



Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on
Migration and Development

Bridging the gaps: advancing cooperation on Missing Migrants in the Rabat Process region

Unir les efforts: faire avancer la coopération sur la question des
personnes migrantes disparues dans la région du Processus de Rabat

09-10
July 2025

Banjul,
The Gambia



Under the co-chairmanship of The Gambia and Switzerland

Sous la coprésidence de la Gambie et de la Suisse



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Project funded by the European Union



As part of the Support Programme for the Africa-EU
Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD



Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on
Migration and Development

Missing migrants in the Rabat Process region: understanding the landscape

Personnes migrantes disparues dans la région du
Processus de Rabat: comprendre le contexte

09-10 July
2025

Banjul, The
Gambia



IOM's Missing Migrants Project

Documenting deaths and disappearances
during migration



Agenda



- Introduction to IOM's Missing Migrants Project
- Data gaps and challenges in documenting migrant fatalities
- Data overview:
 - Migrant fatalities in Africa
 - Migrant fatalities on routes to Europe
 - Migrant fatalities in Europe

Who we are

- 10+ years of documenting deaths & disappearances during migration globally.
- **Open-access global database** accessible on our website.
- Advocacy to counter the invisibility of missing migrants and their families
- Information on specific risks migrants face during their journeys
- Data informs **SDG indicator 10.7.3** and **GCM Objective 8**



Source: IOM's Missing Migrants Project, all data updated on 30 June 2025

Data gaps and challenges

- **Limited data from official sources:** lack of centralization & disaggregation by migratory status
- **Under-reporting of deaths and disappearances:** migrants or their families may be afraid of reporting deaths or disappearances due to fear of legal consequences
- **Invisibility:** lack of options for safe and legal mobility increases the likelihood that migrants take dangerous, remote routes with the aim of avoiding detection
- **Remains not recovered and not identified:** bodies lost on remote and maritime routes means that identification nearly impossible

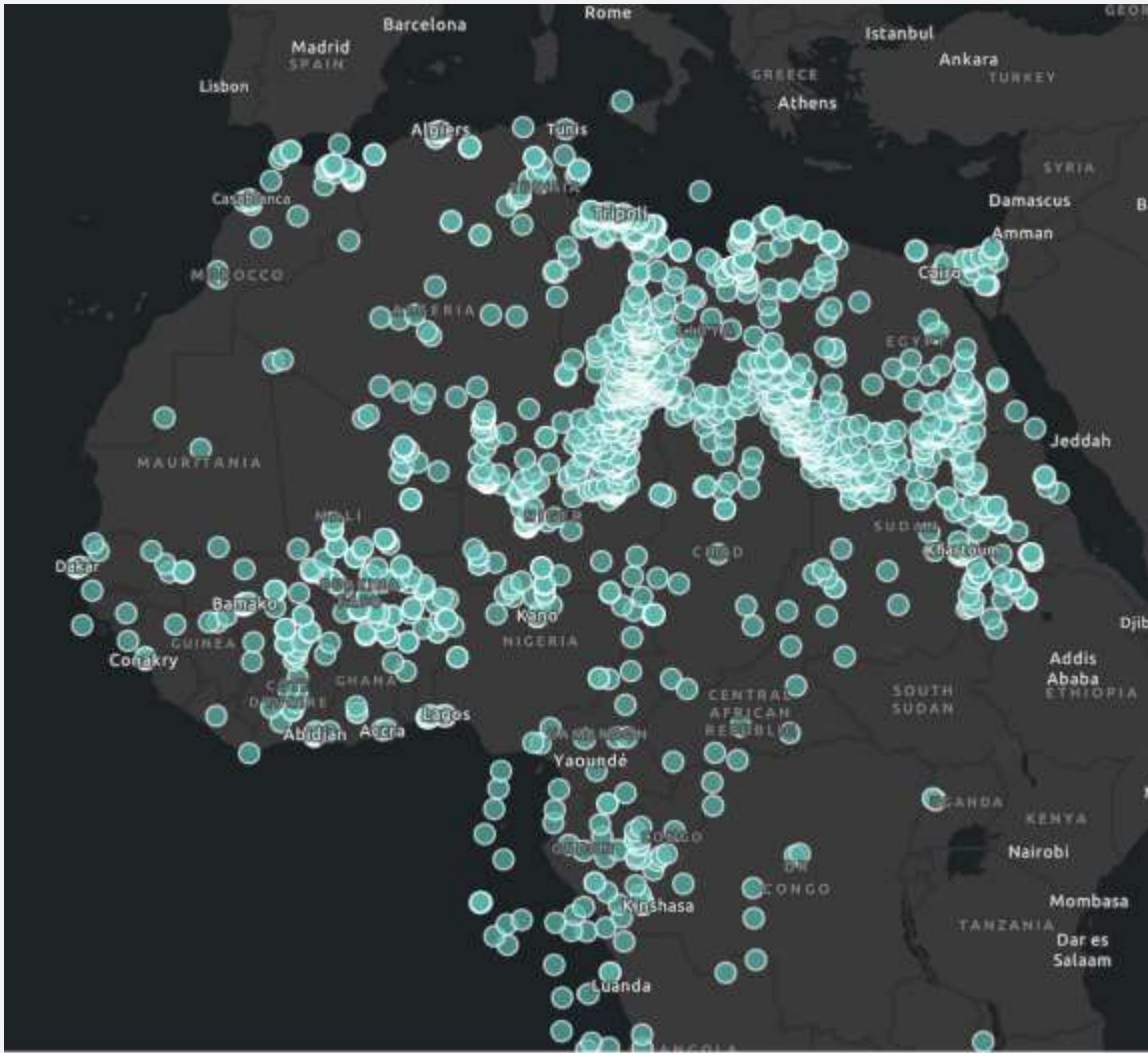
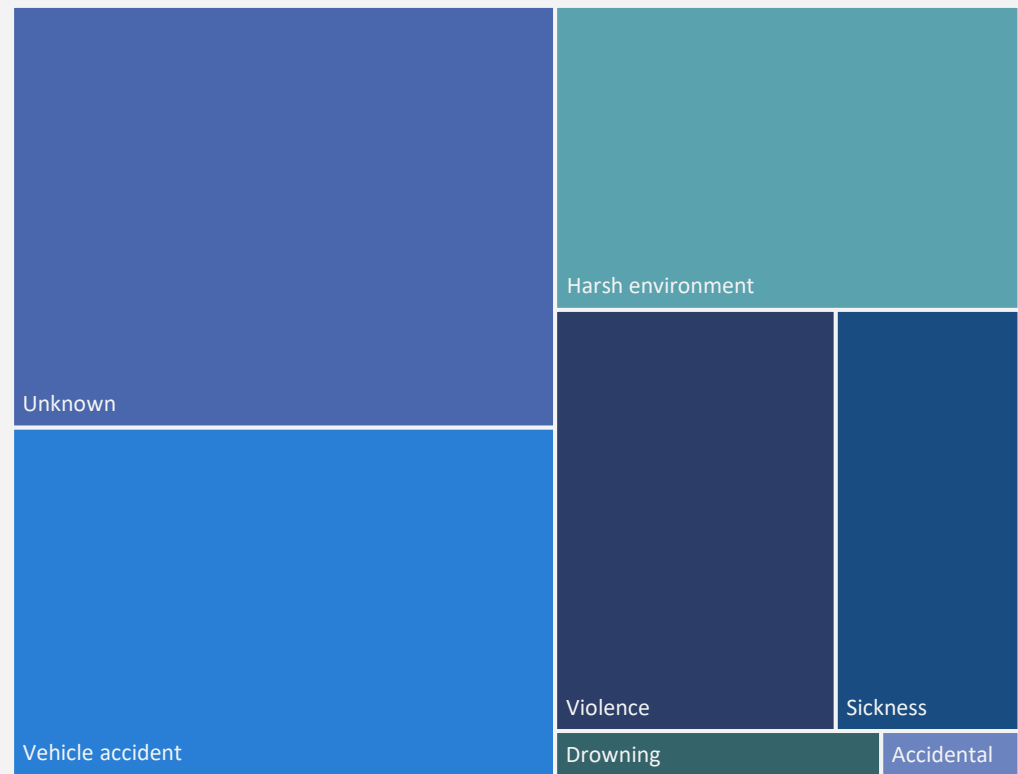
Information gap:

impact on families and communities left behind

- **Thousands of family members searching for loved ones** missing during migration with little support

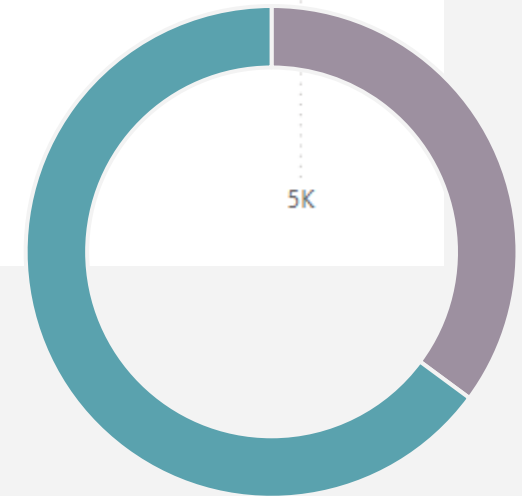
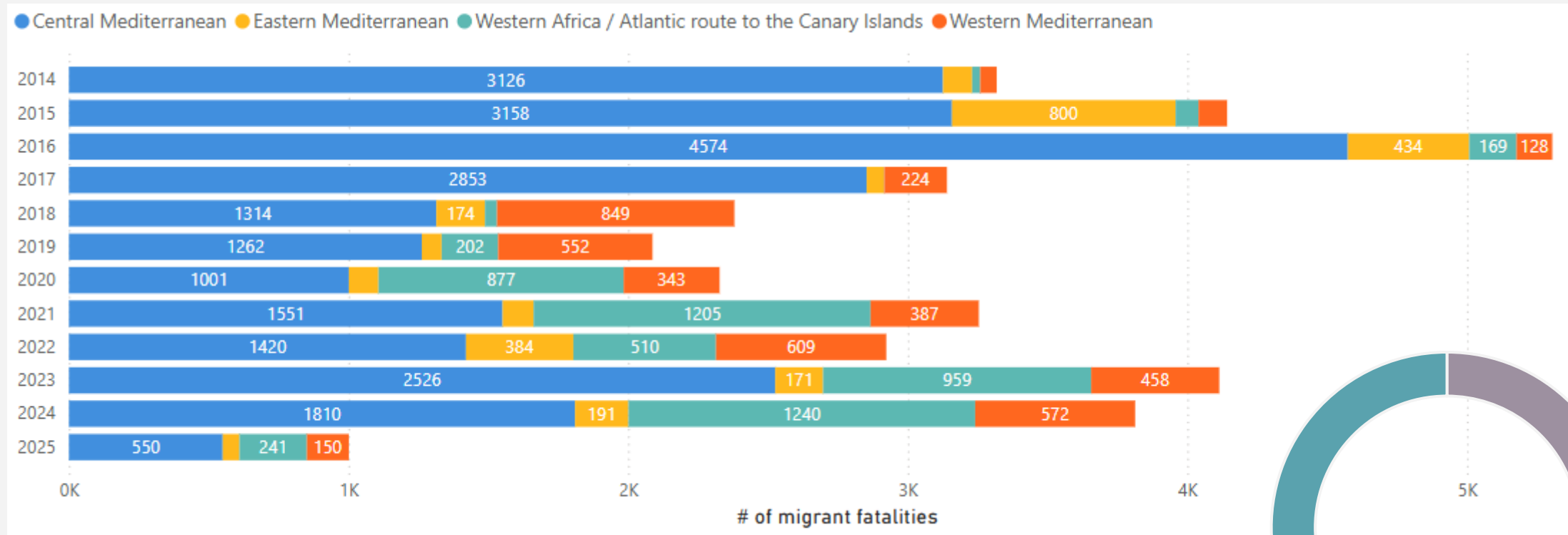
Migrant fatalities in North, West and Central Africa, since 2014

Migrant fatalities by cause of death



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source: IOM's Missing Migrants Project, all data updated on 30 June 2025

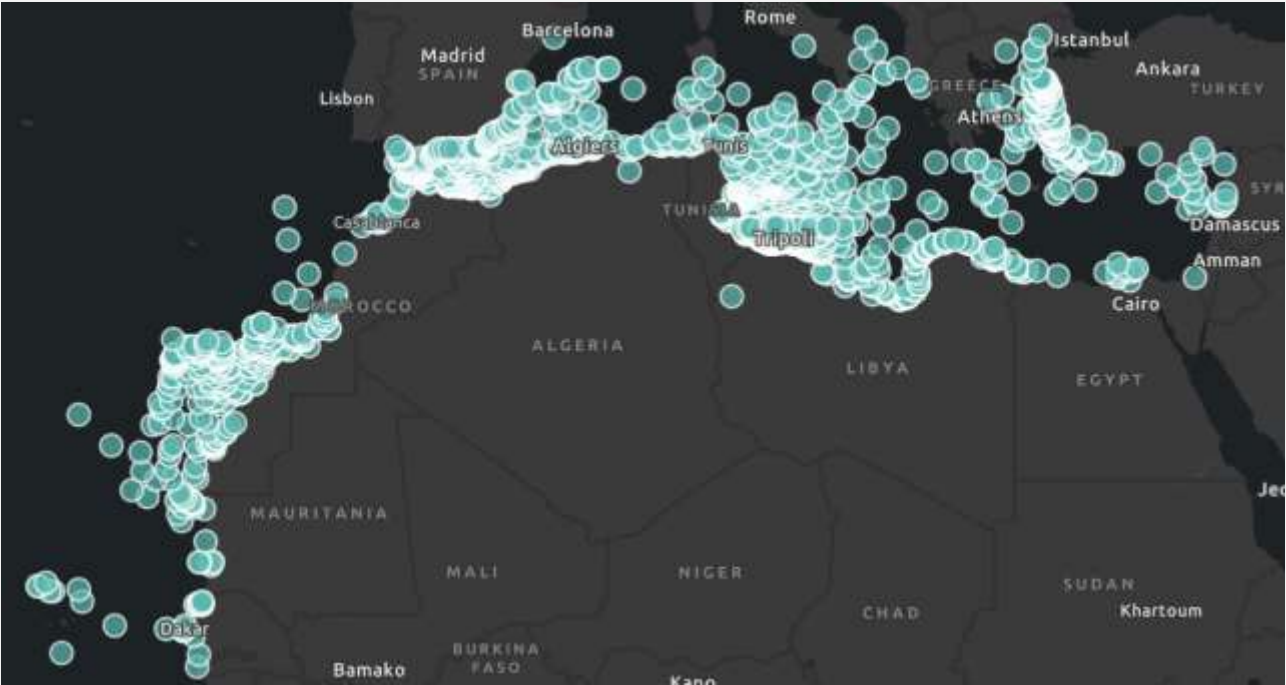
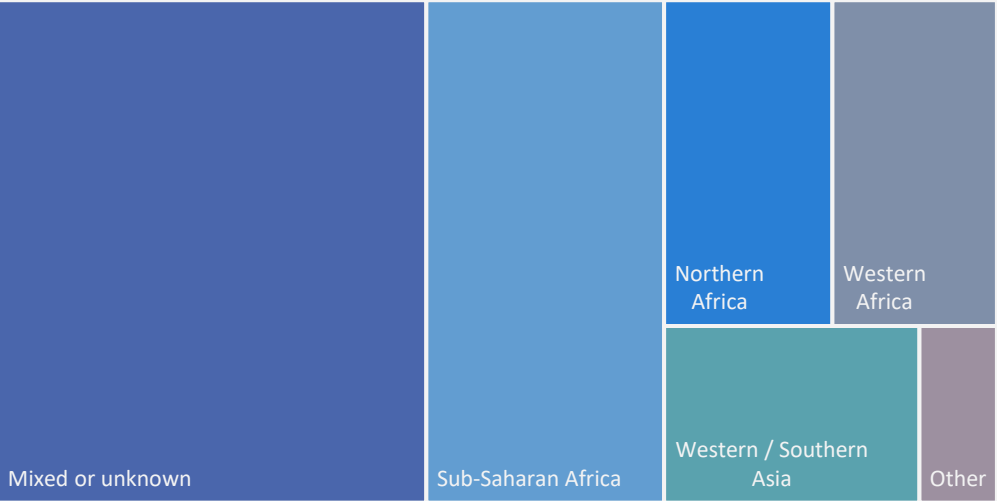
Migrant fatalities on routes to Europe, since 2014



■ Remains recovered ■ Remains left at sea

Migrant fatalities on routes to Europe, since 2014

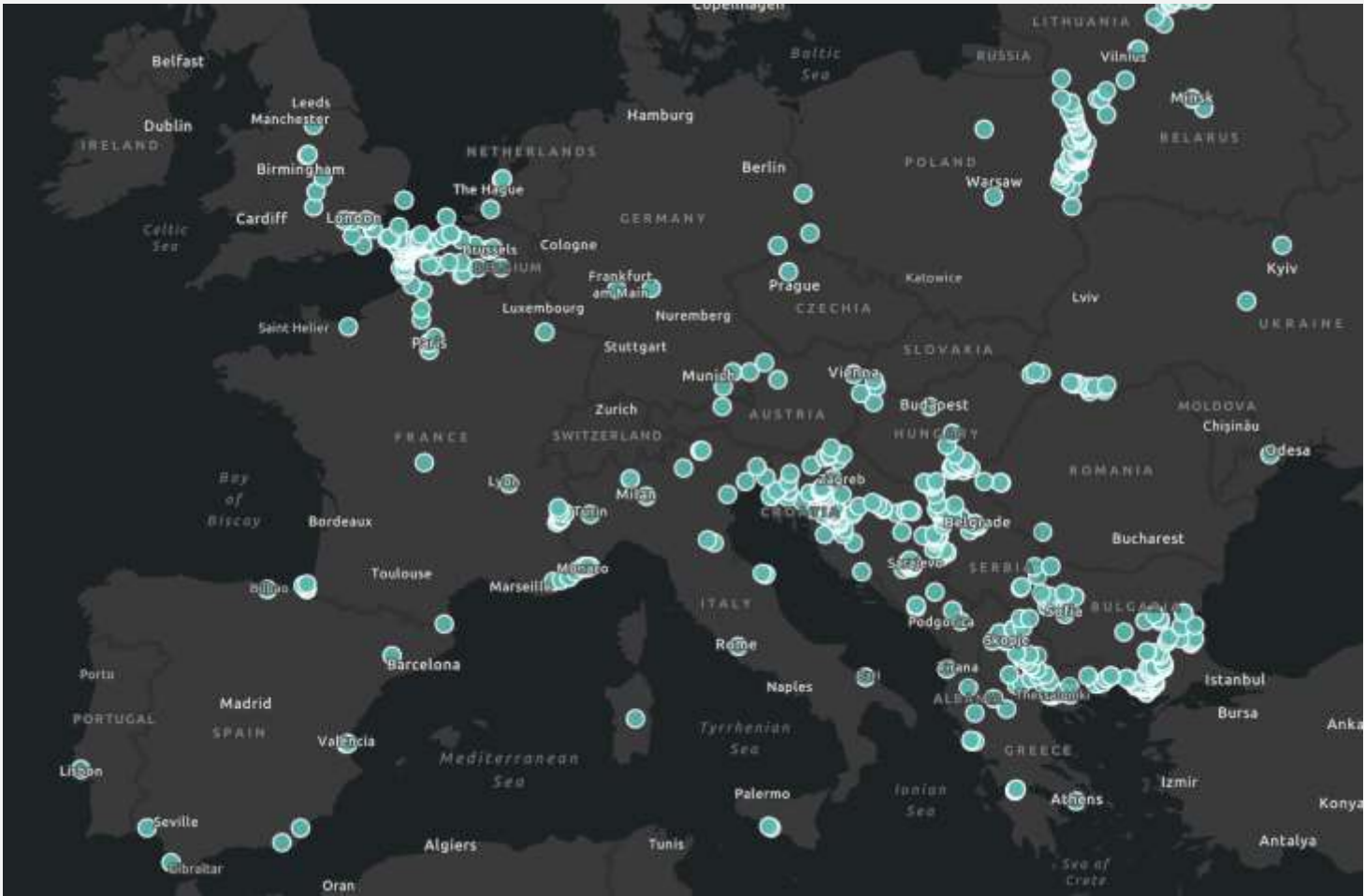
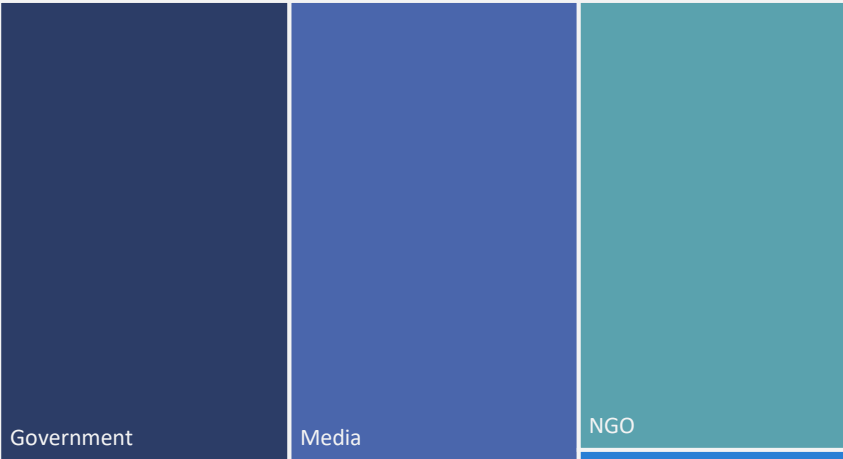
Fatalities by region of origin



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source: IOM’s Missing Migrants Project, all data updated on 30 June 2025

Migrant fatalities in Europe, since 2014

Distribution by information source



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Website: iom.int | missingmigrants.iom.int





Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on
Migration and Development

From prevention to response ***Strengthening action to protect migrants and support families***

De la prévention à la réponse
***Renforcer les actions de protection des migrants
et de soutien aux familles***

**09-10 July
2025**

**Banjul, The
Gambia**

Project funded by the European Union



As part of the Support Programme for the Africa-EU
Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD





Pan European Intergovernmental political Organisation

founded on three main values:

**human rights, democracy and
the rule of law**

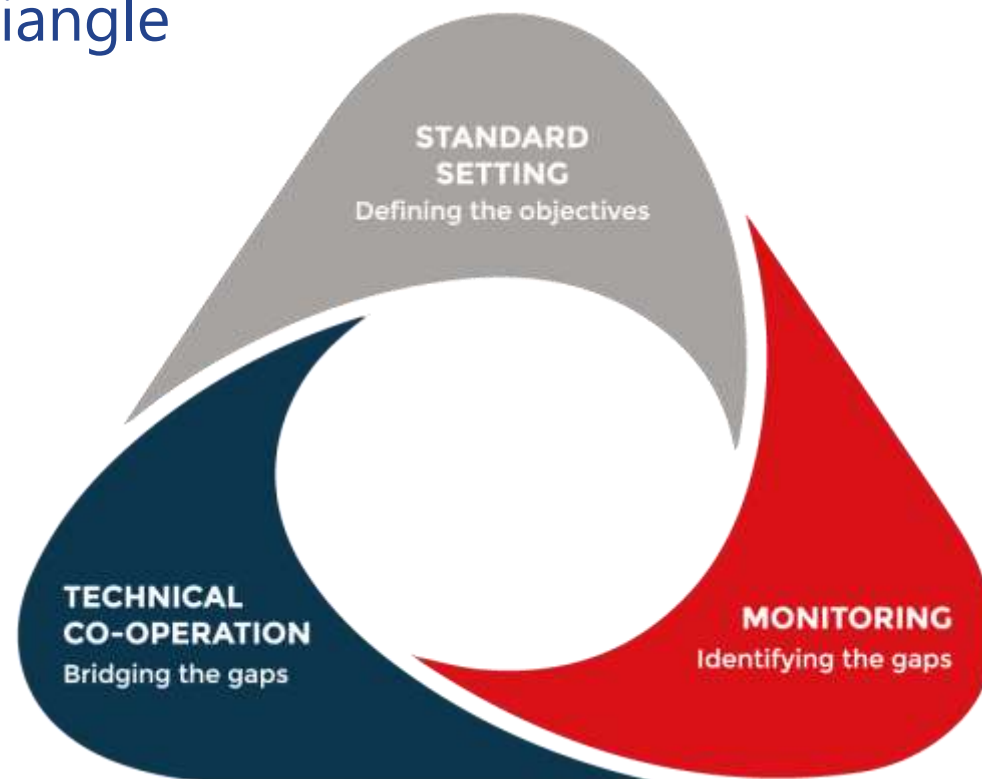
Comprises 46 member states

700 million Europeans



THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Strategic triangle





MORE THAN 220* TREATIES, including

- European Convention on Human Rights
- Prevention of torture
- Cybercrime
- Human trafficking
- Sexual exploitation of children
- Violence against women and domestic violence
- Processing of personal data
- (...)



www.coe.int/en/web/conventions

RELEVANT STANDARDS – MISSING MIGRANTS

[European Convention on Human Rights](#) (ETS No. 5, Article 2)

[Recommendation R\(99\)](#) to member States on the harmonization of medico-legal autopsy rules

[Recommendation CM/Rec\(2009\)12](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member states on principles concerning missing persons and the presumption of death

[Convention 108 +](#) for the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data

[Resolution 2569](#) and [Recommendation 2284](#) on Missing migrants, refugees and asylum seekers – a call to clarify their fate”



NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE (NSC)

- Created on 16 November 1989 in Lisbon
- Enlarged partial agreement of the Council of Europe
- Brings together countries from Europe, Africa, and Middle East

Provides a **platform for dialogue** between Europe and other regions, promoting deeper engagement across diverse contexts on shared concerns related to human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

Acts as a **vector** for the universal values and **standards of the Council of Europe** beyond the European continent

Raises awareness among **young people** fostering lasting progress in human rights, democracy, and the rule of law through education and engagement with future generations



STAY IN TOUCH

Rocio.cervera@coe.int

Thank you!



www.nscentre.org

How The Gambia prevent migrant disappearances and deaths, and response mechanisms to cases of missing migrants



INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Large numbers of migrants go missing en route their journey. Some may be alive but unable to communicate while others die, on land and at sea.
- ❑ In both cases, their relatives suffer painful uncertainty over the fate of their loved one.



INTRODUCTION

- ❑ While an effective effort to address the fate of missing migrants requires regional cooperation along migratory routes, it needs to start with a clarification of the existing national capacities, mechanisms, processes and relevant institutional, legal and policy frameworks of each concerned state.



MIGRATION STOCK

- ❑ The Gambia is a country of origin for many emigrants but also a transit and destination for many immigrants.
- ❑ UNDESA: about 214,000 Immigrants
and over 200,000 emigrants



MIGRATION ROUTES

- ❑ For Gambian migrants, the Central Mediterranean route is the primary entry point to Europe departing from Libya....ITALY
- ❑ The Western Mediterranean route is also used by Gambian migrants departing from Algeria, Tunisia or Morocco.....SPAIN



PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- NAATIP Act 2011/ anti smuggling bill
- Diaspora and Migration Directorate
- NCM
- National Migration Policy
- Labour Migration Policy..Regular pathways
- GCM Champion Country....Safe,Regular,Orderly
- Global Alliance for the Missing..amplify our voice
- Strong partnership with IOM...collaboration



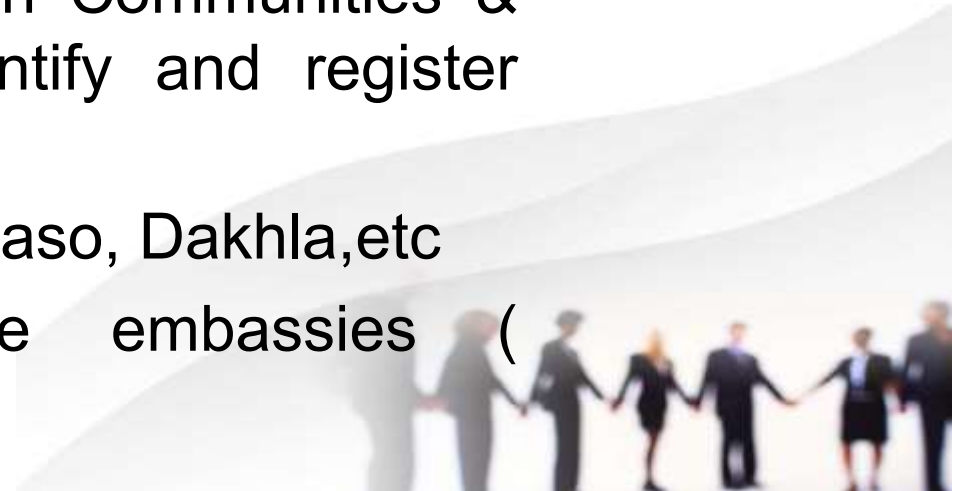
PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- ❑ The Gambia is among the first 3 African countries to prescribe free visa policy for all Africans.
- ❑ The Gambia signed, ratified and domesticated all international conventions and treaties that promote fundamental human rights of persons including migrants.



RESPONSE MECHANISMS

- Creation of a Taskforce for missing migrants, comprising the MoFA, the Police, GID, MoGWC, MoJ, Red Cross Society
- Establishment of a National Focal Point on missing migrants through the ICRC
- Setting up migration focal points in all diplomatic missions
- Collaboration b/w MoFA and Gambian Communities & Associations in the diaspora to identify and register missing migrants, eg. in Libya, Niger
- Honorary Consuls, eg. Mali, Burkina Faso, Dakhla, etc
- IOM/Red Cross/ICRC/ Senegalese embassies (Consular agreement)



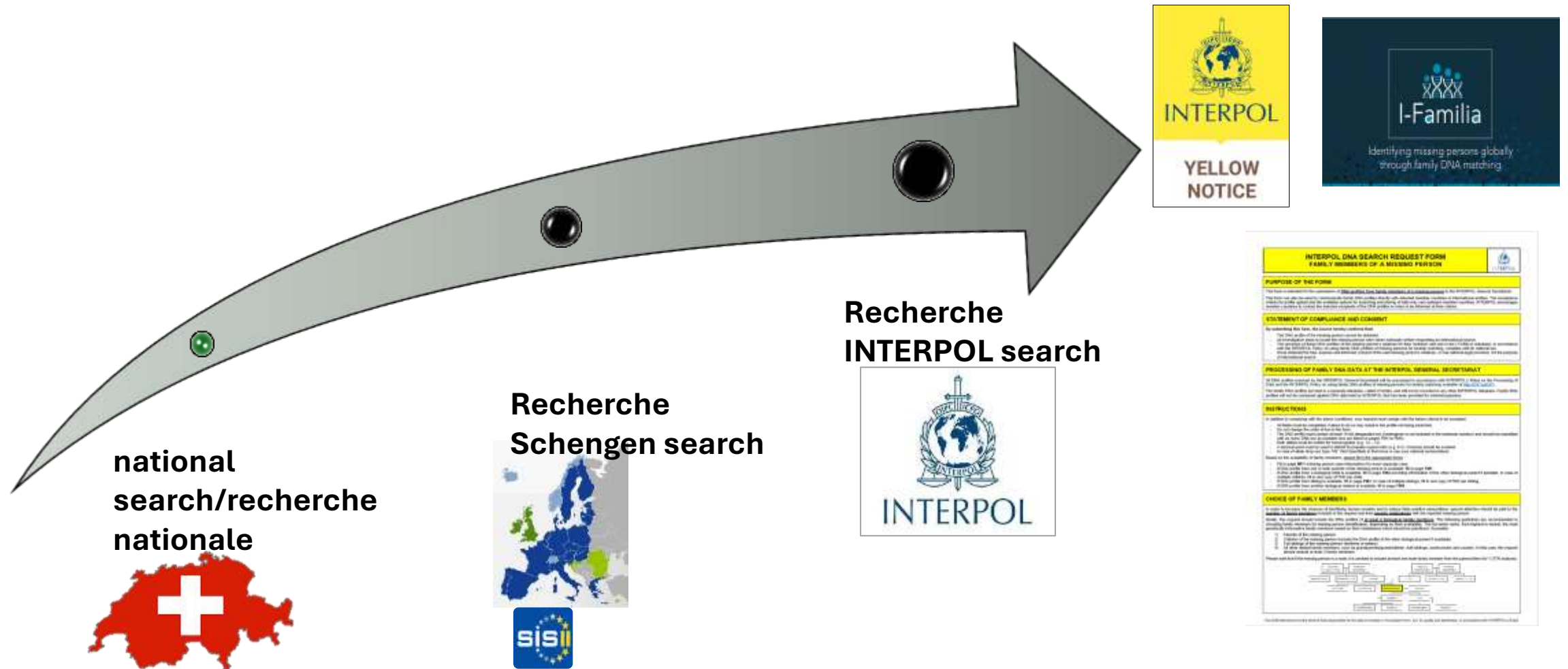
Case Study

- ❖ How S. Sylva was traced by The Gambia Embassy in Brussels through Gambian Associations in the Netherlands, following correspondence from MoFA in June 2025 when his father reported him missing since



Handling of missing migrants cases in Switzerland

Gestion des cas de migrant/es disparu/es en Suisse



Cooperation with partners in cases of missing migrants

Coopération avec les partenaires dans des cas de migrant/es disparu/es



**Croix-Rouge suisse
Schweizerisches Rotes Kreuz
Croce Rossa Svizzera**



ICRC





***From prevention to response:
Strengthening action to protect migrants
and support families***

Isaac Espinosa D.

INTERPOL HTSM Unit

Banjul, 09 July 2025

196 MEMBER COUNTRIES CONNECTED THROUGH A SECURE NETWORK



INTERPOL

INTERPOL'S AIM

To ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all police authorities **within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries** and in the spirit of the **“Universal Declaration of Human Rights”**

INTERPOL support against SoM & THB



**POLICE
COOPERATION & INFO
EXCHANGE**



**COORDINATION OF
OPERATIONS &
OPERATIONAL
SUPPORT**



**CRIMINAL
INTELLIGENCE
ANALYSIS**



**COORDINATION OF
SPECIALIZED
NETWORKS**



**DEVELOPMENT OF
LAW ENFORCEMENT
CAPACITY**



**CROSS-SECTOR
COLLABORATION AND
PARTNERSHIPS**



INTERPOL's Role for Missing Persons

- **INTERPOL mandate**

- **To locate a person :**

- Article 10.2(b) of the INTERPOL Rules on the Processing of Data*

- **To identify a person or dead body :**

- Article 10.2(e) of the INTERPOL Rules on the Processing of Data*



Yellow Notices: Missing Persons



YELLOW NOTICE
MISSING PERSONS



Visible to **196**
member
countries

INTERPOL Yellow Notices are published at the request of a **National Central Bureau** or an international entity to:

- **Locate persons considered missing, or**
- **Identify persons who are not in a position to confirm their own identity**

→ **Biometrics**

- **Facial images, Fingerprints, Dental information, DNA**





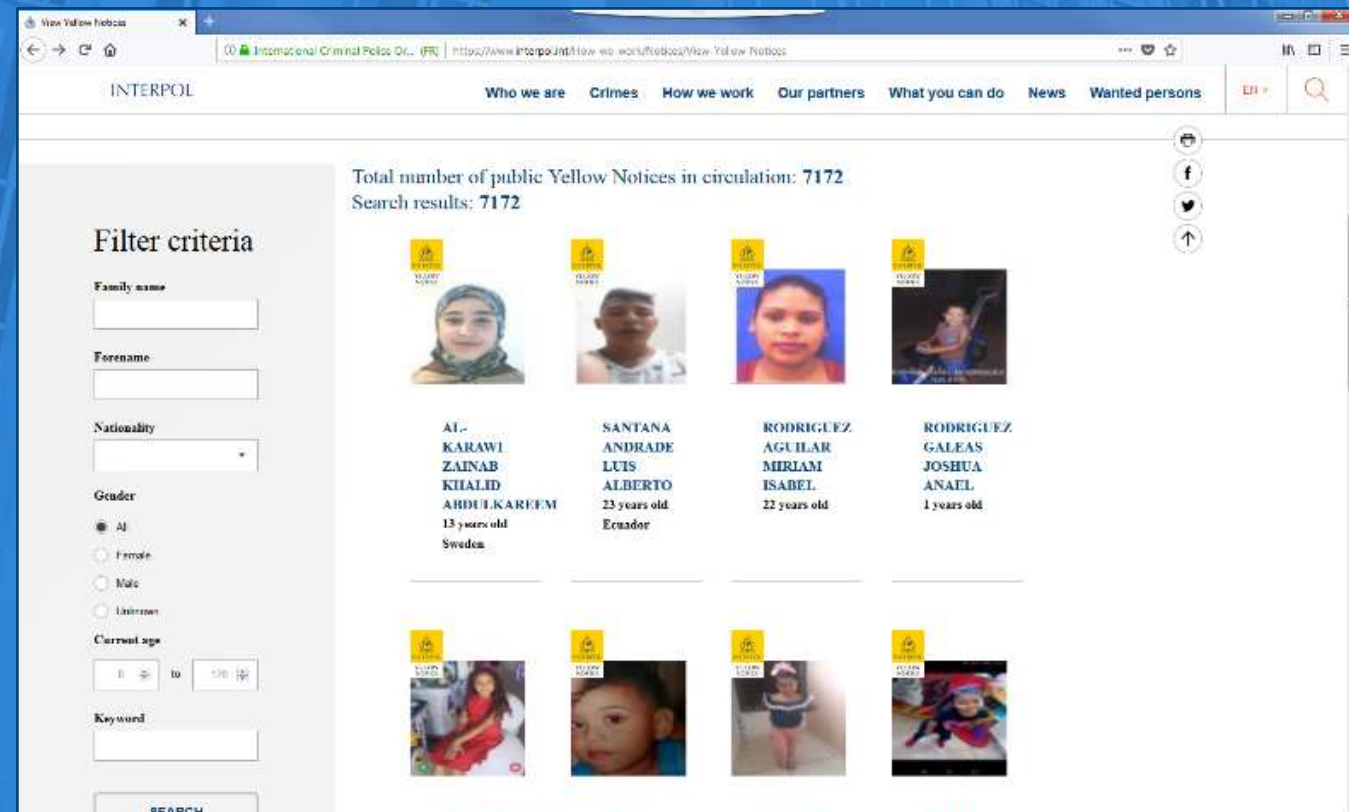
Yellow Notices: Missing Persons



YELLOW NOTICE
MISSING PERSONS



Visible to
**196 member
countries**



Extracts on public website



Black Notices: Unidentified Bodies



BLACK NOTICE
UNIDENTIFIED BODIES



Visible to **196**
member
countries



INTERPOL Black Notices are published at the request of a **National Central Bureau** or an international entity to:

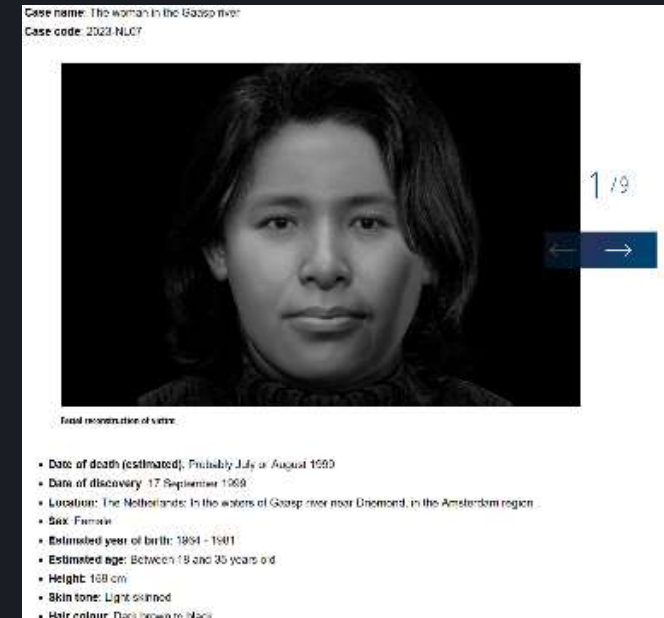
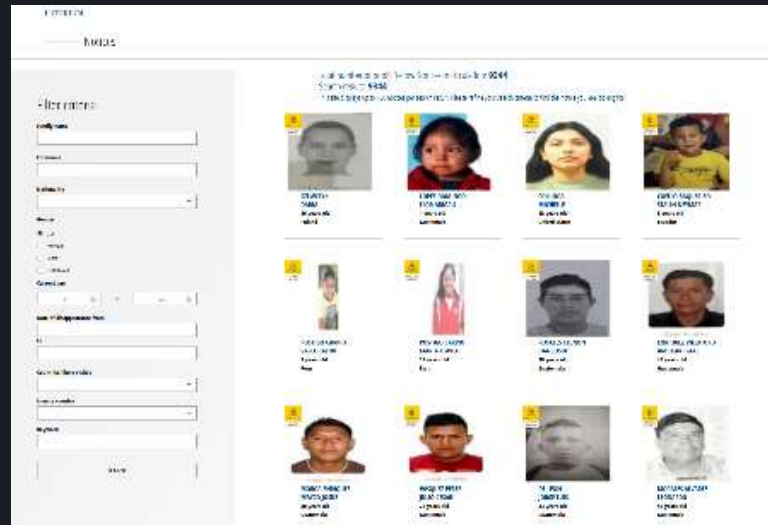
- To seek information on unidentified bodies.

→ **Biometrics**

- Photographs, Fingerprints, DNA, Dental information

Possible enhancements

Phased Approach



Possible new search criteria (police and/or public):

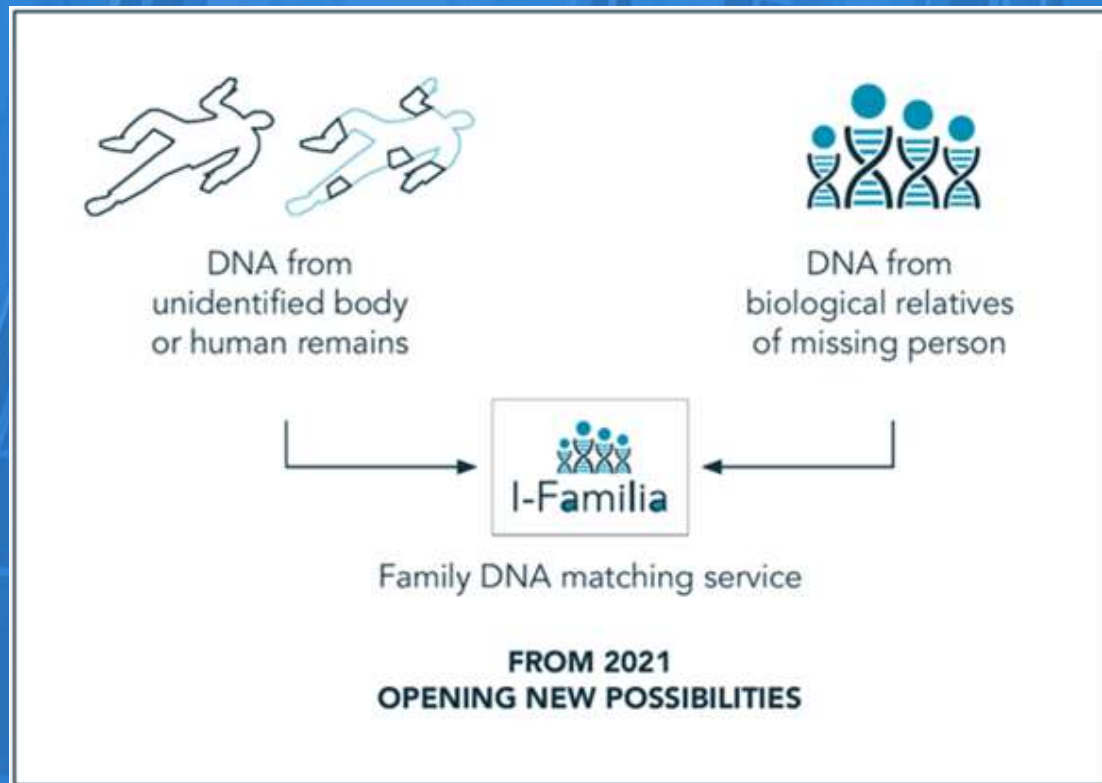
- Text, dates etc
- Physical/medical
- Dental
- Distinguishing marks (scars, marks, tattoos..)

...

Possible publication of extracts of Black Notices

I-Familia

International DNA kinship matching



- Unique global database
- Family DNA searched **ONLY** against unidentified human remains
- No criminal cross-checking
- No nominal data
- Informed consent of DNA donor, or national legal provision



INTERPOL

OUR EXPERTISE TO SUPPORT MEMBER COUNTRY INVESTIGATIONS



**FORENSIC
SUPPORT**

- **Disaster Victim Identification**
- **Facial recognition**
- **Fingerprints**
- **DNA**
- **Digital Forensics**

What can you do?

- **Make use of existing tools**
 - Implement national standard operating procedures on data collection & sharing
- **Identify & unlock national blocking points**
 - Awareness? Resources? Legislation?
- **Advocate for national/regional recommendations**

“Identification efforts shall apply
equally to all
and shall not take into account
a person’s wealth, ethnicity
or the circumstances of disappearance”



INTERPOL

Thank you for your attention



Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on
Migration and Development

Building trust and resilience:
*Need to know, upholding rights of families
and strengthening multi-stakeholder cooperation*

Bâtir la confiance et la résilience
*Besoin de savoir, défendre les droits des familles
et renforcer la coopération multi parties prenantes*

09-10 July
2025

Banjul, The
Gambia



Challenges faced by families of missing migrants

**Rabat Process Thematic Meeting – 9-10 July 2025,
Banjul**

Fatou A. Camara

The Gambia Red Cross Society

Migration Context in The Gambia

The Gambia is significantly affected by **migration**, mainly towards Europe.

Many families report loved ones missing along migration routes (Sahara, Libya, Mediterranean Sea).

Missing Person's case load :

216 Active cases


RESTORING FAMILY LINKS FACTSHEET FOR 2024

The Restoring Family Links Unit aims to prevent separation and disappearance, look for missing persons, restore and maintain contact between family members, and clarify the fate of persons reported missing.

 **216** active cases

 **111** RFL spot broadcasts
79 in English
32 in Mandinka


 **156** open in The Gambia

 **50** salamats delivered

 **600** people reached during our dissemination sessions

 **27** photos published on Trace The Face website

 **6000** people reached on RFL

 **18** volunteers trained on RFL

 **6000** people reached during our dissemination sessions



In The Gambia, families of missing migrants experience a profound emotional toll and face numerous practical obstacles in their search for loved ones. From an RFL perspective:

Emotional Challenges:

- Ambiguous loss
- Guilt and blame
- Stigma
- Psychosocial stress

Practical Challenges:

- Limited access to reliable information
- Legal invisibility
- Fear of authorities
- Lack of documentation

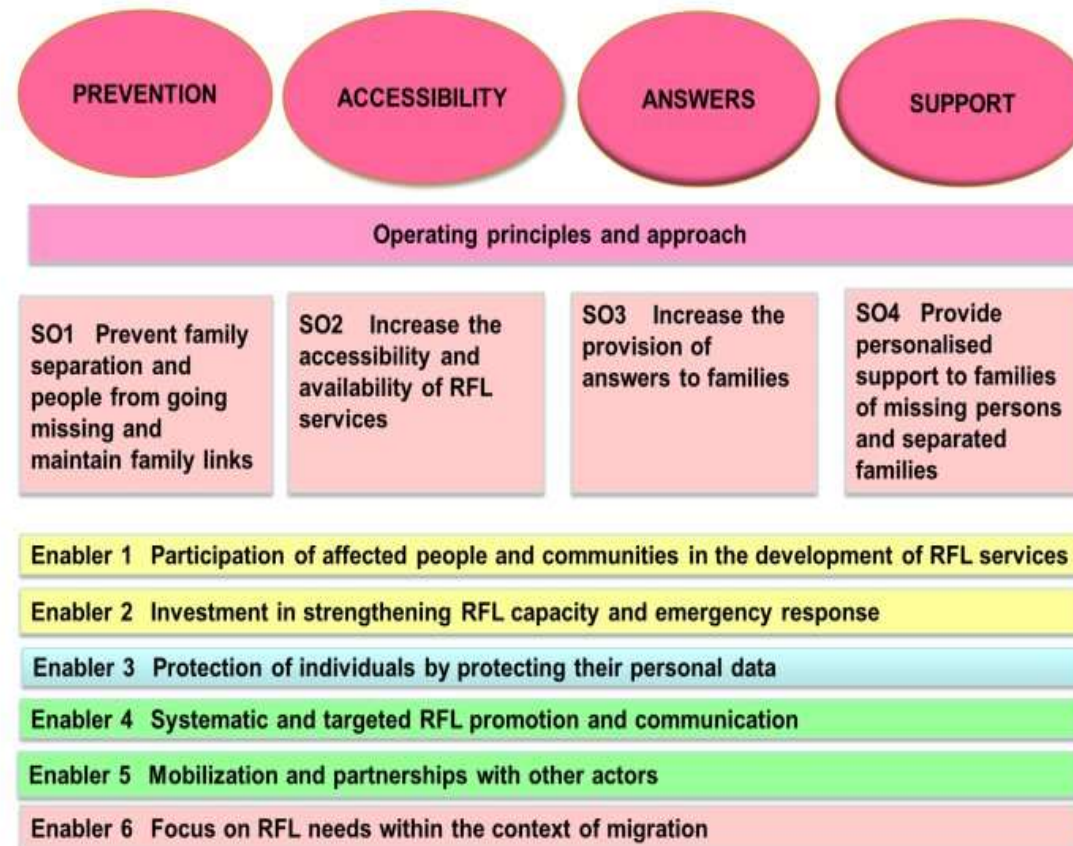


Our RFL Services

Re-establishing family links through the collection and distribution of RCMS, phone call service, tracing, and assisting to re-unite dispersed families

- **Tracing Requests:** Helping families search for missing loved ones.
- **Restoring Contact:** Facilitating phone calls, Red Cross messages, and family reunifications.
- **Psychosocial Support:** Emotional support for families dealing with uncertainty.
- **Case Management:** Long-term follow-up and support.

RFL STRATEGY



How We Ensure Communication with communities



- **Outreach through Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) and community channels.** The Gambian Red Cross Society maintains fixed and mobile *Humanitarian Service Points* along migration routes, staffed by trained volunteers
- **Community presence and trust:** GRCS has volunteers embedded within communities across the country, speaking local languages and respected as neutral actors.
- We conduct sessions to inform communities about RFL services, missing persons support, and how to request assistance safely and confidentially.
- We actively **listen to families' needs, fears, and expectations**, not just disseminate information. This helps tailor our response and build rapport.
- **Respect and confidentiality:** Information provided by families is handled with strict confidentiality. This reinforces trust and protects families from harm.

Role humanitarian actors can play in bridging the trust gap between families & authorities?

- Humanitarian actors must invest in continuous engagement with state authorities, not only to coordinate tracing efforts but to build a shared understanding of the needs and rights of families left behind.
- A key area is strengthening the capacity of state actors on the use and protection of personal data.



- If families know their personal data is protected, they will be more willing to come forward, share information, and seek support without fear of discrimination, stigma, or legal consequences.

MISSING MIGRANT PROJECT (MM)

Restoring Family Links Service
(RFL)

Banjul, 9-10 July

RabatProcess. Thematic Meeting.



ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND

- ✓ **Most tracing requests received by this Service, related to persons missing on migratory journeys, especially at sea did not get a response.**
- ✓ **A large number of families remained in a situation of ambiguous loss. Frustrating for everybody.**
- ✓ **The need for a response entailed a radical change of approach.**
- ✓ The ICRC supported the implementation of a pilot **project on Missing Migrants** in the Canary Islands in 2021. In 2022 the project was effectively extended to the Spanish southern coast and eastern coast, including the Balearic Islands.
- ✓ **This change of paradigm meant moving from**
working on

INDIVIDUAL
TRACING
REQUESTS



EVENTS



Types of “events” (3) & sources of information

Non arrived /missing boats

Sources: families and
Tracing Requests (TR)

Reconstructing the event
and the list of missing
passangers

Corroborating the
information and names
through technical tools.
Complex Network Analysis.

Boats arrived/ rescued with missing people

Debriefing of survivors

Reconstructing the event
and the list of missing
passangers

- * No certificate
- * Information delivered orally and personally

Boats arrived /rescued with dead people

When the identity of the
bodies is unknown:

- Debriefing of survivors
- Checking the characteristics of the bodies with the Sought Persons (TR)
- Support for families in the identification of human remains.

OUR AIM:

To clarify the fate of people who disappeared en route to Spain, offering information, hypotheses, that help families overcome the ambiguous loss they suffer due to the uncertainty about what happened to their loved ones.

- “In order to try to find out who was in that boat, and create a passenger list as much information as possible is collected from both internal and external sources and **cross-checked** with information received from families (TR).
- We are proactive and start working before receiving tracing requests from families.
- We also have an agreement with the Ministry of Justice for communication with forensic medicine institutes.
- When it is assessed that from the information gathered it can be deduced what may have happened, the families are informed through our territorial network or the corresponding national society (or ICRC, depending on the country), so that they inform the families of what is likely to have happened to their family member. **HYPOTHESIS**.
- Pre-information sessions are held with the national societies or ICRC in countries where there is a higher number of requests (Morocco, Algeria, Senegal, Mali).
- It is not a certificate. The information is passed on orally and personally. **Support families** during this time.



Participants & Itinerary

- Rescue (SASEMAR-Spanish Maritime Safety Agency)
- Coast (Red Cross triage) > ill/wounded people
 - > pregnant women → Hospital
 - > underage children → Protection Authorities
- Police > identification + registration (72h. max, released)
- Most vulnerable > Shelters (Red Cross or others NGO)
- Dead (the Judiciary, judicial police, forensics)
- **Restoring Family Links Service** (RFL-Red Cross)



Challenges



Cooperation with authorities

- Going on working on Cooperation agreements with authorities involved.
- Identification through DNA tests when families are abroad
- Repatriation of bodies to countries of origin
- How can families get a document to certify the disappearance of their beloved ones

Cooperation with other NNSS & other stakeholders

- Obtaining information from other NNSS when vessels are rescued by other countries
- Getting to know other stakeholders and their missions.

Thank you! Merci!

For further information, kindly contact us at

busquedas@cruzroja.es



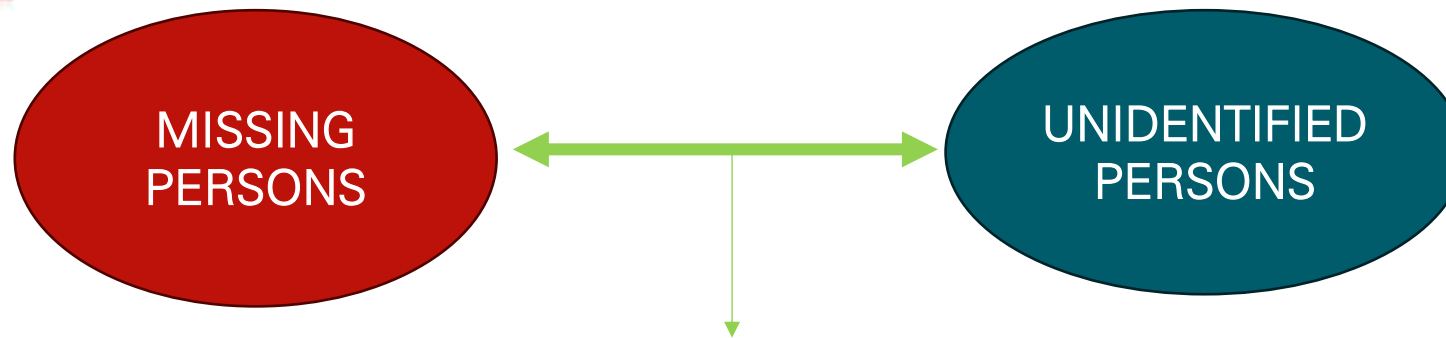
***SESSION III: TOWARDS TRUST AND RESILIENCE: NEED TO KNOW, UPHOLDING RIGHTS
OF FAMILIES AND STRENGTHENING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COOPERATION***



Mercedes Salado Puerto¹, Claudia Bisso¹, Anjli Parrin²

¹ Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF)

² University of Chicago Law School



Challenges

Multiplicity of State and Non-State actors in the Search

Lack of effective State mechanisms and strategies for the search of missing persons, identification of the deceased and communication with families at the local, national and regional levels: including the exchange of information across agencies

Lack of systematized and centralized data

Enormous amount of available data and information but fragmented, dispersed, not able to be compared, and often not collected

Differences across States in the identification criteria required, and overlapping mandates across institutions

Political, operational, legal and data protection challenges

Objective 5b: *Promote actions to respect the dignity and the human rights of migrants and persons in need of protection.*

- **Action 17:** Ensure that the disappearance of migrants is prevented, the **fate and whereabouts of missing migrants** is clarified and feedback is given regularly. To this end, establish **trans-regional coordination channels** and **SHARE INFORMATION ON MISSING PERSONS with their families**, while respecting basic data protection rules, and improve **coordination between forensic services** to identify deceased migrants along migration routes.
-



EQUIPO
ARGENTINO DE
ANTROPOLOGÍA
FORENSE

Clarification of the fate and whereabouts of missing persons:

INTEGRATED MODEL OF INVESTIGATION



Investigation

Oral and written
sources: testimonies,
official archives, press,
etc: hypotheses
generation

Recovery

Search, protection,
documentation,
recovery, chain of
custody, transfer



Examination

Identification and
cause of death



Analysis of the information

Information
management systems,
relationships, pattern
search, network
analysis, prioritization
algorithms





Information management system

Far more comprehensive than a database



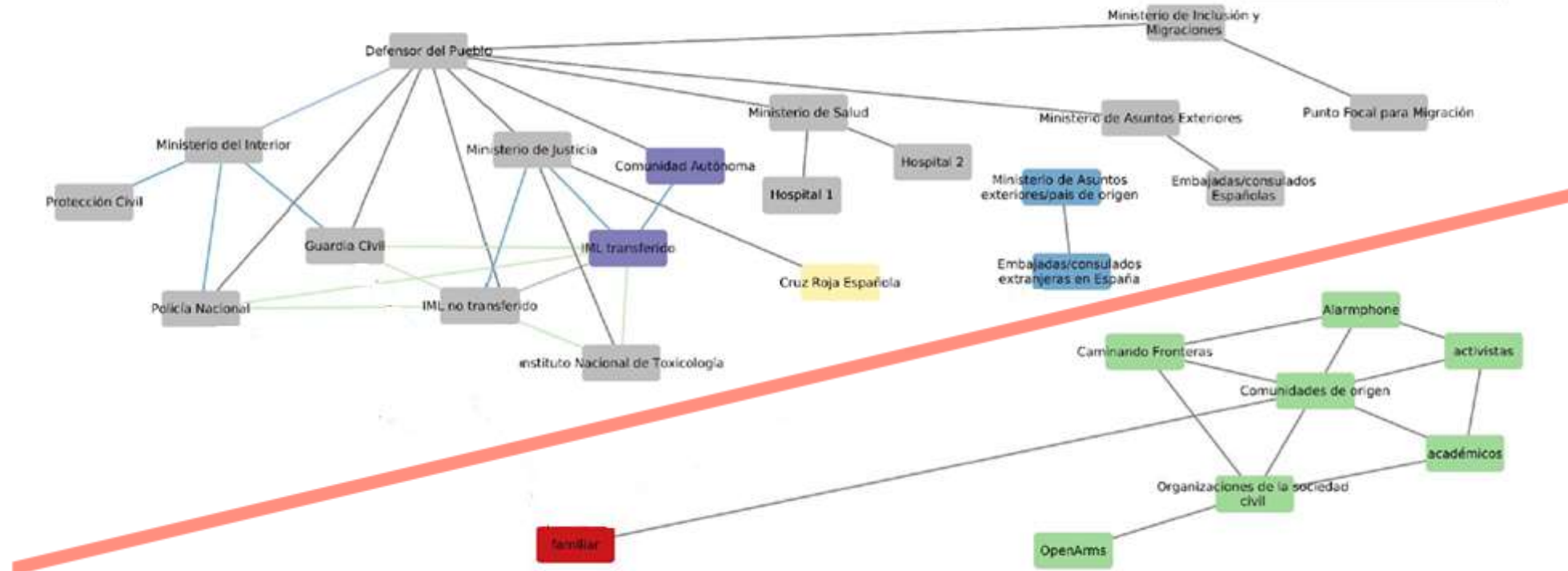


**Information
sharing**

It reflects the **implemented search
mechanism**

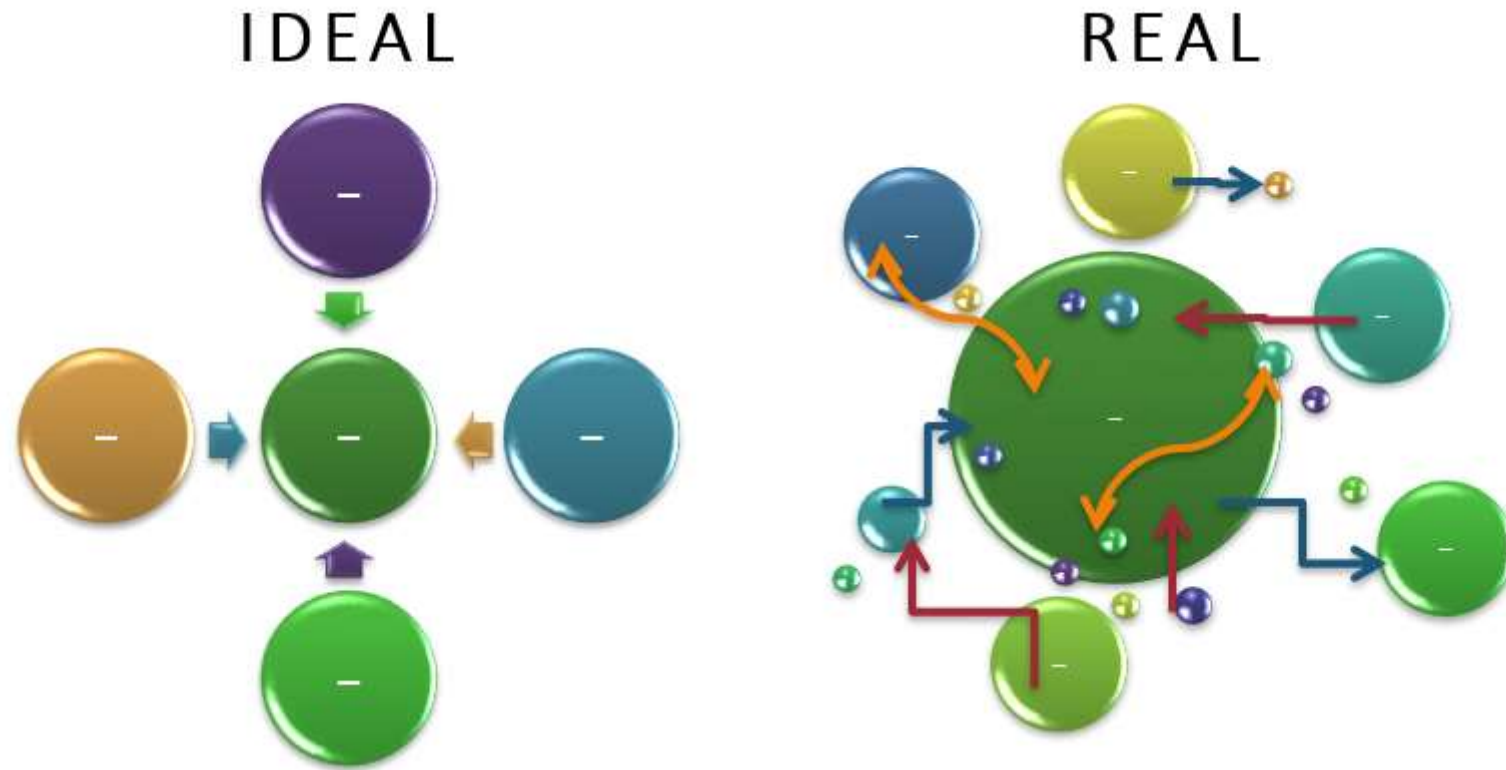


UNIDENTIFIED BODIES



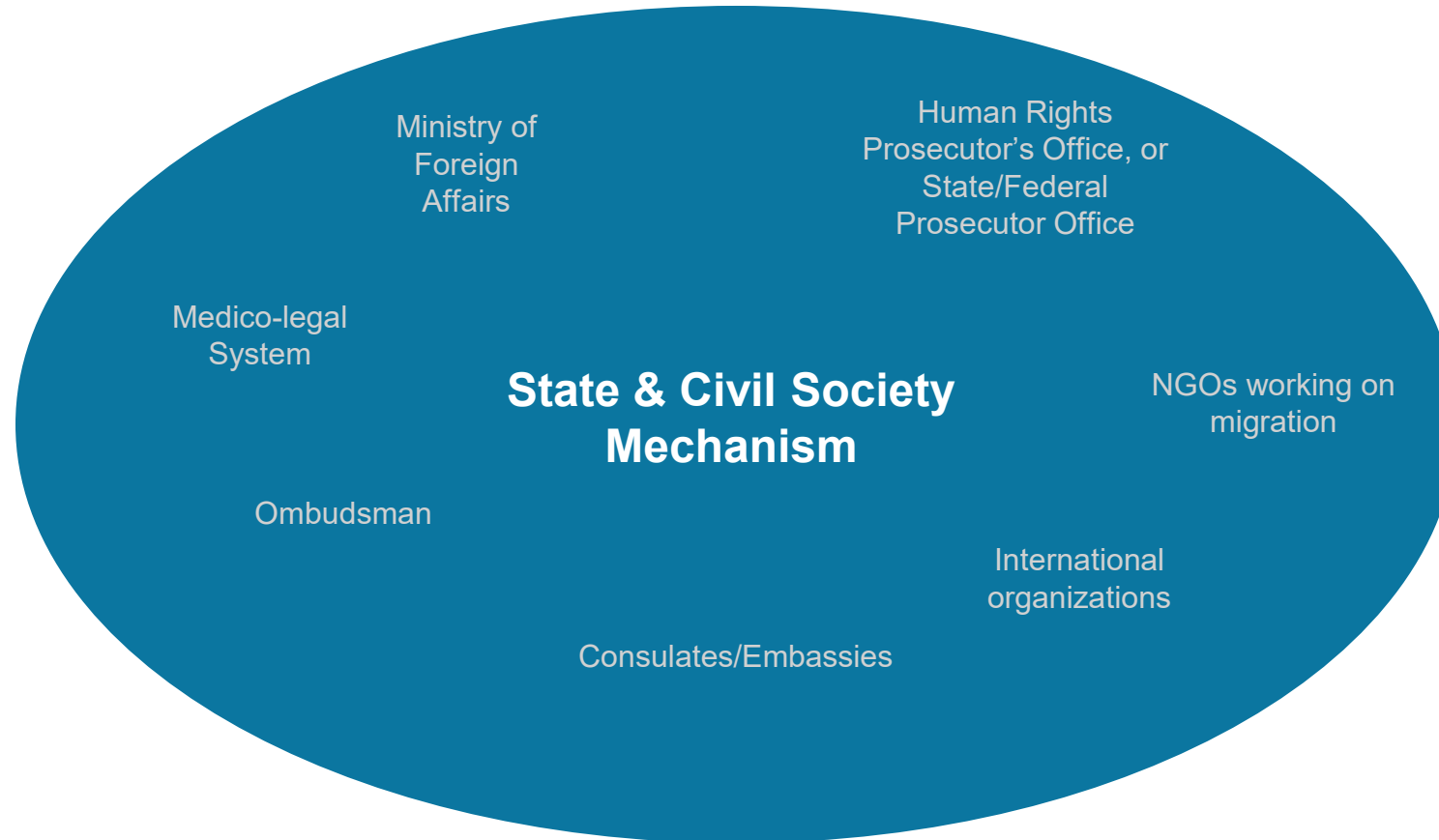
MISSING MIGRANTS

UNDERSTANDING
STRUCTURAL NEEDS



NEED TO address the issues from a regional framework.

Border project: forensic coordination mechanism in Latin America
(2010-2025)



- **Aim:** create a **regional forensic mechanism** to exchange information on missing migrants and unidentified remains in the Central America-Mexico-United States of America migrant corridor.
 - **Ultimate goal:** strengthen **support for the families of missing migrants** in their search for loved ones, upholding their fundamental **rights to truth, justice, and dignity**.
 - Work on the improvement and adoption of **good forensic practices** in the identification of remains for cases specific to missing migrants.
-

Established "Forensic Data Banks":

- El Salvador (2010).
- Honduras (2011).
- Guatemala (2012 – temporary).
- Chiapas, México (2012).
- Oaxaca, México (2016).
- Select cases from Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru & various Mexican states.

Special Mechanisms:

- Forensic Commission (Tamaulipas & Nuevo León, 2013)
- Chihuahua, México (2016).
- Coahuila, México (2017).

Forensic Border Coalition (FBC)

- NGOs and forensic personnel within the United States.

- Typically Banks are **composed** of local:
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
 - Human Rights Prosecutor's Office, or State or Federal prosecutor Office.
 - Association of families of missing migrants "Comités".
 - NGOs working on migrants' issues.
 - EAAF in a temporary role, as local forensic staff become involved in the effort.



ACUERDO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERINSTITUCIONAL QUE CELEBRAN LA FISCALÍA GENERAL DEL ESTADO DE OAXACA EN ADELANTE (FGEO), EL INSTITUTO OAXAQUEÑO DE ATENCIÓN AL MIGRANTE (IOAM), EQUIPO ARGENTINO DE ANTROPOLOGÍA FORENSE (EAAF), PARA LA FORMACIÓN DE UN BANCO DE DATOS QUE GENERE INTERCAMBIO DE INFORMACIÓN FORENSE Y REALIZAR ACCIONES TENDIENTES A LA BÚSQUEDA E IDENTIFICACIÓN DE PERSONAS MIGRANTES DESAPARECIDAS, PRINCIPALMENTE ENTRE CUERPOS NO IDENTIFICADOS.

OAXACA (MEXICO)

CLAUSES:

1. **PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT:** To establish **cooperation mechanisms** between the PARTIES to this agreement and other stakeholders.
2. **ON THE FORENSIC DATABASE OF MISSING MIGRANTS.**
3. **ON THE OPERATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE FORENSIC DATABASE.**
4. **ON THE COORDINATION COMMISSION FOR THE SEARCH OF MISSING MIGRANTS AMONG UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS.**
5. **ON THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE COORDINATION COMMISSION.**
6. **ON THE DOCUMENTED INFORMATION UNDER THE FORENSIC DATABASE. CONTENT OF THE FORENSIC DATABASE.**
7. **ON THE ACCESS OF THE PARTIES TO THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE FORENSIC DATABASE.**
8. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE INFORMATION.**
9. **ON ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION BY PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS OTHER THAN THE SIGNATORY PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT.**
10. **ON FORENSIC INFORMATION DATABANKS AND OTHER INFORMATION COLLECTED BY OTHER FORENSIC DATABANKS, SIMILAR MECHANISMS, THE EAAF, AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.**
11. **ON THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES REGARDING THIS AGREEMENT AND THE FORENSIC DATABANK.**

ACUERDO DE COOPERACIÓN INTERINSTITUCIONAL QUE CELEBRAN LA FISCALÍA GENERAL DEL ESTADO DE OAXACA EN ADELANTE (FGEO), EL INSTITUTO OAXAQUEÑO DE ATENCIÓN AL MIGRANTE (IOAM), EQUIPO ARGENTINO DE ANTROPOLOGÍA FORENSE (EAAF), PARA LA FORMACIÓN DE UN BANCO DE DATOS QUE GENERE INTERCAMBIO DE INFORMACIÓN FORENSE Y REALIZAR ACCIONES TENDIENTES A LA BÚSQUEDA E IDENTIFICACIÓN DE PERSONAS MIGRANTES DESAPARECIDAS, PRINCIPALMENTE ENTRE CUERPOS NO IDENTIFICADOS.

CLAUSES:

- 12. ON THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES.**
- 13. THE FORENSIC UNIT OF THE FORENSIC DATABANK.**
- 14. PHASES OF THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS.**
- 15. DOCUMENTATION PHASE.**
- 16. SAMPLE COLLECTION PHASE FOR GENETIC ANALYSIS FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES, ANTE-MORTEM INFORMATION, DISAPPEARANCE BACKGROUND, OR RECEIPT OF OTHER INFORMATION.**
- 17. COMPARISON PHASE.**
- 18. PHASE OF PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.**
- 19. FOLLOW-UP PHASE.**
- 20. ON THE MANAGEMENT OF OUTCOME INFORMATION.**
- 21. COOPERATION AND AUTONOMY OF THE PARTIES.**
- 22. OF THE FINANCING.**
- 23. ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT.**
- 24. BREACH AND TERMINATION.**
- 25. DISPUTES.**
- 26. TIMEFRAME.**

INTERINSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE CREATION OF MECHANISMS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON MISSING MIGRANTS AND UNIDENTIFIED BODIES BETWEEN THE **VICE MINISTRY FOR SALVADORANS ABROAD**, THE **OFFICE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN**, THE **ASSOCIATION OF RELATIVES OF DECEASED AND MISSING MIGRANTS OF EL SALVADOR “COFAMIDE”**, AND THE **ARGENTINE FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY TEAM “EAAF”**.

EL SALVADOR





HONDURAS

INTERINSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE CREATION OF **MECHANISMS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON MISSING MIGRANTS AND UNIDENTIFIED BODIES:**

Signed: THE SECRETARIAT OF STATE IN THE OFFICES OF JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS, THE SECRETARIAT OF STATE IN THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE NATIONAL FORUM FOR MIGRATIONS IN HONDURAS (FONAMIH), THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (CIPRODEH), AND THE ARGENTINE FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY TEAM (EAAF

Secretaria de Estado en los Despachos
de Justicia y Derechos Humanos



Secretario de Estado en los
Despachos de Relaciones Exteriores



PROTOCOL FOR THE SEARCH OF MISSING MIGRANTS

AUTHORITIES INVOLVED AND OTHER SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

- A. NATIONAL AUTHORITIES**
- B. INSTITUTIONS AND COLLABORATING BODIES:**
 - a. Civil society organizations working on the protection of migrants
 - b. United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - c. ICRC
 - d. EAAF
- C. COMMITTEES OF RELATIVES OF DISAPPEARED PERSONS**

AUTORIDADES INTERVINIENTES Y OTRAS INSTITUCIONES Y ORGANISMOS COLABORADORES





EQUIPO
ARGENTINO DE
ANTROPOLOGÍA
FORENSE

Contacto:
<http://www.eaaf.org>
E-MAIL: eaaf@eaaf.org
MAIL NEW YORK: ny.office@eaaf.org

BORDER PROJECT STATISTICS 2010 - June 12, 2025



2,363

Total number of MNL cases



2,252

Families



6,032

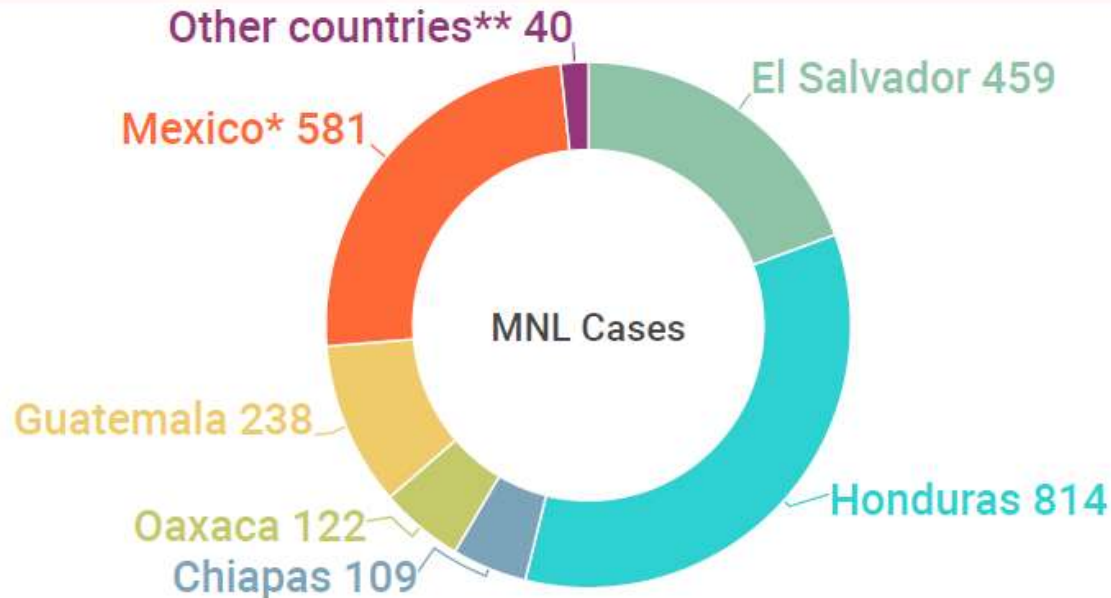
Donor Genetic Profiles



416

Identifications

1. Disaggregation of the Total Number of Missing Migrant (MNL) Cases per Forensic Data Bank or Other Mechanism



2,363

Total Missing Migrant
(Migrantes no
Localizados, MNL)
cases documented via
the Border Project

*Mexico: includes cases that have been entered into the Border Project within Mexico with the exception of the Mexican states of Chiapas and Oaxaca, which have their own operating Forensic Data Banks. In states without data banks, DNA sample collection occurs through agreements with local human rights commissions, state search commissions or local prosecutor's offices.

** DNA sample collection completed in Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Brazil.

- **DVI approach** used in different events in the Mediterranean (e.g. Greece): **successful but limited** to individual incidents, not to the complexity of the migratory context.
- **Pilot project** for Migrants Missing in African and Southwestern European Migration Corridors (2024): there are key stakeholders and initiatives **bridging the gap**, among them:
 - **The Gambia**: **Youth Development Associations - Ministry of Youth and Sports** (National, Regional, District and Village Youth Councils): task forces collecting information on large events and connecting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
 - **Morocco**: Civil society (**AMSV Oujda**) in coordination with State authorities and communities of origin: coordination between State and non-State actors.
 - **Senegal**: Bureau d'Accueil, d'Orientation et de Suivi (**BAOS**): Secretariat of State for Senegalese Abroad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs: reaching families at the regional level.
 - **Spain**: working group of forensic doctors in border areas (**SEPAF-EAAF**): standards among forensic systems. **Spanish Red Cross**: "Dead at the Sea": search and communication with families.
 - **Tunisia**: connecting medico legal institutes in border areas.



- Identification process is not a technical problem but a structural issue.
 - Critical role of National Focal Points on Missing Migrants.
-

A person is holding a large, colorful paper boat. The boat is made of various colored paper (yellow, green, blue, orange) and has several messages written on it. The most prominent message is "Buscamos sin frontera" (We search without borders) written in black marker on a yellow section. Other visible messages include "#Verdad" (Truth) and "Siempre" (Always) on blue sections. The boat is suspended by thin black strings. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

Buscamos sin frontera

Thank you

Merci

Gracias



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Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on
Migration and Development

Bridging the gaps: advancing cooperation on Missing Migrants in the Rabat Process region

Unir les efforts: faire avancer la coopération sur la question des
personnes migrantes disparues dans la région du Processus de Rabat

09-10
July 2025

Banjul,
The Gambia



Under the co-chairmanship of The Gambia and Switzerland

Sous la coprésidence de la Gambie et de la Suisse



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Project funded by the European Union



As part of the Support Programme for the Africa-EU
Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD