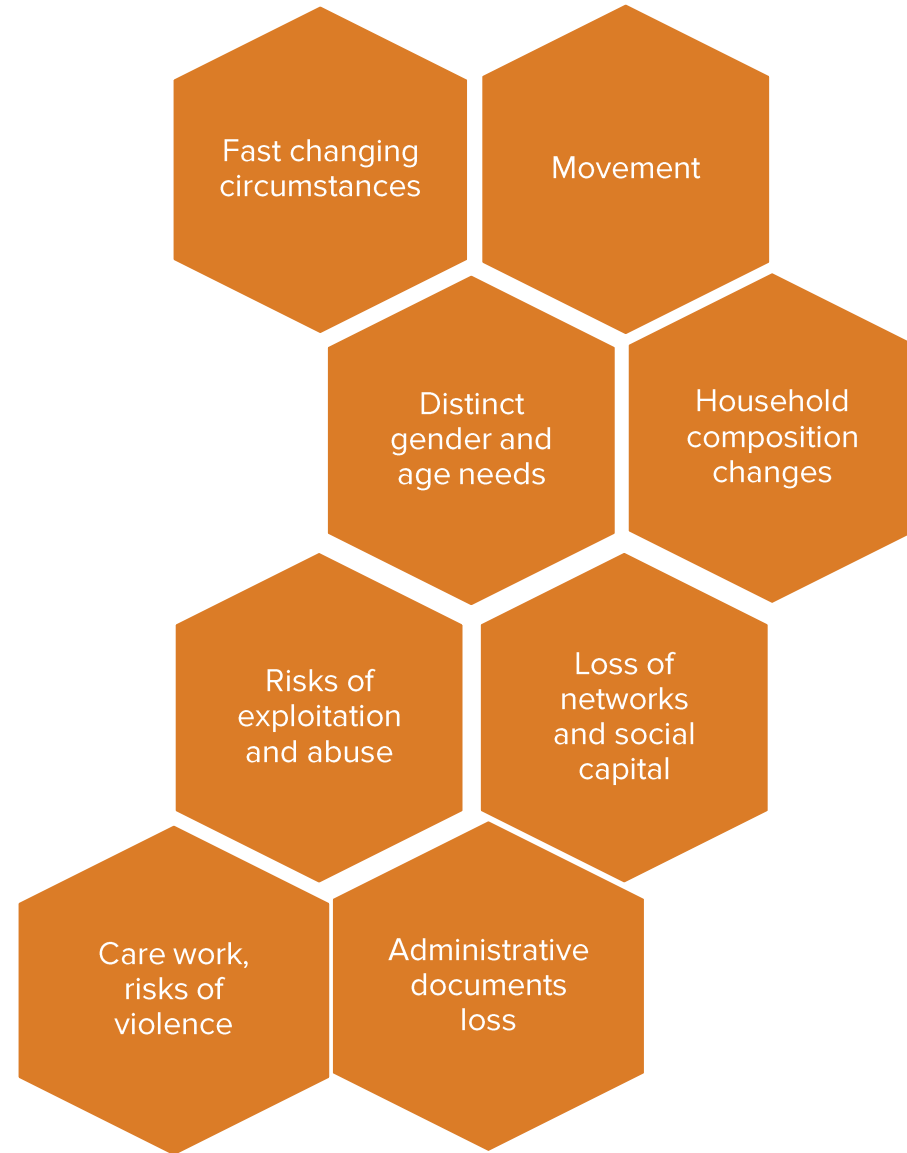
## Research question across the delivery chain elements:

How can social protection be designed and implemented to support internal migrants and their families at source, during transit and at their point of destination to access and benefit from social protection interventions?





## **Migrants' main specificities influencing program design and delivery**





## **2. LESSONS LEARNED ON INTEGRATING INTERNAL MIGRANTS IN SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

# Lessons learned from international experiences:

## Key stages in the delivery chain



### Iraq

**Universal and specific-inclusion** criteria support **eligibility** in policy and practice.

### Colombia

**Inclusive social registry** (SISBEN) captures information on migrant households to inform **program selection** but data collection also needs to be dynamic and ask migration-specific questions.



### India

- Public Distribution System moving to **digitized, portable system** to help migrants with continuous access to the program in different locations, easing administrative burdens for mobile populations (One Nation One Ration Scheme)
- Community based program helps the inclusion of migrants into relevant programs and state-led social protection by providing **communication, resources and rights awareness at source and destination**: e.g. helping migrants with official ID cards to get bank accounts, providing accessible walk-in centers at source and destination to help with knowledge, rights, administrative issues, and promote local networks

# Lessons learned from international experiences:

## Design of benefits and services

- At source, **support and protect livelihoods**, recognise changing household structures and changes in the division of labour, **strengthen family support and care systems** (flexible public work programs for single parent households, equality of wages, provision of childcare facilities) (e.g. India, Rwanda).
- **Assess the type of transfer, timing and value of transfer against migrants' needs** (e.g. Azerbaijan customisation of benefits for displaced; preferences for cash over food for migrants in Niger, Kenya and Colombia).
- Provision of **mobile education and health services, and e-learning** (including sexual and reproductive health services) ( Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Thailand, Turkey).
- **Provide transferable skills and training relevant for mobile young men and women** (e.g. Labournet, Ajeevika Bureau in India, skills training in Ghana).
- **Multi-sectoral / economic inclusion approaches help address multiple needs:**
  - Combine economic support with interventions to tackle deep-rooted structural inequalities and discrimination (VAWG One Stop Centres in India)
  - Support sectoral linkages to services addressing emotional and psychosocial trauma that displacement can provoke for all age groups (e.g. Ethiopia adolescent girls and boys; family centres in Gaza and Haiti)
  - Combine economic support with community-based awareness and integration (e.g. Ghana, SHGs in India)



### **3. IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION IN THE SAHEL**

# Eligibility

BF: Burkina Faso  
MR: Mauritania  
SN: Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Eligibility is often based on household vulnerability status, but the designated recipient is one individual; **benefits are lost when the recipient situation changes**

SN – the household can designate a recipient and a substitute.

### **Migrant or official IDP status as an eligibility criteria**

– BF under reflection

### **Program design can also influence migration dynamics**

BF – assistance provision at destination/ linking short term humanitarian assistance and longer-term social assistance when willingness to encourage return to place of origin

MR – promoting employment access and increasing demand and offer matching, might have an influence on migration dynamics

## Challenges

**Program rules related to continuing receiving benefits when changing place are not defined** and thus beneficiaries are not aware.

# Targeting methods and assessments for eligibility

BF: Burkina Faso  
MR: Mauritania  
SN: Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Migration status is not considered an eligibility criterion. **Migrants meeting the targeting criteria can be eligible:** poverty status (SN, BF), education/employment status (MR).

Being registered in the Social Registry is mandatory. **The Social Registry registration process uses several methodologies** community targeting, socio-economic surveys/proxy-means test formula.

**Efforts ongoing to link the Social Registry and the Migrants/IDP database** (BF)

## Challenges

**Assessments do not look at migration status or specific vulnerabilities that may be linked to migration.** (SN, BF, MR)

Assessment is often done through the Social Registry registration process. **Social Registry information related to household migration patterns is limited.** (SN, BF)

**Assessment frequency is low** and may result in missing out migrants who have joined the place recently.

**Non dynamic Social Registries are not adapted to monitor migration movements** leading to social registries and program exclusion.



# Enrolment, intake, and registration

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Program actively promotes NID acquisition by **supporting registration campaigns**. (BF former proj.)

**Flexibility in identification documentation**. (SN)

**Registration process is continuous**. Trainings start when a certain threshold of beneficiaries is reached. (MR)

**Registration process includes several types of support** (to reduce time taken to register, provision of local counters, individual support, home visits, etc.). (BF, SN, MR)

**Strong management information systems** enable to track project beneficiaries and improve coordination between services. (MR)

## Challenges

**National ID is mandatory** either to register in the program or indirectly to open a mobile wallet, which can be a specific challenge for migrants more at risk to lose administrative documents when having to flee. (MR, BF former proj.)

**Registration is done at a given time** based on the project cycle and is not dynamic. (SN, BF former proj.)

# Support Package

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

**Unconditional cash transfers** can become **portable** more easily than other services. (MR, SN)

**A multiple benefits package** serves migrants. There are less risks of losing everything if some services are portable in case they migrate. (BF, SN)

Training has **national common modules and specific modules** adapted to the socio-economic local realities. (SN)

**Training content and employment support** are provided based on local market demand. It might serve migrants at destination not knowing the reality well. (MR)

## Challenges

**Training content is defined nationally** (BF former proj.). Some supported IGAs might not suit other country areas contexts, making it important to discuss migration plans with beneficiaries.

# Delivery of benefits and service provision

BF: Burkina Faso  
MR: Mauritania  
SN: Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Cash transfers through **mobile money** are **portable options** (SN, MR). Mobile money accounts provide more flexibility on cash management, but an ID is needed (BF former proj.).

Promotion of accompanying measures through phones, **making benefits portable**. (BF former proj.).

## Challenges

**Clear statements are not defined related to the provision of the different types of support when the recipient migrates based on two scenarios** (the recipients moves/ all the household moves). (SN, MR, BF former proj.).

Training/coaching sessions and saving groups to improve productive capacities and **needing long-term commitment are difficult to accommodate to migration movements during the training cycle**, even more when social cohesion is sought. (SN, MR, BF former proj.).

# Outreach and communication

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

**National and local outreach** for a program implemented at national level. (SN)  
National and local outreach for a program implemented in five head of region cities. (MR)

**Mobilization of local actors** knowing their community context. (SN, BF)

## Challenges

**Local outreach** not to raise expectations in other areas. (BF)

Beneficiaries support in one specific implementation area might not be available in other **areas' languages.**

# Grievances, Management Information Systems

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

**Grievance and complaints mechanisms are available for non-beneficiaries and through several channels.** (BF, SN, MR)

**Processes to communicate household migration movements** do exist. (SN)

## Challenges

Processes to communicate household migration movements do not specifically exist. (BF)

# Program monitoring and data

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Ongoing implementation of an assessment to understand dropouts of the program with the opportunity to study if migration is a reason of it. (MR)

## Challenges

**Regular monitoring doesn't** include regular verification/ updates of household composition and reasons for changes; and doesn't **look specifically at migration related topics**. (SN, MR, BF former proj.)

**Migration data is scarce** among the 3 countries interviewed.

# Financing

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

## Challenges

Programs are implemented with a cycle approach. Joining the program at any time is not feasible. There is no flexibility to adapt to migration sudden movements, by absorbing new beneficiaries at any time, thus no specific consideration for budget flexibility. (SN, BF former proj.)

# Governance, policies and partnerships

**BF:** Burkina Faso  
**MR:** Mauritania  
**SN:** Senegal

## Good practices & observations

Discussions on going on eligibility criteria for humanitarian assistance for IDPs and for regular safety net programs; and links between both types of assistance. (BF)

## Challenges

Policies regarding internal migration are not existing or not acknowledged. (SN, BF, MR)





# CONCLUSIONS

## Conclusions

- ✓ **Understanding internal migration patterns more specifically** could enable Sahel social protection programs to be designed to better ensure a continuum of services and to accommodate different needs of people on the move.
- ✓ Programs could adopt a more migration-sensitive approach by **defining clear rules related to eligibility, and the continuation of benefits when recipients move.**
- ✓ **Dynamic social registries** should be promoted to ensure flexibility that can adequately accommodate beneficiaries' mobility.
- ✓ **Dynamic programs**, and flexible enrolment processes, enabling new beneficiaries to join at any moment (or at more frequent intervals than one-off intake), are ideal to respond to location changes and should be promoted in the long term SASPP perspective.
- ✓ **The portability and continuity of services are essential** to migrants and should be promoted when relevant.

## Conclusions

- ✓ The **national outreach strategy** and complaints mechanism adopted in the interviewed projects are essential to promote **broad national knowledge and access**, even for programs localized in a specific area.
- ✓ **Project monitoring** can also play an important role in enhancing the **knowledge of migration patterns**.
- ✓ When the program cycle allows, **program financing could contribute a certain percentage to top up budgets** to respond to the sudden arrival of new migrants' by enabling them to join the program.
- ✓ Considering migration patterns can become a priority when related to **policy strategies**.
- ✓ **Developing national policy frameworks** on internal migration and paying attention to internal migration and displacement in social protection policies, is important to enable social protection projects to maximize their relevance in contexts of high population mobility.

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