



**NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**UN AND MIGRATORY FLOWS FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA:  
THE CASES OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE, NIGERIA AND DR CONGO**

**M.A. THESIS**

**Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE**

**Nicosia  
January, 2025**

**ANOMAN LUCIEN JUNIOR  
ADJE**

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**MASTER THESIS**

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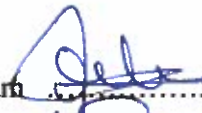
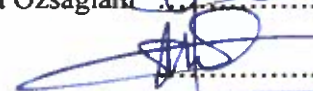
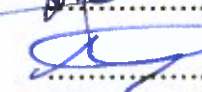
**Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE**

**Supervisor  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa ÇIRAKLI**

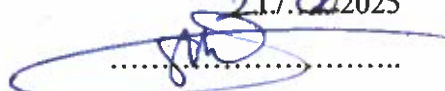
**Nicosia  
January 2025**

## Approval

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE titled “UN and migratory flows from sub-Saharan Africa: the cases of Côte d’Ivoire, Nigeria and DR Congo” and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of International Relations.

Examining Committee	Name-Surname	Signature
Head of the Committee	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhittin Tolga Özsağlam	
Committee Member	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sait Akşit	
Supervisor:	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Çıraklı	

Approved by the Head of the Department

21.11.2025  
  
 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sait Akşit  
 Head of Department

Approved by the Institute of Graduate Studies

...../2025  
  
 Prof. Dr. Kemal Hüsni Can Başer  
 Head of the Institute of Graduate Studies

### **Declaration**

I hereby declare that all information, documents, analysis and results in this thesis have been collected and presented according to the academic rules and ethical guidelines of Institute of Graduate Studies, Near East University. I also declare that as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced information and data that are not original to this study.

**Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE**

...../...../.....

### **Acknowledgments**

I would like to thank my supervisor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa ÇIRAKLI for his support, his advice and guidance throughout my thesis research.

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Above all, I would like to thank God for his protection and for helping me to be where I am today.

**Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE**

## **Abstract**

### **UN and Migratory Flows from Sub-Saharan Africa: The Case of Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria**

**Anoman Lucien Junior Adje**

**MA, Department of International Relations**

**Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Çıraklı**

**January 2025, 94 pages**

This thesis explores Africa's migratory flows or currents, focusing on the sub-Saharan side of the continent. It then focuses on the cases of Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Nigeria, examining case by case the socio-economic, political and environmental factors behind migration. The sub-Saharan part of Africa has seen significant migratory movements, both within the continent and to other regions, influenced by conflicts, crises, wars, economic opportunities, academic opportunities and environmental or climatic changes. Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria present very different migratory patterns or figurations due to their unique historical, cultural, ethnic, economic and political contexts.

Commonly known as the land of hospitality, or in Côte d'Ivoire, economic migration predominates, driven by agricultural and commercial opportunities and regional economic disparities. In DR Congo, migration is mainly due to both colonial and conflict-related reasons, insecurity, protracted conflicts and endless humanitarian crises, which give rise to both internal displacement and refugee movements that flock to several countries around the world, both on the continent and internationally. As for Nigeria, with its rather complex and complicated socio-political landscape, its migratory flows are stimulated by economic opportunities, internal conflicts linked to religion and the presence of terrorist forces on its soil, and above all environmental degradation, particularly in the oil-rich Niger Delta.

The United Nations (UN), from its inception to the present day, plays a fundamental and basic role in addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with these migratory flows through policies, humanitarian aid and development programs.

As such, the thesis emphasizes the need and importance of global cooperation between the governments of each country in order to have sustainable development strategies to effectively manage migration and support the socio-economic stability of both sending and receiving regions.

***Keywords:*** United Nations, migration, Sub-saharan Africa, conflict, humanitarian aid.

## Özet

### **BM ve Sahra Altı Afrika'dan Göç Akımları: Fildişi Sahili, Kongo Demokratik Cumhuriyeti ve Nijerya Örneği**

**Anoman Lucien Junior Adje**

**Yüksek Lisans, Uluslararası İlişkiler Bölümü**

**Ocak 2025, 94 sayfa**

Bu tez, kıtanın Sahra altı kısmına odaklanarak Afrika'nın göç akımlarını araştırmaktadır. Tez Fildişi Sahili, Demokratik Kongo Cumhuriyeti (DKC) ve Nijerya örneklerine odaklanan tezde göçün ardındaki sosyo-ekonomik, siyasi ve çevresel faktörler tek tek incelenmektedir. Afrika'nın Sahra altı bölümü, çatışmalar, krizler, savaşlar, ekonomik fırsatlar, akademik fırsatlar ve çevresel ve iklimsel değişikliklerden etkilenerek hem kıta içinde hem de diğer bölgelere önemli göç hareketlerine sahne olmuştur.

Genellikle misafirperver bir ülke olarak bilinen Fildişi Sahili'nde, tarımsal ve ticari fırsatlar ve bölgesel ekonomik eşitsizliklerden kaynaklanan ekonomik göç hakimdir. Kongo Demokratik Cumhuriyeti'nde ise göç temel olarak hem sömürgecilik hem de çatışmalarla ilgili nedenlerden, güvensizlikten, uzun süren çatışmalardan ve bitmek bilmeyen insani krizlerden kaynaklanmakta, bu da hem ülke içinde yerinden edilmeye hem de hem kıtada ve uluslararası alanda dünyanın çeşitli ülkelerine akın eden mülteci hareketlerine yol açmaktadır. Oldukça karmaşık ve çetrefilli bir sosyo-politik manzaraya sahip olan Nijerya'ya gelince, göç akımları ekonomik fırsatlar, dinle bağlantılı iç çatışmalar ve topraklarındaki terörist güçlerin varlığı ve özellikle petrol zengini Nijer Deltası'ndaki çevresel sorunlardan kaynaklanmaktadır.

Birleşmiş Milletler (BM), kuruluşundan günümüze kadar, çeşitli politikalar, insani yardım ve kalkınma programları aracılığıyla bu göç akımlarıyla ilişkili zorlukların ve fırsatların ele alınmasında temel ve esaslı bir rol oynamaktadır.

Bu nedenle tez, göçü etkin bir şekilde yönetmek ve hem göç veren hem de göç alan bölgelerin sosyo-ekonomik istikrarını desteklemek için BM'nin sürdürülebilir kalkınma stratejileri çerçevesinde bölge ülkelerine yönelik küresel işbirliğinin



gerekliliđini ve önemini teşvik edici politikalar uygulaması gerektiđini vurgulamaktadır.

***Anahtar kelimeler:*** Birleşmiş Milletler, göç, Sahra altı Afrika, çatışma, insani yardım.

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### **List of Abbreviations**

<b>AOM:</b>	African Organization for Migration
<b>AU:</b>	African Union
<b>AVRR:</b>	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program
<b>CAR:</b>	Central African Republic
<b>CPD:</b>	UN Commission on Population and Development
<b>CSDP:</b>	Common Security and Defence Policy
<b>DAARA:</b>	Aide et de l'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides
<b>DRC:</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>DTM:</b>	Displacement Tracking Matrix
<b>ECOWAS:</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>ECCAS:</b>	Economic Community of Central African States
<b>ECOSOC:</b>	United Nations Economic and Social Council
<b>EU:</b>	European Union
<b>ERGP:</b>	Economic Recovery and Growth Plan
<b>FN:</b>	Forces Nouvelles
<b>GCM:</b>	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
<b>GFMD:</b>	Global Forum on Migration and Development
<b>HRP:</b>	Humanitarian Response Plan
<b>IBCs:</b>	Intercepted Border Crossings
<b>ICC:</b>	International Criminal Court
<b>ICTs:</b>	Information and Communication Technologies
<b>ILO:</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>INMC:</b>	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Migration Framework
<b>IO:</b>	International Organization
<b>IOM:</b>	International Organisation for Migration
<b>LN:</b>	League of Nations
<b>MMDP:</b>	Managing Migration Through Development
<b>MONUSCO:</b>	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>MRCs:</b>	Migrant Resource Centres
<b>MUMI:</b>	Mutanda Mining

<b>NCFRMI:</b>	National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons
<b>OCHA:</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>OECD:</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>OHCHR:</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>ONECI:</b>	Office National de l'Etat Civil et de l'Identification
<b>ONI:</b>	Office National de l'Identification
<b>PDCI:</b>	Partie Démocratique de la Côte d'Ivoire
<b>PPA-CI:</b>	Parti des Peuples Africains - Côte d'Ivoire
<b>PNM:</b>	National Migration Policy
<b>SAARA:</b>	Service d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides
<b>SDG:</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>TFM:</b>	Tenke Fungurume Mining
<b>UN:</b>	United Nations
<b>UNAMSIL:</b>	United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
<b>UNDP:</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNECA:</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
<b>UNFPA:</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNHCR:</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF:</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNOCI:</b>	United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire
<b>UNODC:</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>WFP:</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO:</b>	World Health Organization

## **CHAPTER I**

### **Introduction**

This chapter discusses the background and rationale, the purpose, the significance, the limitations, the outline and the methodology followed for the subsequent analyses.

#### **Background and Rationale of the Study**

The desire to move, to get from A to B, is an inherent of the human species, looking for social and economic opportunities to ensure general well-being and survival. This is what people usually call migration. However, these influences on people around the world test the capacity of societies to absorb change. As a result, countries restrict and harden access to citizens of other nations, while protecting jobs and public order. In other words, not all jobs in a country are available to all its inhabitants. Consequently, because of their actions, migration policy is best understood by merging, combining or combining migration, border control practices and the involvement of wider economic forces. Migration management is thus about finding practical solutions to emigration, transit and immigration through cooperation, collaboration and mutuality. It is therefore believed that one way to effectively and seriously manage these challenges is through global government, as attempted by the United Nations with its Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted by an overwhelming a large number of United Nations member countries since 2018.

The UN have an important role to play in managing migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa, particularly from countries such as Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Nigeria. These countries are experiencing significant migration because of a variety factors, including economic challenges, political instability, conflict, war and natural disasters. This study explores the involvement of the United Nations in the management and mitigation of these migratory flows, focusing exclusively on the case of these three countries.

The thesis therefore answers the following question: what is the role of the UN in managing and regulating migratory flows in sub-Saharan African countries? This is the key question addressed by the study. In addition to this question, there are a number of equally important secondary issues. These include questions such as: What are the main drivers of migration from sub-Saharan African countries? What are the

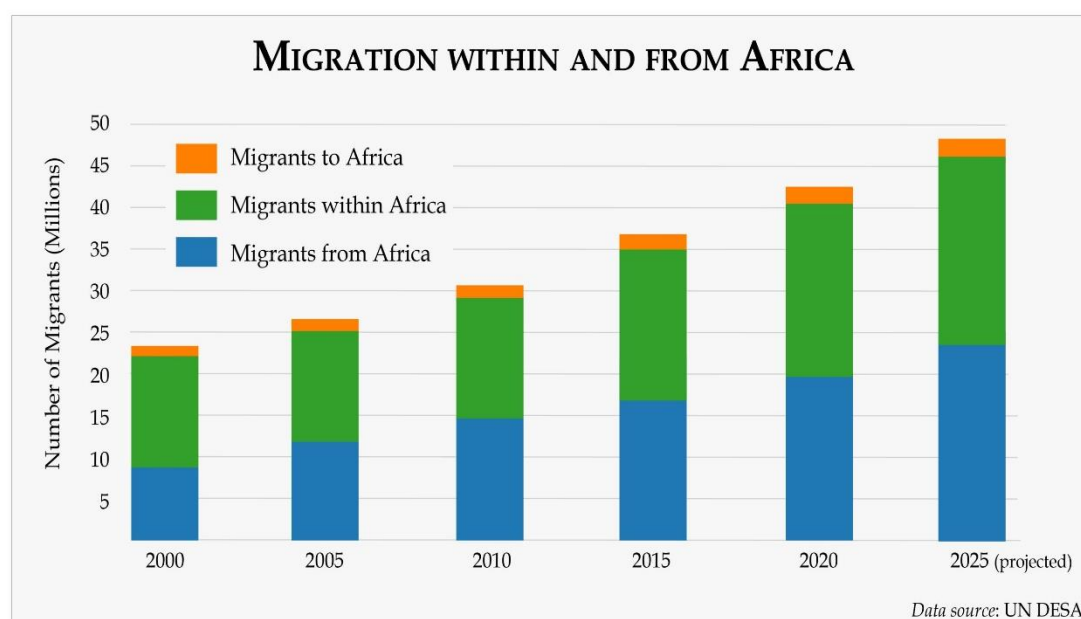


challenges associated with migration flows from Sub-Saharan African countries to countries of origin? How can national responses be aligned with the UN framework? What are the long-term implications of migration flows from sub-Saharan African countries on the demographic, economic, social and political dynamics of the countries of origin, as well as on international relations?

In one of her reports, Wendy Willians states in ‘African Migration Trends’ that migration or migratory flows on the African continent have been increasing again and again for several years without really knowing whether they will ever slow down. This is clearly due to the difficulties faced by Africans. These difficulties are linked to employment, conflict, climatic instability, weak governments and poor infrastructure. As a result of these causes, around one million migrants are active in the hope of finding refuge in other African countries. In addition to these figures, there are exactly 43 million active migrants across the African continent. The majority of these migrants are young people, people with no marital status, people who have abandoned their families to get a better quality of life on the same continent, targeting the most populous and busiest cities. But these Africans are not limited to Africa alone, some are leaving the continent with their eyes on North America, Europe and even certain Asian countries. This is clearly shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1**

*Migration within and from Africa (DESA, 2024)*

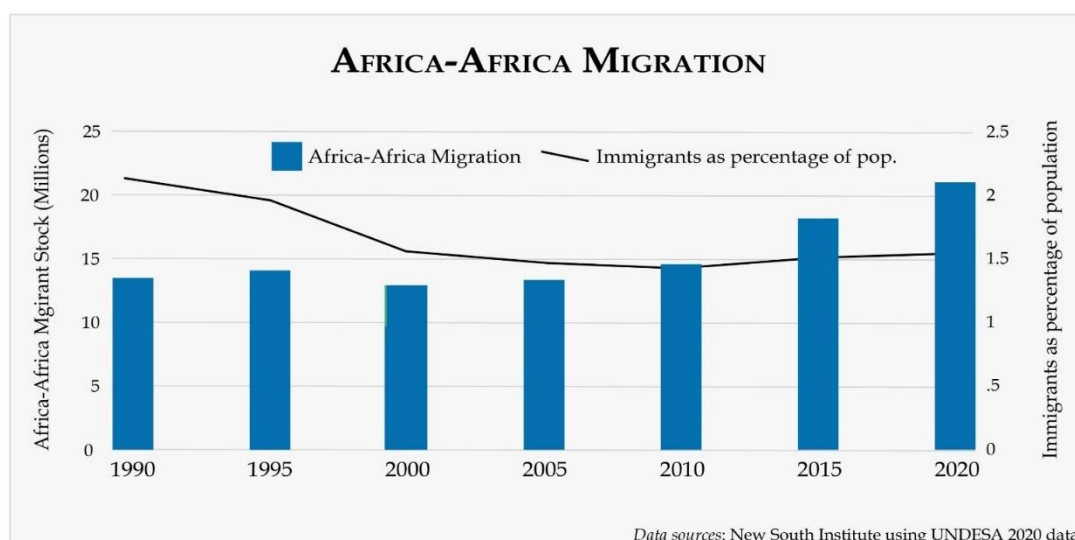


To justify this figure, the author argues that elements such as structural and governance factors play an essential role in the incredible rise in African migratory

movements and that, if situations remain as they are at present, the continent would face an increase in numbers of up to 12 million migrants over the next 30 years. Clearly, this could be a worrying development both for the host countries and for Africa itself. It's also true that it's a continent rich in natural resources, with a beautiful history and incredible economic growth (particularly in certain countries), but it's a fact that more than half of Africans don't eat enough. Across the continent, sub-Saharan Africans are the hungriest and most distressed. An estimated 35% of Africans live in poverty, which explains why this region is the most troubled. But sub-Saharans don't just leave Africa. Intra-African migration has risen by 44% since 2010. To this extent, ECOWAS and SADC are overstretched institutions struggling to solve the migration problem. In figure 2, the author shows that countries such as Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria are often transit countries for sub-Saharan migrants wishing to reach Europe or other parts of the world (Wendy Williams, 2024.)

**Figure 2:**

*Africa-Africa Migration (DESA, 2020)*

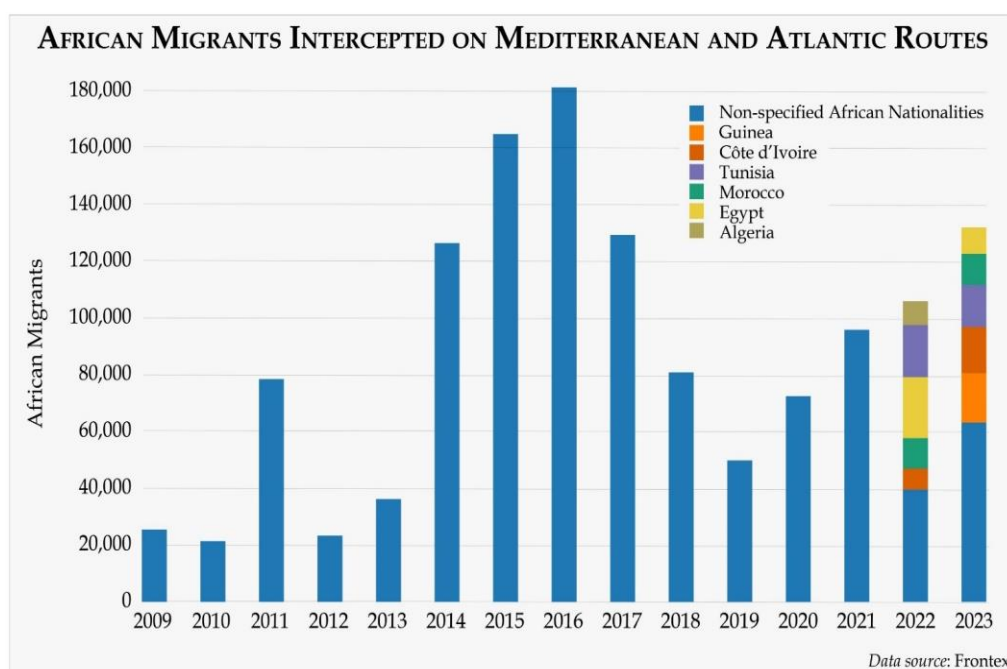


Because of this instability linked to migratory flows, Europeans have become much more cautious about managing their land, air and, above all, sea borders. The European Union's maritime authorities and Frontex have been recording border crossings (IBCs) since 2008 and 2009. As a result, at least 1.37 million people engaged in migratory activities have been recorded by the IBC. These numbers, small as they may seem, represent illegal migrants on the European continent. Today, however, the figures are not the same, as the number of illegal migrants on the European continent continues to rise slowly. The Arab nations and certain sub-Saharan countries such as

Guinea, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire are the main countries involved in these illegal migratory activities. Together, these countries account for more than half of all African IBCs. Most of the time, these migratory movements cause serious problems for the populations of the transit countries. To slow down or put an end to these migratory efforts, certain Arab countries such as Morocco have, at the request of the EU, tried to put measures in place to stop the advance of illegal migrants. These measures can often appear harsh or inhumane. These measures can often appear harsh or inhumane. Tunisia has abandoned a large number of illegal migrants at the Libyan border. These abandoned migrants were subjected to inhuman treatment by the Libyans. In this way, the testimonies serve as a deterrent to new people who would like to get involved in this activity. Figure 3 provides a more visual explanation of what is happening in northern Africa.

**Figure 3:**

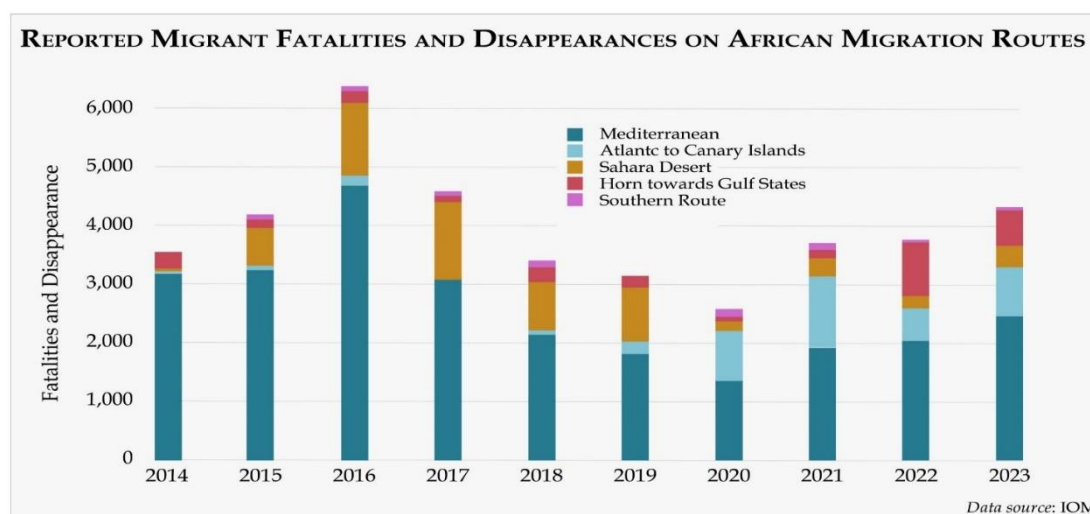
*African migrants intercepted on Mediterranean and Atlantic routes (Frontex, 2024)*



The quest for a good life is often not an easy one to achieve. For migrants moving in irregular or illegal situations, they face challenges worthy of a fictional film. Since 2014, a significant number of 40,000 people have died, not counting the forgotten and also the missing. These people include men and women, but as incredible as it may seem, they also include babies and pregnant women. According to the author, from this year to 2023, the number will rise from 40,000 to many more. Figure 4 gives a more visual understanding.

**Figure 4:**

*Reported migrant fatalities and disappearances on African migration routes (IOM, 2024)*



### Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this thesis is to analyse how the UN manages migratory flows from sub Saharan Africa and more specifically in the three cases chosen here, i.e. Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria. Firstly, this thesis seeks to understand how the UN's migration policies work, and secondly, it seeks to understand how the UN manages migratory flows in a stable country (Côte d'Ivoire), an unstable country (DR Congo) and a balanced country, i.e. neither stable nor unstable (Nigeria). In a more detailed explanation, the notions of stable, unstable and balanced countries need to be defined. Indeed, a “stable country” is a country with a consistent government, a country in which conflicts are rare or weak, a country with an economy that meets the needs of the population, that has fairly solid institutions and infrastructures and, above all, that attracts foreigners and investors in particular. Since 2012, Côte d'Ivoire has perfectly met these criteria, and today ranks among the most stable countries in Africa. Secondly, an “unstable country” is one that is constantly facing conflicts and wars of all kinds (religious, ethnic, cultural, environmental, etc.). It is a country in which governance is weak and powerless, and which is facing serious humanitarian crises. The DRC is a perfect example of this, because from 1960 to 2025, the country continues to be in a state of emergency. Finally, a “balanced country” can be seen as one that straddles the line between stability and instability. It's a country where there's a serious balance between progress and challenges. Above all, it is a country which,

despite all the historical and present challenges it has faced, manages to deal with them without tilting towards total imbalance.

Then, at the end of this thesis, there are therefore several final points to be reached. This topic could then aim to analyse the role and effectiveness of UN initiatives concerning the management of migratory flows from Sub-Saharan Africa. evaluate the specific challenges faced by Sub-Saharan African states with regard to migration. examine UN policies, conventions and initiatives related to migration and mobility from Sub Saharan Africa, propose recommendations to strengthen the action of the UN and the cases study states to respond effectively and sustainably to the challenges of migration from sub-Saharan Africa. and finally identify some gaps in UN policies and try to make some improvements. The basic assumption is to focus not on points of tension between States and the UN, nor on factors that explain certain divergences in attention or application, but on the contrary on points of concordance, continuity or alignment: definition of priorities. respectful and consensual awareness raising. policy measures relating to refugees, border management or Diasporas. The aim is to obtain empirical confirmation of the idea that the UN is not the “management organization” par excellence that its operational declarations on migration at the turn of the 21st century suggested. With regard to the involvement of emigration and transit countries, the research is based more on the observation of practices and the analysis of state logics, driven by their own interest, than on the affirmation of restrictive migrations.

In fact, emigration and transit country are the countries from which people emigrate (leave), and where migrants decide to pass through on their way to where they want to go. In other words, their final destination. In the context of this thesis, emigration countries are often considered as sources of migrants, while transit countries such as those in North Africa are places where migrants rest before setting off again. These includes Morocco, Libya and Tunisia. Finally, it should be remembered that their national interests mainly drive the actions of emigration and transit countries. These motivations can be economic gain (transfer of emigrants' funds), the confiscation of some of their precious belonging, political stability or the management of relations with other countries.

Following on from the purpose of this study, what about the importance or the significance of the thesis?

## **Significance of the Study**

This study on the UN and migratory flows from Sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC and Nigeria, holds significance for several reasons.

Initially, this study enables us to understand the underlying causes of migration in these countries. Indeed, the study will look at the economic, political, and social factors driving migration, providing a comprehensive understanding of why people leave these countries. This addresses migration at its source.

Then, there is the role of the UN. First, the study will underline the importance of international aid in supporting displaced populations. It will present how UN agencies like United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM) operate on the ground. Second, the study will emphasize the UN's efforts in development and stabilization, demonstrating the long-term strategies needed to create sustainable living conditions and reduce migratory pressures. And finally, the study will bring to light the UN's advocacy work for migrant rights and policy support, showcasing the global governance framework aimed at protecting vulnerable populations.

Then there are the political considerations. The results of research and studies are often used to inform or influence States policies. The aim, of course, is to inform the decision-making processes of government authorities. As a result, emphasis is placed on the need to collaborate in order to have global policies centered on improving the population's standard of living and therefore political and, above all, ensuring a form of lasting political stability, which would naturally lead to social cohesion. Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC are nations historically renowned for their wealth, so the allocation of their resources can greatly help or guide understanding of each country's challenges and needs. In this way, the focus is directly on what is necessary and essential for successful financing.

In this way, the thesis will help to identify the various gaps and shortcomings, opening the door to further research and understanding. In this vein, the thesis is also expected to contribute to opening up a new field of study on the management of migration by both the UN and other international bodies such as the EU. In addition to this, the thesis will highlight the primacy, if not the importance, of collaboration, understanding and friendship between other powers in migration for a more common and justified response.

However, by mutually exchanging information on the reasons, causes, effects and dangers of migration in these different countries, the thesis succeeds in encouraging political decision-makers to raise awareness of the challenges linked to migration. In this way, the population is kept constantly informed of what could be their challenges should they decide to venture out.

Finally, the thesis will also focus on humanitarian involvement. Indeed, this thesis will develop the idea that humanitarian organizations play a role of primordial importance and that their involvement in the management of migratory flows in these countries should not be neglected.

In short, this thesis will make a contribution to the way in which the UN manages migratory flows in Sub-Saharan Africa, more specifically in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC. The thesis will show how the UN manages migration in such a region, where managing migration is incredibly difficult due to the lack of resources, especially on a continent as unstable as Africa. This is where the limits of the UN come in.

### **Limitations of the Study**

When we talk about the limits of a study, we mean where research stops, either because of a lack of information or a lack of resources. This thesis therefore faces a number of geographical, historical, economic and temporary limits. These limits are in fact the parts where the thesis is weak, notably in the method of gathering information, because it is unstable or uncertain. Limitations are important to acknowledge as they provide transparency about the study's boundaries and potential areas for further research or improvement.

Although extensive, the study on the UN and migratory flows in sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on the cases of Côte d'Ivoire, DRC and Nigeria, presents several limitations.

The first limitation concerns the scope and generalizability. That is to say, in a first sense that the study focuses on three specific countries, which may not fully represent the diversity of migratory experiences and challenges across the entire Sub-Saharan Africa region. Conditions and divers of migration can vary widely between different countries. In second sense, the findings and conclusions drawn from these three countries might not be entirely applicable to other Sub-Saharan African countries with different socio-political and economic considerations.

The second limitation is with regards to data availability and reliability. Reliable and up-to-date data on migration can be challenging to obtain, especially from conflict zones like the DRC. Data gaps may limit the study's accuracy and comprehensiveness. The study then relies heavily on secondary sources, including reports from UN agencies and other organizations. These sources may have limitations in terms of bias, scope and the timelines of the data.

As for the third limitation, it relates to complexity of migration drivers. Migration is driven by a complex interplay of factors that can be difficult to disentangle. While the study addresses economic, political and social factors, it may not capture the full complexity and nuance of individual migration decisions. So, the factors driving migration are dynamic and can change rapidly due to sudden political events, economic shifts, or environmental changes. The study may not fully account for these rapid changes.

A fourth limitation involves UN interventions and its impact. No one can really speak with certainty about the effectiveness or efficiency of the UN's intervention in migratory flows around the world, least of all in Africa. Indeed, as time goes by, things change, realities diverge and other difficulties arise. This thesis therefore cannot with certainty or serenity provide a clear-cut justification for the UN's management of migratory flows.

As for the fifth limitation of this thesis, it takes into account aspects of policy analysis and implementation. Indeed, this thesis, in its limits, does not go into depth on the gaps and ignorances of the UN's way of thinking about the management of migratory flows in the areas concerned at present. It may also lack a detailed critique of how effectively the UN's strategies are executed on the ground. There may be limited inclusion of local perspectives and voices, particularly from the affected. Understanding the lived experiences and viewpoints of migrants is crucial for holistic analysis.

This study also considers a sixth and final limitation: the longitudinal analysis. In this regard, the study may focus more on current and recent migration trends and UN responses, potentially overlooking the long-term historical context and future projections of migration patterns and their implications. So, it may not adequately address the sustainability of UN interventions and their long-term impact on reducing migratory pressures.



Recognizing these limitations is crucial and very important for interpreting the study's finding and conclusions accurately. Future research could address these limitations by incorporating more diverse country cases, ensuring the inclusion of primary data conducting longitudinal analyses, and integrating local perspectives to provide a more comprehensive understanding of migratory flows from Sub-Saharan Africa.

### **Outline of the study**

If moving to a space other than one's country of origin is perceived as migration, then migration has always existed. Thus, in a broader definition, migration is a set of movements whose effect is to transfer the residence of those concerned from a certain place of origin or place of departure to a certain place of destination or arrival, the residence being the place where the individuals are accustomed to living. (Henry, 1981). Thus, in association with the UN, the term international migration covers any person who finds himself or herself outside the State whose nationality or citizenship he or she possesses, or, in the case of stateless persons, outside his or her country of birth or habitual residence. The term encompasses people who intend to migrate for a long stay, either temporarily or permanently, those who travel legally, as well as irregular traveler. The term "migration" thus covers multiple realities, motivated by a whole range of reasons and factors.

Alongside this consideration is that of Sub-Saharan Africa. In this part of Africa, migration refers to the movement of people within the region and/or to other parts of the world. These movements can be motivated by a variety of factors, such as the search for opportunity, the flight from conflict or the quest for a better quality of life. In Africa, almost all Africans want to leave the continent for common reasons. Poverty, conflict, corruption, famine, lack of jobs, disease and many others. Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC also have similar reasons.

Chapter 1 introduces the thesis, highlighting the main problem, the aim, the limits and the methodology used. Chapter 2 then provides an understanding of the concept of migration, introducing related notions and classifying the different types of migration associated with it.

For its part, Chapter 3 will take into account the context of the UN and migration. In doing so, it will first relate the conceptual framework of UN action on migration, outlining the UN's role and mandate, and presenting its legal guidelines. It will then

present the UN's actions and programs on migration. It will then address the issue of protecting migrants' rights and managing migratory flows. Finally, this chapter will assess the impact and challenges of migration. Chapters 4, 5 and 6 will focus mainly on case studies from the countries concerned, i.e. the DRC, Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire. Finally, chapter 7 concludes the thesis with important recommendations and reflections on the case of migration in Africa.

## **Methodology**

All academic work respects and follows a form of methodology that enables it to collect and analyse different types of information. This thesis opts for the qualitative method. The qualitative method is based on the process of collecting and analysing the data of both direct and indirect migration stakeholders from Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria. By adopting a case study methodology, this study will rely on systematically collected information and analysis on the UN and non-UN on current patterns in managing Africa international migration, particularly in the three case studies. This is why the thesis utilises the qualitative method as a means of collecting and analysing data.

A qualitative approach is chosen for the choice of methodology also to enable in-depth exploration of participants' opinions, attitudes and experiences regarding migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa (Patton, 2015.) This method is largely interpretivist, in the sense that it looks at how the social world is interpreted, understood, experienced, produced or constituted. The thesis is hence based on qualitative method because, firstly, qualitative research increases our understanding of any social phenomenon about which we know little, or corrects our knowledge of social phenomena that are widespread but not precisely explained. secondly, qualitative research provides access to in-depth information that is difficult to express quantitatively or statistically, then, qualitative research is characterized by flexibility and openness to variables, since interviews and observations are not codified or standardized for all cases. Finally, in qualitative research, the researcher has no prior control over the field of research and the methods of information gathering (Mason, 2002). Overall, as Creswell's (2013) asserted, qualitative research aims to explore and understand in depth the experiences, perceptions and meanings of individuals. It favours flexible, interactive approaches, enabling nuanced exploration of the

phenomena under study (Creswell, 2013.) The qualitative method then, will enable us to discover meanings within experiments, and also to build theories and write phenomena. The stages of data collection in the qualitative method have been grouped into two groups, called primary and secondary sources respectively.

Firstly, there is primary sources, which are original sources of information that come directly from the event, subject or phenomenon under study. These are often raw or uninterpreted data collected directly from observations, experiments or field research. Primary sources can include archival documents, experimental data, government documents, reports, newspapers and other visual material. Secondly, there is secondary sources, which interpret, analyse, synthesize or summarize information from primary sources. These are usually books, commentaries, reviews or analyses that build on previous research to produce new interpretations, conclusions or arguments. Secondary sources then provide an additional perspective or analysis on a given subject based on existing primary sources. Of course, in the context of our work, we will use both sources.

Given that the thesis focuses primarily on the UN, the resources the thesis uses include those documents produced by the UN agencies in charge of migration. These include the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which puts all its efforts into protecting refugees worldwide, and then the thesis will be relying, for example, on its annual report on global trends in forced displacement, or its report on world refugees or specific crises. The International Organization for Migrants (IOM), which assists migrants and governments in areas such as border management, policies implemented to prevent human trafficking and the reintegration of returning migrants. The analysis therefore will draw on its report written in 2024 entitled "IOM Strategic Plan 2024-2028" to show the impact that migration can have as time evolves. the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) which oversees several subsidiary bodies that deal with specific migration-related issues. the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which works with governments and other partners for sustainable development and to reduce the root causes of migration, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa or the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an International Migration Framework (INMC), which was set up in 2016 by the UN General Assembly to develop a global framework for safe, orderly and regular migration. Next, the thesis looked at how the various governments of the above-mentioned countries (Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, and Nigeria) deal with migration.

These include the report on the national migration policy in Côte d'Ivoire, the report on the national migration strategy in the DR Congo, and the report on the national migration policy in Nigeria, all published by the government of each country. Finally, the thesis recalled briefly the role of African international organizations in the field of migration, acting in support of the UN. These include the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Union (AU), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and African Organization for Migration (AOM).

One of the special features of the qualitative method is that, unlike the quantitative method, which is deductive, the qualitative method is inductive, which is why it usually requires a case study following a precise research strategy. This is why in the data analysis procedure, Charmaz argues that the data analysis followed an inductive approach consisting of immersion in the collected material to identify emerging themes and recurring patterns (Charmaz, 2014). That's why this study will also be based on three case studies. The DR Congo, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria will be analysed. These countries, considered as Third World countries, will be the perfect example to illustrate our work. The DRC, considered one of Africa's richest countries, is currently experiencing political, environmental and social instability. Côte d'Ivoire has enjoyed a semblance of political and economic stability since its post-election crisis in 2010, and Nigeria appears to be one of Africa's oil giants. Using these three countries as examples, we will explain why they are the busiest in terms of migration, while recalling the important mission that the UN has played and continues to play in managing migratory flows in these countries.

This chapter of the thesis has presented the various elements that made up its introduction. That is, the important elements to consider for the overall understanding of the thesis. The next chapter deals with the conceptual framework of the notion of migration.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Conceptual Framework**

The conceptual framework of this thesis is premised on an eclectic understanding of the notion of migration and the role of the UN in managing it. Although there are other organizations that do their best to deal with migration management, the UN appears to be the international organization par excellence for migration management. It is therefore important to recall its important role. Various UN agreements are also linked to respect for human and also for their rights, sustainable development systems and regional and international cooperation. In its approach, the UN is seeking to create a system in which migrants can be managed everywhere and to achieve this, the organization is tackling the primary causes of migration, namely poverty, conflict and so on.

Basically, the UN, in its policy of managing migratory flows or even migration, relies on a substantial legal arsenal for its implementation. Without the law, the UN would find it very difficult to function properly. For a more advanced understanding, the notion of migration deserves to be studied in depth to understand how it works, and thus also the work of the UN.

#### **Migration**

Generally speaking, migration is the movement of a group of living beings from one place to another. For Stephen Castles, migration refers to the movement of a person from one place to another, whether within a country or beyond its borders. (Stephen Castles. 1998). In the context of this study, migration would then refer to the movement, either voluntary or involuntary, of individuals living in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC to another space, either within the same country, the same continent or another continent. Migration is then a purely natural act that manifests itself through both binding and non-binding conditions. Migration can be internal, when it occurs within the same country, or international, when it involves movement between different countries.

In relation to Sub-Saharan Africa, migration is the movement of people within or from this region to other parts of the world, motivated by a combination of the factors mentioned above.

Migration is a broad term that encompasses several concepts. Indeed, it is a set of interdependent concepts that serve as the basis for its understanding. These include immigration, emigration, asylum request and statelessness.

### ***Immigration***

Immigration is the process by which people enter and settle in a country or region where they are not native, usually with the intention of residing permanently or temporarily. A person from France moving to Turkey is considered an immigrant by Turkish people. Castles and Miller make it easier to understand when they state "Immigration is the act of entering and settling in a country or region to which one is not native"(Stephen Castles & Mark Miller, 1998).

### ***Emigration***

Emigration is the movement of people from one place to another, usually to settle temporarily or permanently in a new location outside their country of origin. This process involves leaving one's usual country of residence to settle elsewhere. Following this logic, Castles and Miller state that "Emigration refers to the act of leaving one's country of residence to settle in another" (Stephen Castles & Mark Miller, 1998).

Then, immigration and emigration are two terms that refer to the displacement of people, but they have opposite meanings. Immigration is the arrival and settlement of people in a new country, while emigration refers to the departure and displacement of people from their State of origin to another Nations. In short, immigration concerns the entry into a country, while emigration concerns the departure from a country.

### ***Asylum Request***

The notion of requesting asylum has always existed. Generally speaking, it could be called a "request for protection". In fact, an asylum application is a request made by an individual who is commonly referred to as an "asylum seeker". In its implementation, the asylum seeker applies to a foreign government or international organization with the aim of changing his or her status from illegal migrant to asylum seeker and obtaining definitive temporary protection in consideration of the situation in his or her country of origin. The status of asylum seeker is granted to the individuals concerned after a thorough analysis and investigation of the individual and the

situation in his or her country of origin. However, it is important not to confuse the understanding of asylum seeker with that of refugee, because generally speaking, one could understand that, since in these two cases the individuals are seeking refuge in another country in other lands, they could be synonymous. But they are very different from each other.

### ***Refugee***

A refugee is anyone who has fled their country of origin for any number of reasons. They may be political refugees, war refugees or refugees from natural disasters. According to the UN, refugees are people who find themselves outside their country of origin because of fear of persecution, conflict, violence or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order, and who consequently require international protection. The 1951 Refugee Convention provides a clearer, more comprehensible definition of the notion of refugee.

It therefore seems prudent to differentiate between the notions of refugee and asylum seeker. First, in both cases, the individuals concerned are seeking refuge or external protection, either in another country (asylum seekers and refugees) or in another city or town (refugees). The main difference lies in their legal status. Refugees benefit from international protection and specific rights, notably the right not to be sent back to their country of origin. This is the principle of non-refoulement. As for the legal status of asylum seekers, this is any individual who does not yet have refugee status, and can be turned down at any time if his or her application is deemed unfounded. However, they may be granted temporary protection under national law.

### ***Statelessness***

Statelessness is an exceptional situation. In fact, a stateless is someone without any nationality of any country according to the laws in force in those countries. For this to happen, there are considerations linked to the time of birth of the individual, the country in which he or she was born, and the situation in which their parents found themselves at the time of birth. With such a situation, they are often considered non-existent and have difficulty in receiving help.

In legal terms, they are defined by the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons as “a person who is not considered a national by any State under the operation of its law”. Next to this Convention, there’s also *The Convention on the*

*Reduction of Statelessness (1961)* that aims to present statelessness and reduce the number of stateless persons by establishing safeguards in nationality laws.

Statelessness remains a significant human rights issue, and international efforts continue to focus on resolving and preventing situations where individuals are left without nationality.

Once the legal categories and migration statuses have been presented, it's time to list the dynamics and types of migration.

## **Types of Migration**

Migration as an expression involves several expressions derived from and linked to it. These include forced, voluntary, internal, temporary, economic, clandestine and circular migration.

### ***Forced Migration***

Understanding this type of migration also requires an understanding of several other related concepts. On the one hand, there is forced or involuntary migration, and on the other, displacement caused by natural disasters. In the first case, migration is caused by human disputes leading to armed confrontations affecting the innocent population, forcing them to migrate against their will in search of a safer land. In the second case, it's a forced displacement generated by purely natural catastrophe that goes beyond human will. These can include earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods and many others. Force migration can be caused both by actions resulting from the consequences of human decisions and by events beyond human control, creating an environment of instability and insecurity for the population, forcing them to migrate in search of refuge elsewhere.

For example, the IOM gives a rather explanatory definition of forced migration when it states that forced migration is “an involuntary, forced and suffered migratory movement, caused by a variety of factors, but which involves the use of force, coercion or duress”. The idea behind these words is that “although not an international legal concept, it has been used to track the movement of refugees, displaced persons (mainly due to disasters or development projects) and, in some cases, victims of human abuse (IOM Migration Glossary, 2019).



### ***Voluntary Migration***

Voluntary migration is the displacement of people from one point to another for a variety of reasons, as different as they are identical. These may include the search for better economic opportunities, education, or quality of life. Unlike forced migration, which is very often caused by conflict, war, persecution or even natural disaster, voluntary migration is a choice made by individuals or families with all their mental faculties in perfect working order. They may be moving for professional reasons, to join relatives or just to explore new adventures.

### ***Internal Migration***

Internal migration sometimes known as “domestic migration” is human displacement within a single country. It tends to be for the purposes of education, health and economic betterment, or due to natural disaster or civil unrest, although a study based on the entire US formal economy found that the median increase in income after displacement was only 1%. Cross-border migration is often politically or economically motivated. A general tendency to move from rural to urban areas, as part of a process described as urbanization, has also given rise to a form of internal movement.

### ***Temporary Migration***

When it come to talk about temporary migration, it referring to the movement of people from one place to another for a limited - often very limited - period of time. This can include seasonal workers moving for specific jobs, students going abroad for studies or internships, or people traveling for personal health or professional reasons with no intention of settling permanently in the new location. Once the defined period has elapsed, these migrants generally return to their country of origin or main place of residence in peace.

### ***Economic Migration***

Public debate shows a distinction between two categories of migrants. Refugees, on the one hand, who can apply for asylum because they are fleeing conflict or persecution. And economic migrants, on the other, who are not eligible for asylum because they migrate for economic rather than humanitarian reasons. The economic migrant is often presented as a person who has entered a country irregularly or

illegally, in order to work there without authorization. The truth is, an economic migrant is someone who has been admitted legally to a country, i.e. with a residence permit, with the aim of working. For example, it is the North African or Eastern European seasonal worker who comes to work in agriculture or tourism before returning to his or her country of origin. It is the Indian computer engineer employed by a start-up. It's the Canadian researcher hired by the university. It is the Algerian or Burundian doctor recruited by the hospital. And finally, there's the Chinese investor or entrepreneur. So, an economic migrant is not just a person who has entered a country illegally to work without proper papers. It is also, and above all, a person who has a residence permit issued by a country in order to work there legally.

### ***Clandestine Migration***

More simply and academically, clandestine migration is the movement of people from one country to another without respecting immigration laws and regulations. This often involves individuals crossing borders without authorization, or entering a country using false documents. There are many reasons for this form of migration. But they can vary, from seeking better living conditions to fleeing conflict or persecution. This form of migration is often very dangerous, as it exposes migrants to considerable risks, such as exploitation, violence or perilous travel conditions. Although inadvisable and very dangerous because it could lead to human trafficking, theft, rape, mutilation or even death, sub-Saharan migrants are prepared to do anything to get ahead, because according to the African mentality <<Europe is paradise and Africa would be hell>>. So risking their life in hell to get to heaven is really worth it.

### ***Circular Migration***

Circular migration is the regular, repeated movement of people between two countries, generally between a nation of origin and a host nation. This form of migration is characterized by organized return trips, often linked to economic or seasonal needs. Circular migrants leave for a specific period (e.g., for seasonal employment) in a country other than their own, then go back to their country of origin before leaving again to work. A clear example of circular migration is that of seasonal agricultural workers who travel to one country each year to work during the harvest, then return home once the season is over. Or diplomats who travel to countries where they need to carry out certain activities and then return home.

In short, migration presents both challenges and opportunities for global development. Several factors may explain this. First and foremost, migration also has its benefits. It contributes to the economic growth of certain countries, to cultural and relational exchanges, and brings innovation. These, then, are the positive elements of migration's overall effects. Secondly, there are also the negative effects of migration. These include brain drain for the countries of departure, social conflicts in the countries of arrival, exploitation of migrants, pressure on the infrastructure of the receiving countries, and the often-unsatisfactory management of resources for migrants and the inhabitants of the receiving countries. All these challenges are of real concern to the United Nations. They impact on the UN's mission to promote peace, security and, above all, sustainable development. Therefore, in the UN's agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasis could be placed on Goals 10 and 16, which highlight the need for the UN to manage migratory flows. Indeed, Goal 10 seeks to reduce inequality, while Goal 16 promotes peace, security and strong institutions. All these elements lead to human security. Security at every level. In other words, economic security, health security, justice security, environmental security and, above all, personal protection. The UN is heavily involved in migration management for reasons of respect for human rights and respect for the human person, eliminating all forms of racial consideration and putting every individual on an equal footing. To achieve this, it implements policies of global collaboration between nations, publicizes the importance of preserving human rights and the sacralization of the human person, and implements development policies to help developing countries.

This chapter, after taking us through the intricacies and details of the notion of migration, gives way to chapter 3, which analyses and explains the ways in which the United Nations tries to manage migration. This chapter will first present an overview of the United Nations, then link it to migration to a more specific understanding of how the UN has invested and continues to invest in the management of migratory flows in Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria, before looking at these cases in more detail.

## CHAPTER III

### UN and Migration Management in Sub-Saharan Africa

The UN is an international organization. Following the failure of the League of Nations, it was created to promote peace, security and cooperation between nations. UN was founded after the Second World War in response to a common aspiration to avoid future conflict or war through diplomatic action and dialogue between countries. Member states join the UN because it offers them the means to settle problems and disputes, and to act on issues of concern to humanity as a whole. It was on October 24, 1945, that the Charter of the United Nations came into force, and the UN was born to, as stated in its preamble, "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war..." In its early days, the UN had 51 member states. Today, there are 193, the latest being South Sudan, which joined the Organization in July 2011 and is headquartered in New York. Sometimes referred to as the "Parliament of Nations", the UN is not a world government.

#### **Figure 5:**

*United Nations Logo (United Nations – ECOSOC, 2012)*



#### ***Regulatory Framework***

Law admits of a double definition. The first is objective, the second subjective. In its objective definition, the law is a rules applicable to all, the non-observance of which is punishable by sanctions. In its subjective definition, law is defined as a set of

prerogatives granted to every individual to claim property. With the United Nations, law is also applied. This is international law. According to this law, the UN, through conventions, covenants and also by relying on national laws, is able to set up a legal mechanism to manage migration in the countries concerned. Adopted in 2018 by the National Assembly of Nations, the Global Compact (GCM) plays an important role in the field of migration. Indeed, this pact emphasizes the collaboration and cooperation of the various member states for safer, more orderly and regular migration. It comprises 23 objectives, all based on how to manage migration as effectively as possible. In addition to this pact, there are other conventions that support or promote the global pact. These include the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW). This convention was adopted in 1990 and came into force in 2003. This convention focuses exclusively on respect for migrant workers and members of their families, who are often over-exploited by nationals because of their migrant status. Still in the field of legal texts supporting the Global Compact, there's also the Palermo Protocol, which aims to combat illicit trafficking in migrants. This protocol was adopted in 2000. The main focus is on preventing human trafficking, protecting victims through medical and psychological assistance and, above all, prosecuting traffickers. The body par excellence in this field is undoubtedly the UNHCR. Its primary task is to protect refugees on a national, regional and international level, which could lead to a lasting solution for them. Organizations such as the IOM are not to be forgotten. Indeed, this organization was associated with the UN in 2016 to provide technical and humanitarian assistance to migrants, and also encourages cooperation between States to reduce migratory flows through the exchange of information and migration data. Finally, there is the Sendai Framework, which seeks to reduce disasters between 2015 and 2030. It examines issues linked to displacement caused by natural disasters such as floods, volcanic eruptions and many others. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also deserves our attention. This is not to be overlooked as it includes goals that deal with migration, such as Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10.7, which seeks to facilitate safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies. Finally, initiatives and programs such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD) are being closely followed.

These rules aim to establish solid, rigid and strong international cooperation and collaboration to effectively manage the challenges and opportunities presented by global migration, while guaranteeing and ensuring respect for the human rights of migrants and their families.

### ***The Relevant Legal Instruments***

The UN, although not the world's government, uses an arsenal of legal instruments to frame, govern and manage migration, the protection of refugee rights and respect for human rights. These instruments can be classified according to whether they are intended for refugees and asylum-seekers, for migrants, for human rights and not forgetting regional legal instruments.

#### *Legal instrument for refugees and asylum seekers*

Two elements will be taken into account here. The first is the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, and the second is its 1967 Protocol, Article 1 of which gives an exact definition of the notion of refugee. In addition, these two texts clearly specify the type of person covered by this definition and those who can benefit from it, without forgetting the obligations of the signatory states to respect them and ensure they are respected. It is then up to the United Nations High Commission to ensure that, all signatory states comply with these laws.

#### *Legal instrument for migrants*

Among all the international laws relating to migration and migrants' rights, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families of December 1990 stands out. As its name suggests, this convention is responsible for protecting migrant workers, while taking into account their family situation. This convention works in close collaboration with the Global Compact and its 23 different objectives.

#### *Legal instrument for human rights*

There are numerous laws governing migration and the protection of migrants. But the common denominator here is the protection of the “human person”. In this sense, the most important texts are the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

followed by the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. They are important in that they underpin all the UN's efforts to protect human rights, including in the field of migration. One of their weaknesses, however, is that they are not legally binding. On the positive side, however, they play an essential role in the field of human rights, as well as in the economic and cultural spheres.

### *Regional legal instruments*

Of course, we'll be looking at the regional aspect. There are a number of texts that can defend this ideal, but the thesis will focus on the Organization of African Unity governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa (1969) and the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (1984), the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of 198, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Kampala Convention) of 2009, and not forgetting the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment of 1979.

### **Objectives of the UN**

The United Nations, the world's leading international organization, bringing together almost every country in the world, finds its fundamental objectives in its Charter of June 26, 1945, which came into force on October 24, 1945 in San Francisco. This is why it is often referred to as the “San Francisco Charter”. These intentions are often accentuated around specific missions, specialized agencies and various UN programs. For example, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2015, presents 17 well-detailed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the UN and its member states are committed to achieving by 2030, covering areas such as eradicating poverty (though impossible), fighting inequality (unjustified inequalities), protecting the environment (which seems easier to achieve than the other goals) and promoting peace and justice (in a continent of incredible political instability). Indeed, the Charter of the United Nations sets out the Organization's natural objectives in its Preamble and Chapter 1.

The Preamble thus expresses the fundamental intentions and values of the UN:

- To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.
- To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and of women and of nations large and small.

- To create the conditions necessary for the maintenance of justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law.
- To promote social progress and better standards of living in larger freedom.

Chapter 1 of the United Nations Charter, in Article 1 entitled "The Purposes of the United Nations", clearly states the objectives of the UN. These objectives are as follows:

- To maintain international peace and security.
- To develop friendly relations among nations.
- To achieve international cooperation.
- To be a centre for harmonizing the efforts of nations towards these common ends.

These provisions set out the UN's natural objectives in very precise terms, serving as a guide for its international activities and initiatives. In the field of migration, the UN's objectives are defined in the Global Compact.

The problem of migration has always existed, and its consideration at international level on all these angles is surfacing in 2018 with the Global Compact. This is a very important agreement with an intergovernmental dimension that takes into account all aspects of migration. It was adopted in Morocco, in the city of Marrakech, under the aegis of the UN in December 2018. Its creation is based on International Human Rights Law, with the aim of implementing the legal elements necessary to ensure the protection of the rights of migrants and their family members. In this sense, several legal texts, such as the Declaration of Human Rights, are among those on which the countries involved in drafting the Global Compact clauses will base themselves.

The Global Compact comprises 23 specific objectives, each with corresponding actions. Here are some of the key objectives:

- Minimize disadvantageous and structural factors that force people to leave their country of origin.
- Protect the right to life in the context of migrants.
- Combating the smuggling and trafficking of migrants, while protecting the human rights of those who are smuggled or trafficked.



- Respect human rights at borders, and carry out individualized, human-rights-based controls, assessments and orientation of migrants.
- Protect the right to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention, in particular by prioritizing alternative measures to the administrative detention of migrants.
- Eliminate discrimination and combat hate speech and xenophobia.

However, the UN's objectives are not limited to its Charter and the Global Compact. Indeed, through its role and mandate, a number of additional objectives are emerging. With its six organs (the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat), the UN is taking its objectives even further. Thus, since its creation, the UN's primary function has been to maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations between nations and promote social progress, better standards of living and human rights. Since then, peacekeeping operations have been deployed based on mandates defined by the UN Security Council.

In the field of migration, the UN's role and mandate are mainly carried out by several specialized agencies, followed by key initiatives. These bodies are essentially the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) not to mention the UN Human Rights Council.

According to the IOM Strategy, adopted by the IOM Council in 2007 (International Organization for Migration, 2017), IOM is working to:

- Ensure the orderly and humane management of migrants
- Promote international cooperation on migrant issues
- Help find practical solutions to migrants' problems
- Provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced persons.

As far as refugees are concerned, the statute of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will undoubtedly be of interest:

- Provide material and legal assistance to refugees
- Resettle refugees
- Promote durable solutions such as voluntary return, local integration or resettlement in third countries.

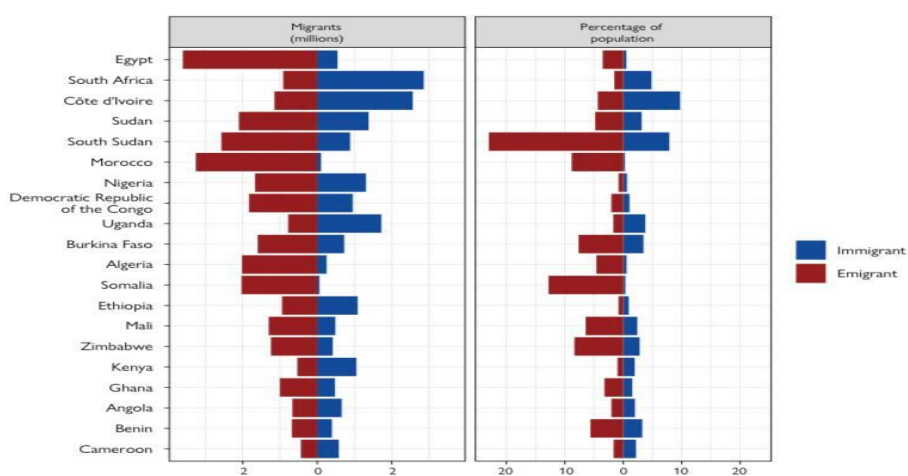
It is important to remember, then, that the UN's migration objectives aim to guarantee safe, regular and dignified migration, while protecting the human rights of migrants and supporting member states in the management of migratory flows. To sum up, the role of the United Nations in the field of migration is well defined, and followed by present and future initiatives. Then, the thesis analysed the role played by the UN in each country concerned.

### *The Role and Mandate of the UN in Migration Management in Côte d'Ivoire*

The UN's role and mandate in migration management in Côte d'Ivoire means that several agencies are working together hand in hand to tackle the difficulties of migration, provide humanitarian assistance, protect the rights of all Ivorian migrants and help promote development. The main bodies involved in migration management in Côte d'Ivoire are the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other specialized and competent organizations in this field. "As the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, IOM works to promote humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, by providing services and advice to governments and migrants" (IOM, 2020). IOM's primary mission is to facilitate safe migration by helping both governments and migrants. IOM also conducts research and collects data on migration trends to inform policy and program development. In one of its many 2022 reports, it presents the top 20 most migrant countries in Africa.

**Figure 6:**

*Top 20 of African Migrant Sending Countries (DESA, 2021)*



Source: UN DESA, 2021.

Note 1: The population size used to calculate the percentage of immigrants and emigrants is based on the UN DESA total resident population of the country, which includes foreign-born populations.

Note 2: "Immigrant" refers to foreign-born migrants residing in the country. "Emigrant" refers to people born in the country who were residing outside their country of birth in 2021.

On the other hand, the UNHCR plays an important role in the protection of refugees, based on certain political and legal aspects. Feller, Turk and Nicholson (2003) state in their book that “The protection of refugees and displaced persons is a core mandate of the UNHCR, requiring the organization to navigate complex legal and political environments to ensure the safety and rights of individuals” (2003:21). This statement highlights UNHCR's essential role in the protection of refugees and displaced persons.

There are also bodies such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), which deals with the development aspects of migration. In other words, it implements projects aimed at alleviating poverty by creating jobs to improve the quality of life of people who may be tempted to migrate for a better life. UNDP makes efforts in the field of migration with the promotion of sustainable development in mind. To do this, it seeks to strengthen governance and promote the resilience of communities affected by economic and also environmental complications (UNDP. 2019). After that, agencies such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) present a very clear agenda for humanitarian response in times of crisis. Concerning the role played by OCHA in migration, UN states in one of its reports that “OCHA is doing a remarkable job in coordinating humanitarian responses, ensuring that aid reaches the most affected populations in the most efficient and absolute way, while promoting collaboration between different UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders” (United Nations. 2020). Added to this is the work of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This organization first mission is to protect children. In addition to ensuring their protection, it also looks after their education, development and health, while providing psychological support. UNICEF's mandate is to ensure that children, who are so fragile, are not forgotten or neglected.

Finally, the UN, in its management of migration, does everything in its power to ensure its effectiveness. To do so, it goes so far as to collaborate with regional organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU). These organizations, although not primarily concerned with migration, work with the UN when it comes to migration. In this way, they are able to inform the UN of their expertise and experience in the region. This collaboration, if not cooperation, strengthens the diplomatic ties between the UN and these organizations, making migration management faster and more efficient.

### *The Role and Mandate of the UN in Migration Management in Nigeria*

The UN's overall mission is to ensure global security and tranquility. When it comes to migration, the UN manages it by ensuring that there is safe, orderly and regular migration in compliance with predefined rules. In Nigeria, this task is carried out by agencies such as IOM, UNHCR and other international partners. In view of the country's precarious situation, UN agencies are focusing on crisis and migration management.

Crisis management takes several factors into account. These conflicts and instabilities inevitably create a wave of population migration to other parts of the country. IOM's job is to save lives and provide physical support to people in distress. IOM is one of the key bodies of the United Nations, with a mission to save lives and ensure the well-being and development of migrants. In their statement, they say: 'We take care to assist migrants stranded in certain countries, to provide our physical, financial and psychological assistance to people displaced by crises and climatic instability in countries such as the DRC, northern Mali and Nigeria. With the means at our disposal, we will do our best to slow down the factors that can create instability in a country, leading people to want to migrate and look for a safe place to live (IOM-Nigeria). As its name suggests, the IOM's primary function is to manage migration. In order to carry out its mission effectively, it works to improve migration policies by having bases in each location for direct interaction with current situations. It therefore focuses on issues related to illegal migration, labour migration, health, education and training, cooperation with governments, improving certain infrastructures and border management (IOM-Nigeria). The Nigerian federal government, for its part, makes everything available to the IOM for full collaboration, thus facilitating its work in managing migratory flows in the country. In addition, it ensures the reintegration of former migrants, which is crucial to the success of their mission. Each role played by the IOM is decisive. Indeed, it is only through the success of these actions that States will have confidence in the IOM and will be able to continue to collaborate with it. The reluctance of some countries to cooperate with UN agencies on all fronts is often due to actions taken by these agencies without convincing results. The United Nations, through its agencies, must therefore be convincing and persuasive, thereby encouraging collaboration and cooperation without reluctance on the part of the countries concerned.

### *The Role and Mandate of the UN in Migration Management in DRC*

In the DRC, the UN is heavily involved in migration management, as well as in resolving the conflict between the DRC and Rwanda, which has been going on since 1995.

Such a mix of conflict and migration implies the obligatory intervention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which has a strong presence in the country, notably in the management and assistance of various war refugees on the national territory and other international asylum seekers. As a direct consequence of its intervention, the agency facilitates the repatriation of Congolese abroad, assists war refugees, provides more or less complete and sufficient humanitarian aid and, above all, helps with resettlement in third countries. In addition to these primary functions, the UNHCR also has secondary functions aimed at guaranteeing and securing the rights of the population under its mandate. It also takes gender-based inequalities into consideration and ensures that they are reported in order to put an end to them. Since the operation of this type of agency is above all based on collaboration, it coordinates its activities with other organizations with the same vocation.

Alongside the UNHCR is the IOM. This agency helps to manage migratory flows by providing direct assistance to the people concerned, supports the efforts of local authorities to manage migration, and shares its data with the relevant authorities in order to manage migratory flows as effectively as possible in a country where the population has been living in fear for almost 65 years. As a result, it is working to modernize drinking water distribution systems in order to reduce disease rates (IOM. 2023).

In a country like the DRC, agencies such as UNICEF play a vital role. Indeed, this agency in charge of children is overwhelmed by cases of lost children, children without parents, malnourished children due to the conflict that continues to kill their parents again and again. UNICEF strives to protect these children as much as possible, while providing direct and indirect support to children in the affected areas. It offers psychological and social support, and helps to trace missing or separated families. It also provides training in the education system to enable local leaders to educate children and raise their awareness of the importance of family, homeland and above all the dangers associated with migration (UNHCR.2023).

The World Food Program (WFP) is also involved in these various agencies, doing its utmost to combat the financial insecurity of displaced populations who find themselves far from their land, their plantations, their animal resources and everything else that could help them feed themselves normally. As such, it is an agency that not only distributes food, but also transfers money to displaced individuals and the most vulnerable in order to combat hunger. It's also an agency that takes into account the aging population unable to make the physical effort to eat or work. The WFP therefore supports this group of people through a system of collaboration and information exchange with the government and local authorities (HCR. 2023).

The UN's role and mandate in the DRC is mainly perceived and assessed from a humanitarian point of view, due to the political, social and environmental instability facing the country. In fact, through a system of collaboration and coordination with the authorities concerned, the UN is managing to some extent the population within its field of vision, with the resources it has to reduce the damage and thus encourage migration.

### **Others Key Actors**

Migration is an issue that affects almost every country in the world. When it comes to Africa or Asia, players other than the UN are assigned roles in regulating and managing migratory flows from these continents.

As far as International Organizations are concerned, the United Nations (UN) appears to be the organization par excellence in this field. It manages migratory flows in conjunction with bodies such as the *International Labour Organization (ILO)* which is responsible for defending the rights of migrant workers. It's also important not to forget the *United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)* as an important actors of migration management in sub-Saharan African region.

For the regional organizations, there is a plethora of them focusing on migration and, above all, on migratory flows in sub-Saharan Africa. One example is the European Union (EU), which has set up systems to deal with migrants seeking asylum or protection. But this measure is being further narrowed by the incivism of some migrants.

## **Implementation Instruments**

This thesis looks at how the UN manages migratory flows from sub-Saharan African countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC. To ensure the effectiveness of its action, the UN has equipped itself with a substantial legal arsenal to facilitate its mission of managing migratory flows. These instruments include agreements, laws, pacts, contracts, partnerships and educational programs designed to raise awareness of migration issues. Using these instruments, the UN works with the countries concerned to achieve safe, orderly and regular migration.

In each country, there are bodies responsible for dealing with each individual's case, according to their level of difficulty. In Côte d'Ivoire and the DRC, there are ministries of integration and national commissions for refugees, returnees and displaced persons. Nigeria, for its part, has a national migration policy with a Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS), as well as an Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), followed by a Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Natural Disaster Management. On a regional level, there's the involvement of ECOWAS which, with its 2007 Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment, makes it easier for people to move from one country to another within the organization. Not forgetting the AU, which provides the rules for member countries to follow in order to fully manage migration. On the other hand, with the international implementation instruments, the theses rely on the UN and its bodies. The Global Compact (GCM), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) are collectively helping to manage the complex migration dynamics in Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC and Nigeria, by addressing both the challenges and opportunities presented by migration.

## **Challenges and Opportunities**

The challenges and opportunities associated with migration management are manifold. Indeed, the UN, in its mission to manage migratory flows in the three countries concerned (Côte d'Ivoire, DRC and Nigeria), is facing problems linked to human trafficking and the non-respect of migrants' rights. Through its agencies, the

UN is keen to point out that a migrant, whatever his or her status remains a migrant and deserves to receive the most humane treatment. Then there are the challenges of combating discrimination and racism. The UN does its utmost to ensure that the various rights of migrants, their families and their communities are respected. As far as opportunities are concerned, we need to put in place an inclusive, far-reaching and strong policy for managing migration flows. States could therefore be led to work together to exchange information and data to limit the damage, and above all to put in place joint policies to raise awareness of the dangers of irregular migration and encourage people to stay in their country of origin and develop it, because after them, nobody else will do it for them.

### **UN Actions and Programs on Migrations**

The United Nations' actions and programs in the field of migration focus on the protection of migrants' rights, firstly, and on the management of migration flows, secondly.

#### ***Protection of Migrants' Rights***

Migrants' rights are at the heart of the UN's actions and programs. UN strives to protect and promote migrants' rights through various international bodies and conventions. For the sake of efficiency, UN has put in place measures to ensure the well-being of vulnerable people of all genders, races, cultures, religions and more. To this end, it is assisted by agencies such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). By joining forces, the UNHCR and IOM work in perfect collaboration to manage human beings on both humanitarian and social levels. In so doing, they are helping to reduce migratory waves by responding to the primary needs of the population, notably direct assistance to vulnerable people (UN. 2023). On the migration front, all these agencies, in their various tasks, are based above all on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. This convention is therefore a crucial legal element in the success of their various tasks.



### ***Management of Migrants Flows***

On a global scale, managing migration is a highly complex task for the UN. An analysis of its actions and programs is necessary to understand how the UN manages to deal with migration. In Africa, the task seems more difficult, given the busy and hectic migration schedule of Africans. As a result, UN is putting in place initiatives that take a little of everything into consideration, thus promoting a more global and coordinated management of population movements. These initiatives naturally take into account migrants' rights and the fight against human trafficking. The UN also encourages international cooperation on safe, orderly and regular migration.

To guarantee the global management of migration flows, UN, through the Global Compact, strives to uphold the various objectives it contains, with the aim of increasing the benefits of migration for long-term development (UN. 2018). In doing so, the UN promotes the idea that the human person is sacred and must therefore be cared for with the utmost seriousness.

After presenting Chapter 3, the thesis turn to the different case studies, starting with Côte d'Ivoire in Chapter 4.

## CHAPTER IV

### Case Study: Côte d'Ivoire

#### Background: Migration in Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire is a country located in West Africa. It is bordered to the north by Mali and Burkina Faso, to the west by Liberia and Guinea, to the east by Ghana and to the south by the Atlantic Ocean. It has a surface area of 322,462 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of up to 29,389,130 (UN-Habitat Côte d'Ivoire 2023).

#### Figure 7:

*Côte d'Ivoire's geographical location (United Nations Geospatial, 2020)*



Like almost all countries, Côte d'Ivoire has undergone a major wave of migration within the country, before becoming internationalized because of its history and colonial ties. A conceptual framework for migration in Côte d'Ivoire therefore takes into account the factors influencing the country's migration patterns. As

mentioned above, there are historical aspects first, then economic, social, political and environmental aspects, which could help us to understand Côte d'Ivoire's migratory dynamism.

Historically, the country is marked by a strong colonial heritage that saw the displacement of certain people or workers in the French colonial territory. Past events in Ivorian politics have been marked by a series of crises that have shaped its development and crises, significantly influencing the country's social and migration dynamics. After gaining independence on August 07, 1960, the country was governed for over 30 years by Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who was commonly referred to as <<the father of the nation>>. His regime was mainly based on a single party, the PDCI (Partie Démocratique de la Côte d'Ivoire), and a policy of economic development centred on agriculture, with cocoa and coffee as the mainstays, as well as oil palm, cashew and cashew nuts. This period was often referred to as the <<Ivorian miracle>>, with sustained economic growth and relative stability. So, under the tutelage of its first President, Félix Houphouet-Boigny, the country's post-colonial policy after 1960 encouraged migration, in particular from neighbouring countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea and Ghana, to support the country's booming agricultural sector but economic dependence on agricultural exports and social inequalities began to generate tensions over the years. Felix Houphouet-Boigny died in 1993. After his death, Henri Konan Bédié succeeded him under the constitution in force at the time. He modified Félix Houphouet-Boigny political party and called it PDCI-RDA (Partie Démocratique de la Côte d'Ivoire – Rassemblement Démocratique Africain). His presidency lasted 6 years. That is, from 1993 to 1999. It was marked by rising ethnic and political tensions. Henri Konan Bédié then introduced the notion of “*ivoirité*”, which aimed to restrict access to Ivorian citizenship to people born of Ivorian parents only, thus excluding a large part of the population, especially in the north of the country. As one might imagine, this policy of exclusion or ethnic division sowed the seeds of future conflict. In December 1999, the country experienced its first military coup, led by Guéi Robert, overthrowing Henri Konan Bédié. A year later, in 2000, presidential elections were held, in which the candidate Koudou Laurent Gbagbo emerged victorious and was declared elected by the Constitutional Council, while Robert Guéi refused to acknowledge his defeat, provoking unbelievable post-electoral violence. He was assassinated in 2002. From 2000 to 2002, a rebellion broke out in the north of the country, leading to a de facto partition between the north, controlled

by the Forces Nouvelles (FN) rebels, and the south, under government control. This civil war divided the country for almost a decade, with several attempts at negotiations and peace agreements, but with little immediate success. Despite this instability, President Laurent Gbagbo with his political party named FPI (Front Populaire Ivoirien) managed to govern the country until 2010, when new elections were held. At the time of these elections, Alassane Ouattara and Henri Konan Bédié were direct rivals. When the results were announced, he found himself in the run-off with Alassane Ouattara. When the final results of the presidential election were announced, Laurent Gbagbo was declared the winner by the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI). These results were contested by Alassane Ouattara and France. This marked the beginning of political instability, plunging the country into a crisis in which over 3,000 people died. To restore order, France and UN peacekeepers became directly involved. Laurent Gbagbo was arrested and brought before the International Criminal Court (ICC) to stand trial for crimes against humanity. Alassane Ouattara became the new president and, with the help of France, continues to govern the country as a dictatorship with a hint of democracy. After a 12-year trial, Laurent Gbagbo was declared innocent of the charges brought against him. He returned to Côte d'Ivoire in 2019 and set up another political party, the PPA-CI (African People's Party), to continue his fight of 2010, but also to clear his name and put an end to the relationship between France and Côte d'Ivoire.

The various crises that occurred in the country between 2000, 2002, 2010 and 2011 have had a direct impact on the population in general, but above all, on the population in particular. A large proportion of Ivorian youth no longer trust the government to offer them protection and, above all, employment. As a result, many of them prefer to set out to conquer a more prosperous land, targeting OECD countries, certain Maghreb countries and other Asian countries. All of them are prepared to do anything to keep out of harm's way, for fear of having to deal with previous events linked to political instability.

For some, the departure is primarily economic, but for many, it's also a question of fleeing an uncertain and often dangerous political environment, as the country's stability is still fragile and can degenerate at any moment. Violence, political persecution and a lack of prospects for young people have turned Côte d'Ivoire into a country that emits migrants, even if it remains, paradoxically, a host country for other populations in West Africa and also in Asia, with a significant number of Lebanese in

the country. Côte d'Ivoire's turbulent political history, marked by decades of instability, conflict and crisis, has played a key role in the exodus of many young Ivorians in search of a better life abroad.

### **Challenges linked to migration flows in Côte d'Ivoire**

As a result of events linked to the exploitation of their natural resources, West Africa has become a very moving region in terms of migration. The evolution of things leads us to understand that things weren't always so turbulent in this area. Indeed, before the invasion of the colonizers, migration was based specifically on economic reasons, linked in large part to trade and the movement of people and goods. Over time, we have witnessed another form of migration, both sub-regional and international, bringing together workers, students, refugees and asylum seekers, as well as people desperate to reach Europe, either to improve their living conditions, or simply driven by the desire to leave the African continent.

The challenges of migration are strongly linked to the search for work and financial stability in another country. As a result, many Ivorians go to the north of the African continent in the hope of improving their lives by finding work that pays well. They are then in a situation of unevenness. Although some Ivorians want to leave, Côte d'Ivoire is considered a refuge for many other migrants from Mali, Burkina Faso, Lebanon or even Niger. More and more undocumented migrants are finding their way clandestinely north via intermediate countries and choosing "new" destinations - Southern Europe, the USA, the Middle East and Central and Southern Africa. Côte d'Ivoire was a particular magnet: even in the informal sector, migrants from the hinterland states of Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad could secure incomes three times higher than they would have obtained at home in comparable situations (Findley, 1997). Several challenges can then be observed. Security, humanitarian, economic, environmental and political challenges.

Although there have been stabilization efforts in the country, some regions of Côte d'Ivoire remain prone to sporadic violence, threatening the safety of displaced and returnee populations. Armed groups, militias and even ethnic groups may continue to operate in some areas, posing risks to civilians. Secondly, displaced populations often live in precarious situations, seriously lacking adequate housing, food and healthcare, as the resources available for humanitarian assistance may be insufficient to meet all needs. In addition, the degradation of land and natural resources can limit

the possibilities of sustainable reintegration of rural populations, having a serious impact on climate change, such as floods and droughts, which can provoke further displacement. With regard to political challenges, it should be noted that the country's institutions are very fragile and may have difficulty in effectively managing migratory flows. One of the reasons for this weakness is corruption within the institutions, which can severely hamper reintegration and development efforts.

### **Factors Affecting Migration Flows in Côte d'Ivoire**

Generally, a factor is an element that contributes to a result. In the context of migratory flows, a factor is an element or circumstance that influences or determines the movement of people from one place to another. There can be several factors, depending on whether they push people to leave their place of origin (push factors) or attract people to a new place (pull factors).

The push factors includes political, social and ethnic factors. Indeed, since the various civil wars (2002-2011), the country has seen a large population migrate first within the country and then to neighbouring countries, before moving on to other parts of the continent. In addition, ethnic and community conflicts are forcing people to flee their homeland to seek refuge elsewhere. For the pull factors, it explains why Ivorians who leave their country don't want to come back. These are economic and security factors. It has to be said that elsewhere, the grass is greener. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), "Emigration flows of Ivorian nationals to OECD countries are directed towards five main destination countries: France, Italy, Canada, the United States and Germany, which absorbed on average 91% of the flows of Ivorian nationals to OECD countries between 2000 and 2019".

In contrast to African areas, which are often inhabited by militias, OECD countries have secure regimes, protected against violence and persecution. Although the operations of ONUCI and other forces have helped to maintain order and stabilize certain regions, Ivorians already have this fear in their minds from the trauma of the 2002 crisis, and simply prefer to live elsewhere.

### **UN Interventions in Managing Migration flows in Côte d'Ivoire**

UN has always played an active role in managing migratory flows in Côte d'Ivoire, through the interventions of its specialized agencies. For better organization,

these interventions have covered a range of issues including humanitarian aid, the protection of migrants and refugees, capacity building and development initiatives aimed at tackling the root causes of migration. These agencies par excellence are undoubtedly the IOM, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, and OCHA.

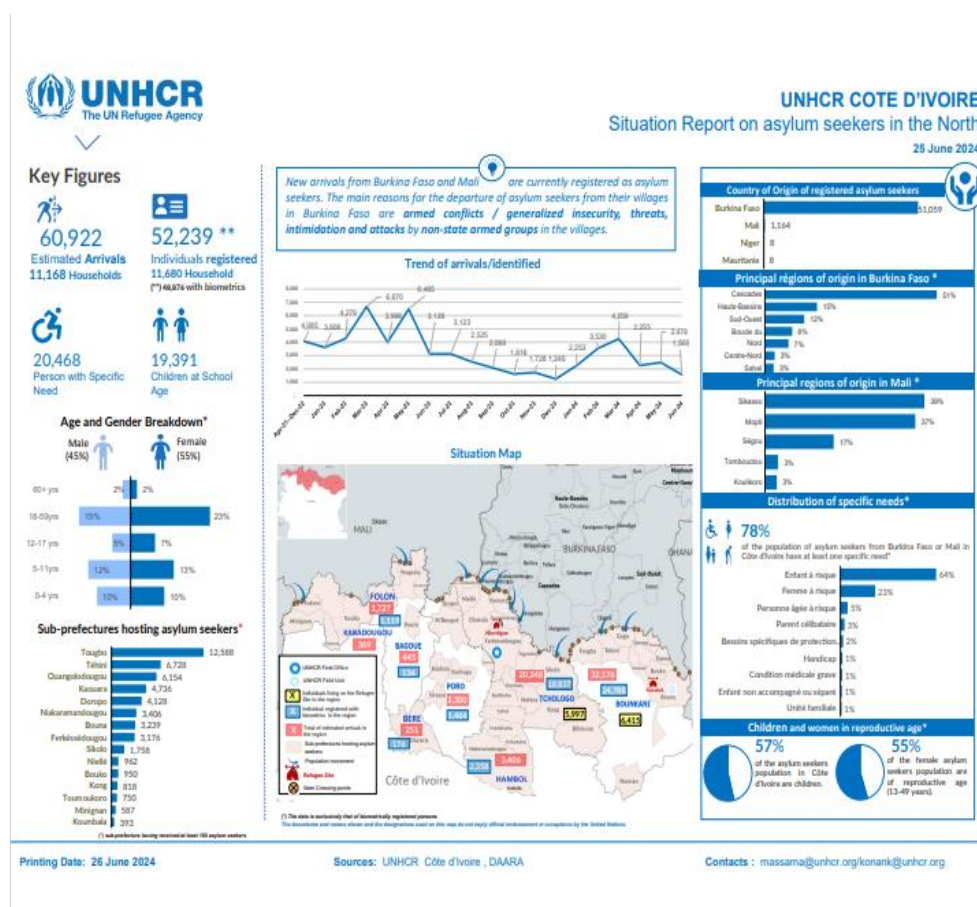
Côte d'Ivoire joined IOM in June 2000. These years were marked by the onset of political instability leading to hundreds of deaths in 2002, and the country saw this as a quick way to collaborate with the IOM to manage the damage and also to ensure the return of potential migrants who had left the country to seek shelter and avoid the trauma of war (IOM-Côte d'Ivoire). Having established links with Côte d'Ivoire, the IOM has so far done a remarkable job in managing migrants, particularly with regard to their reintegration into Ivorian society after the political upheaval that took place between 2000-2002 and 2010-2011. A number of Ivorians who had taken refuge in safe areas of the country, in neighbouring countries and even outside the continent were able to return home and be integrated into society thanks to the mediation and direct assistance of the IOM, with the exception of political exiles. It was then necessary to identify migrants who wished to return voluntarily to their countries and those in irregular situations in order to facilitate their return (IOM-Côte d'Ivoire). Collaboration with the government is crucial to the success of these activities. The government provides all the information in its possession to the IOM and even provides staff for training on border management in order to better manage the return of migrants (IOM-Côte d'Ivoire).

Côte d'Ivoire is home to one of the largest populations at risk of statelessness in Africa - 1.6 million people. Committed to ending statelessness by 2024, the country, with the support of UNHCR, has set up a procedure to identify and protect stateless people, a first in Africa. Since 2011, more than 280,000 Ivorian refugees have voluntarily returned home (UNHCR-Côte d'Ivoire). Unlike the IOM, the UNHCR not only provides assistance to migrants (refugees and asylum seekers), but also ensures their protection. This protection takes into consideration the legal aspect, the defence of refugees' rights and the guarantee of access to basic services such as health care, education and shelter. It also works to establish a durable solution for refugees, including voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement in third countries. Like other agencies, it also works with the Ivorian government in developing policies and frameworks to protect refugees and stateless people. According to the UNHCR, the country is one of the few in Africa to have found durable solutions to the situation

of refugees whose status will end on June 30, 2022. Since independence and with the country's economic boom, the government has for a long time encouraged migration, and agreed to grant asylum to nationals of neighboring countries such as Mali and Burkina Faso, who at the time were fleeing war and violence. UNHCR is working closely with the Ivorian authorities and partners to protect their rights and find durable solutions to their situation (UNHCR-Côte d'Ivoire).

**Figure 8:**

*Situation Report of Asylum seeker in the North of Côte d'Ivoire (UNHCR. Côte d'Ivoire. DAARA. 2024)*



In Côte d'Ivoire since 1961, the UNDP is committed to addressing the root causes of migration by promoting sustainable development. This includes projects to reduce poverty, improve governance and create economic opportunities in regions with high emigration rates. In addition, it supports the Ivorian government in effectively managing migration.

For the UNICEF, it is concerned with children in general, but the thesis will be focusing on migrant children. UNICEF works to provide a supportive environment for migrant children by creating programs of study, education, health care and psycho-



social support for migrant and refugee children. In their quest for a better life, some children end up getting lost or even dying. To this end, UNICEF supports efforts to reunite separated families and provides assistance to unaccompanied minors.

OCHA provides emergency assistance to people affected by displacement, offering them food, shelter and medical care. In addition, it coordinates the humanitarian response to crises, ensuring that aid is delivered effectively to those in need. This includes coordinating the various UN agencies, NGOs and government bodies to meet the needs of migrants and displaced persons.

In addition to these interventions by the UN through its various agencies, there are also programs that have been set up to support these interventions. In Côte d'Ivoire, these include the UNDP's Post-Conflict Economic Recovery Program and the IOM's Support for Development and National Migration Policy. Initially, the UNDP program's primary aim was to establish sustainable economic growth and human development, while at the same time putting in place the factors needed to avoid a new conflict that could generate further migratory flows. It's a program that focused heavily on local realities, seeking to understand the migrant population and also identifying their most serious needs. This program has had a major impact on the lives of the Ivorians, as it has focused on transforming their economic situation, enabling them to know their rights, to take legal action, and to have access to this program on a long-term basis. (UNDP – CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY REPORT). Secondly, there's the IOM program. Its objective is of course to assist the Ivorian government in creating a National Migration Policy (NMP) based primarily on the understanding and expectations of Ivorians. In this way, the program will facilitate migration and ensure safe, orderly and regular migration. The aim of this program is to enable the UN to manage migration, and above all the migratory desires of the Ivorian population (IOM – Supporting the Development of a National Migration Policy in Côte d'Ivoire).

### **National Alignments in Côte d'Ivoire**

It has to be said that Côte d'Ivoire's national alignment on migration is based on more tactical leverage. So, to manage the issue of migration, the country works in perfect collaboration with several national bodies, but also and inevitably international ones.

At national level, there's Côte d'Ivoire's Direction de l'Aide et de l'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides (DAARA), sometimes also called Service d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides (SAARA), part of the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This body logically works with UN bodies in charge of migration, such as the UNHCR and the IOM. For example, in 2017, with the support of the HCR, the DAARA organized the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees from Mali (Sercom, March 31, 2017). We would also mention the various ministries that play a remarkable role in the management of Ivorian migrants. Ministries such as the Ministry of the Interior and Security, the Ministry of Solidarity and Social Cohesion without, however, there is also the Office National de l'Identification (ONI) now the Office National de l'Etat Civil et de l'Identification (ONECI).

Internationally, DAARA often works with the UNHCR. After the various crises, more than 280,000 Ivorian refugees decided to return home, and this return and reintegration was only possible with the help of the UNHCR. The UNHCR supports the DAARA in its efforts to find and protect stateless people, a large group in the country, with initiatives to improve refugees' living conditions (ICRC, 2023).

### **Impacts of UN interventions on migrations flows in Côte d'Ivoire**

Côte d'Ivoire went through a period of civil war between 2002 and 2011, dividing the country into two camps. The UN has deployed the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) since 2004 to stabilize the situation. The UN's role is to keep the peace, firstly by monitoring the ceasefire and protecting the civilian and unarmed population. Secondly, it has provided humanitarian aid to populations displaced by the conflict, and supported the 2010 and 2011 presidential elections to ensure their credibility. It should be noted that the UN's intervention in the management of the post-electoral crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as its outcome, earned it a salvo of harsh criticism from both national and international public opinion, as in the words of Choi Young-jin, former ambassador of South Korea to the USA: "Every day, Mr. Gbagbo said on television, that ONUCI was responsible for all the ills of Côte d'Ivoire that we were doing a joint operation with Ouattara's forces, transporting weapons. He really believed that we didn't respect military impartiality" (Pierre Cherruau & Anne Khady Sé).

As far as the impact of its intervention on the country's migratory flows is concerned, it has to be said that, although the country has the highest number of

migrants in West Africa, the UN has nevertheless succeeded in firstly reducing internal displacements thanks to a stabilization of security and the return of internally displaced persons. The organization then sought to reduce forced international migration to neighbouring countries, and to facilitate the return of Ivorian refugees who had found refuge in Liberia and Ghana. On the economic front, stabilization efforts favoured economic recovery, reducing the economic reasons for migration. As the World Bank stated in one of its reports, the country is the largest economy in the WAEMU, thanks in part to its coffee, cocoa and cashew nut production, not to mention its net petrol exports (World Bank - Côte d'Ivoire). UN-supported reconstruction and development programs have created local jobs.

## CHAPTER V

### Case Study: Nigeria

#### Background: Migration in Nigeria

Nigeria is also a country on the western side of Africa. It is bordered by Benin to the west, Niger to the north, Chad to the northeast, Cameroon to the east, and a coastline on the Gulf of Guinea to the south. On the map of Africa, Nigeria lies in the central region of the continent's west coast.

**Figure 9:**

*Nigeria's geographical location (United Nations Geospatial, 2020)*



It is an important country in terms of population and economy. But despite being one of Africa's economic powerhouses, the country boasts some of the continent's biggest billionaires, as well as some of its poorest. As a result, many Nigerians have decided to migrate to other countries. This has made migration an important part of Nigeria's history.

Before colonization, population movements were influenced by factors such as trade, tribal warfare and environmental conditions. For example, the Haoussas were known for their trading activities and migrations across West Africa. This would explain the presence of some Haoussas in Niger. During colonial times, Nigeria became a centre of emigration and immigration due to colonial policies and the demand for labour. With the arrival of the British at the end of the 19th century, Nigeria became a major centre of internal and external migration. The colonizers restructured local economies to promote the export of resources to Europe. This led to massive population movements, particularly for work on plantations, in mines and other industries. In the 1960s, a number of African countries were freed from their colonial masters and gained independence. Nigeria obtained its independence from England on October 01, 1960. During this period, Nigerians mainly migrated within the country in search of jobs, education and economic opportunities. Then, with the discovery of oil in the Niger Delta, migration accelerated, even encouraging foreigners to come and benefit from the advantages of this discovery.

Today, the country continues to experience significant migratory flows. Ethnic conflicts, the viciousness of terrorist groups such as Boko Haram, and economic problems have driven many Nigerians to migrate, both internally and abroad. Internal migration is often motivated by security, economic and religious reasons, while international migration is mainly directed towards Europe, North America and other parts of West Africa for academic, security, economic, artistic and cultural reasons.

### **Challenges linked to Migration Flows in Nigeria**

Migration flows in Nigeria present various challenges, such as economic strains, social integration issues, and the need for effective policies to manage the influx of migrants. These challenges require comprehensive strategies to address them effectively. According to S. O. Osoba in his book entitled “The Phenomenon of Labour Migration in the Era of British Colonial Rule: A Neglected aspect of Nigeria’s social history”, of June 1969 in its volume 4 from page 515 to 538, there are a number of challenges surrounding migration flows in Nigeria, not least the impact of colonial exploitation. Indeed, he argues, ruthless colonial exploitation of rural Nigerian communities, coupled with a laissez-faire attitude to the welfare of the masses, has played an important role in provoking, encouraging and sustaining the rising tide of migration in the country. Secondly, he also discusses the disruption of socio-economic

arrangements. By this he means that British colonial policies, such as systematic taxation, the compulsory use of a standard currency, the promotion of export crops, the control of foreign trade and the establishment of new urban centres, disrupted the traditional socio-economic arrangements of Nigerian communities. As a result, peasant farming has become materially unrewarding for many farmers, prompting them to seek opportunities elsewhere. He goes on to present the challenges of urbanization as a rapid shift of population from rural to urban areas in Nigeria has had a destabilizing impact on both rural and urban societies. The lack of adequate industrial and technological development to absorb the growing urban population has contributed to social and economic disruption. Then there is the brain drain. The migration of highly-skilled Nigerians, whether trained locally or abroad, to urban centres where economic and administrative activities are more important, has created a brain drain from rural areas and less-developed regions. This aversion to living and working in rural areas has further exacerbated the urban-rural divide. It does not exclude external migration trends. For him, external migration trends, including movements to other countries for wage employment, business opportunities and education, pose challenges in terms of brain drain, loss of skilled labour and potential impacts on the Nigerian economy. Complex population flows are also a major challenge. For the author, the complexity of population flows between different regions of Nigeria, as evidenced by census data and logistical challenges during critical periods, has highlighted the multidirectional nature of migration within the country. Finally, he points out that these challenges underscore the complex socio-economic, political and psychological implications of labour migration in Nigeria during the colonial era, which have shaped the country's demographic landscape and societal dynamics.

Migration flows to Nigeria present a number of challenges, both nationally and internationally. These challenges can be classified as economic, social, political, security, health, environmental and international. Presented in this way, these challenges enable us to understand all the ills linked to the country's migratory flows, and to think of a possible solution to reduce these flows.

### **Factors Affecting Migration Flows in Nigeria**

For Nweke and Enyosiobi in their article entitled “A philosophical analysis of the impacts of migration on Nigerian development” of 2023 in its volume 21 from

page 84 to 104, there are several factors that can affect migration flows in Nigeria. Poverty, famine, lack of employment, drought, inadequate infrastructure, political crises, the imposition of dictatorship, favoritism and much more, are the reasons put forward to explain why the Nigerian population would like to migrate at all costs to other countries to enjoy a better quality of life, more suited to their needs. One of the triggers for migration is security. They explain why migrating to a safer environment is the best way to find peace of mind. African governments are focused on securing their assets and helping them achieve their goals. The security of the population itself is largely neglected. The term security covers personal security, food security, financial security, environmental security and, above all, political security. The desire to improve their own lives, and the lives of the people they care about, drives them to migrate, despite the dangers involved. And finally, the interconnectedness of the global economy and advances in transportation have made migration more accessible.

### **UN Interventions in Managing Migration Flows in Nigeria**

UN intervention in migration management in Nigeria focuses mainly on improving migrant management and protecting vulnerable migrants. Practical UN interventions to manage migration flows in Nigeria are manifested through the work of IOM.

Indeed, IOM has launched a number of projects aimed at helping returned Nigerian migrants, notably those stranded in Libya. These projects provide socio-economic assistance, business training and psychosocial support. For example, the project supported by the British government is helping to reintegrate returned migrants in Nigeria, particularly in Lagos, Edo and Delta states (IOM-Nigeria). Secondly, in collaboration with Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, IOM has established Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs) in Abuja, Lagos and Edo to help potential and returning migrants make informed decisions about their migration and reintegration. These centres provide advice, assistance and employment counselling services (IOM-Nigeria). In addition, a new project launched in December 2022, entitled "Managing Migration Through Development (MMDP) 2.0" focusing on Edo state. It's a project funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of its international cooperation to strengthen the community sector, focusing on reintegration support in addition to supplementary assistance and financial aid for migrants wishing to return to Nigeria. Additional help for the young and disabled, the

elderly and pregnant women (IOM-Nigeria). Finally, IOM's psychological and humanitarian role is crucial. In fact, it provides assistance in this area to populations from states such as Adamawa, Bauchi, Yobe, Gombe, Bauchi and Taraba. For this undertaking to be successful, information and data must be exchanged between the IOM and the IDP, thus facilitating the work of each and improving the humanitarian aid system and the other programs associated with its development. Conflict-affected areas are the most targeted by this prospect of aid and support, particularly in the north-east of the country (IOM-Nigeria).

These resolutions demonstrate the serious commitment of the UN, via IOM, to managing migration in these areas, and to providing direct and sometimes indirect assistance to the affected population and communities.

The projects and various UN resolutions have also been followed up in this country by several programs designed to meet the needs of the population in terms of migration. These include the IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) Program and the UNDP's Regional Stabilization Facility for Lake of Chad. These programs have been an important support for the UN and its agencies in managing migration in Nigeria, and still are today. For the IOM program, its aim is to ensure the safety of migrants wishing to return to their countries of origin. It then helps to ensure that these migrants arrive in peace. To this end, it offers transport assistance, physical support, a guide, and even people to welcome them when they arrive in their country of origin. This program not only facilitates the voluntary return of migrants, but also ensures their safe, protected and supervised return. Then comes the UNDP program. The aim of this program is to stabilize the area of the country heavily affected by the Boko Haram Islamist terrorist groups, which have been causing unrest in the region since 2009. As part of its mission, the UNDP is seeking to rebuild the infrastructure that has been destroyed, provide nutritional support to the population living in the area, and support the local government. Since then, these actions and initiatives have not only boosted the economy in these states, but also ensured the food and physical security of the population concerned.

### **National Alignment in Nigeria**

With all its agencies at its disposal, the UN is doing a remarkable job in managing migratory flows. However, for greater efficiency in migration management in Nigeria, the need for national alignment becomes an added bonus. NGOs,



international organizations, government agencies and stakeholders are joining forces to advance migration ideas in a comprehensive way. This will benefit both the migrant population and the various host countries. By doing so, countries will be able to better control their migrants and, logically, reduce or even stop human trafficking, thereby strengthening their human rights protection systems. In one of his books, S. O. Osoba helps us to understand the concept of national alignment in Nigeria. To better understand it, he made a retrospective study going back to the colonial period. For him, colonization had a direct and significant impact on the traditional Nigerian population. With foreign institutions and Western rules, the traditional population had great difficulty adapting and incorporating them into their administrative, governmental and educational systems. All these changes seriously disrupted existing ethnic arrangements. The pan-Nigerian nation was born. It's a nation that comes into being to counter the ethnic groups set up by the British colonialists in their interests. Consideration of this strong, united pan-Nigerian nation is an important aspect of the country's national alignment. Naturally, all these changes have played a crucial role in shaping Nigeria's politics and society. In the same book, Osoba puts forward the idea that the work carried out by the colonists to encourage the migration of the population from rural to urban areas had a direct impact on the country's national alignment. The inequalities between rural and urban areas, combined with the absence of industrial and technological evolution in urban areas, had an impact on Nigeria's demographics and economy. In addition to this, he evokes the idea of labor migration. For him, this type of migration, motivated and influenced by British colonial ideas, also had its part to play in Nigeria's national alignment. Economic opportunities and a change of lifestyle, being the primary motivations for migration, have contributed to the enhancement of the Nigerian identity. Finally, Osoba highlights the difficulties associated with colonial legacies, social and economic factors, migratory patterns and the country's national alignment during my colonization.

After all these years, there is a different conception today of national alignment on migration in Nigeria. At government level, there is a National Migration Policy (NMP), adopted in 2015, whose role is to provide a national framework for migration management, to ensure that migrants' rights are respected, and to provide them with the education and rehabilitation they need to regain their dignity. Alongside the PNM is the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons (NCFRMI). The role of this commission is to ensure compliance with policies relating

to migration and all vulnerable people, including refugees and displaced persons. The Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) is another government agency in charge of migration. It's a plan that focuses on how to create jobs by assessing the areas and sectors most in need of manpower, thus facilitating job search. It's also a plan that aims to create jobs, even the most neglected ones, enabling every Nigerian to have at least something to do, thus reducing the desire to go elsewhere. In addition to these national bodies or agencies, there are also a number of UN agencies involved in the country's national agendas, hence the importance of international collaboration. With regard to UN bodies, Nigeria works with the IOM and the UNHCR. In addition to the UN, the AU and ECOWAS are also organizations that provide a great deal of support for the country's various national tasks. To ensure respect for their nationals, the country has also signed bilateral agreements with certain countries, enabling them to manage labor migration, ensure respect for migrants' rights and many other protective tools. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) carries out studies on the country's migration trends in order to communicate the results to the Nigerian government, with the aim of facilitating reflection on estimates and better situating the areas and people concerned by migration.

### **Impacts of UN Interventions on Migration Flows in Nigeria**

The UN has had a direct impact on Nigeria's migratory flows through its interventions. Nweke and Michael demonstrate the consequences of migration on all aspects of Nigeria's development. To do this, they highlight the social and economic challenges, and then the political ones. For them, lack of employment, incompetent leadership, corruption, ethnic conflict, the presence of terrorist groups and many other factors are driving an increase in the number of people wishing to migrate. Secondly, they highlight the negative impact of migration on key sectors such as health, science and education in Nigeria. Finally, they call on the government to take urgent action to address the issue of migration, create jobs, improve the business environment and encourage skilled workers abroad to return home to contribute to national development.

To alleviate this problem, the UN, through its agencies, is intervening in Nigeria's migratory flow. The intervention of the UN, mainly through the IOM, has had a significant impact on the management of migratory flows in the country. Indeed, IOM works to reduce migration through awareness-raising campaigns to inform

potential migrants of the risks associated with irregular migration and to promote regular migration channels (IOM-Nigeria). Then there are IOM projects providing socio-economic assistance and business management training. For example, the project supported by the British government and the joint EU-IOM initiative for the protection and reintegration of migrants have successfully reunited thousands of migrants with their communities (IOM-Nigeria). Secondly, IOM trains civil servants and supports Nigerian migration policy through collaboration with the country's government. Overall, it can be suggested that the UN's intervention in Nigeria has had a positive impact in reducing irregular migration, supporting the reintegration of returned migrants, building institutional capacity and protecting vulnerable migrants.

## CHAPTER VI

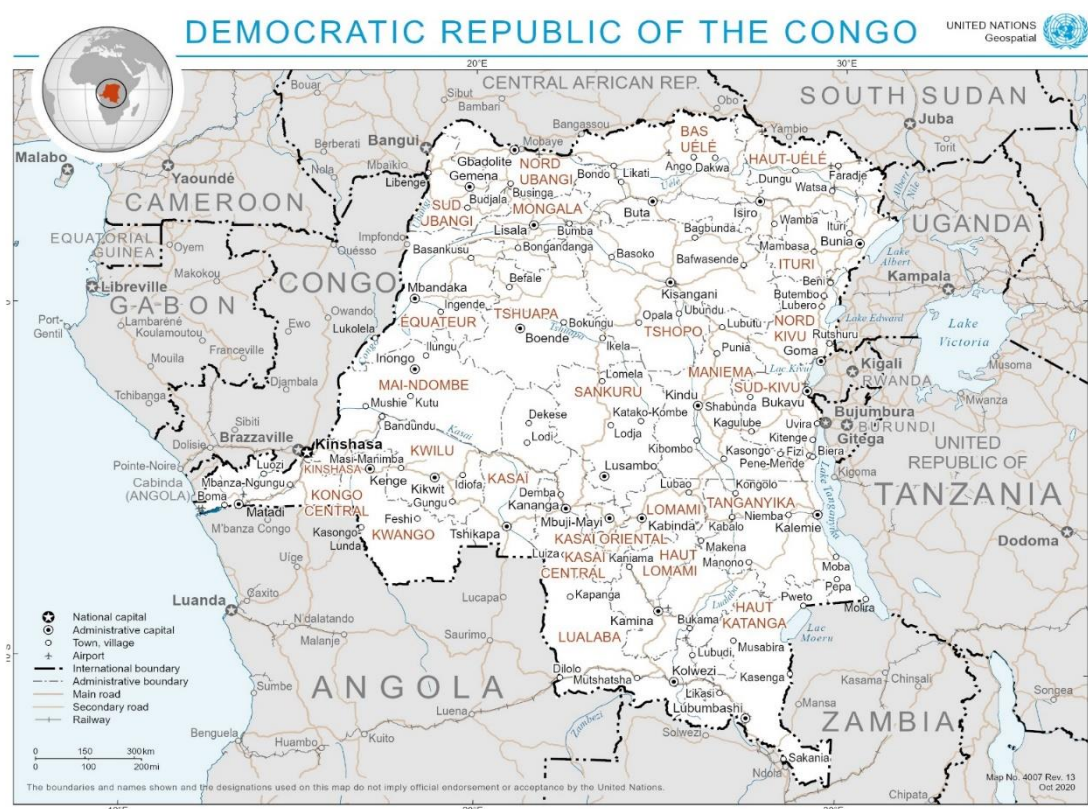
### Case Study: Democratic Republic of Congo

#### Background: Migration in DRC

The Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC, Congo, DR Congo or informally as Congo-Kinshasa (to distinguish it from Congo-Brazzaville), is Central Africa country. It is the third most populous country in Africa (behind Nigeria and Ethiopia), as well as the most populous French-speaking country in Africa (CIA World Factbook, 2024). After Algeria, the country is the second largest in Africa. Its size stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to the eastern plateau, including most of the most popular river in the Congo. The north of the country is home to the world's largest equatorial rainforest, while the east includes mountainous regions, large lake ridges and volcanoes, often causing environmental imbalance in the areas concerned. The south and centre are home to savannahs containing rich sources of minerals. The DRC is one of the countries sharing its border with the largest number of countries in the world, with a total of 9.

**Figure 10:**

*Democratic Republic of Congo Geographical location (United Nations Geospatial, 2020)*



The country gained independence from Belgium in 1960. Since the proclamation of independence and the departure of Belgium, political crises and rebellions continued to rock the country between 1960 and 1965, led by Moïse Tshombe. In 1965, Mobutu Sese Seko seized power in a coup d'état and established a dictatorship characterized by corruption and repression between 1970 and 1990, before there was pressure for democratization. From 1996 to 1997, a rebellion led by Laurent-Désiré Kabila and supported by Rwanda and Uganda toppled the Mobutu regime. This was the DRC's first war. The First Congo War began in 1996 when the Rwanda genocide's aftermath saw Hutu militias fleeing into eastern Zaire. Rwanda and Uganda supported Laurent-Désiré Kabila's forces to overthrow Mobutu. Kabila's forces marched into Kinshasa in 1997, and he became the president, renaming the country the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Bernd Michael Wiese & René Lemarchand. 2024). This was followed by another conflict between Kabila and his former allies (Rwanda and Uganda) in 1998. This was the start of the Second Congo War, which lasted 5 years between 1998 and 2003. The war involved nine African countries and numerous armed groups. In 2003, a peace agreement was signed and a transitional government formed. The Second Congo War, often called Africa's World War, started in 1998 when Kabila turned against his Rwandan and Ugandan allies. The war involved multiple African nation and numerous armed groups, resulting in an estimated 5.4million deaths, mostly from disease and starvation caused by the war's destruction (USHMM, 2021). Although a peace agreement was signed in 2002, fighting persisted, especially in eastern DRC. Despite peace agreements, the eastern regions of the DRC, including North and South Kivu and Ituri, remain plagued by conflict. Numerous rebel groups, such as the M23, continue to fight for the control over resources and territory, often with foreign backing (Global Conflict Tracker. 2024). The region's vast mineral wealth has fuelled ongoing violence, involving both local militias and international interests. In 2006, democratic elections were held and Joseph Kabila was elected. Then, 2 years after his election, a conflict with rebel groups such as the M23 raged in Kivu. In 2016, there was a political crisis over Kabila's refusal to step down. It was not until 2018 that Félix Tshisekedi was elected, marking the first peaceful transition of power. The DRC held its first multi-party elections in over 40 years in 2006, electing Joseph Kabila. His tenure was marked by continued violence in the east and allegations of election fraud. The country's most recent election in 2018 resulted in Félix Tshisekedi becoming president, marking the peaceful

transfer of power in the DRC's history (Dennis D. Cordell, René Lemarchand. 2024). Between 2021 and 2023, armed conflicts continue in eastern DRC, exacerbated by ethnic tensions and the exploitation of natural resources. In 2024, the situation remains unstable, with international and local efforts to stabilize the region. President Tshisekedi faces numerous challenges, including dealing with Ebola outbreaks, corruption, and the continuing conflict in the east. The presence of UN peacekeepers has provided some stability, but the situation remains volatile (Payanzo & Cordell. 2024). All these crises and political instability have created an atmosphere of fear and insecurity among the Congolese population living on the territory, which has led to a major wave of migration both within the country and abroad.

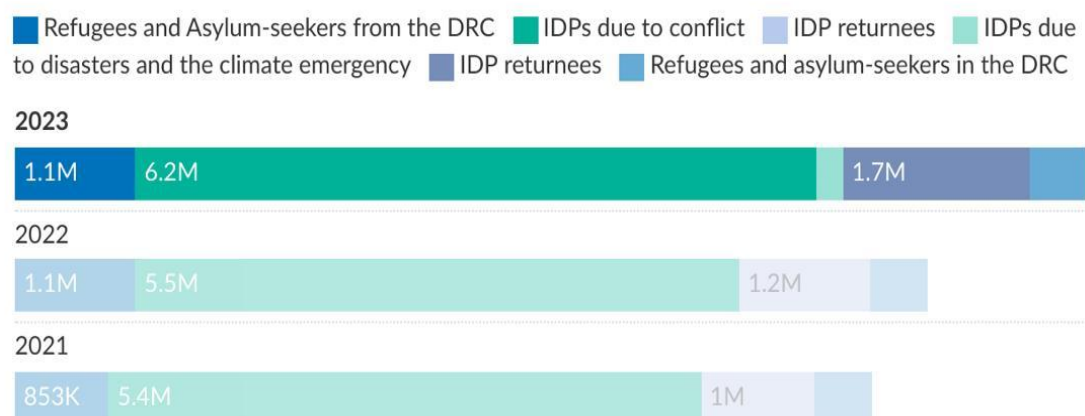
First of all, it must be said that migratory schemas in the DRC have been strongly influenced by the country's colonial past, political instability and ongoing conflicts. During the colonial period, forced labour and displacement were commonplace. After independence, internal and international migration was driven by economic opportunities and conflicts. Ongoing conflict, particularly in the eastern provinces, has led to significant internal displacement. By 2023, millions of Congolese will be internally displaced by violence from armed groups and military operations. Several provinces are affected by this crisis, but the hardest hit are Kivu and Ituri. The history of Congolese migration is clearly due to war, which has not stopped for over 30 years now, if we consider the wars that began just after independence was achieved. For these reasons, the country is facing one of the most visible and significant situations of national or internal displacement in the world. At least 7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in search of a safe space spread across the entire Congolese territory. The most troubled areas are North and South Kivu, Ituri and Tanganyika, due to the war raging there (IOM-UN Migration). While today, the country is seen as a dangerous place to leave, it was once a refuge destination for neighboring Rwanda, not least because of the notorious 1994 war, Burundi and the Central African Republic. For the Congolese, countries such as Uganda and Tanzania have become a land of refuge. But not everything is linked to conflict. The Congolese population is constantly on the lookout for a better place to live, for economic reasons too. Migration to the interior of the country for greater economic research is therefore visible. Kinshasa and Lubumbashi, the country's largest cities, are attracting people from other towns for their slim but fruitful employment opportunities. The lack of infrastructure and the incompetence of those in power are also reasons that fuel the

country's crises. The difficulties encountered by humanitarian in carrying out their mission, the insecurity and the neglect of the population are aspects that generate the desire to migrate. The international community is also making its voice heard, as it is providing support, although the financial effort on its part remains very meagre, if not invisible.

In the DRC, the issue of migration has a more global dimension. The country is facing a combination of internal conflict, invasion by its neighbors, population disenfranchisement, chronic poverty, economic difficulties and inadequate infrastructure. This makes it difficult for the country to respond adequately to migration-related needs. Collaboration with UN bodies is therefore essential if the damage is to be minimized and the dignity of the Congolese people restored.

**Figure 11:**

*Refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (UNHCR, 2024)*



Refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC are hosted in 22 countries across the African continent (505,700 hosted in Uganda).

Refugees and asylum-seekers hosted in the DRC are mostly from Burundi, the Central African Republic, Rwanda and South Sudan.

Source: UNHCR

### Challenges Linked To The Migration Flows in DRC

The situation in the DRC has given rise to a number of challenges linked to migratory flows. Van Der Lijn highlights some of these challenges in his article “Multilateral peace and the challenges of irregular migration and human trafficking”. For him, the presence of Rwandan refugees fleeing the 1994 crisis has had a serious impact on the DRC, weakening its forces and leading to the country's current situation.

The arrival of these migrants fleeing the war has favored the entry of weapons and a new ideology across the various borders of the countries concerned.

In the case of the DRC, the influx of Rwandan refugees following the genocide has had major consequences for the country's stability. Refugee movements can have an impact on demographic balance, the spread of weapons and local power dynamics. Little research on peace operations and irregular migration. Growing consensus on the role of peace operations in combating human trafficking, particularly in relation to terrorism and violent extremism. Controversy surrounding the involvement of peace operations in the broader issues of migration and migrant smuggling. The EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions are increasingly concerned with migrant smuggling and irregular migration. Criticism from the humanitarian, development, military and security communities regarding the focus on migration in peace operations. This is the first stage of the challenges linked to migratory flows in the country.

In one of its reports, the UNHCR states that the humanitarian situation in DR Congo is one of the most complex to manage. The political crises following its independence, the political crises with its neighbours Rwanda and Uganda, climate change, the weakness of the infrastructure, corruption and the weakness of the government, the health of the population and also the involvement of the world powers in the exploitation of the country's natural resources without really taking an interest in the ills of the population make the case of the country one of the most isolated and complex both in its understanding and in the migration policies implemented. After years of observation, the UNHCR notes that the situation in the country is only getting worse and worse. Areas such as North and South Kivu are the worst affected because of their proximity to Rwanda and Uganda, which are constantly provoking instability in the region in order to gain full ownership of the riches it has to offer (UNHCR, 2023). One of the most serious questions on everyone's lips is who's financing the rebels in North Kivu. Indeed, the fact that they are still armed raises a great mystery as to the source of their weapons. This, in fact, contributes to the various challenges facing the Congolese government in its mission to manage migratory flows in the country in collaboration with the UN. The DRC is undoubtedly one of the richest countries in Africa, if not the world. But the presence of foreign powers to exploit the country's natural resources has plunged it into a level of poverty similar to that of Somalia or Eritrea. Another question that arises is this: Despite the political instability



and ongoing wars, how do companies such as Tenke Fungurume Mining (TFM) from China, Mutanda Mining (MUMI) from Switzerland and Kibali Goldmines from Canada manage to go about their business without trouble from the authorities?

### **Factors Affecting Migration Flows in DRC**

Migratory movements are never insignificant. They are necessarily driven by several factors. In the DRC, with political, economic, ethnic and even environmental instability, factors affecting migration are not uncommon. Factors can be classified as conflictual, economic, political, environmental, social, humanitarian, cultural, historical, and international or external influences. In his thesis on the DRC, Michael J. Thompson identifies in his thesis the factors affecting migration flows to the DRC. He identifies four factors affecting migratory flows from the DRC. First, political instability and armed conflict. In his explanation, he points out that in any country, any unrest naturally leads to a desire to protect oneself on the part of the population. This desire to protect oneself means being able to shelter from danger. To do this, if the territory in which they find themselves is not safe, they will prefer to move to another territory. Hence the idea of migration. His second idea is linked to the economic situation of the country and its people. Although the country is considered one of Africa's richest in terms of natural resources, the Congolese population faces incredible economic insecurity. This is due to the ease with which the government allows foreign actors to plunder the country's resources without the knowledge of the Congolese population. This inequality and corruption is also a factor in Congolese migration. Next, he focuses on education. In the DRC, the literacy rate is low due to the lack of government resources to build education centers in remote areas, the abandonment of some children, the difficulties for some children to attend school, and many others. The neglect of the country's education system is also a factor encouraging migration. Finally, he points the finger at corruption and bad governance. The people, caught up in their feelings, never say no, as long as the government politely lies to them. This weakness puts them in a vulnerable position. Corruption in government can never bring good governance to a country as fragile as the DRC.

In their article "The determinants of migration between Africa and Europe: The DR Congo", a group of researchers known as MAFE (Migration entre l'Afrique et l'Europe) also list a number of factors affecting Congolese migratory flows. They also agree with Michael Thompson's idea, in that they also highlight factors linked to

poverty, unemployment, political unrest, corruption and economic challenges. Difficult conditions in the countries of origin can naturally lead people to want to migrate and have a better life, even if this means risking their lives. In their research, the findings show that the main triggers for migration in the DRC are economic challenges and political instability. In addition to this, they make the following statement: *“It is also mentioned that obtaining regulatory status in destination countries facilitates movement between the DRC and Europe, which may influence the propensity of Congolese migrants to return to their countries of origin. In addition, the diversification of Congolese migrant profiles over the last few decades, notably with the arrival of a large number of asylum seekers since the late 1980s, has also had an impact on migratory flows”*. This would mean that even some Congolese with an acceptable living situation would be ready to give up everything and go and live abroad to benefit from refugee status. Propaganda has succeeded in making Africans believe that Europe is paradise.

### **UN Interventions in Managing Migration Flows in DRC**

The UN, through its agencies, is heavily involved in the management of migratory flows and responding to the needs of displaced populations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). All these organizations work in association with Congolese government bodies, local NGOs, international partners and civil society. By working together, the Congolese government is able to find answers to some of the most complex questions, and to come up with lasting solutions. The UNHCR is directly involved in supporting the Congolese people by providing emergency shelter kits and other materials to internally displaced persons. It even goes so far as to provide non-food items used for cooking, such as cooking utensils and other hygiene products (HCR. 2023). In addition to this, it also provides legal support to people whose rights are not respected, enabling them to take legal action and have their rights respected. As for the IOM, it complements the UNHCR's efforts by building and maintaining camps for the displaced, while ensuring that all the conditions necessary for their well-being are respected and effective. It then goes to the trouble of providing tents, tarpaulins and leaves the necessary materials so that they can make their own shelters at their ease for a while (IOM. 2023). To monitor and collect data on the movements of the population, IOM uses the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to better prepare for the challenges ahead. UNICEF's

involvement in the management of migratory flows in the DRC is a very specific form of assistance. For its part, it focuses on the protection and well-being of children by providing medical, psychological and educational assistance to children who are victims of migration, but also of the negative effects generated by the crisis in the country. In addition to the role played by these bodies, the World Health Organization (WHO) also has its share of responsibility in the interventions of UN agencies. To this end, it is committed to supporting health interventions in the fight against Ebola and HIV/AIDS, for example. Once back home, some former migrants struggle to find their feet or reintegrate into society, due to the trauma or difficulties encountered during their migrant adventure. The World Food Programme (WFP) provides food aid by distributing food directly to the camps built and maintained by the joint efforts of IOM and UNHCR.

To support the UN's important role in managing migratory flows in the DRC, programs such as UNHCR's Refugees Assistance Program and UNICEF's Child Protection Initiative deserve our full attention. The UNHCR program is very much on the move in the DRC, due to the country's historical situation. It provides direct support to refugees and asylum seekers in the DRC. It provides beds, mattresses, mats, tents, health care and in many cases food to the individuals concerned, so that they can meet their various needs. This program has been of great benefit to the Congolese people in that it has enabled them to get help and also to trust the UN in its management of migration. In this country, people trust the UN more than their own government. (UNHCR - Operations in DRC). As far as the UNICEF initiative is concerned, its main aim is, of course, to take care of children in general, but especially those left without parents because of the war, and also those who have no parental, friendly or governmental support. The program's policy is to trace the parents of these children and provide them with psychological support in their healing process. In cases where no parents can be found, an orphanage will be set up to take in and care for the children.(UNICEF-DRC).

The interventions of the United Nations in the DRC are visible in particular through its agencies, which are doing their utmost to respond effectively, with the means at their disposal, to the expectations of the population in distress. Without these efforts on their part, the population would be in a most appalling situation, and the face of the DRC would be even worse.

## **National Alignment in DRC**

National alignment in terms of migratory flows in the DRC takes a number of factors into consideration, not least the coordination and integration of the country's various policies and strategies, with the aim of managing migration and the various problems associated with it effectively and unambiguously.

Within the government, we speak of inter-ministerial cooperation. Several ministries are therefore working together to respond rapidly to the various challenges associated with migration. These include the Ministries of Health, Social Affairs and Education. In addition, collaboration between government and local authorities is also necessary. Indeed, thanks to this collaboration, there is a direct conversation between these two entities. One is on the ground, communicating difficulties to the government. And the other, doing its utmost to bring lasting solutions to the people concerned.

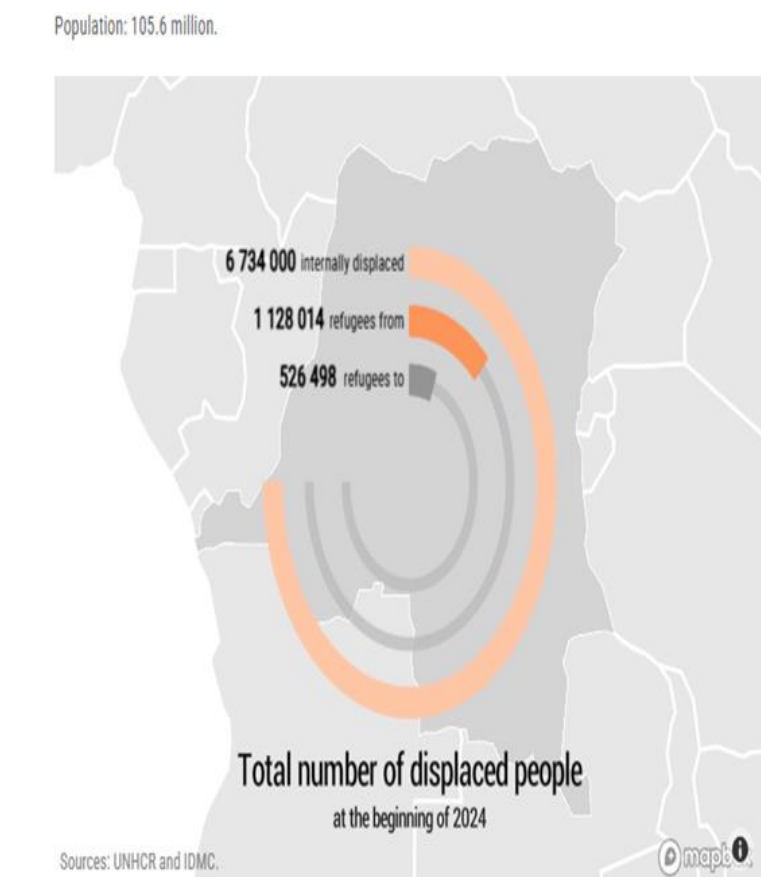
Security and stability being the two elements leading to the resolution of a conflict, the implementation of a strategy aimed at putting an end to current conflicts and preventing future ones could greatly help the country in its fight against forced migration, but also encourage migrants living in other countries to return to their country of origin. Strengthening the borders is therefore necessary to prevent the intrusion of troublemakers or the entry of weapons used to promote political instability in the country.

If security and stability make it possible to avoid political instability, then economic and social development is a factor that complements political stability. Economic integration is responsible for implementing a system that enables former migrants to integrate and update themselves in their country's economy. This program also includes facilitating access to jobs, entrepreneurial opportunities and social services for migrants.

All these initiatives cannot be effective if migrants' rights are not respected. That's why every migrant is entitled to legal protection. For, as figure 12 shows, nearly 8 million migrants suffer from neglect.

**Figure 12:**

*Total number of displaced people (UNHCR and IDMC, 2024)*



### **Impacts of UN Interventions on Migrations Flows in DRC**

In a country such as the DRC, the UN's interventions have had a significant impact on migratory flows, especially in terms of managing internal displacements, providing humanitarian aid and stabilizing crisis-affected regions.

In their work, the primary impact has been to improve the living conditions of the migrant population and reduce the suffering that the Congolese people have faced for so many years. The UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP played a crucial and joint role in providing humanitarian aid to all areas affected by the conflict, as well as to returning migrants. Their primary functions of providing basic needs such as food, water and blankets have largely been fulfilled. In this way, serious humanitarian crises have been alleviated. Alongside this, there are also protection services that offer legal assistance

and gender-based protection against all those who are the object of aggression or arrest, thus ensuring respect for human rights.

As in other countries, the UN's impact on managing migratory flows also involves stabilizing and reducing forced migration. The presence of the UN and its agencies in areas severely affected by crises and conflicts is seen as a beacon of hope, reducing the desire to migrate. In addition, the UN, with its peacekeeping mission MONUSCO (United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo), is striving to ensure security and reduce violence in the areas most affected by crisis. These joint efforts by the UN, through its humanitarian and migration bodies, and the presence of a peacekeeping mission, have had a positive impact on reducing forced migration caused by conflict. Added to this is a range of community programs in charge of stability and the promotion of peace, reconciliation and understanding within several local communities. The implementation of these programs has made it possible to resolve internal problems and thus to calm the rising tide of ideas linked to the desire to migrate. The UN, its agencies and its peacekeeping mission MONUSCO have had a major impact on migratory flows in the DRC by reducing and stabilizing the factors driving displacement (UN, 2023).

UN intervention in the DRC's migratory flows has also had an impact on the reintegration and support of returning migrants. Several programs have been implemented by the UN with the aim of encouraging the return of migrants by ensuring that they receive comprehensive care and are reintegrated into current life in the country. These programs take into account even the most forgotten cases. Agencies such as the UNHCR and the IOM, followed by UNICEF, have facilitated the return home of many elderly migrants by providing assistance, help and care for children through housing reconstruction programs, financial subsistence, access to health services and the construction of education centers for children whose parents have disappeared as a result of conflicts or the dangers associated with migration. For long-term results, the United Nations also has a training program for adults. This program aims to educate them, train them in a trade and thus help them find a job and become independent. It is also a program designed to facilitate integration.

It is clear that the UN's interventions in the DRC have had a positive impact both on the management of migratory flows and on the ongoing conflict in the country. The presence of the UN and its agencies, as well as MONUSCO, has made it possible not only to take care of internal and external migrants, but also to provide a military

response to the ongoing aggression suffered by the Congolese in Kivu and Ituri. It is a mixture of financial, military, humanitarian, social and environmental aid that the UN is giving to the Congolese people. This includes legal and psychological support for survivors of violence and efforts to combat human rights abuses (United Nations, 2024). However, continued efforts and increased resources are required to meet the current challenges and ensure durable solutions for the displaced populations in the DRC.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **Conclusion**

This thesis examined the role of the United Nations in migration management in sub-Saharan Africa in general and in the case of Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC in particular. Firstly, the complexity of migration management and the essential role of the UN in responding to the needs of migrants, refugees and displaced persons were highlighted. Secondly, the analysis offered an insight into the UN's effectiveness in its mission to manage migration in such a turbulent area as sub-Saharan Africa. But how are we to understand the notion of “effectiveness” according to the UN's migration policy? In this context, it can be understood as the UN's ability to achieve its objectives, to promote sustainable solutions and to make every effort to improve the living conditions of migrants. But after all that, what can we learn about the UN's effectiveness in its mission, and also about the roles of stable and cooperative governments? Several conclusions that follow from the thesis help answer this question.

#### **Assessing the effectiveness of the UN**

The study of the three countries shows that the UN has made significant progress in areas such as humanitarian aid, reintegration and, above all, the protection of migrants' rights. For example, the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program (AVRR) has made it possible to receive a large number of Nigerian migrants wishing to return to their homeland. The same applies to Côte d'Ivoire, where the UNDP's post-conflict recovery program has enabled the country's infrastructure to be rebuilt, while creating opportunities and jobs for Ivorians. On the other hand, the thesis also highlights the difficulties and challenges the UN has had to face throughout its stay and its mission to manage migration in these countries. These include inadequate funding, ongoing conflicts and limited access to conflict-affected areas. This means that the UN's ability to achieve its objectives is often limited by the political environment of the host country, in this case the DR Congo, where war has been going on for over 50 years.



### **The role of stable and cooperative governments**

In addition, the results achieved by the UN in managing migration in these three countries depend above all on the collaboration between the UN and the governments of the countries concerned, depending on their stability and cooperation. A stable government provides the necessary conditions for the implementation of a migration policy, while a cooperative government actively supports UN initiatives and aligns its national policies with international standards.

- In Côte d'Ivoire, post-conflict stability and the willingness of the new government installed by France to cooperate fully with the UN have facilitated the successful implementation of migration-related programs.
- In DR Congo, political instability, weak infrastructure, ongoing wars and weak government have greatly limited the UN's ability to provide a comprehensive service.
- In Nigeria, it's a country of contrasts. The governments of some states are cooperative, while others are not, or are delaying their collaboration with UN agencies on the ground.

These examples show the real importance of the collaboration and the cooperation between the UN and national government to facilitate the UN in their migration management mission.

### ***General Consideration***

By examining the complex dynamics of migrants in sub-Saharan Africa through the cases of Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo, this thesis reveals that the United Nations' response, while crucial, remains dependent on the geopolitical contexts, local realities and socio-economic challenges facing these countries. The path towards sustainable and humane migration management requires strengthened collaboration and approaches that are better adapted to regional specificities. Thus, the aim of this thesis was to demonstrate the important role of the UN and its bodies in the management of migration in the countries concerned in particular, but also, its serious involvement in matters likely to manage unrest on the continental and also global scene. In its migration management role, the UN, through bodies such as the UNHCR and even the IOM, has played a more than important role in managing and controlling migration flows in each country. The aim of this thesis

was to analyse the policies and interventions of the United Nations with regard to migration in sub-Saharan Africa. The next objective of the thesis was to understand the dynamics of migration, the policies put in place by the UN to respond to the needs of migrants, and the challenges encountered in implementing these policies. By assessing the effectiveness of UN interventions, this thesis aims to contribute to a better understanding of migration issues in these three countries, and to provide recommendations for improving international responses to these phenomena.

To sum up, this thesis explored in depth the key themes addressed in each chapter: Chapter I introduced the subject, presenting its purpose, limitations and the method used to gather information. Chapter II highlighted the conceptual framework of the notion of migration. This chapter deconstructed the notion of migration and then presented the types of migration derived from it. Chapter III discussed the notion of the UN in depth. It presented the history of the UN before associating it with migration and its implications. Chapters IV, V and VI respectively illustrate the case studies of each country (Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, DR Congo) by recalling the political situation of each country before presenting the primary reasons that encouraged the population to migrate at all costs to other horizons, i.e. political, economic and environmental factors. The thesis concludes with Chapter VII, which logically brings the work to a close with recommendations and reflections on the importance of migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa, and the role of the international community.

At the end of the thesis analyse, it is more than important to recognize the crucial role of the United Nations in managing migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Nigeria. These three countries have seriously faced economic, political, socio-cultural and ethnic challenges linked to their history, which has led some of their populations to migrate in search of better living conditions. The UN, through its agencies, various initiatives and partnerships, is striving to put in place sustainable solutions to manage this mass migration. This includes protecting the rights of migrants, improving living conditions in countries of origin, promoting greater international cooperation, fighting corruption through the governments of each country, and sensitizing people to the harms of migration. Ultimately, the success of these efforts will depend on continued collaboration between the states concerned and international organizations to create an environment where migration is managed humanely and effectively.

### ***Reflections on the Importance of Migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa***

Migration from sub-Saharan Africa is of crucial importance both for the societies concerned and for the international community. This migration mechanism raises a number of fundamental issues and calls for much more in-depth reflection. This part of the thesis will focus first on the assessment of UN achievements, the challenges and limitations, the importance of migratory flows and the challenge for international community.

### ***Assessment of UN Achievements***

In general, the UN plays a crucial role in its mission to maintain international peace and security, respect human rights and manage migratory flows. Since its creation, the UN has deployed 70 peacekeeping missions, contributing to the stabilization and reconstruction of post-conflict societies worldwide (United Nations Peacekeeping.2023). This demonstrates the UN's serious commitment to the quest for international peace and security. But peace can only be achieved through the direct determination of states to put an end to war and the evils of the world. The African continent is a seriously turbulent place, both in terms of migration and political, economic, social and environmental instability. In such a context, the UN has sent a large number of peacekeeping missions to try and stabilize the situation in the most unstable areas. In Sierra Leone, there is a UN mission called UNAMSIL. In one of its reports, the UN states that “UN peace missions in sub-Saharan Africa, such as MINUSCA and UNAMSIL, have played an essential role in bringing peace and stability to conflict-affected areas”. (UN. 2023).

As far as migration is concerned, it is managed by the UNHCR and the IOM, which have so far done a remarkable job in managing migratory flows in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC. Thanks to their various interventions, the DRC, one of the countries most affected by conflicts, is now able to meet the humanitarian challenges of the Congolese people.

The International Organization for Migration states: "IOM's assisted voluntary return and reintegration programs have helped thousands of migrants in sub-Saharan Africa to return to their countries of origin with dignity and sustainable reintegration".

## Challenges and Limitations

Sub-Saharan Africa is a highly coveted area, due to its history and rich natural resources. As a result, the UN faces a number of challenges and limitations in its mission to manage migration in the area.

The most serious factor is undoubtedly political instability. In countries such as the DRC, the Central African Republic (CAR) and South Sudan, conflicts are still underway due to governmental problems, making it very difficult for the UN to intervene. On top of this, there are economic concerns that prevent the UN from providing adequate assistance to countries in distress. Lack of volunteer staff, poor infrastructure and humanitarian conditions, not to mention the environmental factor. According to Human Rights Watch "Over 100 armed groups are active in eastern Congo and the imposition of martial law in North Kivu and Ituri provinces has facilitated abuses by government security forces". As also highlighted by the International Crisis Group (2024), the country is facing a number of complications related to the effectiveness and efficiency of the management of its security policy, enabling it to ensure the full and complete security of Nigerians. For example, there is the presence of the Boko Haram Islamists in the north-east of the country, religious conflicts between the population itself, discontent, the existence of separatist groups with an ideology equal to that of those who provoked the Biafra war of July 1967. Countries such as Mali are also facing this difficulty in achieving full security, with the presence of terrorist groups in the north of the country known as 'Azawad'. With these precarious circumstances and the existence of ethnic and religious conflicts, the question of security seems almost impossible for these countries if they are not seriously helped.

As for Côte d'Ivoire, it has also faced problems of political and security instability since the death of its first president, Félix Houphouët Boigny, in 1993, 1993 and in 2010 a violent electoral crisis left over 3,000 people dead. A few years later, in 2016, the town of Grand-Bassam was the scene of a shooting attack claimed by al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, killing 19 people. From then until now, the country has enjoyed political, economic, environmental and security stability and as the International Crisis Group (2023) asserted in their online report subtitle, "The Islamist militants in the Sahel have made repeated sorties into coastal West African countries, including Côte d'Ivoire. So far, Abidjan has largely repulsed their attempted advances, with a mix of security and socio-economic initiatives."

This chapter enabled us to understand how the UN, through its organs, manages migration by using a mechanism based on the protection and respect of human rights. In its mission to manage migration flows, the UN takes into account all aspects of migration and, above all, migrants. This therefore help us to understand the following statement: “The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) plays a crucial role in the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons. Its efforts include providing humanitarian assistance, protecting durable solutions and working with governments to strengthen national legal frameworks relating to migration” (Feller, Turk & Nicholson, 2003). They emphasize the importance of the roles played by UN bodies, notably the Office of the High Commissioner. The authors demonstrate the extent to which the UN is doing its utmost to meet the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons.

### ***Importance of Migratory Flows***

This importance is primarily economic. Indeed, migrants often play a key role in the economies of the countries that receive them, filling labour shortages and contributing to various economic sectors, from agriculture to advanced technologies. Migrants often perform the jobs that the local population refuses to do. As a result, remittances sent by migrants to their families in their countries of origin are an essential source of income, contributing to local development and poverty reduction. According to the latest World Bank report on migration and development, African Diasporas will have sent \$54 billion to their countries of origin by 2023. These remittances, although very important for African economies, were down 0.3% on last year. At the top of the list of recipient countries are Nigeria, which received over 19 billion dollars in 2023 from the diaspora, and the DRC, which received 1.4 billion dollars (World Bank, 2023).

Secondly, the importance of migratory flows can be seen in the demographics. Migration shapes the demographic structures of countries of origin. They can help mitigate population ageing in host countries, and compensate for losses in countries of origin. On the other hand, they can also lead to what is known as a "brain drain", depriving countries of origin of essential skills and talents.

Thirdly, society and culture. Migration fosters cultural exchange and diversity, enriching host societies with new ideas, practices and perspectives. They also pose

serious challenges in terms of integration and social cohesion, calling for inclusive policies and efforts to combat discrimination and xenophobia.

### ***Challenges for the international community***

The term “international community” is a political expression referring imprecisely to a group of states with influence over international politics (Burnell, 2013). It can refer to the member states of the United Nations, i.e. all the countries represented at the General Assembly, which represents almost the entire planet. It also designates the member states of the Security Council, or more precisely, its five permanent members. It also takes into account groups and partnerships between militarily or economically powerful countries, such as NATO, the G7 or the G20, with no link to the UN. With such a broad conception, there are bound to be issues at stake for the international community when it comes to migration.

On an international level, it has to be said that managing migratory flows requires enhanced cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as multilateral agreements to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration. Major international organizations, such as the UN, inevitably play a key role in coordinating efforts and promoting international standards for the protection of migrants' rights.

This means controlling and managing migration. Uncontrolled migration can be a source of instability and conflict, requiring global strategies to prevent and resolve migratory crises. It is therefore essential to fight against the root causes of forced migration, such as conflicts and human rights violations, and to let countries rich in natural resources enjoy their own resources, thus promoting job creation and reducing migration.

Finally, it's important to remember that migration flows from sub-Saharan Africa pose complex and complicated challenges, but at the same time offer significant and labour-intensive opportunities. A collaborative and integrated analysis, respectful of human rights and oriented towards sustainable development, is essential if we are to meet these challenges effectively and equitably.

### **Recommendations**

For a more in-depth study, the recommendations focused on more open topics. They were therefore called, recommendations for further research

### ***Recommendations for Further Research***

Following the main recommendations, some avenues for future research can be highlighted. These are as follows:

- Analyse individual and collective motivations to find out what drives people to migrate in the first place, and then explore the impact of armed conflicts and political crises on migration decisions.
- Monitor the impact of local and international migration policies by evaluating the effectiveness of national and regional migration policies. Then study the influence of international policies and bilateral or multilateral agreements on migratory flows.
- Take a close look at the roles and strategies of non-state actors such as NGOs, international organizations and migrant associations in managing migration and supporting migrants, and carefully study their initiatives to protect migrants' rights and support host communities.
- Study internal and cross-border migratory movements between neighbouring countries, and analyse the differences and similarities between these types of migration and their respective impacts.
- To prevent people from leaving, we need to think about improving the living conditions and integration of migrants.
- Above all, we need to explore how Diasporas contribute to the economic, social and cultural development of their countries of origin.
- The most important thing is to set up longitudinal studies to track migration patterns over the long term.

Further research into these can help provide reliable and valuable information to establish more effective migration policies, and to better grasp the complex dynamics of migration from Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the DRC.

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**Appendices**  
**Appendix A:**  
**Ethics Committee Approval**



**SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**

19.11.2024

Dear Anoman Lucien Junior ADJE

Your project **“UN and migratory flows from sub-saharan Africa: The cases of cote D’ivoire, DR Congo and Nigeria”** has been evaluated. Since only secondary data will be used the project does not need to go through the ethics committee. You can start your research on the condition that you will use only secondary data.



Prof. Dr. Aşkın KİRAZ

The Coordinator of the Scientific Research Ethics Committee

## Appendix B:

### Turnitin Similarity Report

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