Smart Moves

Youth, security and mobility in West Africa

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Human Development Index

1 Norway
2 Switzerland
3 Australia

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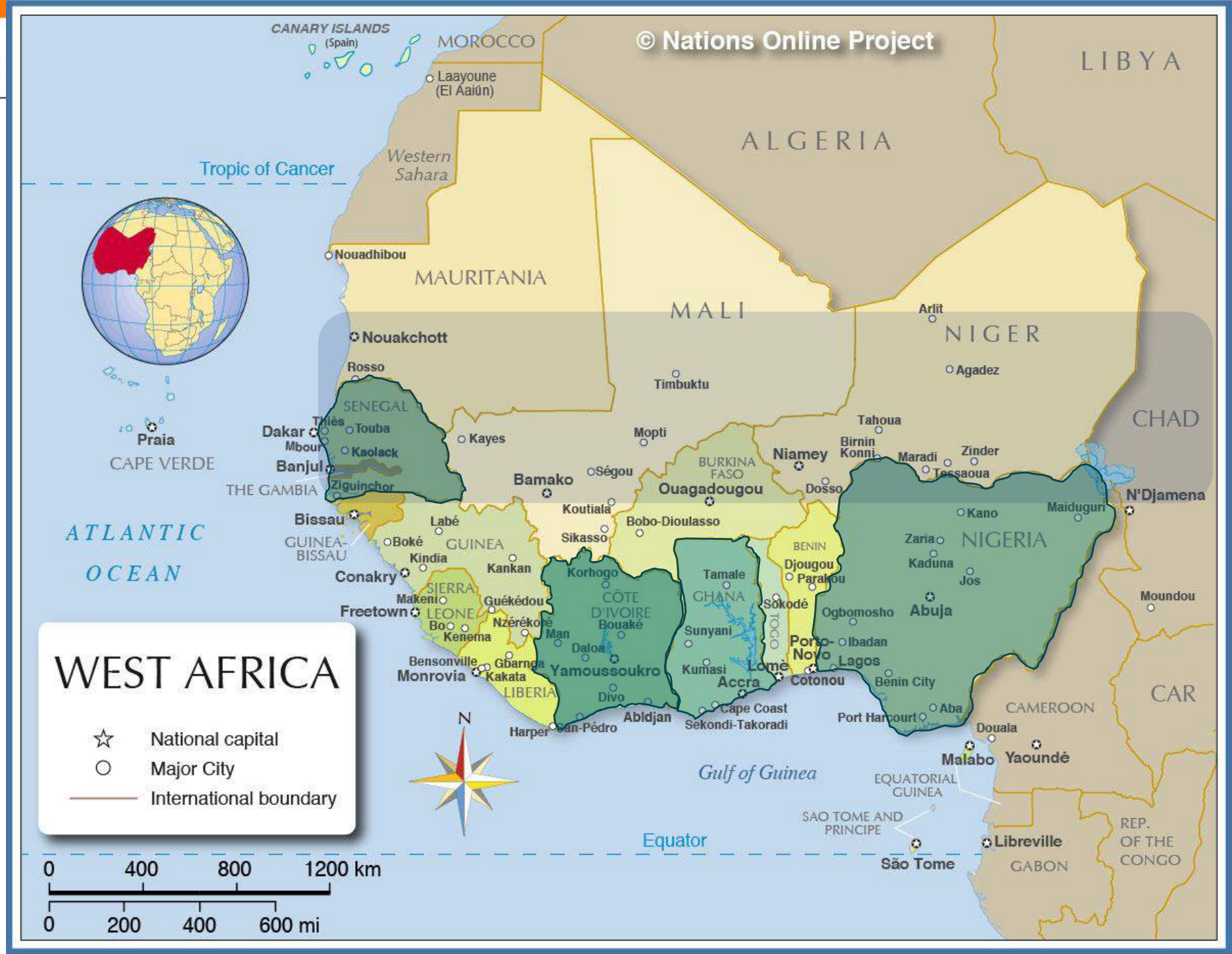
151 Cameroon
157 Nigeria
159 Mauritania
164 Senegal
167 Sudan
179 Eritrea
182 Mali
183 Burkina Faso
186 Chad
189 Niger



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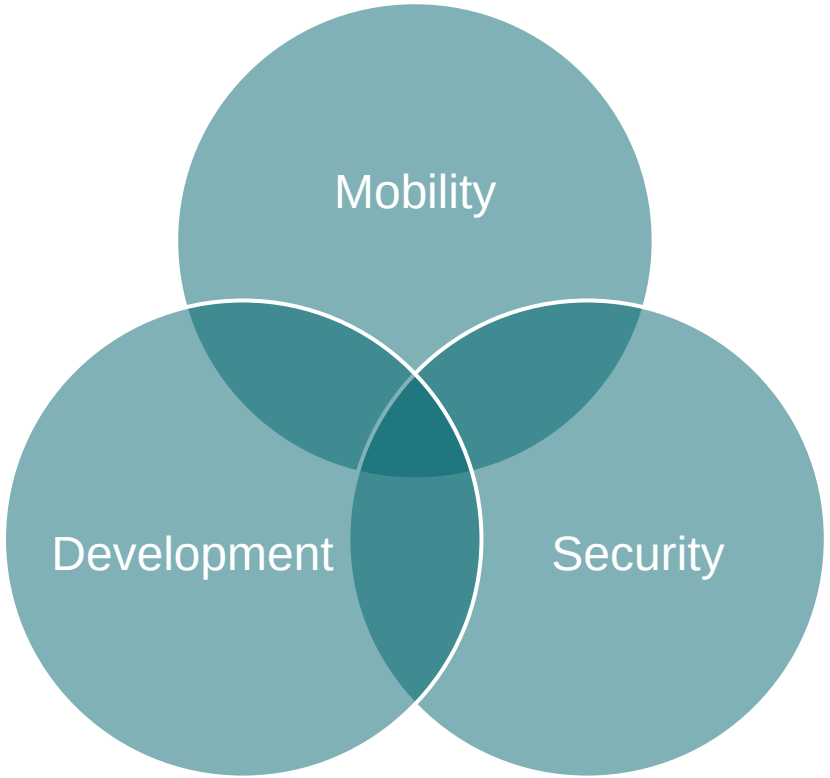
Smart Moves


Mobility
Development
Security

What is youth?

Entity/Instrument/ Organization	Age	Reference
UN Secretariat/UNESCO/ILO	Youth: 15-24	UN Instruments, Statistics
UN Habitat (Youth Fund)	Youth 15-32	Agenda 21[7]
UNICEF/WHO/UNFPA	Adolescent: 10-19, Young People: 10-24, Youth: 15-24	UNFPA[8]
UNICEF /The Convention on Rights of the Child	Child until 18	UNICEF[9]
The African Youth Charter	Youth: 15-35	African Union, 2006[10]

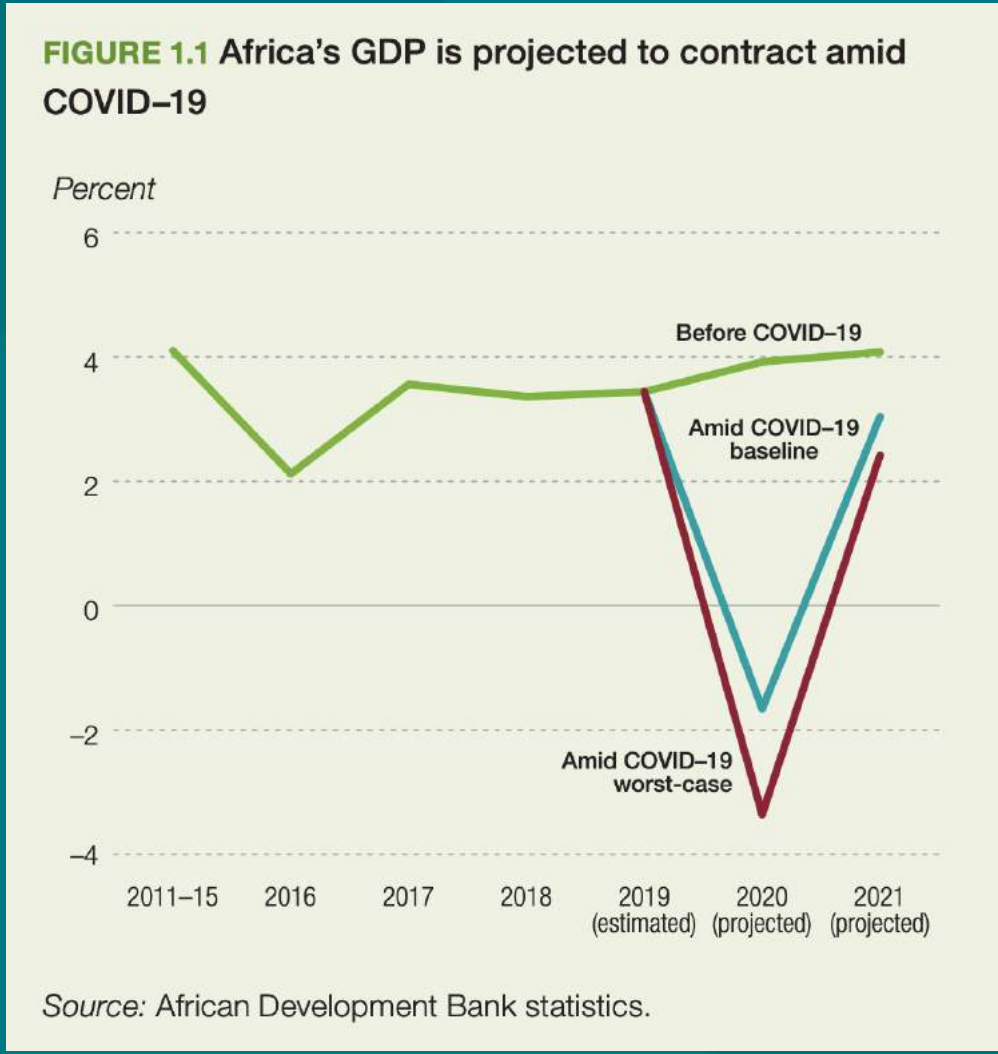
Smart Moves

1 Youth-centred approach

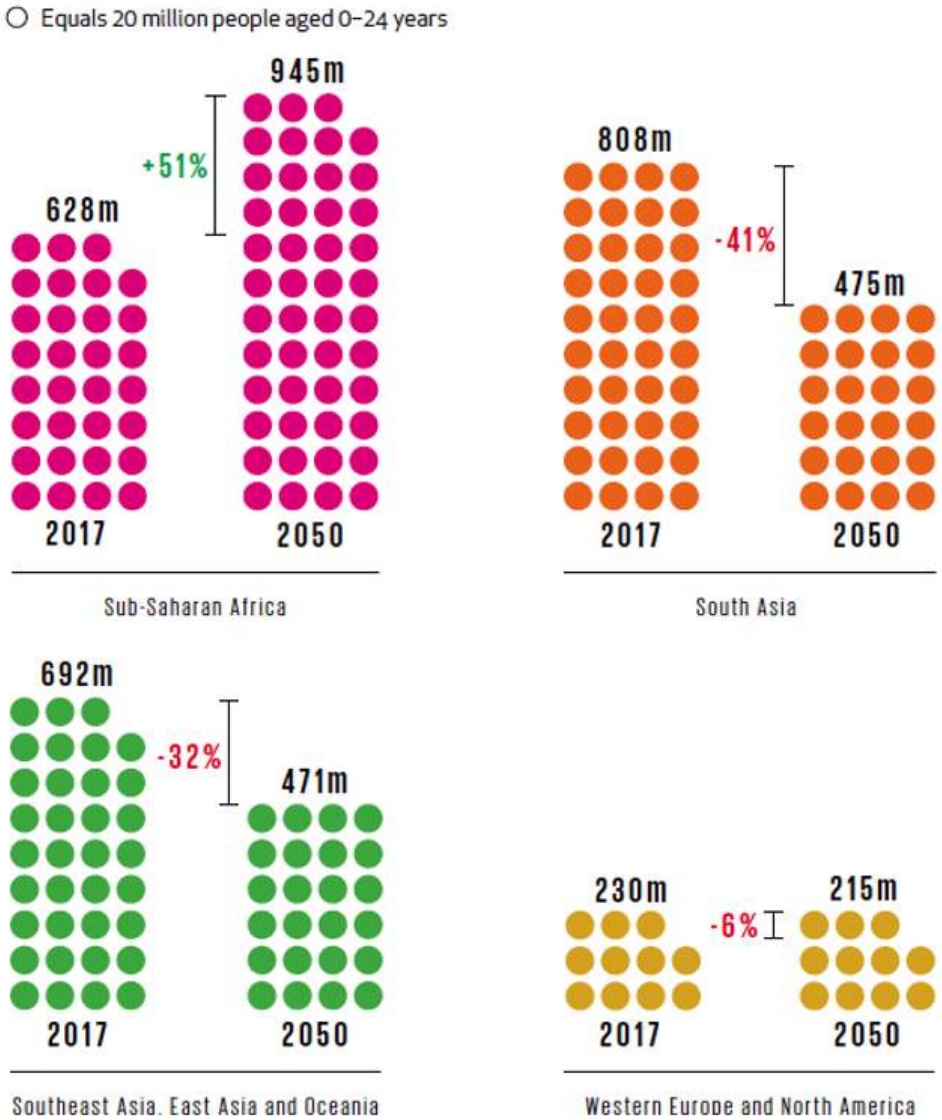
2 The social/political role(s) of youth

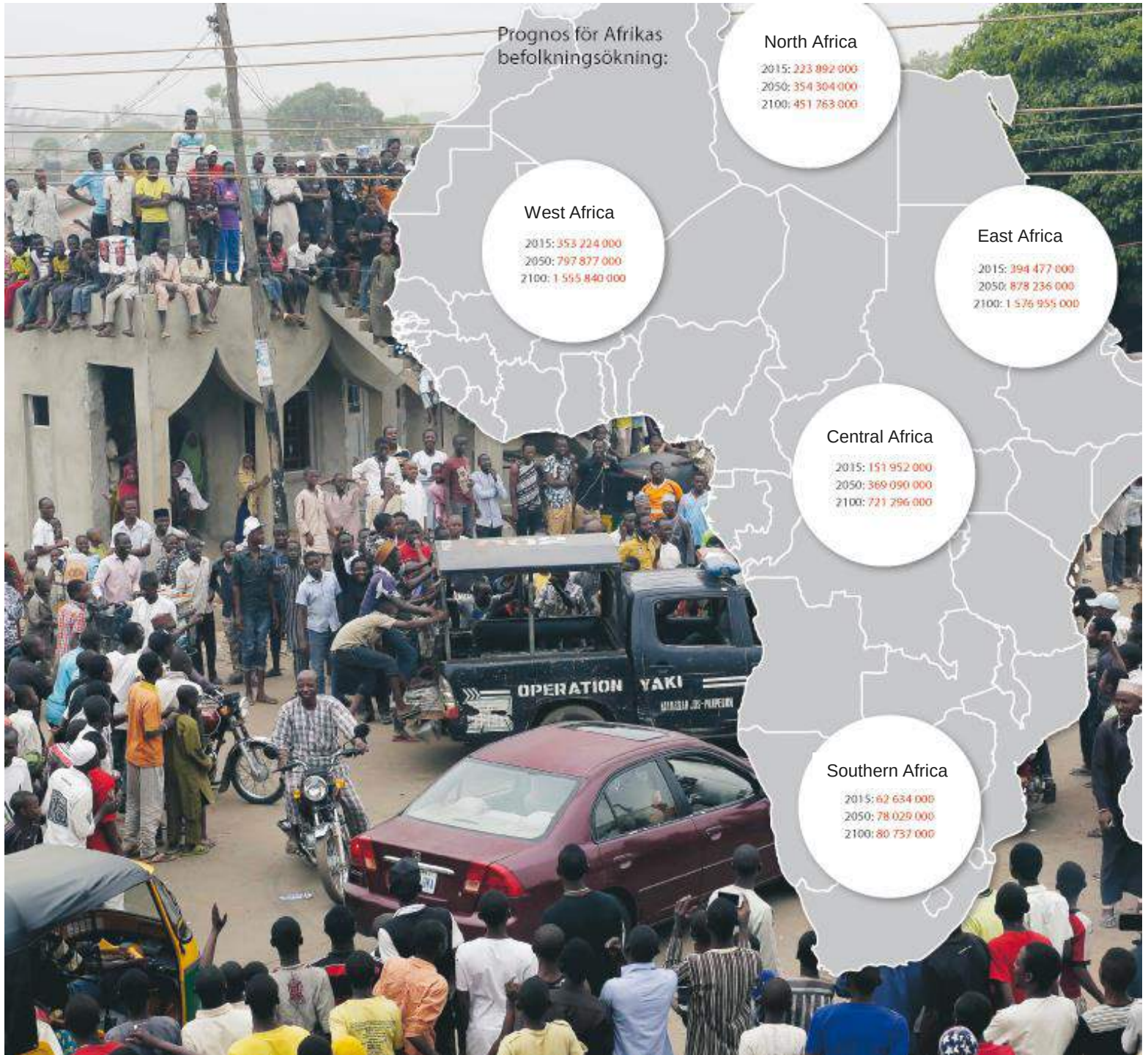
3 Challenge dominant discourses on migration and security (and youth)

Mobility/development



African youth and development policy



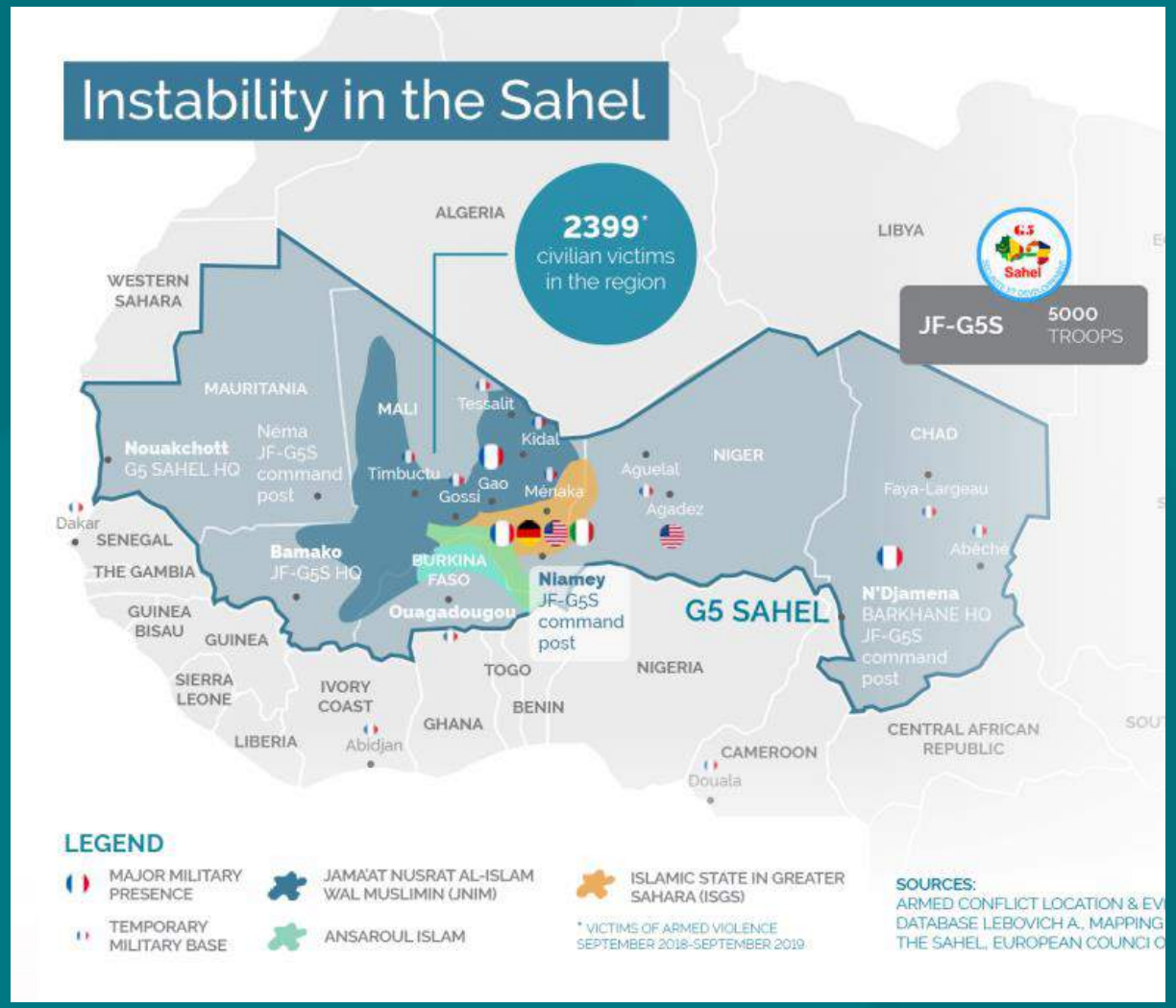


Everyday mobilities

AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA
CREATING ONE AFRICAN MARKET
#AfCFTA2018 | 17-21 March 2018 | Kigali, Rwanda

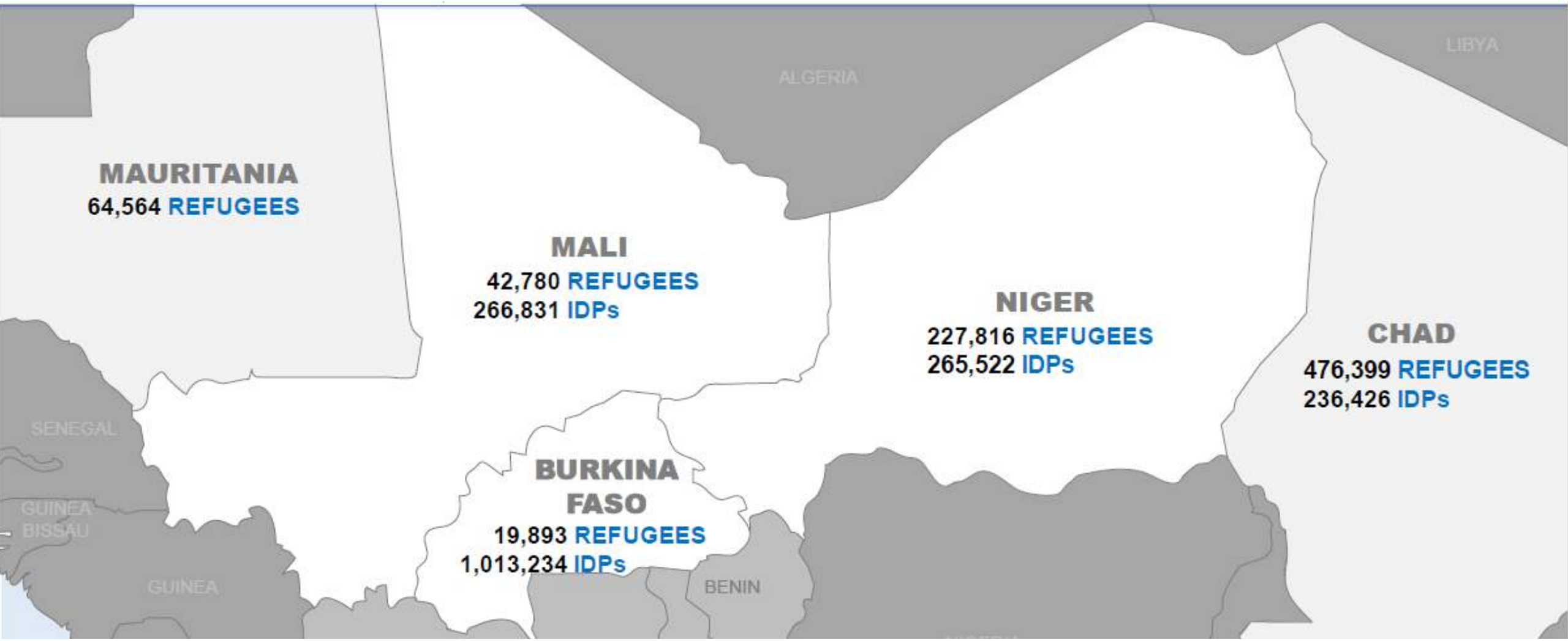
United Nations
Global Compact FOR Migration
INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE TO ADOPT THE GLOBAL COMPACT
FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION
MARRAKESH - 10 & 11 DECEMBER 2018
PRESIDENT

Mobility/security



BISON
FRANCE

Displacement crisis in the Sahel



Mediterranean ”migration crisis”

Security/development

France
DEGAGE
France

Coup in Mali

18 August 2020

Youth politics

Understanding youth mobilities

Livelihood options

Social activism

Political participation

Eductation

Transnational migration

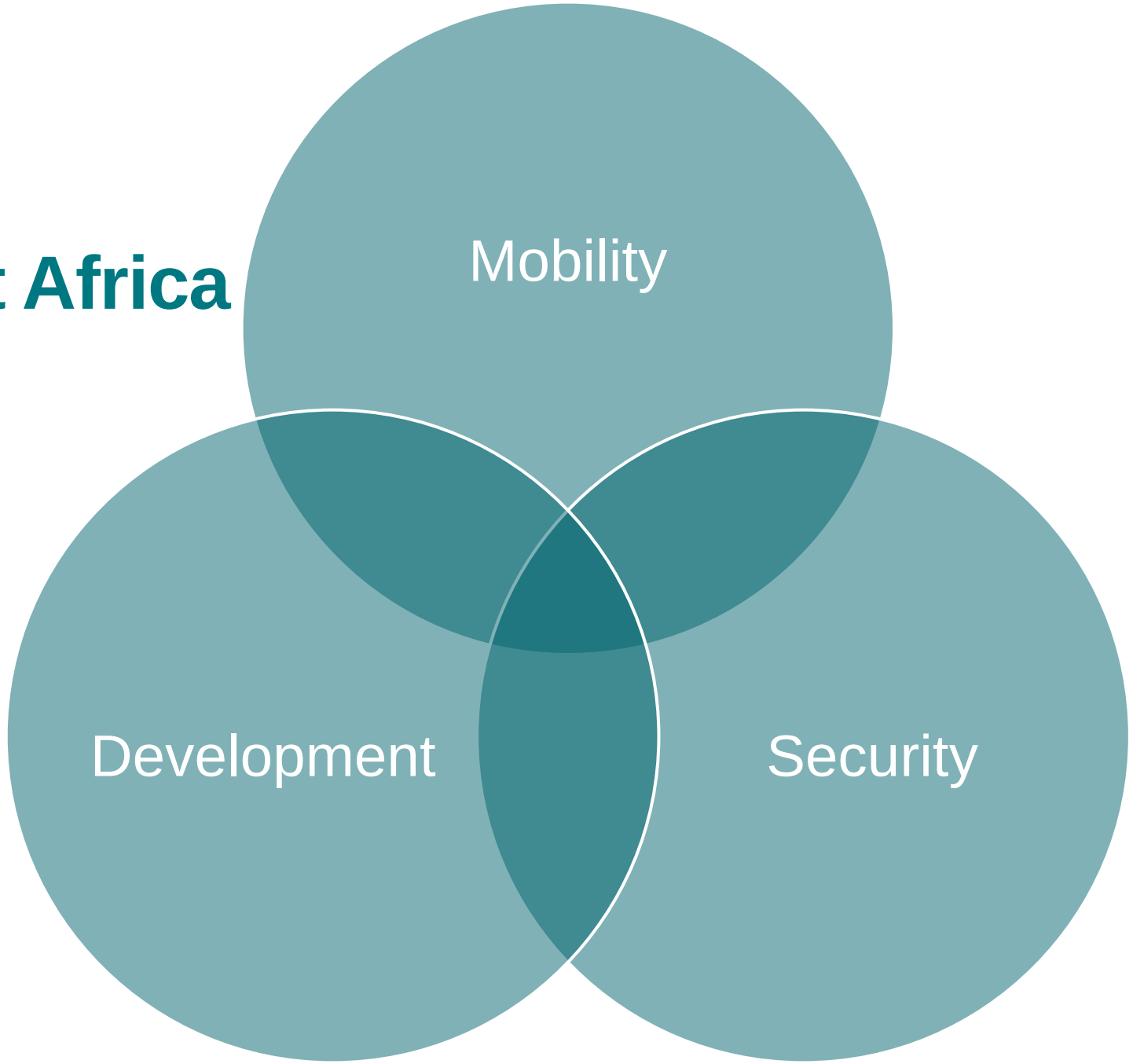
No access

Mobility/security/ development in West Africa

Both irregular migration and armed combat are livelihood strategies

Youth at the front lines

Socially and culturally embedded narratives and aspirations



Smart Moves

1 Lives and livelihoods are intertwined with security and mobility in complex ways

2 Young people are at the front lines of key challenges and opportunities, engaged in a struggle for access

3 Smart moves