

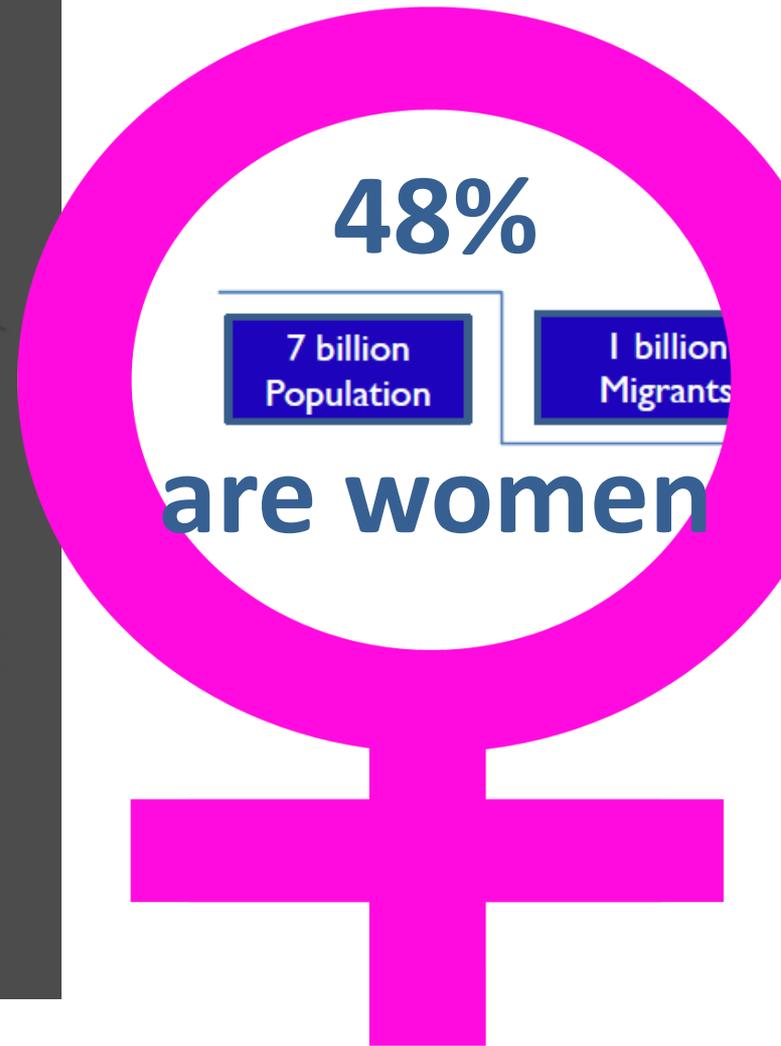


Facts about migration, mobility and HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2017

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Facts and trends on migration and mobility



Where

Intra- and inter-regional migration



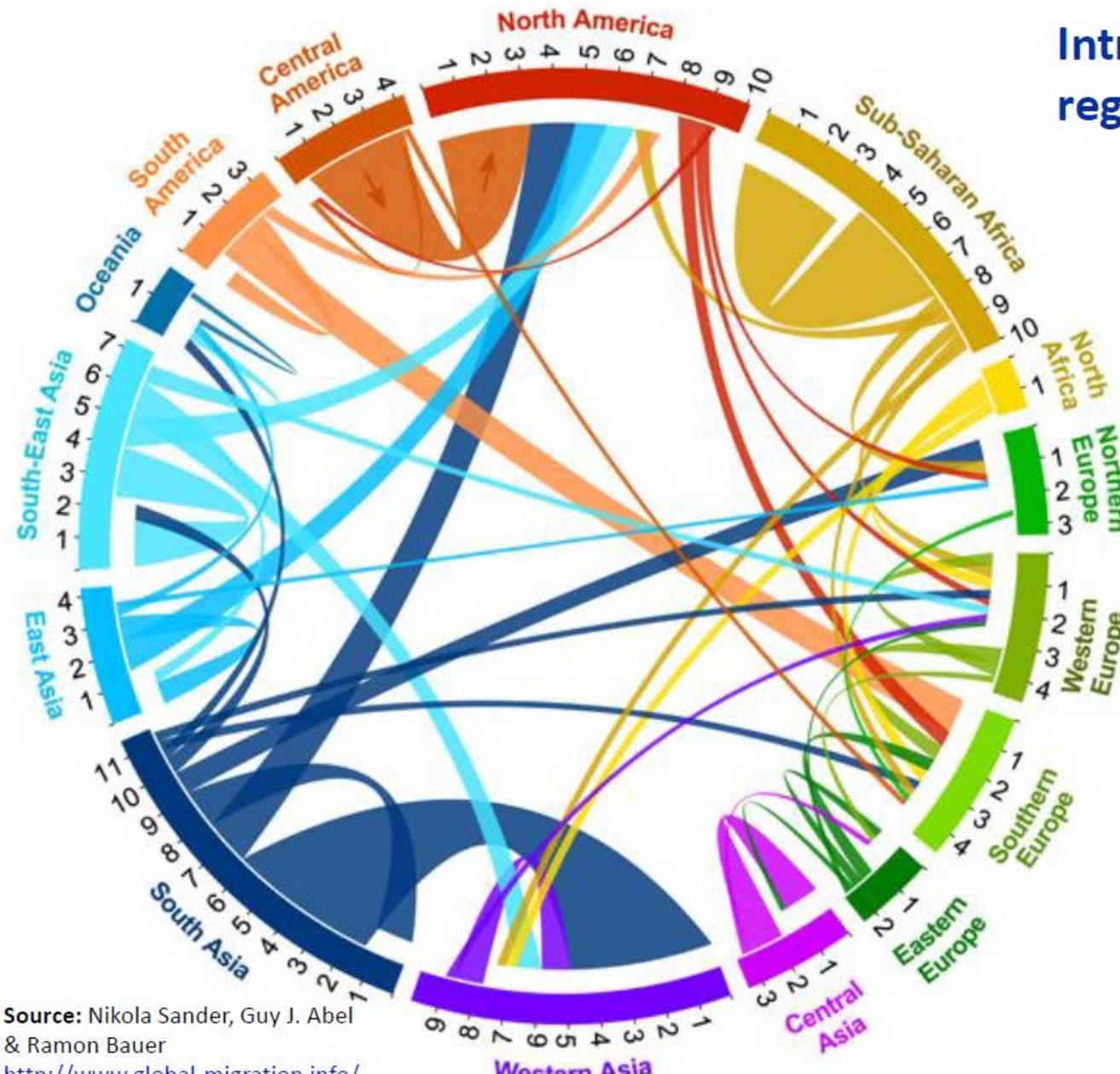
sub-Saharan Africa intra-regional migration is estimated **at 65%**, the largest intra-continental movement of people globally

80% of which occurred between countries with a common border.

South Africa, is the destination for 58.4% of migrants originating from SADC countries.

Migration in ESA continues to involve high numbers of irregular migrants, characterized by mixed migration flow

Environmental change and disasters in ESA are influencing human movement and displacement



Who



International Migrant (*Regular or Irregular*)

Internal
Migrants

Internally
Displaced
Persons (IDP)

Asylum
Seekers,
Refugees

Victims of
Human
Trafficking
(VoT)

Migrant Worker
(*formal, informal*)

Family
Members

Unaccompanied
minors



Myths & reality around HIV, migration and mobility



Migrants often **underutilize services**

Migrants contribute to GDP and social-economic development (1.9% of regional GDP in SADEC; 400 mil remittances)

It is often **young, healthy people** who migrate, in many cases, migrants have better health than host communities

Migration is a social determinant of health and proxy factor for risk exposure to HIV.

- ✓ Languages and socio-cultural barriers leading to social exclusion with Inadequate psychosocial support;
- ✓ Long absences from home, family, anonymity, limited sense of accountability, which can result in risky behaviours, (including alcohol consumption and high-risk sexual activity-multiple partners, cross-generational and transactional sex)
- ✓ **Men dominated environment with high exposure to GBV, sexual abuse**
- ✓ **Growing concern about security and increasing xenophobia and anti-migrants sentiments**
- ✓ **Living and working conditions, access to safe water and adequate sanitation**
- ✓ **Lack of financial scheme and social protection and cost of care**
- ✓ **Lack of proper documentation and restrictive migration policy (including criminalization);**
- ✓ **HIV travel and residency restrictions**

90/90/90 in the context of migration and human mobility



Migrants have limited access to information on HIV transmission, screening and treatment and often excluded from national health strategy.

For **migrants living with HIV**, mobility also can result in poor continuity of care, as populations are often unable to complete prescribed treatment regimens, provide reliable medical records or obtain the same ARV regimens.

“Mobility might have a greater effect on antiretroviral adherence than on HIV transmission” *Source: Lancet 2015*

- Excluding migrants from national HIV strategy will challenge the achievement of 90/90/90 goals

Migration, mobility & HIV



- **Regional dimension.** HIV and migration imply social protection, human rights approach, treatment and care provision which are **country-based matters** while migration is a regional dynamic.

- **Financing health scheme for UHC** shall include migrants



Estimated cost of inaction i.e. of not providing health services to migrants = 0.16% of regional GDP, (1.3 billion USD per year.)

Vs

Estimated cost of providing those services = 0.05% of GDP.

Source: SADEC IOM study on financing migration health

Conclusions - Key Messages



- ❖ **Health as a pre-requisite to sustainable development and human rights:** Refugees and migrants cannot contribute fully to society unless their health needs are addressed
- ❖ **Inclusiveness and integration:** The health of migrants, mobile population and refugees cannot be separated from the health of the population –
- ❖ **Universal health coverage** is vital for all regardless of status and **Financing health scheme for UHC** shall include migrants
- ❖ **African leadership** on Migration health to influence global dialogue



Thanks Mmartini@iom.int

Migration is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be managed. It is:

- **inevitable** given demographic among other driving forces;
- **necessary** if skills are to be available, jobs to be filled, and economies to flourish;
- **desirable** if managed in a responsible, humane and dignified manner.