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Gender and migration in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan African countries

Gian Carlo Blangiardo

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and Sub-Saharan African countries**

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This publication is part of a series of papers on Gender and Migration written in the framework of the CARIM project and presented at a meeting organised in Florence: “Gender and migration in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean and Sub-Sahara African countries” (18-19 October 2010).

These papers will be discussed in two meetings between Policy Makers and Experts on the same topic in winter 2011. The results of these discussions will also be published.

The entire set of papers on Gender and Migration are available at
<http://www.carim.org/ql/GenderAndMigration>

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CARIM

The Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM) was created at the European University Institute (EUI, Florence), in February 2004 and co-financed by the European Commission, DG AidCo, currently under the Thematic programme for the cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum.

Within this framework, CARIM aims, in an academic perspective, to observe, analyse, and forecast migration in Southern & Eastern Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Countries (hereafter Region).

CARIM is composed of a coordinating unit established at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) of the European University Institute (EUI, Florence), and a network of scientific correspondents based in the 17 countries observed by CARIM: Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Palestine, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey.

All are studied as origin, transit and immigration countries. External experts from the European Union and countries of the Region also contribute to CARIM activities.

CARIM carries out the following activities:

- Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan migration database;
- Research and publications;
- Meetings of academics and between experts and policy makers;
- Migration Summer School;
- Outreach.

The activities of CARIM cover three aspects of international migration in the Region: economic and demographic, legal, and socio-political.

Results of the above activities are made available for public consultation through the website of the project: www.carim.org

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Abstract

According to destination country statistics there are nearly ten million emigrants from southern and eastern Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan CARIM countries and about four out of ten of these are women. As to immigration the United Nations estimates eleven million international migrants in CARIM-15 countries, of whom 48% are female. The female emigration rates in CARIM countries vary depending upon destination areas and motivations. In general, Europe and Northern America offer more opportunities for family reunification than the Gulf States which, unlike Western countries where female migration is confined to low-level jobs, give women opportunities in professional jobs like teaching and the health-related professions. Reports from national experts have highlighted how female migration is often related to local factors like the education level, whose rise has been noted almost everywhere and that it is considered an important push factor for the young. As to reasons for leaving the origin country and the decision to migrate more generally, national reports confirm that, while economic motives largely explain the migration of males, the reasons for female migration are more diverse. Work is increasingly important, but family reasons (mainly marriage and spouse reunification) still dominate female migration patterns.

Résumé

Partant des mouvements migratoires internationaux, un double constat essentiel ressort à l'appui des données statistiques enregistrées au sein des pays d'accueil. Investis à l'échelle d'une zone géographique partant de la Méditerranée méridionale et orientale à l'Afrique sub-saharienne, les pays membres du réseau CARIM enregistrent des quantifications de départ à hauteur de dix millions d'individus, comptant, en outre, en son sein une population de près de quatre millions de femmes. Le phénomène de l'immigration prend une ampleur toute aussi inédite : les estimations rapportées par l'ONU évaluent la présence de migrants internationaux dans les pays investis au sein du réseau CARIM-15 à hauteur de onze millions d'individus, comptant en son sein un profil de près de 48% de femmes. À ce titre, la difficulté liée à l'analyse de ce schéma de migration féminine reste largement tributaire de choix de destination et de motivations assez diverses. Le territoire européen et nord-américain constitue certes une destination de prédilection et un terreau d'opportunités en termes de regroupement familial pour ces dernières, par comparaison avec les pays du Golfe. Reste que, et contrairement aux pays occidentaux lesquels confinent la migration féminine à des secteurs professionnels peu qualifiés, les Etats du Golfe offrent de plus grandes opportunités à travers des secteurs qualifiés tels l'enseignement ou encore la santé. Un panel considérable d'experts nationaux pointe et conforte le lien d'association très fort existant entre le phénomène migratoire des femmes et la consistance des facteurs locaux tels que le niveau d'éducation identifié comme un facteur déterminant au départ, surtout parmi les jeunes. Le marché du travail représente, à cet égard, un incitant au départ au regard de la tendance qu'il soutient très souvent à maintenir des inégalités de genre, et à circonscrire l'autonomisation des femmes encore fortement annihilée par la conjoncture socio-culturelle du pays d'origine. Les rapports nationaux susmentionnés soutiennent dans une très large mesure ces constats, et confirment la double nature de ces motivations au départ. Si le motif économique constitue une motivation historiquement rapportée à la migration masculine, les motivations sous-jacents la migration féminine tendent à être plus diverses. En effet, outre la migration professionnelle, les motifs d'ordre familial tels que le mariage ou la réunification familiale tendent à revêtir une dimension inédite dans la configuration et l'assise de la migration féminine.

Introduction

The aim of this Report is to set up a migration framework in the CARIM-15 countries with specific reference to gender differences from a demographic and socio-economic point of view. To achieve this international and national statistical sources have been used, when available, together with the crucial figures and analytic reports found in the CARIM database. A fundamental contribution was given by the working papers prepared by national experts through which the most important aspects of female migration were highlighted with reference to national sources and local studies.

This Report has been broken down into three parts. In the first, the framework of the migration flows concerning the 15 countries of the CARIM project is provided, with some specific points regarding female migration. The evaluations provided employ two different approaches: the analysis of stocks, according to the most reliable statistics from international and country of destination sources, and the reconstruction of the migratory balances by the comparison of the age distribution of the population at two different dates according to international sources (UN). The second part is devoted to presenting the most significant aspects of female migration in CARIM countries including, for each country, a first section dedicated to the main trends and patterns of international migration from a gender perspective as seen in national sources and/or the CARIM database and a second section which instead focuses on the main features and problems relating to women' migration depending on the analysis of the national experts' reports presented during the 2010 CARIM international conferences on "Gender and Migration". The third part of the Report is devoted to the analysis of the presence of CARIM-15 citizens in Italy, an important country of destination for all CARIM nationals. Here it has been possible to refer to original sources that not only captured the gender dimension of this issue, but also the knowledge of many other structural features of CARIM countries present in Italy. The main outcomes of this focus are detailed, with tables and figures, in Annex 1. Finally, conclusions are presented.

1. The statistical and demographic relevance of international migrations in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean (SEM) and Sub-Saharan (SSA) Countries.

1.1 The stock approach

As to the immigrant population residing in CARIM-15 countries, in 2010 the proportion of international migrants living in CARIM-15 countries as a percentage of their total populations is 3.6% in 2010. Almost half of them (48.1%) are females (table 1).

Table 1. Global statistics on international migrants in CARIM-15 Countries: 1990-2010

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Estimated number of international migrants at mid-year	6,285	7,295	7,602	8,879	10,929
Estimated number of refugees at mid-year	3,599	4,296	4,388	5,437	7,246
Population at mid-year (thousands)	200,841	225,615	249,956	276,756	306,979
Estimated number of female migrants at mid-year	2,987	3,483	3,633	4,254	5,252
Estimated number of male migrants at mid-year	3,297	3,813	3,968	4,625	5,677
International migrants as a percentage of the population	3.1	3.2	3	3.2	3.6
Female migrants as percentage of all international migrants	47.5	47.7	47.8	47.9	48.1
Refugees as a percentage of international migrants	57.3	58.9	57.7	61.2	66.3

Source: U.N. database – the 2008 Revision

Concerning emigration, according to UN statistics, as provided by the UN database – the 2008 Revision (see <http://www.un.org/esa/population/unpop.htm>), there are 9.9 million emigrants originating in SEM and SSA worldwide. They make up 4.6% of international migrants. About 38% of them are female.

According to destination countries statistics, as provided by the UN Global Migration database (see <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/logon.aspx>), Saudi Arabia, France and Italy are the most attractive destinations for CARIM-15 emigrants. Particularly important are the presence of Egyptian, Jordanian and Palestinian migrants in Saudi Arabia, of Moroccan migrants in Spain, France and Italy, of Algerian and Tunisian migrants in France and of Lebanese migrants in the US (table 2).

Table 2. CARIM-15 emigration stocks residing in selected countries by country of residence and country of origin according to destination countries statistics, various years

Destination country /Year	Country of origin CARIM-15 (c)														
	CHD	NGR	MAL	SEN	SUD	SYR	ALG	EGY	LEB	MAU	MOR	OPT	TUN	JOR	LIB
Italy (2007)	133	952	832	62,620	2,106	3,539	22,672	69,572	3,471	567	365,908	316	93,601	2,860	1,517
France (1999)	1,162	856	36,091	38,956	641	3,728	477,482	8,208	10,724	7,675	504,096	468	154,356	498	435
Spain (2008)	n.a.	n.a.	19,011	45,371	220	4,796	55,726	3,680	3,065	9,572	683,102	200	2,384	2,097	n.a.
United Kingdom (1991)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	22,849	n.a.	n.a.	9,073	n.a.	2,417	n.a.	n.a.
Germany (2008)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	28,459	13,148	11,623	38,028	n.a.	66,189	n.a.	23,142	7,716	n.a.
US (a)	185	266	359	10,926	38,214	55,203	n.a.	113,396	108,333	520	58,806	20,026	4,286	54,868	n.a.
Canada (b)	260	n.a.	115	485	1,380	11,005	n.a.	28,015	6,275	n.a.	2,100	n.a.	2,540	2,110	n.a.
Saudi Arabia (1995)	10,132	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	242,508	128,354	n.a.	1,195,189	52,560	n.a.	18,570	110,611	11,196	155,410	n.a.
Australia (2006)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	196	19,049	6,969	n.a.	33,497	74,848	n.a.	1,295	2,636	441	3,719	1,516
Total	11,872	2,074	56,408	158,554	304,118	242,053	569,028	1,486,029	297,304	18,334	1,709,139	134,257	294,363	229,278	3,468

Notes: (a) Chad, Niger, Mali, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Tunisia, 1990; Mauritania, 1980; others, 2005; (b) Chad, 1980; Lebanon, Morocco, 1986; others, 1991; (c) CHD: Chad; NGR: Niger; MAL: Mali; SEN: Senegal; SUD: Sudan; SYR: Syria; ALG: Algeria; EGY: Egypt; LEB: Lebanon; MAU: Mauritania; MOR: Morocco; OPT: occupied Palestinian territory; TUN: Tunisia; JOR: Jordan; LIB: Libya.

Source: U.N. Global Migration database v.0.36, see <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/logon.aspx>

By looking instead at another kind of sources, i.e. available data from the institutions of origin countries such as consular records, as collected by the CARIM datababase (see <http://www.carim.org/index.php?areaid=4&contentid=57>), Morocco, Egypt, Algeria, and Tunisia appear as the main countries of emigration in the CARIM Region with around 3.3, 2.7, 1.3 and 1.1 million emigrants abroad respectively (table 3).

Table 3. CARIM-15 emigration stocks by country of residence and country of origin according to origin countries statistics, various years

Country of residence	Country of origin CARIM-15/Year (d)								
	MAL	SEN	ALG	EGY	LEB (b)	MAU	MOR	TUN	JOR (c)
	2001	2003/04	2002	2000	2007	2004	2007	2008	2008
Arab Countries	148,498	(a)	65,000	1,912,000	162,663	n.a.	281,631	153,200	161,854
<i>of which Saudi Arabia</i>	26,582	(a)	n.a.	924,000	n.a.	20,000	n.a.	n.a.	3,396
European Union	23,281	190,000	1,209,000	326,000	104,619	n.a.	2,837,654	873,900	0
<i>of which France</i>	21,964	n.a.	1,105,000	36,000	n.a.	20,000	1,131,000	578,000	0
<i>Spain</i>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3,000	n.a.	n.a.	547,000	n.a.	0
<i>Italy</i>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	90,000	n.a.	n.a.	379,000	141,900	0
<i>United Kingdom</i>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0
Africa (no Arab countries)	745,503	410,000	0	0	36,716	145,500	n.a.	n.a.	0
Asia (no Arab countries)	n.a.	5,400	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0
North America	3,605	43,200	26,000	428,000	103,271	n.a.	161,216	27,600	0
<i>of which US</i>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	318,000	n.a.	n.a.	100,000	n.a.	0
<i>Canada</i>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	110,000	n.a.	n.a.	60,000	n.a.	0
Oceania	n.a.	0	n.a.	70,000	41,462	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0
Other countries	3,610	0	0	0	17,287	64,500	12,098	3,100	0
Total	924,497	648,600	1,300,000	2,736,000	466,018	250,000	3,292,599	1,057,800	161,854

Notes: (a) Arab countries are included in the African and Asian continents; (b) Figures for Lebanon include Lebanese emigrants having migrated between 1992 and 2007 and still abroad in 2007; (c) Jordanian figures refer only to Jordanians residing in "oil-producing countries", namely United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Libya; (d) CHD: Chad; NGR: Niger; MAL: Mali; SEN: Senegal; SUD: Sudan; SYR: Syria; ALG: Algeria; EGY: Egypt; LEB: Lebanon; MAU: Mauritania; MOR: Morocco; OPT: occupied Palestinian territory; TUN: Tunisia; JOR: Jordan; LIB: Libya.

Source: CARIM database (<http://www.carim.org/index.php?callContent=5>) and CARIM Migration Profiles (<http://www.carim.org/index.php?callContent=502>).

The percentage of females among international emigrants is on average 40%, but it ranges from 20%-30% (Mali, Senegal, Mauritania) to about 45% (Niger and Lebanon). As to the main destinations, percentages over 40% can be generally found in the Anglophone Countries (the US, Canada, the UK and Australia) while Spain and Italy hold the lowest ratio: one female vs. two males within CARIM-15 immigrants (table 4 & 5).

Table 4. Proportion of females among international emigrants from CARIM-15 countries by country of origin (a), most recent data

C's Origin	% Females	C's Origin	% Females	C's Origin	% Females
CHD	42.5	ALG	40.7	TUN	38.4
NGR	47.3	EGY	38.7	JOR	40.9
MAL	26.3	LEB	45.1	LIB	42.9
SEN	24.6	MAU	26.7		
SUD	42.3	MOR	40.8		
SYR	42.8	OPT	39.1	CARIM-15	39.7

Notes: (a) CHD: Chad; NGR: Niger; MAL: Mali; SEN: Senegal; SUD: Sudan; SYR: Syria; ALG: Algeria; EGY: Egypt; LEB: Lebanon; MAU: Mauritania; MOR: Morocco; OPT: occupied Palestinian territory; TUN: Tunisia; JOR: Jordan; LIB: Libya

Source: U.N. Global Migration database v.0.36

Table 5. Proportion of females among international emigrants from CARIM-15 countries by selected countries of destination (a), most recent data

C's Destination	% Females	C's Destination	% Females
Italy (2007)	36.1	US (a)	42.0
France (1999)	43.4	Canada (b)	45.4
Spain (2008)	34.2	Australia (2006)	47.9
United Kingdom (1991)	45.2		
Germany (2008)	39.7	Total	39.7

Source: U.N. Global Migration database v.0.36

The single O/D country analysis offers, among the main countries we considered, only two examples of female predominance, namely Syrian migrants residing in Australia (51.6%) and Mauritanian migrants in the US (73.1%). On the other hand, a strong male predominance is shown for migrants from Mali and Senegal to Spain and from Sudan to Italy (table 6).

Table 6. Proportion of females in the emigration stocks originating in CARIM-15 countries residing in selected countries by country of residence and country of origin (in %), various years

Destination country /Year	Country of origin CARIM-15 (c)														
	CHD	NGR	MAL	SEN	SUD	SYR	ALG	EGY	LEB	MAU	MOR	OPT	TUN	JOR	LIB
Italy (2007)	43.6	54.3	38.1	19.4	16.0	37.8	30.5	29.5	35.4	33.9	40.8	27.8	35.1	36.1	39.6
France (1999)	42.2	43.7	37.0	42.4	38.2	41.8	42.8	30.3	43.5	34.3	45.5	35.9	41.3	36.9	41.6
Spain (2008)	0.0	0.0	5.2	14.1	27.3	28.1	29.7	26.7	31.6	17.7	37.1	40.0	31.0	23.3	0.0
United Kingdom (1991)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47.0	0.0	0.0	42.2	0.0	39.3	0.0	0.0
Germany (2008)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.8	27.6	32.4	41.5	0.0	43.4	0.0	32.3	37.0	0.0
US (a)	38.4	34.2	0.0	34.7	42.1	0.0	0.0	41.4	45.2	73.1	39.4	38.7	42.4	42.1	0.0
Canada (b)	46.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.4	0.0	45.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Australia (2006)	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.8	45.8	51.6	0.0	49.0	48.1	0.0	41.1	43.9	40.4	44.4	46.6

Notes: (a) Chad, Niger, Mali, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Tunisia, 1990; Mauritania, 1980; others, 2005; (b) Chad, 1980; Lebanon, Morocco, 1986; others, 1991; (c) CHD: Chad; NGR: Niger; MAL: Mali; SEN: Senegal; SUD: Sudan; SYR: Syria; ALG: Algeria; EGY: Egypt; LEB: Lebanon; MAU: Mauritania; MOR: Morocco; OPT: occupied Palestinian territory; TUN: Tunisia; JOR: Jordan; LIB: Libya.

Source: U.N. Global Migration database v.0.36

1.2 The migratory balance approach

The comparison of the age distribution of a population at time t' and t'' allows the calculation of the net migration balance by age group, taking into account the effect of deaths between time t' and t'' (according to a model life-table). Through UN population projections, the following outcomes can be highlighted for the aggregate population aged 15-49 of CARIM-15 countries.

Since the 1960s the migratory balance of 15-49 year old population of CARIM-15 has been negative. The highest negative value was in the second part of the 1990s, with a loss of 1.2 million residents (about two thirds female). The last five yearly balance (2000-2005) showed a fall off of 600,000 residents and the proportion of women was only about one fifth (129,000) (figure 1).

Figure 1. Five-year net migration balance of the CARIM-15 population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05

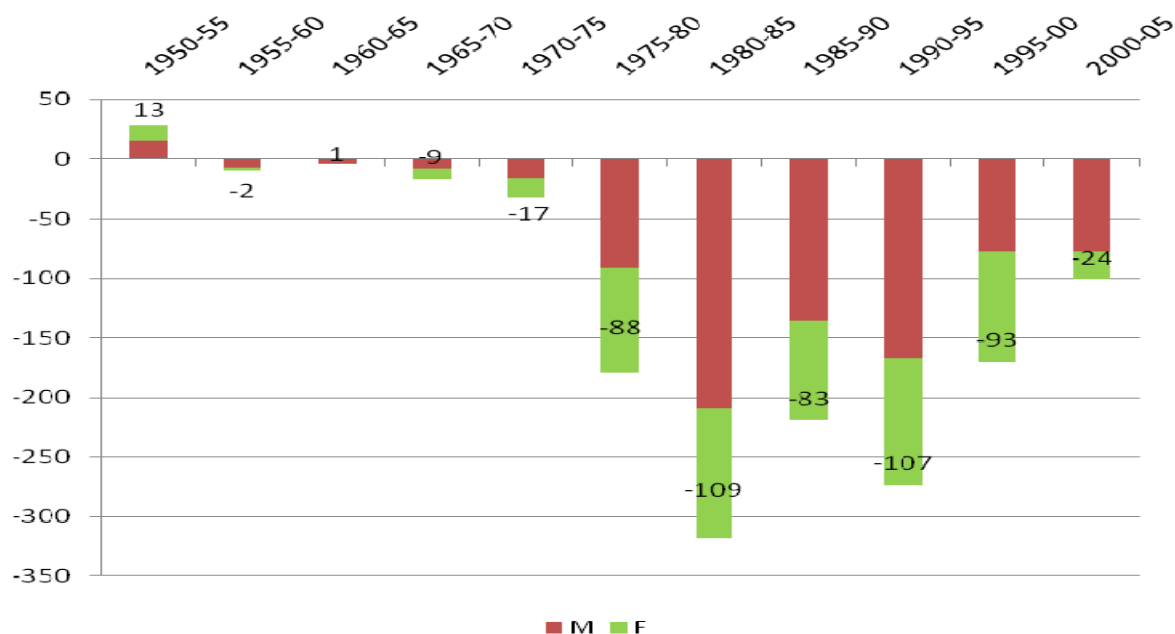


Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Because of the varying migratory frameworks among CARIM countries it may be useful to consider the migratory balance approach separately for the following three distinct subsets of countries: the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) including Mali, Niger, Senegal, Chad and Sudan; Central Maghreb (CM) including Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya and Mauritania; Eastern Mediterranean (EM) including Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria. With reference to such regions we can emphasize, for the last 25 years, the progressive reduction of the negative balances in SSA Countries (figure 2) and its parallel increase in MC countries (figure 3). Rather different is the dynamic of EM countries: the negative balance was high in 1985-1990 and 1995-2000, while it was very low 1990-1995 and 2000-2005. Both five-year periods show a slight positive balance for women (figure 4).

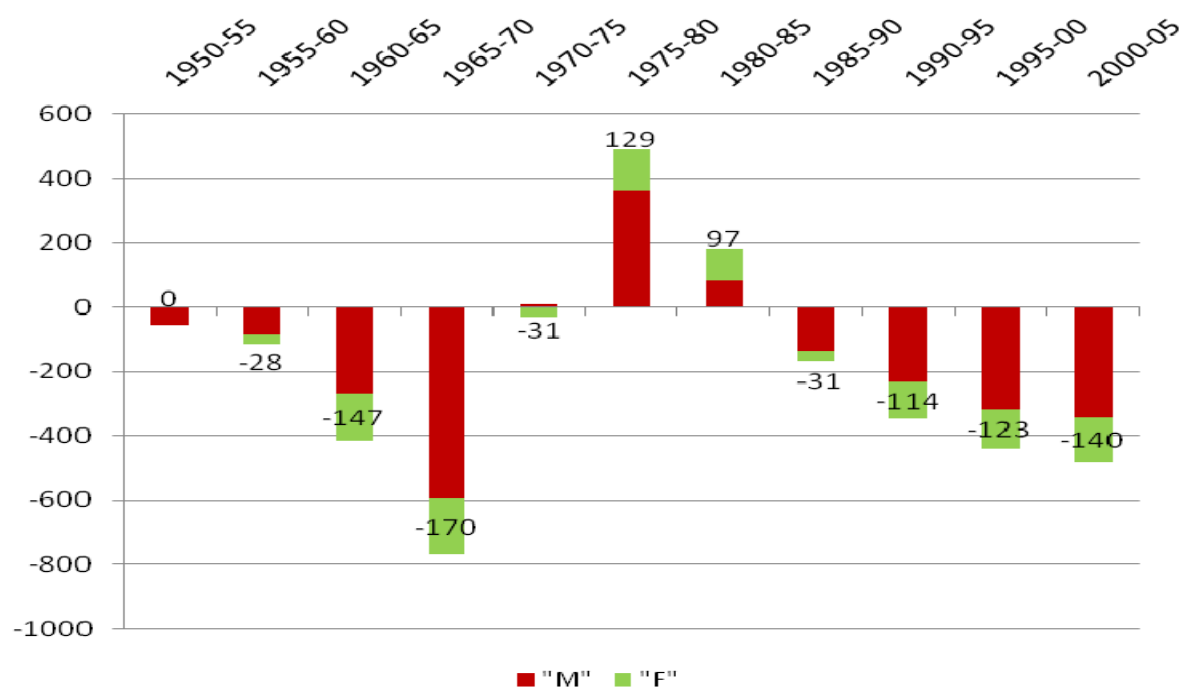


Figure 2. Five-year net migration balance of the SSA population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



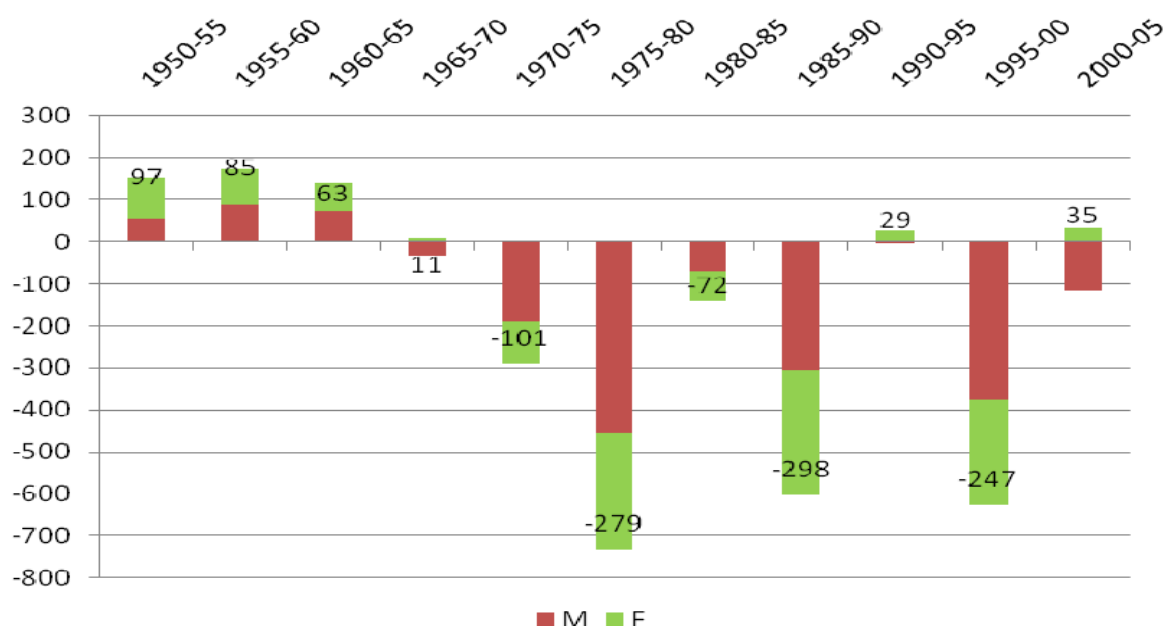
Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 3. Five-year net migration balance of the MC population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 4. Five-year net migration balance of the EM population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



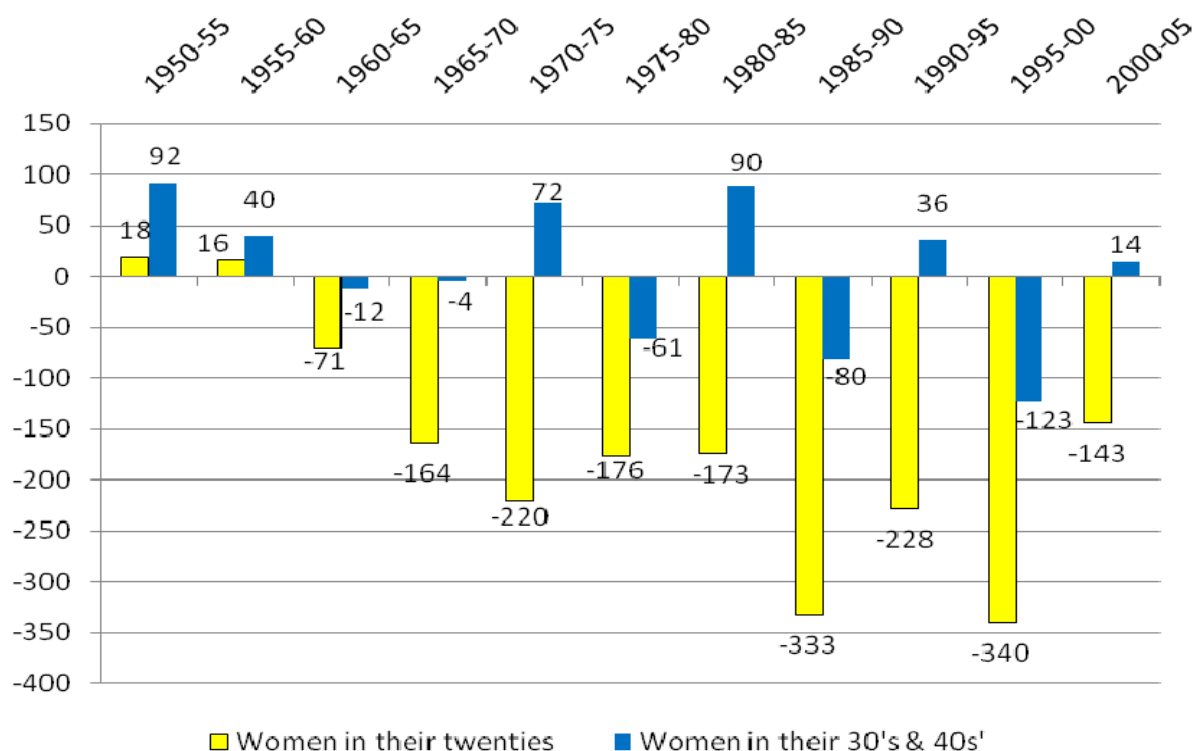
Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Net female migration balance can be further specified by considering the cohorts of women who pass, during each five-year time interval, from age 15-24 to age 20-29 (women in their twenties) and those who pass from age 25-44 to age 30-49 (women in their 30s and 40s).

As to the analysis of CARIM-15 as a whole there has been a strong loss of young women (in their twenties) since the 1960s and a similar outcome for women in their 30s and 40s from the early 1990s (figure 5).

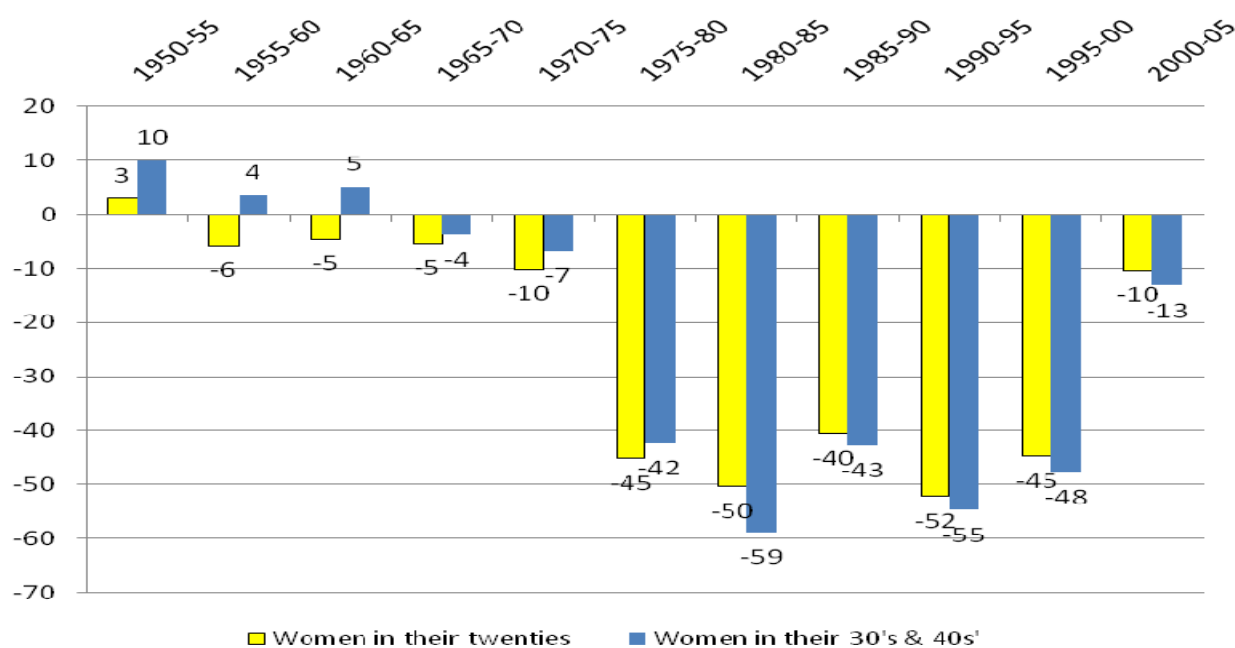
However, this difference is not found in all the macro-areas considered. In SSA countries the age of women is not a discriminating factor with respect to the dynamic of population balances (figure 5), which is consistently negative and similar for both groups. A more significant loss of the women in their twenties can be seen in WNA countries (figure 6), and especially in the EM area (figure 7). In this second area the contrast between the strongly negative balances for women in their twenties and the up and down values for women in their thirties or forties is quite evident. It must certainly be stressed that in EM countries, according to the results of the comparison between the age and gender structure of the population, there has been a total loss of over one million units of women in their twenties since the early 1970s. For the last five years (2000-2005) there is an important decline in the negative balance for women in SSA, a reversal in EM countries and relative stability in WNA countries.

Figure 5. Five-year net migration balance of the CARIM-15 female population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



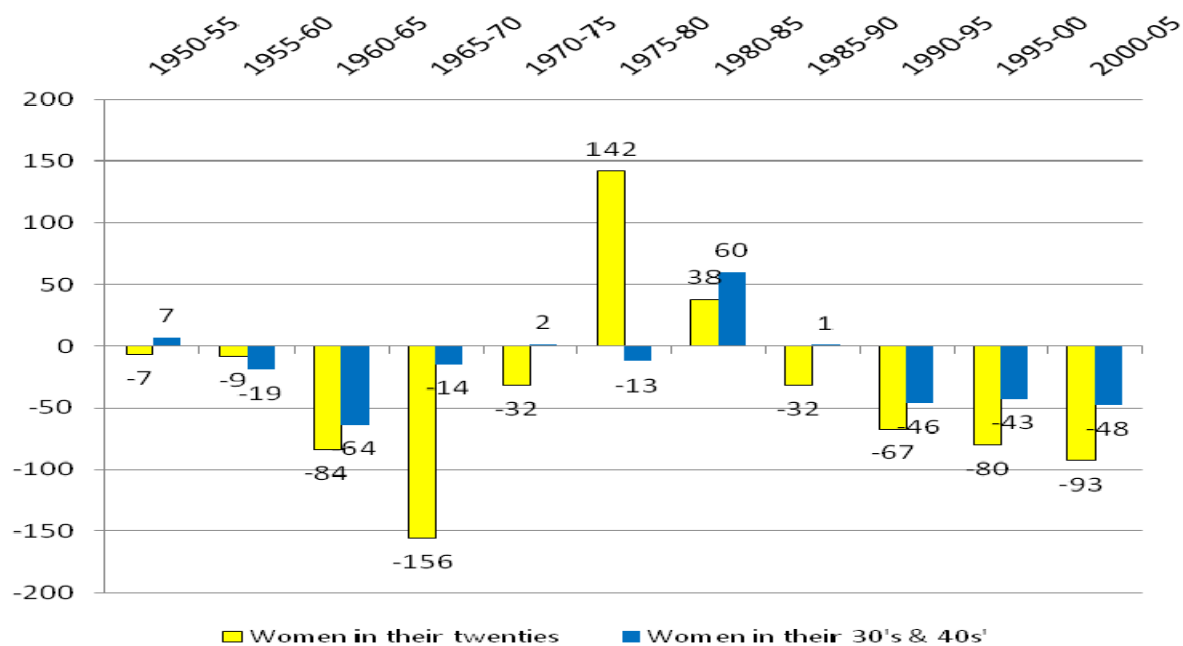
Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 6. Five- year net migration balance of the SSA female population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



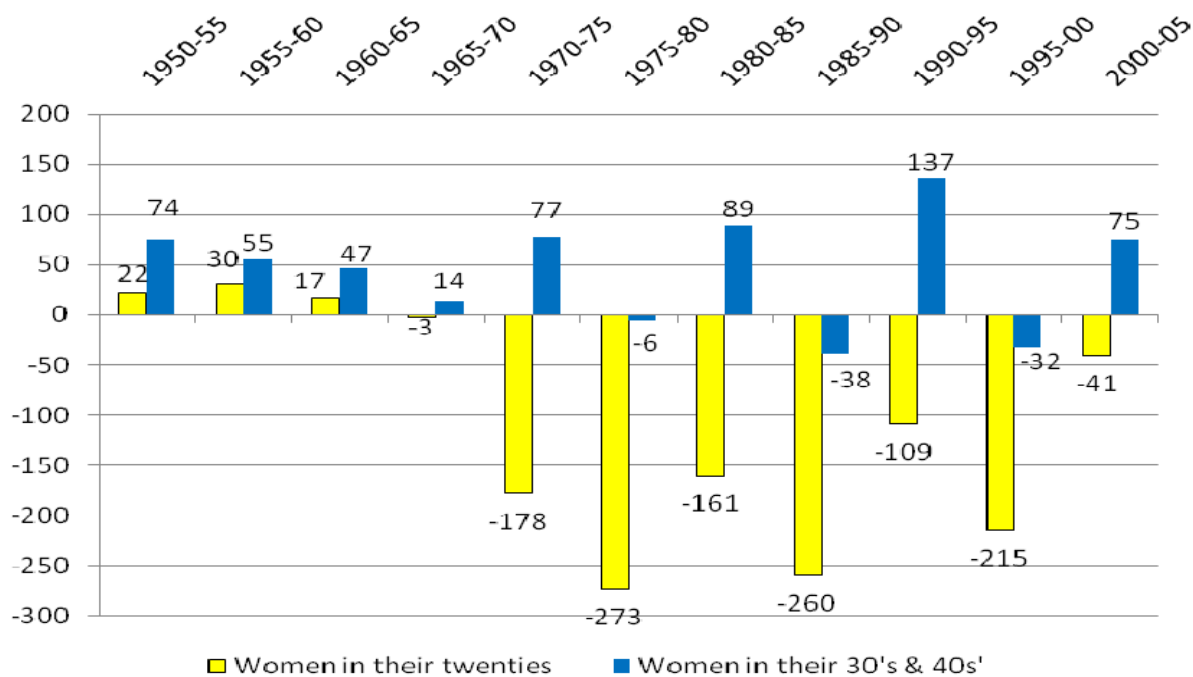
Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 7. Five-year net migration balance of the MC female population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 8. Five- year net migration balance of the EM female population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

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2. Gender and migration in CARIM-15 country reports

This section includes an overall picture of migration from and to CARIM-15 countries from a gender perspective by providing systematically for each country:

- a *general framework* of major trends and patterns as derived from a variety of sources origin countries' statistics and, in particular, origin countries' statistics and UN projections;
- the *main findings* highlighted by national country reports written by CARIM correspondents in each of this country.

2.1 Sub Saharan countries: focus on Mali, Niger and Senegal

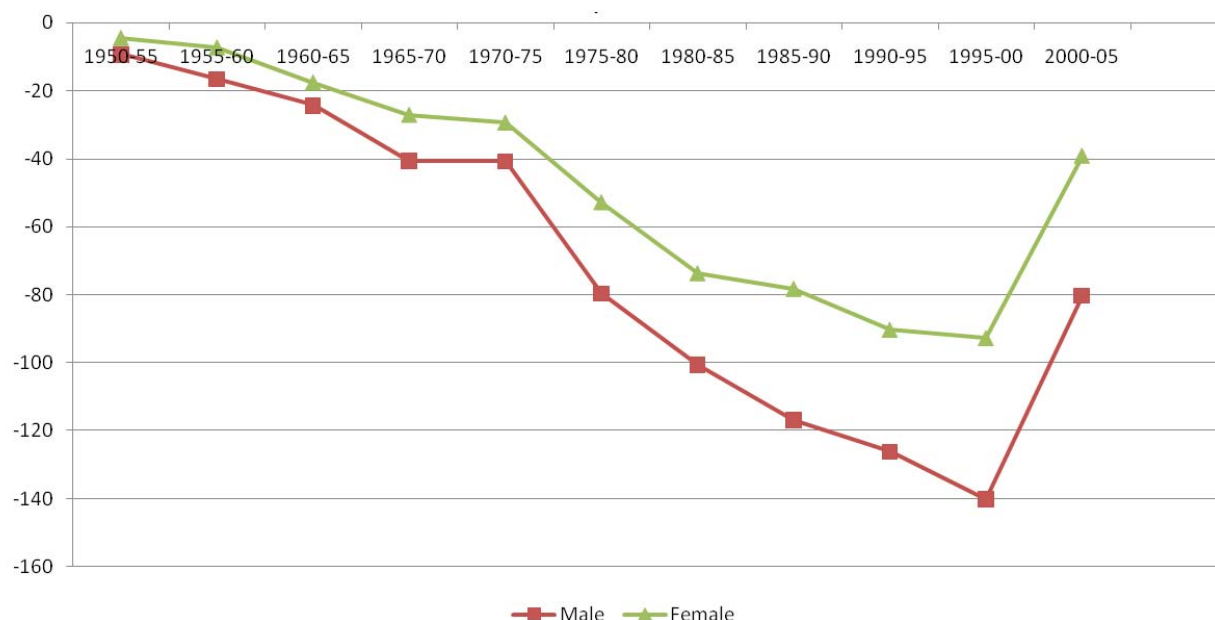
2.1.1 Mali

The general framework

According to the *Recensement Administratif à Caractère Electoral (RACE)*, Malian residents abroad are estimated at 924,000 in 2001, about 8.4% of the total Malian population. As to foreign resident population in Mali, in 1998 this was estimated to stand at 63,721 foreign nationals including 14.7% from Ivory Coast, 13.3% from Burkina Faso, 10.9% from Guinea, and 6% from Mauritania (Di Bartolomeo, Fakhoury and Perrin, 2010d).

By looking at the evolution of the age structure of the Malian population over time, an increasing loss in the population aged 15-49 years is observed. This loss is consistently higher for the male subgroup (figure 9).

Figure 9. Five-year net migration balance of the Malian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Malian country-report¹

Today the biggest factor affecting emigration trends in Mali is to be found in the social and economic changes experienced by Malian families and households. Malian female migration has evolved from local migration (the predominance of inter-village movement) to labor migration over long distances, passing through family migration.

Malian migration is generally dominated by men (57.1% of migrants are male) and by internal movements (almost 90%). Men exceed women in international migration (12.6% against only 5.9% among women), while women are more strongly represented in terms of internal migration. From a ratio of 1 to 3 at the international level, internal migration sees almost equal numbers of men and women.

The timing of migration is different for women: the average age at first internal migration is 17.6 years (20.1 years for men) and the first international migration is 19.2 (23.3 for men). International migration profiles are influenced by gender that can be categorized as follow:

- Migrants are increasingly educated. The differences appear while looking at different age groups. Migrant women aged 50 and over have no education, while 16.8% of those migrants have elementary and higher education. In the younger generations, women are often better educated than men, 40.8% with an elementary school and more, against 36.4% for men;
- Migrants are increasingly unmarried;
- Migration projects are influenced by gender and age. For males, work appears as one of the main reasons for migration (38.4%), followed by social reasons such as adventure, drought, etc. (28.4%); among women, events such as marriage are the main reason for migration in the in-between generations (48.7%), while work is the main reason to migrate for younger women (62.5%).

As to the link between policies and migration, one can conclude that strategies that create jobs taking into account all segments of the population— especially in urban areas – would respond readily to the new configuration of migratory flows, which are more and more gender influenced.

2.1.2 Niger

The general framework

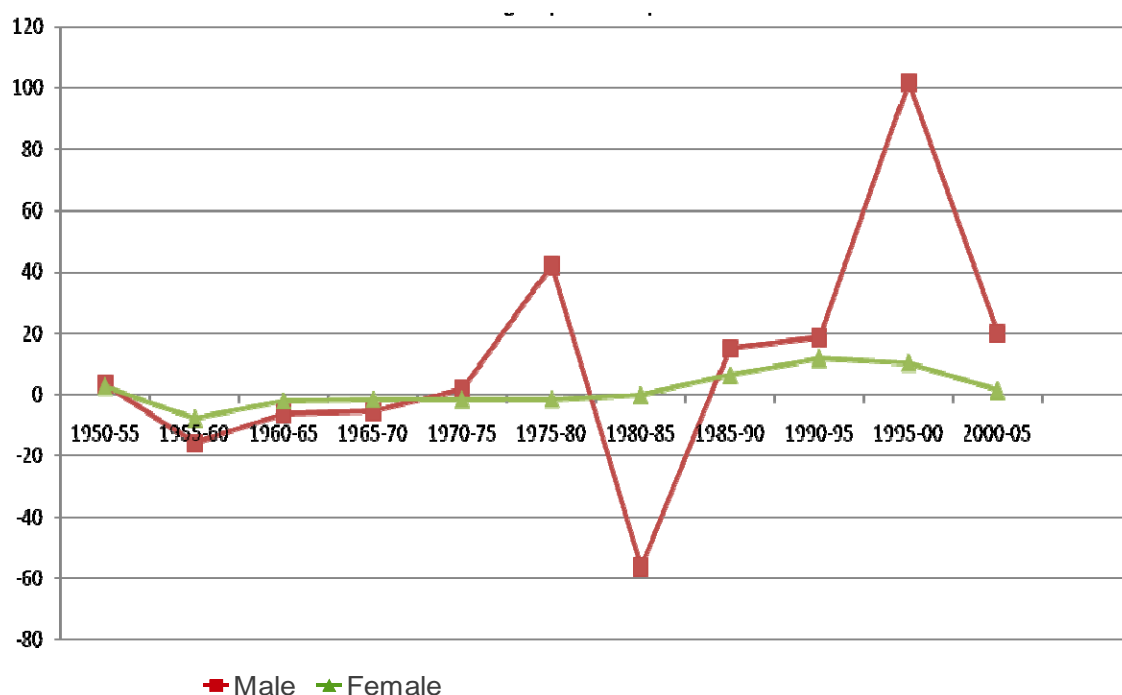
According to the Global Migrant Origin Database (GMOD), in 2000 Nigerien residents abroad are estimated at about 497,000 people (2000), about 3.5% of the total population of Niger. With regard to immigration, in 2001 the foreign community in Niger was estimated at 88,067, of which most (89.3%) were from West Africa: Mali (34.5%), Burkina Faso (14.8%), Nigeria (14.9%) and Benin (13.7%).

A comparison of the distribution of the Nigerien population by age and gender at two different dates shows a generally positive balance, especially for men with a maximum of 100,000 units during the period 1995-2000 (figure 10). The balance of the female population has been positive since the 1980s and there are no significant differences between women in their twenties and those in their thirties or forties (figure 11). It can be stated that younger women had a moderately negative balance before the 1980s that became positive in more recent years.

¹ All data used in this study comes from the Migration and Urbanization Survey in Mali (1993), conducted by the Western Africa Migration and Urbanization Network (REMUAO). Thanks to this investigation, it is possible to analyze the characteristics of Malian emigrants during the period 1988-1992 and the characteristics of those who were still abroad in 1993.

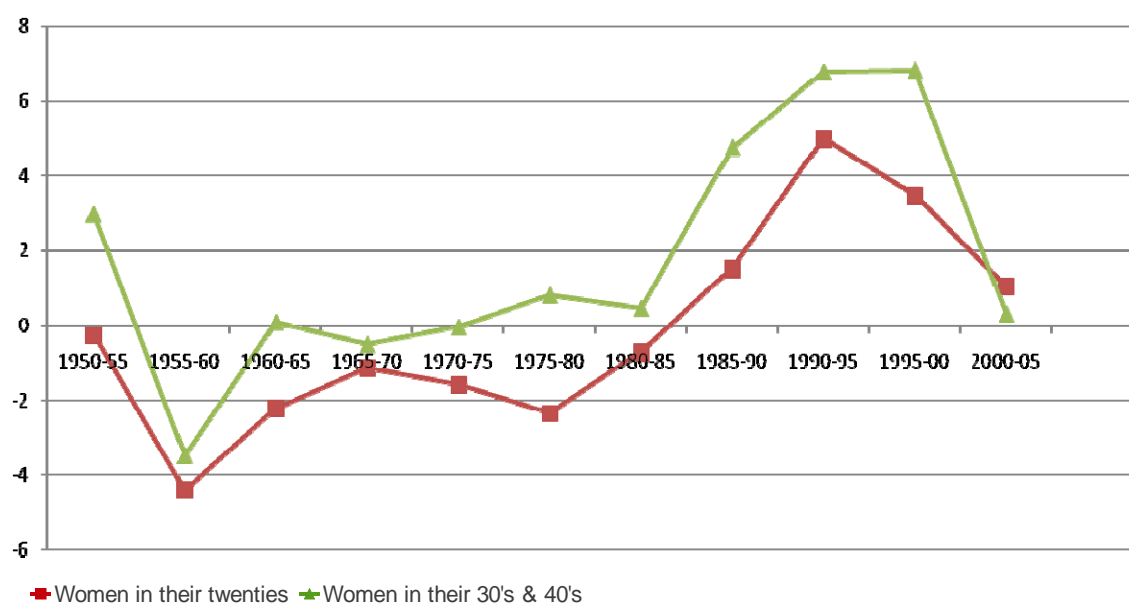
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Figure 10. Five-year net migration balance of the Nigerien population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 11. Five-year net migration balance of the Nigerien female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Nigerien country-report

Migration studies by gender highlight certain inequalities and inequities between men and women, as well as progress – or a lack of progress – towards their reduction. As to the mobility of Nigeriens living in OECD countries, the proportion of women is close to that of men in France (49%), which is the main OECD destination with 66% of Nigerien immigrants in the OECD. A strong presence of women (43%) is also observed in OECD states. In the labor market women represent only 35% of the active workforce.

In relation to employment, Nigerien migrants show a very disadvantaged situation: the activity rate by gender differs widely from 74% for men to 59% in women. The unemployment rate is even more different for men and women, 25% for women (vs 15% for men). Finally, women are generally to be found in low-skilled jobs: 58% work in the areas of health, social work, education and other services.

As to foreign populations residing in Niger, it is noteworthy that the number of women is very similar to that of men. Some major geographical origins are dominated by women (Togo, Ghana and Benin) and these have become progressively more numerous than men in urban areas. Foreign women in Niger are also increasingly attempting to partake in the labor market, even though most of them are still unemployed. As to their socio-economic profile, women have a low level of education and are employed mainly in unskilled occupations.

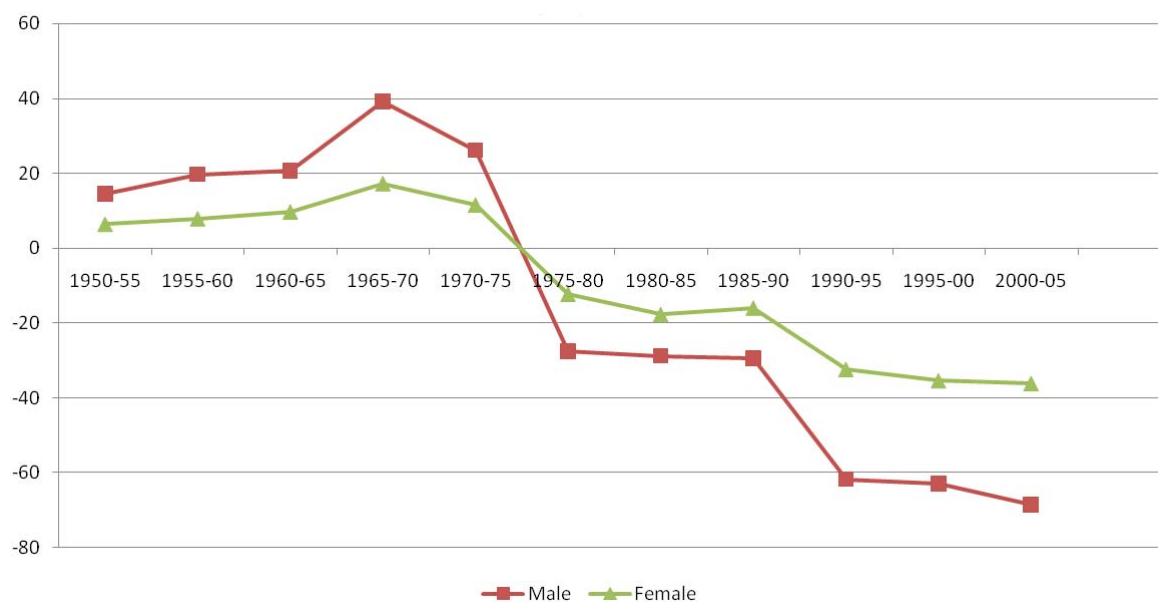
*2.1.3 Senegal**The general framework*

With regard to emigration from Senegal, Senegalese residents abroad are officially estimated (Ministry of Senegalese Abroad) at 649,000 people (year 2004), 12% of the total population. It is also estimated that there are nearly twice as many undocumented immigrants, the majority living in other African countries.

As to the foreign resident population in Senegal, in 2002 it was estimated at 44,355: the majority (73.9%) is from West Africa: Guinea (23.2%), Mauritania (6.2%) and Mali (6%). In 2009, about 21,000 Mauritians were registered as refugees in Senegal.

The comparison of the distribution by age and gender of the Senegalese population at two different dates highlights how in the mid-1970s the country went from a surplus to a negative balance. The loss of the population aged 15-49 has increased steadily, especially among men, reaching more than 100,000 units in 2000-2005 (figure 12). The female subgroup stood at about 40,000 units, with no distinction between women in their twenties and thirties /forties (figure 13).

Figure 12. Five- year net migration balance of the Senegalese population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 13. Five-year net migration balance of the Senegalese female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Senegalese country-report²

Senegalese migration was in origin mostly male and saw Senegalese men leave the Senegal River Valley moving to Africa and France. Since the 1970s it has evolved into different destinations: Africa stopped being the privileged one, and new countries in Europe (and North America and Asia) appeared next to the traditional destination, France.

The invisibility of female migration is rooted in the stereotype of economically inactive women who are dependent on men. Nonetheless, in the last decade they are increasingly experiencing independent migration.

Recent studies show that female migration originated in cities in the late 1980s, but that today it has spread out to rural areas. This could be a result of the economic crisis and it could be an indicator of working men's inability to provide for households alone. Female emigration would be an international extension of the growing contribution of women to household incomes in Africa. It could be also the result of recent cultural and educational changes giving women the desire to acquire autonomy (changing attitudes, increasing levels of education, etc.).

With regards to the characteristics of Senegalese women migrants, according to the GPHC3, at the national level, of 177,273 Senegalese migrants having migrated in 1997-2002 (and still abroad in 2002) 25.1% were female. Dakar is the region that contributes most to international migration and the presence of women from the region of Dakar in Senegalese international migration has increased to 32.4%. The significant number of women in Senegalese emigration appears to reflect recent social changes observed in urban areas, particularly in Dakar.

In general, women are much younger (4-year gap between the average ages). As to marital status, almost three quarters of migrants – regardless of gender – are married. However, the relatively high proportion of single women (19.8% vs 24.9% men), and separated women (5.6% vs 2.3% of men) among migrant women is striking. These figures seem to confirm that, in urban areas, women are no longer bound to accompany or follow a spouse: increasingly they leave alone. Senegalese society still has a negative perception of the independent migration of women and if the position of women is appreciated and valued in the family environment the migration of single women has a negative connotation, especially in rural areas. However, several studies conducted in Senegal have showed the rising role of women in migration projects for community members.

The reasons for female migration include: work 35%, family 21%, marriage 19.5%, study 19.5%, whereas among men work is the main push-factor (77.6%).

In conclusion, female migration has undoubtedly evolved significantly over the last thirty years. There is growing empowerment with a local context marked by changes in gender relations in Senegalese society and living conditions that create more difficulties in both rural and urban areas. Mobilizing resources for the survival of family members is increasingly recognized as an asset for both sexes.

² Data have been taken from the following sources: ESAM2, 2nd Senegalese Household Survey (2001); MAFE, Migration between Africa and Europe (2008); GPHC3, 3rd General Population and Housing Census (2002), UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women - Report (2010).

2.2 Central Maghreb countries: focus on Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria

2.2.1 Morocco

The general framework

Moroccan residents abroad are estimated (by the Moroccan Consulate) at 3.3 million (year 2007), with an annual average growth rate (1993-2007) of 8.1%. Most migrants (86.2%) live in Europe: France (34.3%), Spain (16.6%) and Italy (11.5%). As for the foreign population resident in Morocco, in 2008 this was estimated at 60,000 foreign nationals, including 16,000 from France and 12,000 from Algeria.

The net migration balance by age and gender – accomplished by a comparison of the age and gender distribution of the Moroccan population – shows a negative balance, except for the period 1975-1980, especially among men. There is a loss of 300,000 men aged 15-49 and 150,000 among women (same age) in 2000-2005 (figure 14). Among the female subgroup there is no sharp distinction (except in 1975-1980) between women in their twenties and women in their thirties /forties (figure 15).

Figure 14. Five-year net migration balance of the Moroccan population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 15. Five- year net migration balance of the Moroccan female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Moroccan country-report

The migration project – that used to be a male project – increasingly involves Moroccan women, women representing, indeed, today about half of all Moroccan migration. This recognition of the importance of migrant women centered the debate on female emigration: women have ceased to be invisible and are now seen in the context of family unification and even as independent economic and social actors.

With regards to the economic determinants of female emigration, the leading cause of female mobility is the extension of unemployment and differential wage – which will be of particular interest to women – a phase that began in the mid-eighties. However, this phenomenon is also generated by sociological and psychological factors, especially the social success of immigrants who return home and pull factors such as the existence of a parallel job market and the differential wage in the host country.

For many immigrant women, their inclusion in the economy of destination countries is an opportunity to emancipate themselves from the relations and the constraints of the traditional family. The income gained represents a tool to achieve autonomy and to improve their living standards, particularly the living standards of their family. One way for integration to work in the host societies is through the creation of independent businesses by Moroccan women.

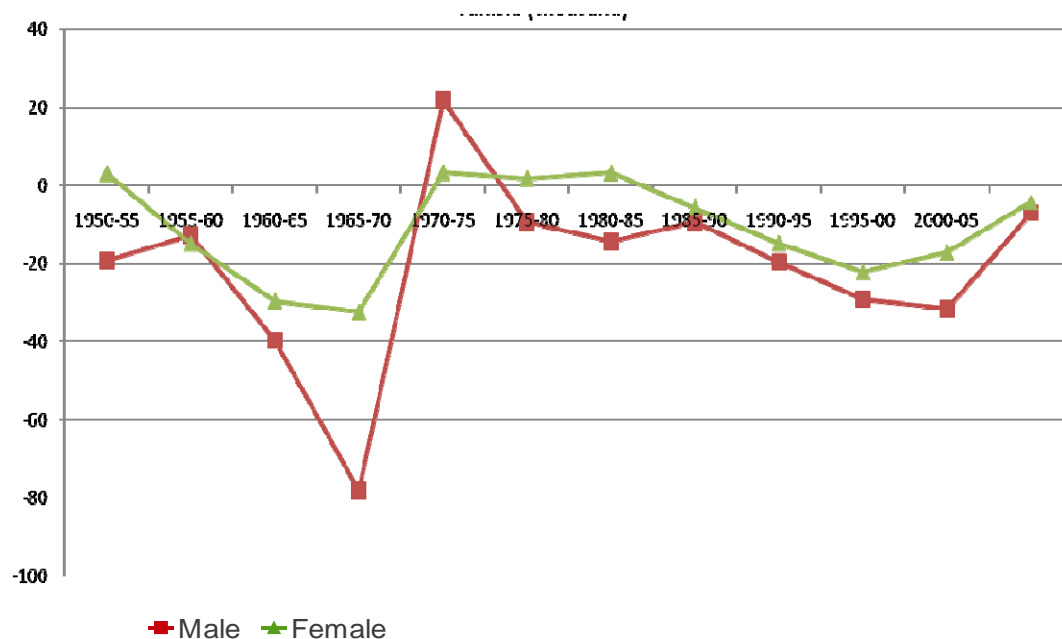
Motives vary from person to person and often overlap. For some women, it is primarily the need for autonomy, independence, and the desire for self-employment, but for the most part, the independent business is the consequence of the labor market, and often it is the only solution to precariousness. Indeed, many immigrant women started their business after a long period of temporary work and unemployment. This is a difficult task given that Moroccan women must not only convince the public space, but also their family and entourage.

2.2.2 Tunisia

The general framework

Tunisians residents abroad are estimated (by the Tunisian Consulate) at 1,058,700 people (2008), with an annual growth rate (2001-2008) of 5.5%. Most migrants (82.6%) live in Europe: in France (54.6%), Italy (13.4%) and Germany (7.8%). As to the foreign population resident in Tunisia it was estimated in 2004, at 35,192 registered foreign nationals, of whom half come from Algeria (27.3%) and Morocco (18.1%).

Figure 16. Five-year net migration balance of the Tunisian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 17. Five-year net migration balance of the Tunisian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

The comparison of age and gender distribution among the Tunisian population shows a relatively small negative balance in the 1970s. Regarding women a low positive balance for those in their thirties and forties became negative from 1995, like the always negative balance of women in their twenties.

Main findings of the Tunisian country-report

Over the past three decades, migratory movements from Tunisia have continued to and from Western Europe, especially to France, Germany and some Arab countries (including Libya), but with a greater or lesser intensity from one period to another. This is mostly a regular and organized migration, but there are also cases of irregular migration.

Emigration from Tunisia has been historically male-dominated men representing 75% of the total stock of Tunisian emigrants. Reasons to emigrate are also different according to sex: men have tended to leave Tunisia mainly for economic and job reasons, while women for marriage and family reunification.

In addition, in three quarters of all cases emigrants work and study and in a quarter of cases women go to marry or for family reunification..

The analysis of female migration flows shows that there are more people leaving than entering the country, regardless of the year, so that net migration is still negative. It is noted that this balance has become higher in absolute terms since 2005, with 3,530 women between May 2007 and May 2008.

In this period, six out of ten emigrants left the country for work. This rate reached 73.7% among male migrants, against 19.2% among women. Furthermore, it is important to note that women who migrate for work represent only 8%. The second reason for migration is 'study', with 17.7% of cases. This proportion reached 23.1% for young women against 15.9% for young men - but in absolute terms, twice as many men as women emigrated to follow their studies abroad. Marriage is the third largest reason for all migrants, with 13% of cases, but there is a clear concentration among women reaching 40.5%. Four women out of ten emigrated to get married between May 2007 and May 2008.

The share of the female population among Tunisian residents abroad was around 36% during 2006-2008. However, 2007 saw a growth of females abroad over 6%: indeed, the number of women reached 36.4% by the end of this year.

Married women, whose husbands are abroad, represent 2.9% of all married women resident in Tunisia. Their numbers increased to 60,000 in 2008, against 53,000 in 2004, while it was about 36,000 in 1994 and over 33,000 in 1984. This was the case with married women (55,500) with children that are independent from the extended family, and who have the status of household heads.

2.2.3 Algeria

The general framework

Algerian residents abroad are estimated (by the Algerian Consulate) at 1.3 million (year 2002). They represent 4.2% of the total Algerian population. Most migrants (85%) live in France, but flows have recently changed. From 1995 to 2002, the stock of Algerian emigrants abroad has increased annually by 0.6%, while in North America, annual growth has reached 12.4%. With regards to the foreign population resident in Algeria, the 2008 Census counted up to 95,000 foreign nationals living in Algeria. In addition to residents, Algeria hosts a number of illegal flows of refugees from sub-Saharan Africa.

Figure 18. Five-year net migration balance of the Algerian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 19. Five-year net migration balance of the Algerian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

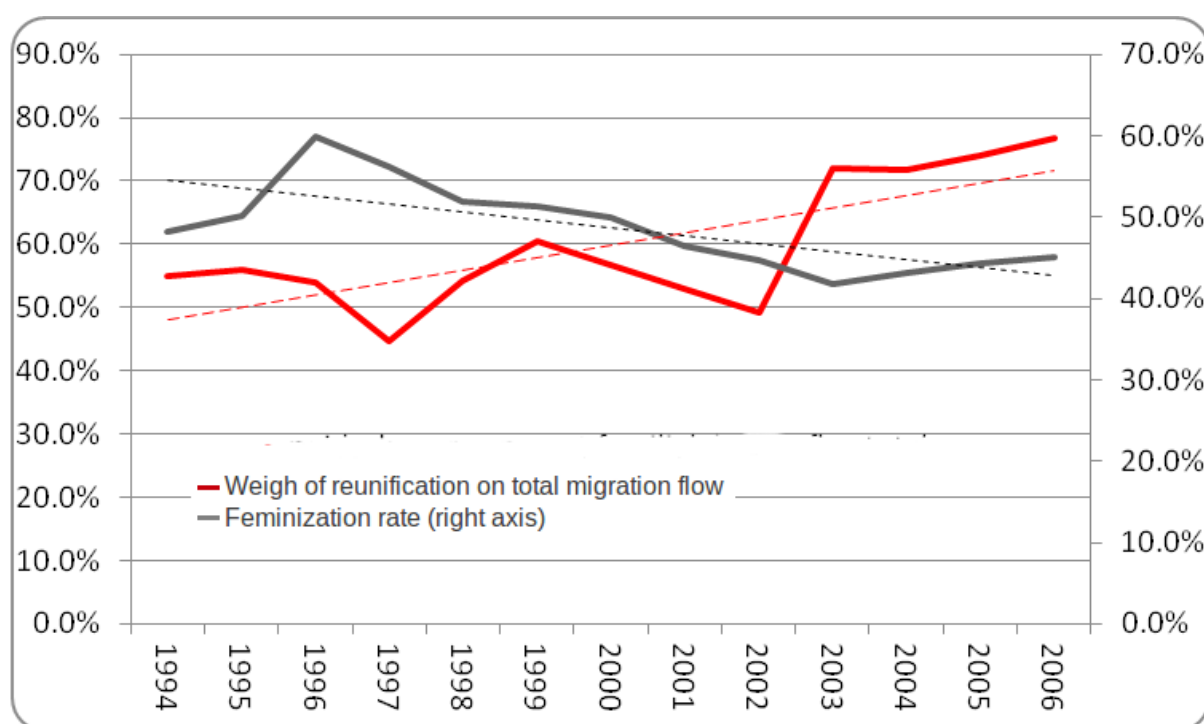
The comparison of the age and gender distribution of the Algerian population, for age 15-49 years, highlights the transition from a negative – until the late 1960s – to a positive balance after ten years that then become almost zero in the 1980s. With regard to women it should be noted that there is a small surplus for those in their thirties and forties, but not for women in their twenties.

Main findings of the Algerian country-report

Algeria has seen a growing number of women immigrants over the last twenty-five years. The determinants of the feminization of migration are different. From an economic point of view, there is the income differential experienced by women who emigrated and from a social point of view, the peculiar status of women depending on access and the position of women on the labor market. The demand for immigration, in turn, is often constrained by the migration policy of the destination country. It may have gender-specific selection.

Finally, the nature of more demanding economic sectors may, in turn, cause a greater or lesser feminization of migration when the demand for labor migration is polarized around the areas specifically related to women.

Figure 20. Family reunification and the feminization rate of Algerian immigration in France: 1994-2006



Source : INED, various years

Family reunification is now the main driver of Algerian immigration to France, and the gender segmentation of the French labor market segmented represents an important pull factor for Algerian women

Furthermore, the characteristics of the country of origin play an important role in the supply of female immigration. Differentials in the gender gap between Algeria and the countries of destination represent a push factor for the emigration of the female population, especially Algerian females with higher levels of education. If migration flows are not further constrained by demand, they could give rise to the feminization of migration and brain drain.

It follows that the openness of the labor market towards women and of the economy in general will encourage more women than men to choose immigration, and that this will positively affect the feminization of migration from Algeria.

2.3 Eastern Mediterranean countries: focus on Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria

2.3.1 Egypt

The general framework

According to the Egyptian Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), in 2006 there were 2 million Egyptian migrants (not including permanent ones), of whom 61.2% were family members of migrant workers. In 2000 Egyptians emigrants (temporary and permanent) were 2.7 million, 3.9% of the Egyptian population. The main part in Saudi Arabia (69.9%), Libya (12.2%) and Jordan (8.3%). North America and Europe also account for a high proportion (respectively 15.6% and 11.9%).

As to international migrants living in Egypt, the 1996 census count 116,000 foreign nationals resident there, representing 0.2% of the total population. These migrants come from Arab countries (52.7%), Europe (25.1%) and Asia (1%).

While Egyptian emigration to Europe has a more balanced profile (men are 58.1%), labor emigration towards Arab countries is overwhelmingly male (96.6% of the total of employed emigrants).

In terms of the age distribution of the Egyptian population it is possible to calculate the net migration balance by age group and gender at two later dates.

There has been a negative migratory balance for 15-49 year-old Egyptians since the mid-1960s. The highest negative value was in the second part of the 1970s, with a loss of 250,000 males and 200,000 females. The last five year balance (2000-2005) was slightly positive for females and still negative for males.

In parallel since the mid-1960s there was a profound difference between the strong negative balance of women in their twenties and the positive balance for those in their thirties and forties.

Figure 21. Five-year net migration balance of the Egyptian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 22. Five-year net migration balance of the Egyptian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Egyptian country-report

The general structural determinants of female Egyptian migrations might be categorized as:

- a) Migration related to the economic development context and stemming mostly from government policies that influenced gender-based economic opportunities and constraints in areas of origin and destination;
- b) Migration related to institutional factors that maintain gender inequalities;
- c) Migration arising from the socio-cultural system of gender roles and relations operating in accordance with prevalent norms, values and expectations.

As to the reasons for leaving the origin country and the decision to migrate (the “push factors”) economic motives largely explain the migration of males, while reasons for female migration are more diverse. The impact of the family in deciding migration was more evident among women, as the majority of women said that the decision to migrate was made jointly by spouses and by others. For both men and women, the importance of economic factors as “pull factors” is overshadowed by economic “push factors”.

For many countries, women’s remittances are particularly significant in cash terms. The literature indicates that migrant women both within their country and beyond its borders send home a higher proportion of their wages than men do. It is believed, as well, that a higher percentage of women’s remittances are directed to social needs such as health, education and other social needs which benefit from these transfers.

It is well understood that in labor-receiving countries, immigration policies often give greater rights and possibilities for regular migration to those taking up jobs typically performed by men. As such, women tend to be more easily pushed into illegal channels or into the “unprotected” informal sector where exploitation and poor working conditions and low wages are widespread and where they are, inevitably, more vulnerable.

2.3.2. Jordan

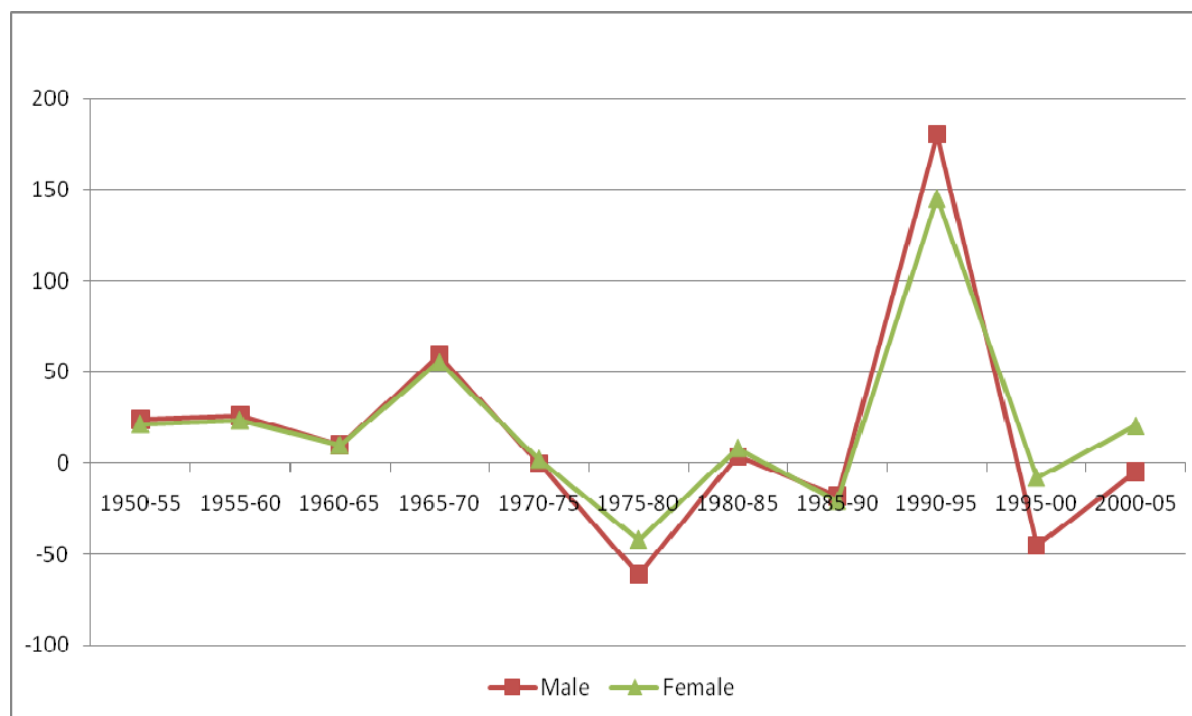
The general framework

Data on Jordanians abroad are scarce and fragmentary. According to the Jordanian Ministry of Labor Jordanians working abroad increased to 103,500 in 1970 reaching 350,000 in 2008. Jordanians residing in oil-producing countries stood at about 162,000. The majority of these lived in the United Arab Emirates (33.9%), Qatar (31.5%), Kuwait (19%) and Oman (11.7%). As to the rest of the world, the total was 126,000, of whom more than a half (56.5%) live in the US and 13.9% in the EU-27.

As to international migrants living in Jordan, the last census (2004) reports 342,000 foreign national residents, 7.7% of the total population. Foreign nationals come mainly from Arab Asian countries (52.5%) – especially Palestine (29.4%), Iraq (10.2%) and Syria (9.7%) – and Arab African countries (30%), of which the vast majority were Egyptians (28.7%).

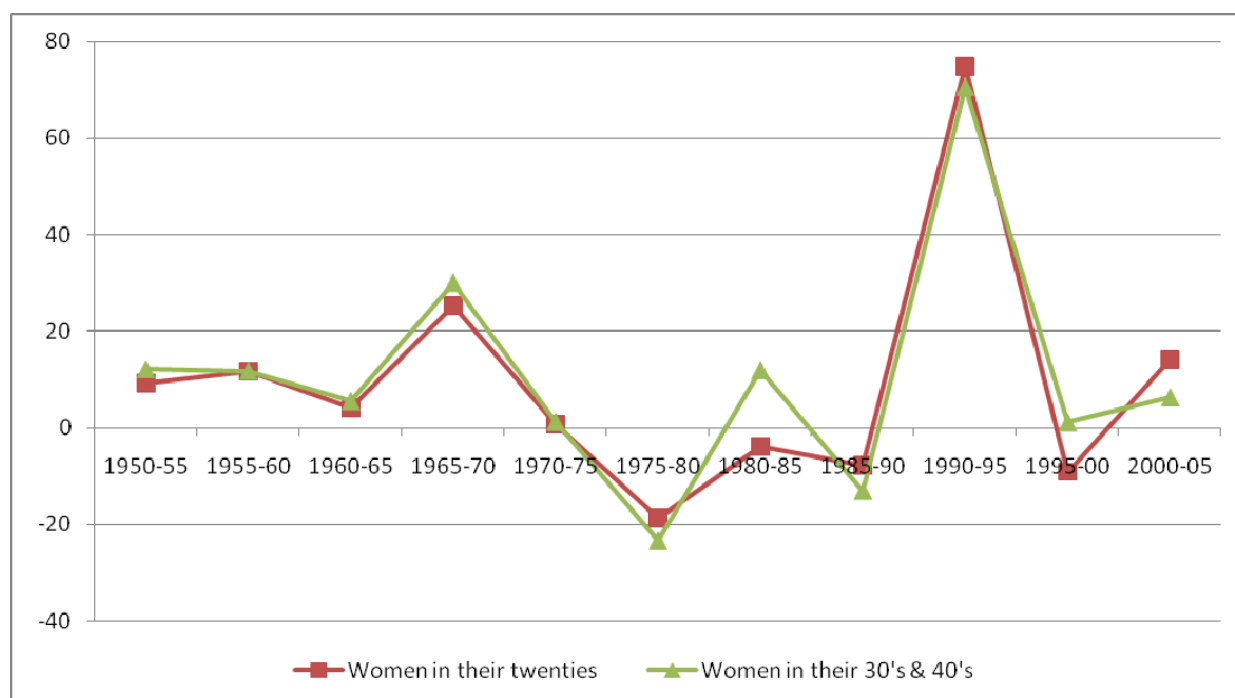
The net migration balance by age group and gender – understood by a comparison of the Jordanian population at two later dates – show a positive peak only in 1990-1995, without any significant difference between males and females aged 15-49, and among the subgroup of women in their twenties and in their thirties/forties.

Figure 23. Five-year net migration balance of the Jordanian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 24. Five-year net migration balance of the Jordanian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Jordanian country-report

As to immigration patterns, females account for an increasing proportion of foreign workers in Jordan. They come to cover labor shortages in low-skilled occupations where Jordanians do not wish to work, in the personal and social services sector as well as in the qualified industrial zones, where their importance is currently on the rise and where working conditions are unsatisfactory. The main sources of foreign female labor in Jordan are non-Arab Asian States, especially Indonesia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Jordan is also known a receiving country of forced emigrants and this much was obvious in the migration of Palestinian refugees to Jordan in 1948, the influx of Palestinian Displaced Persons in 1967 and the involuntary return of Jordanians working abroad from some Arab Gulf states in 1991. Moreover, there is also now the exodus of Iraqis after 2003 when the estimated number of Iraqis living in Jordan had reached 350,000 by the end of 2009.

Jordan is also a migrant receiving country for education, especially for females. Indeed, in 2009 the proportion of females to the total emigrant students (both males and females) accelerated year after year until it reached 30.6%, while 20.7% of all non-Jordanian professors in these universities were female.

With respect to Jordanians abroad, of 350,000 in 2009, only 16.6% were females. Emigration from Jordan towards other Arab countries (the most important from a quantitative point of view) is supposed to be a temporary project, while emigrants directed towards North American countries, which represent, however, an important proportion of recent migrants, are more long-term oriented. In these countries, women, as well as men, tend to be highly-educated and are mainly employed in highly-skilled occupations.

2.3.3. Lebanon

The general framework

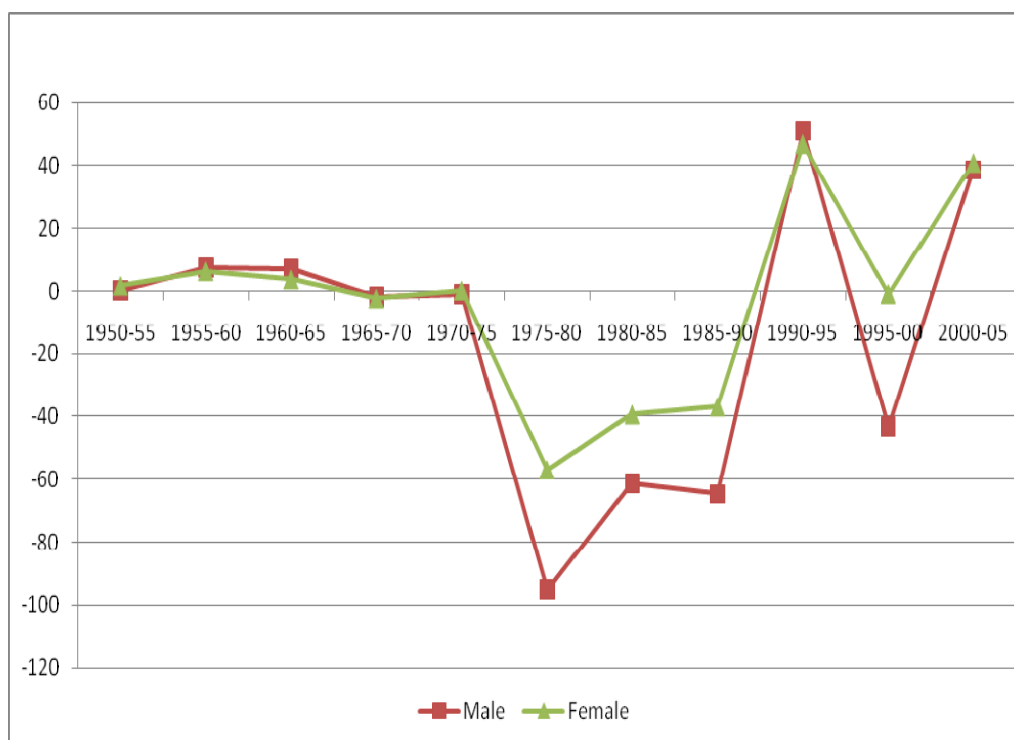
Data on the number of Lebanese emigrants are fragmented and uncertain. Even the true size of the Lebanese population is controversial: in 2009, UN and national population estimates differed by almost 400,000 individuals. Much depends on whether children and grandchildren of former migrants are considered. According to a survey carried out by St. Joseph University in 2007 the number of Lebanese emigrants (migrated between 1992 and 2007) were 466,000. At that time, 46% of Lebanese households had at least one emigrant among its close kin.

Lebanese emigrants are widely dispersed. The biggest group is in the Arab world (34.9%). Other important destinations are Europe (22.4%), North America (22.2%) and Australia (8.9%), where Lebanese emigrants account for the largest Arab host community.

As to foreign nationals living in Lebanon, in 2007 they represented (including Palestinians) 9% of the resident population. Foreign immigration to Lebanon includes workers (whose stay is mainly temporary or seasonal) together with refugees and asylum seekers. Among these Palestinian refugees have been there the longest: in mid-2009, the number of Palestinian refugees recorded by UNWRA in Lebanon was 422,000, including an unknown proportion of people whose ancestors found refuge in Lebanon, but are currently living outside the country. According to UNHCR data, in 2008 there were also 50,000 Iraqis refugees in Lebanon.

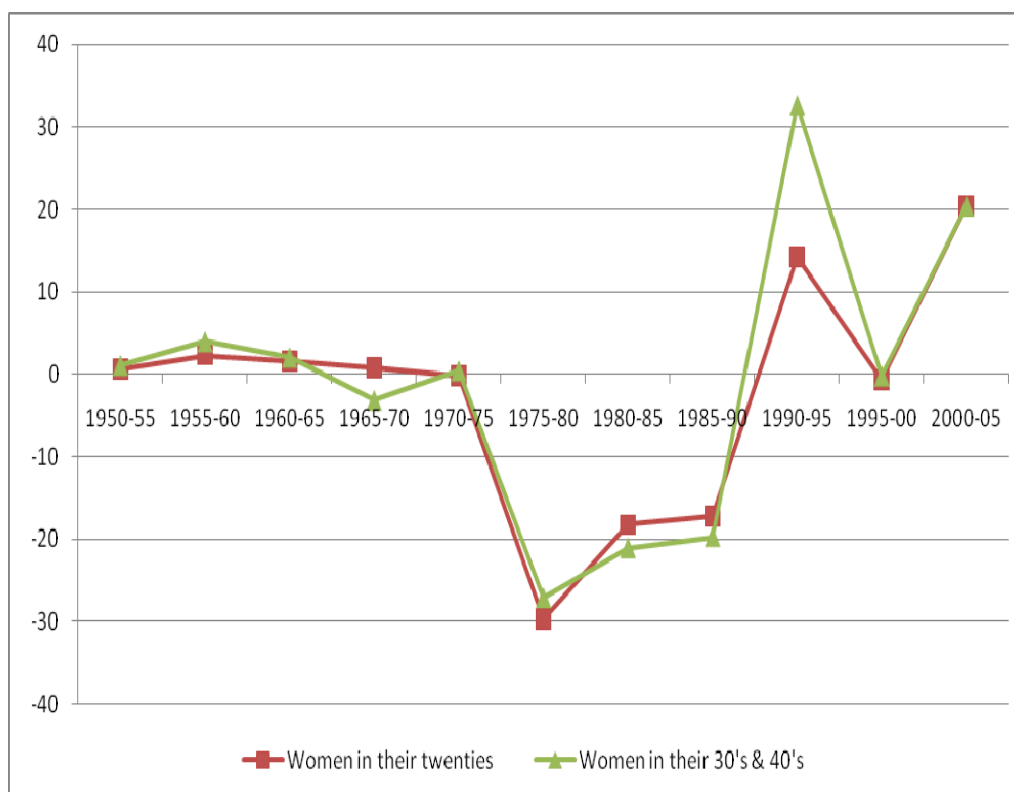
The net migration balance by age group and gender – numbers arrived at by the comparison of the distribution of the Lebanese population at two different dates – records negative values from 1975 to 1990 mainly for men 15-49 years of age. Since 1990 the female balance for the same age group is positive with no special differences among the subgroup of women in their twenties and in their thirties/forties.

Figure 25. Five-year net migration balance of the Lebanese population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 26. Five- year net migration balance of the Lebanese female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Lebanese country-report

The presence of women in Lebanese emigration is less significant than that of men, but it is increasing. They are often young and relatively more numerous among migrants from Beirut. The destination of Lebanese emigrants in recent years (2002-2007) has grown in the Gulf countries (40.6% for women) and has decreased in North America (by 30% to 20% for women). “Family reasons” still go to make up more than 60% of female migration, but “work” rose to 22.7% in 2002-2007. Since 1992 autonomous female migration has also been on the rise. Emigrants have achieved a share of over 50% of all female emigration.

The profile of women still abroad in 2007 (about one third of the total of Lebanese abroad) shows that they are more often married (compared to residents) and that many of them (26.6%) have taken the nationality of the emigration country. Their education level is high and has increased at the most recent outflows (50.8% of women who emigrated in 2002-2007 were graduates), often with a degree in literature and the humanities or in management service. It is estimated that over the past 16 years almost 15 000 women specializing in health have migrated, 40,000 in the scientific/ technical/ legal are, a similar amount with specialization as top executives and administrators and just over 10,000 as teachers. We can, therefore, say that there has been a substantial brain drain in terms of female emigration from Lebanon.

Immigrant women who work are in 4 cases out of 5 employees and 10% of them send home financial aid regularly while 25% do so occasionally.

2.3.4 Palestine

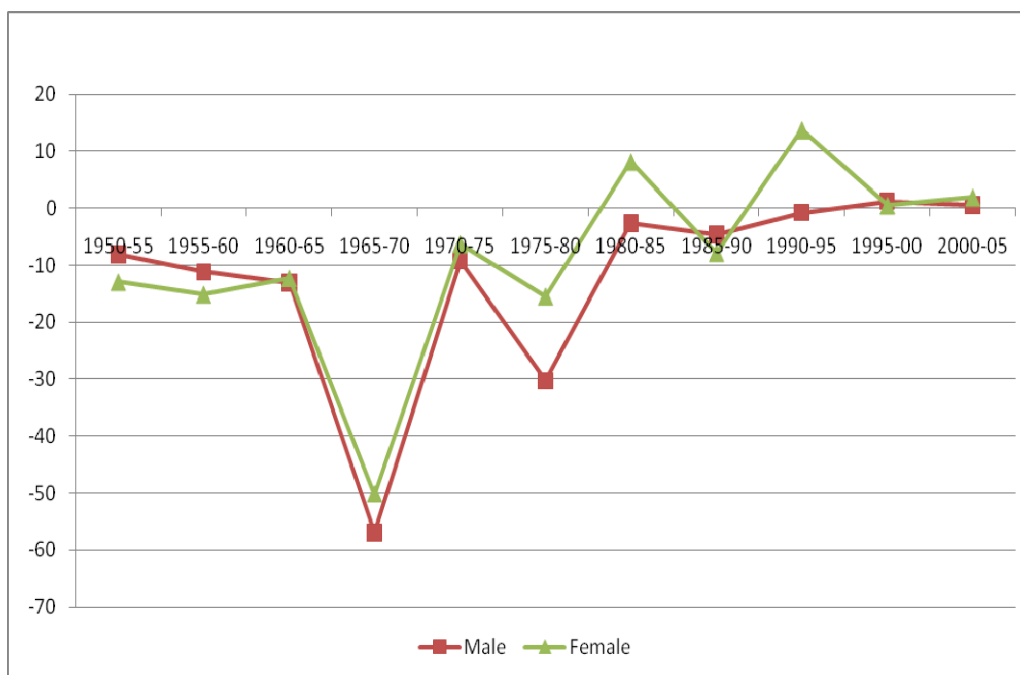
The general framework

Estimated figures for international migrants stock in the occupied Palestinian territory appear in the UNDP Human Development report 2009: they were 490,000 in 1960 and 910,000 in 1990 and 1.7 million in 2005 and 1.9 million in 2010; where the international migrants’ stock annual growth rate is 2.7%. The international stock migrant as a percentage of the total population constituted 44.5% of the total population in 1990 and 44.1% in 2005, where the female percentage of international migrants stock was 49.2% in 1960 it stood at almost the same in 2005 representing 49.1% of the total migrants stock. Distribution of international migrants stock all over the world revealed that the majority of migrants reside in Asian countries 85.4%, followed by African countries at 11.1%, 2.3% in European countries, 0.6% in North America and 0.3% in the Caribbean, South America, and Oceania. About 8-10% of Palestinians in the Palestinian territory have a place of residence outside the Palestinian territory, as well as a range of 12-14% as immigrants (1997-2007).

Palestinian returnees followed the same sex ratio trends, where male returnees constituted about 53% in 1997 and 2006 compared with 47% females.

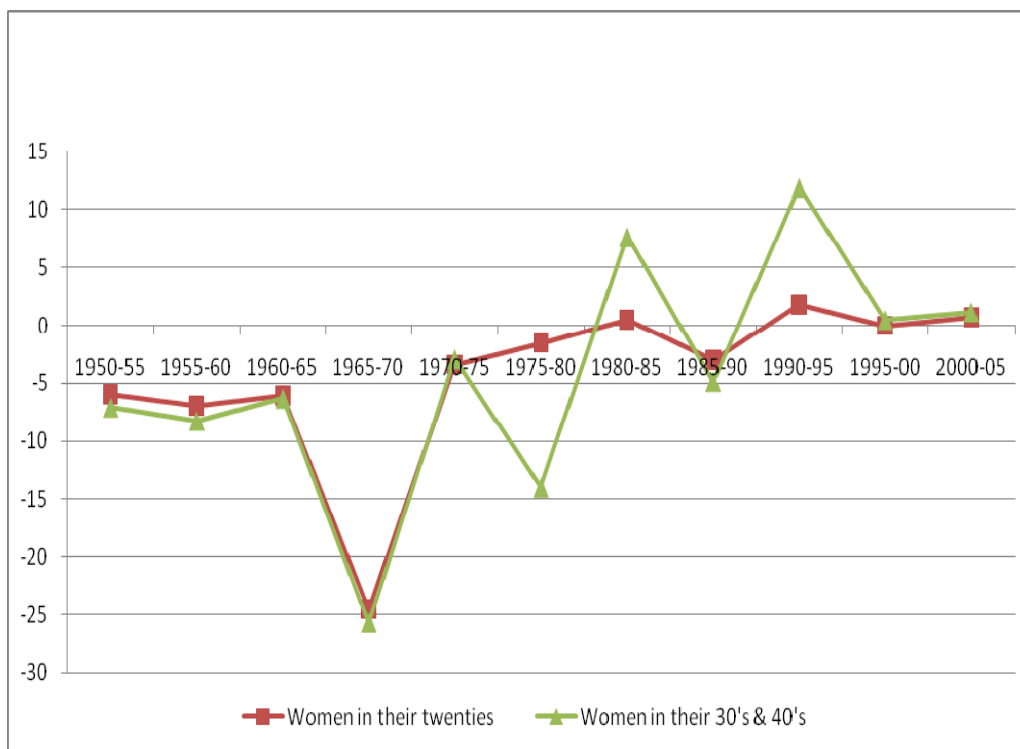
From the comparison of the age distribution of the Palestinian population at two later dates we can calculate the net migration balance by age group and gender since 1950. There was a strong loss of 15-49 year-old Palestinian in 1965-1970 and a positive balance, both for males and females, since the 1960s. The last five-yearly balance (2000-2005) was almost zero. The female trend also shows some differences between almost null balance of women in their twenties and the strong variability of those in their thirties and forties.

Figure 27. Five-year net migration balance of the Palestinian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 28. Five-year net migration balance of the Palestinian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

A

Main findings of the Palestinian country-report

A survey of migrants on the West Bank conducted by Birzeit University in late 1999 revealed that there were on average 1.2 emigrants per household, taking into consideration individuals directly related to the head of household, namely the father, mother, child, sibling or spouse. Of the total emigrants, 55% were males. Regarding age distribution, 51% of emigrants were aged 35-54 years. Migrants had a higher than average level of education with 20% holding a university or college degree, 19% had secondary education and 3% had a post-graduate degree.

Of total migrants, 30% reported work as their reason for emigration, 29% marriage, and 11% education, while 14% reported other reasons such as being born abroad or accompanying someone else. A significant proportion (16%) migrated due to expulsion.

There were significant differences between males and females regarding motives for migration. Half the males left for work, 2% for marriage, 19% for study and 20% were expelled, while only 5% of the females left for work, 61% for marriage, 1% for study and 12% were expelled. It was clear that the older migrants left because of expulsion. Of those aged 50 years and over, about 56% left for this reason, while younger males (15-49 years) were predominant among those who left for work (66%). On the contrary, younger females (under 35 years) left, above all for marriage (67%).

The results of the survey indicate that camp dwellers accounted for a higher percentage of those who emigrated to Jordan (72%), while more villagers (33%) migrated to the US and Canada, and more urban migrants (28%) migrated to the Gulf States. These results indicate that patterns of migration are linked to family histories and the shape of job opportunities; villagers are mostly found in the US where there is a higher demand for unskilled labor and less special qualifications, and urban migrants with generally higher levels of education are mostly found in the Gulf.

Palestinian villagers migrating to the US tend to take up difficult or dangerous forms of unskilled work with the help of relatives and friends from their place of origin who have settled abroad. This help from the diasporas constitutes the main opportunity for Palestinian villagers to find work in the US. Furthermore, a high percentage of Palestinians working in the US are employed by Palestinian and Arab businesses. In brief, the Palestinians who move to the US receive help from friends and relatives and are employed in unskilled jobs.

Palestinians migrating to work in the Gulf States need higher levels of education, given that dangerous or unskilled work is carried out by migrants from other parts of the world, who cost less to employ than Palestinians.

Of the Palestinian migrants residing in Jordan, 66% had only primary education and 33% had higher levels of education, of which 39% had secondary education, 40% had a university degree and 20% had postgraduate qualification. By contrast, 27% of migrants residing in the Gulf States and other Arab countries had only primary education, and 73% had higher levels of education.

*2.3.5 Sudan**The general framework*

One of the main limitations in approaching migrations from Sudan is the poor data coverage and the lack of accuracy in official statistics. Emigration seems to be increasing. Sudan has, in any case, historically hosted a large number of refugees from neighboring countries and it is also an important origin country for asylum seekers and refugees.

The stock of Sudanese migrants working abroad in 2007 was 719,000, almost all resident in Arab countries (99.4%). The Ministry of Interior estimates 724,000 foreign refugees in Sudan – mainly from Eritrea (435,000) and Chad (182,000) and 565,000 Sudanese refugees abroad, mainly in Chad (209,000) and Uganda (184,000).

The net migration balance by age group and gender – arrived at by the comparison of the distribution of the Sudanese population at two later dates – shows negative increasing values from 1985 both for 15-49 age old men and for women. The female balance for the same age class is negative with no special differences among the subgroup of women in their twenties and in their thirties/forties.

Figure 29. Five-year net migration balance of the Sudanese population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 30. Five-year net migration balance of the Sudanese female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Sudanese country-report

The migrant woman is a growing phenomenon. Often it is a refugee, or a husband or wife who depends on a single woman who still finds life there difficult. The local labor market is, meanwhile, still unfavorable to women (the activity rate is less than half compared to men, while the unemployment rate is double). The real problem is that discrimination found in the home is not likely to change even in the presence of emigration.

Sudan receives and produces migration. Female migration from this country is still little studied, but is becoming increasingly important. More often than in the past, women emigrate alone rather than with a man. However, women going to Islamic countries must still be accompanied by a man (brother, uncle, parent, and on the like). Discrimination is still a big problem for women in Sudanese emigration.

As for destinations, the 2007 data shows that the most significant flows are to Arab countries (especially the Gulf). It is interesting to note that Europe is the only destination where women are more numerous than men. With regard to the reasons for emigration, looking for a job is the motivation for two thirds of men and for half of women. However, it is not typical for women who migrate to go back to work (less than 2%), while accompanying a relative, usually the husband (40%). The level of education does not seem particularly different between men and women migrants, while the type of job varies dramatically, with women engaged in the lowest levels of work.

2.3.6 Syria

The general framework

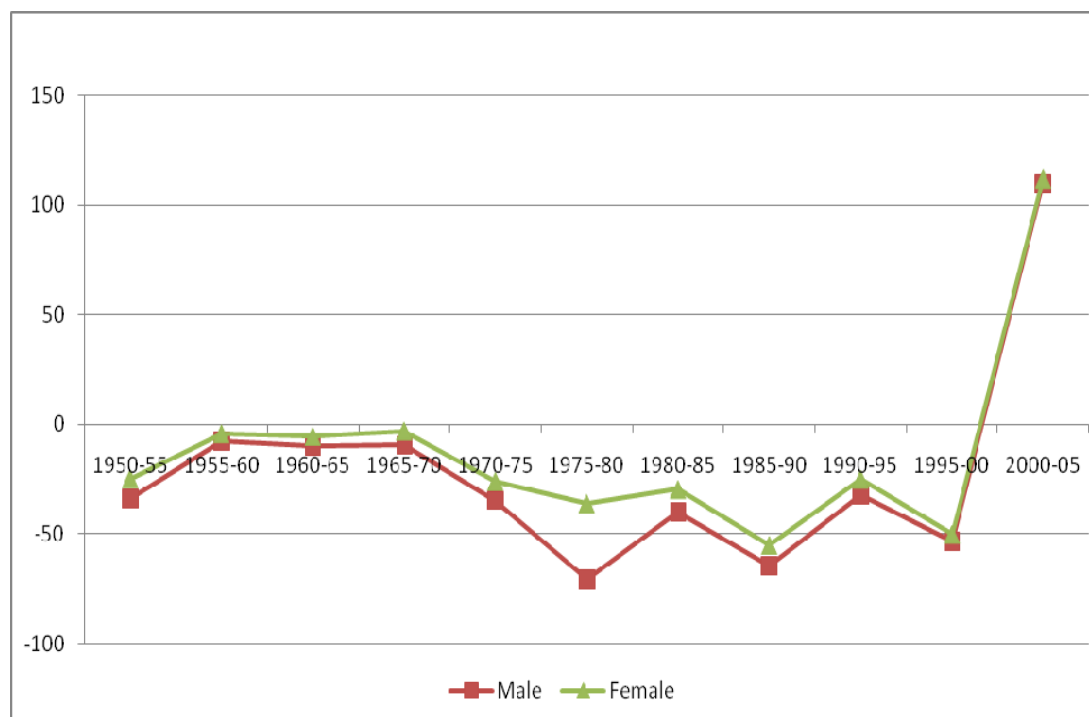
Figures for Syrian emigrants are approximate because of the lack of available data. Arab countries are the main destinations for Syrian emigrants, especially for those engaged in circular migration. The World Bank in 2010 estimated that Syrian emigrant stock is 4.2% of the total population.

The number of immigrants in Syria can be evaluated more accurately than emigrants because more than 90% of these are refugees who are monitored by the government and NGOs. The total number of refugees in Syria was estimated at around 1.4 million in 2009; the majority was Iraqis followed by Palestinians. About 10% of Iraqi refugees were subject to resettlement in third countries. The remaining immigrants were workers who could be divided into two groups: the first included highly-skilled employees, while the second and larger group was made up of domestic workers coming from south eastern Asian countries.

By comparison with the age distribution of the Syrian population at two later dates we can show a net migration balance for people aged 15-49 that became negative in 1970-1975, but that finally changed in 2000-2005 with a positive balance of 200,000 units.

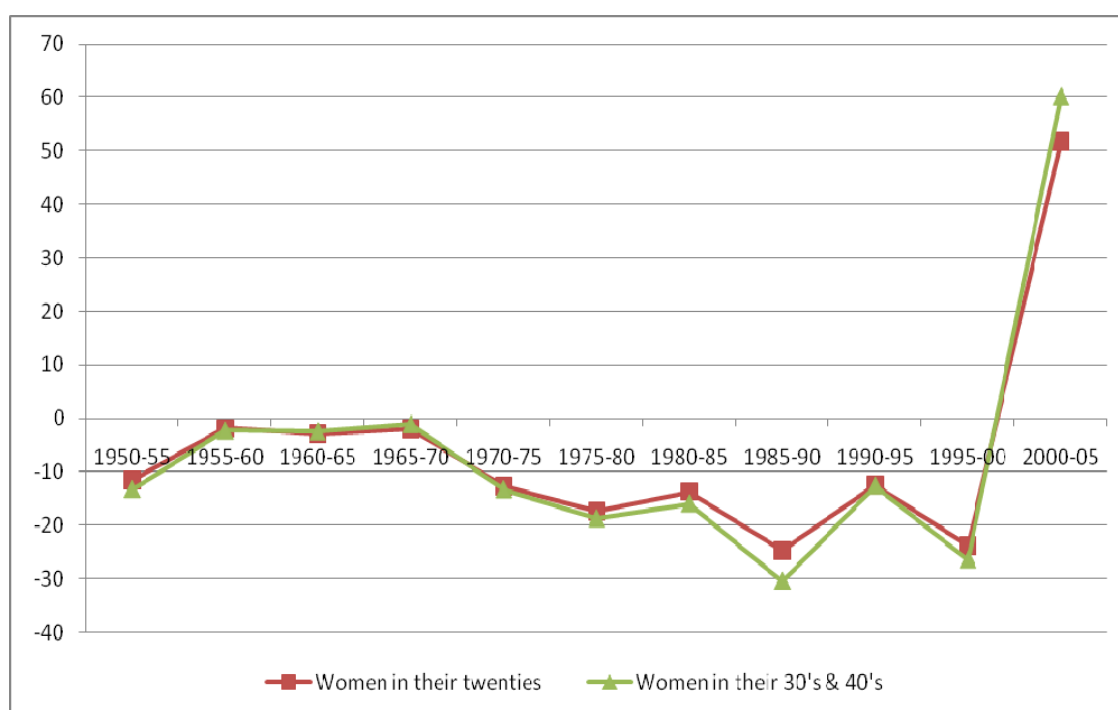
The female balance dynamics show no differences among the subgroup of women in their twenties and in their thirties/forties.

Figure 31. Five- year net migration balance of the Syrian population aged 15-49 by sex (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Figure 32. Five- year net migration balance of the Syrian female population aged 15-49 (in thousands), 1950-55/2000-05



Source: Author's elaboration on UN Population projections, Rev. 2008

Main findings of the Syrian country-report

In Syria, gender is one of the factors that determines whether an individual can migrate or not; then if he/she can, to which country and for what job. Men tend to have a higher degree of freedom in emigrating, while women are limited by cultural traditions. Syrian females typically emigrate as spouse, daughters or dependents to male migrants. Recently, an increasing number of women have begun to migrate for work: however, this number is still low and includes mostly empowered females in terms of education and social class.

According to the International Organization of Migrations (IOM) definition of migrants, in Syria there are two categories of migrants:

- *emigrants*: who left the country with no intention of coming back in the near future;
- *circular migrants*: individuals who left Syria, mostly for work and returned to it after a relatively short period.

Females go to make up about half of the first category, while males make up, instead, the majority of the second. Indeed, Syrian circular migrations, specially directed to Lebanon, concern workers in the construction sector (75%), cleaners (15%) and hawkers (10%).

Even if poor data on migration in Syria make gender analysis difficult, we can state that migration is expected to have a positive impact on females in term of empowering them and enhancing their independence. As Syrian females who emigrate to work in other countries or to continue their education abroad will have a greater ability to direct family priorities and to make their own decisions. Similarly, females who are left at home as their husbands migrate will, most probably, have greater control over household spending and the question of how any remittances are to be used. However, some migrants may find difficulties in adjusting to the new culture in terms of traditions and language, especially when migrating to non Arab countries. The issue of cultural shock may be expected to affect both genders equally and further research must be conducted to better assess the impact of migrations and adjustment by gender.

3. CARIM-15 emigrants and gender in the destination countries: Italy

3.1 Statistical sources and the quantitative aspects

The most reliable official source for studying migrants in Italy is the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT). Through this source it is possible to know the quantitative aspects of regular migrants living in Italy, with some of their structural characteristics. Some additional material is also provided by other institutions and research centers. The ISMU Foundation in Milan has since the early 1990s, carried out substantial research activity on foreign nationals based in Italy. Over the years many surveys have been made and numbers of foreign migrants have been estimated; both the total and the number of their different sub-populations: *the resident*, i.e. migrants recorded into the Population Register of any Italian municipality (the so called “Anagrafe”); *legal but not resident migrants* (as the aforesaid definition) and *illegal* migrants, i.e. persons without any permit to stay in the country.

Recently, such estimates were obtained by linking official statistics from the Population Register with rates of residence and rates of legality made available by two national surveys. The first was carried out in 2005 by a random³ sample of 30,000 foreign nationals over 18 years old living (with no distinction between legal and illegal) in 40 Italian provinces, the second in 2009 by a similar sample of 16,000 units drawn in 18 Italian provinces.

³ As the methodology to have a random sample without having a complete list of the population see: G. Baio, G. C. Blangiardo, M. Blangiardo, “Centre sampling technique in foreign migration surveys: a methodological note”, in *Journal of Official Statistics*, vol. 27, n. 3, 2011.

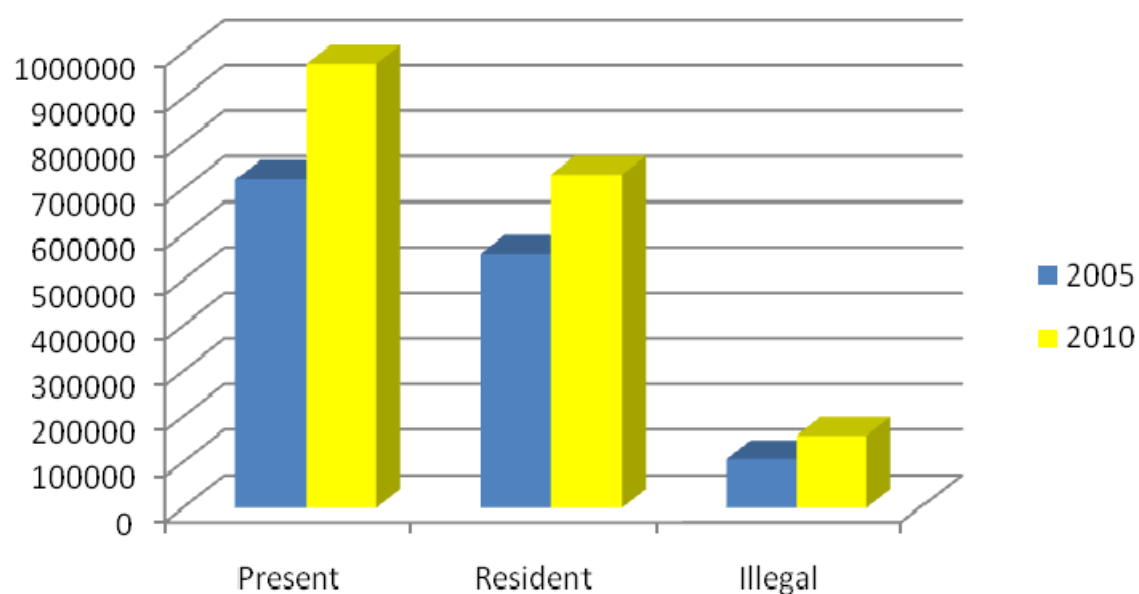
Table 7. CARIM-15 nationals living in Italy by country of nationality, 2005 and 2010

Country of nationality	1 st July 2005	1 st January 2010
Algeria	28,095	36,702
Chad	174	221
Egypt	75,048	102,111
Libya	3,466	3,065
Mali	4,200	4,824
Morocco	2,473	3,050
Mauritania	987	1,409
Niger	407,996	575,066
Senegal	884	660
Sudan	979	1,615
Tunisia	296	621
Palestina	82,354	96,903
Jordan	4,007	4,578
Lebanon	2,189	3,265
Syria	109,728	141,480
CARIM-15	722,874	975,569
Total foreign nationals	3,357,414	5,102,494

Source: Ismu Foundation, 2010

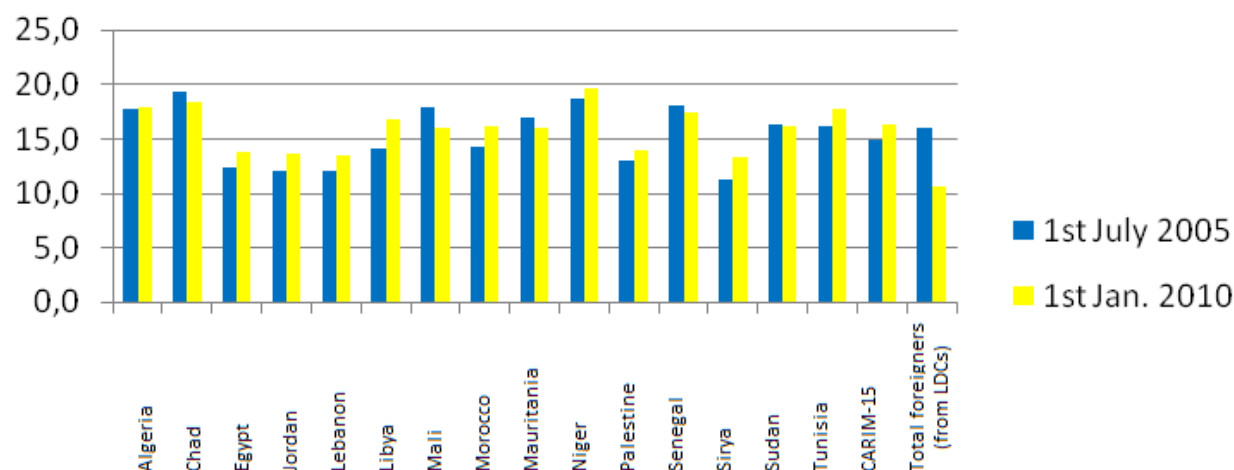
Table 7 shows the 2005 (on 1 July) and 2010 (on 1 January) estimates of CARIM-15 nationals living in Italy. Figure 33 reports the same values by legal/administrative status of migrants.

Figure 33. CARIM-15 nationals living in Italy by legal/administrative status, 2005 and 2010



Source: Ismu Foundation, 2010

Figure 34. Proportion of CARIM-15 nationals on the total CARIM-15 population living in Italy by country of nationality (in %), 2005 and 2010

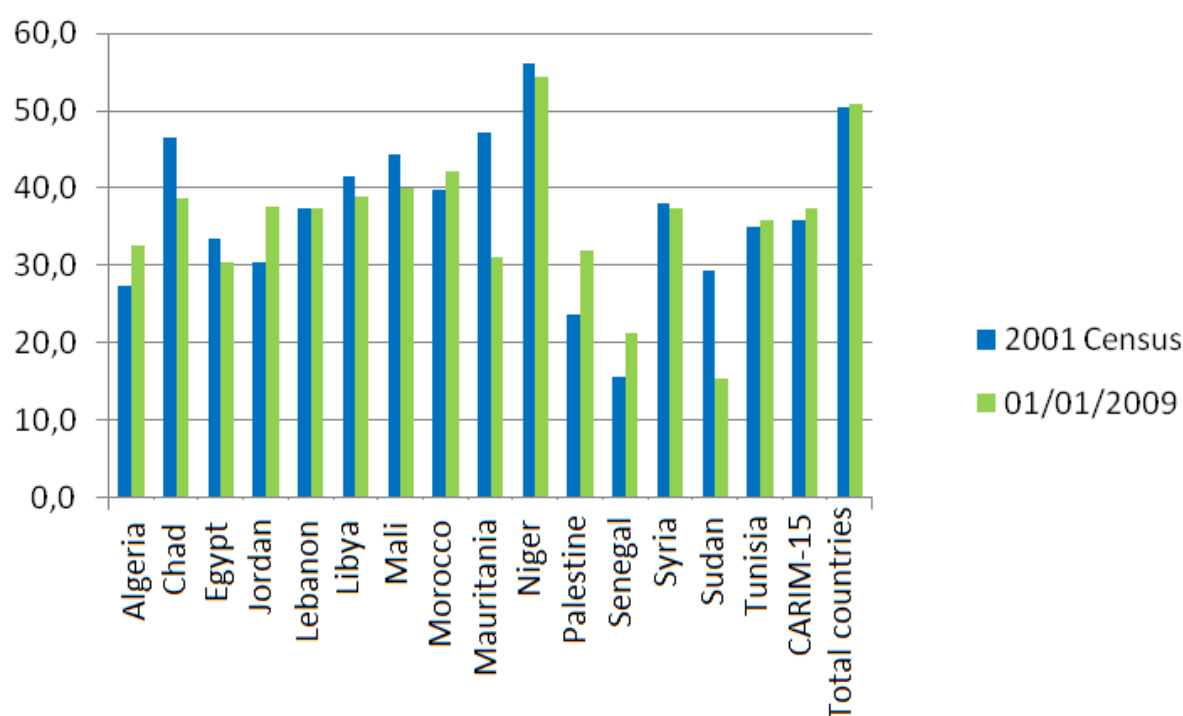


Source: Ismu Foundation, 2010

3.2 The female component

Figure 35 shows the female component of CARIM-15 nationals living (legally) in Italy.

Figure 35. Proportion of CARIM-15 resident female nationals on the total CARIM-15 population residing in Italy by country of nationality (in %), 2001, 2009



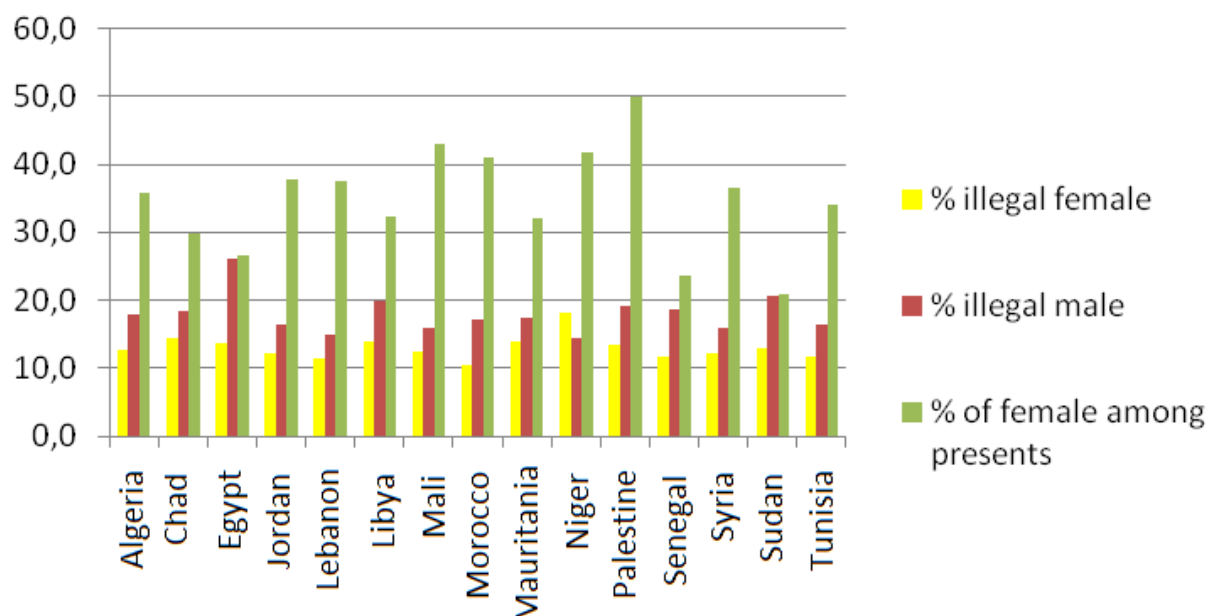
Source: 2001 Italian population census (2001) and Population Register (2009) (Istat).

Similar information is available for the whole population (inclusive of illegal migrants), but only for Lombardy, the region with the highest proportion of foreign nationals out of the total resident population (figure 36). Here, since 2001 a sample survey has been conducted annually by random

sample of 9,000 units from the population of foreign nationals over 15 years of age living in the region at mid-year.

The figure of the percentage of CARIM-15 female living in Lombardy on 1 July 2009 was 40%. Female migrants are less likely to be illegal than male migrants.

Figure 36. Proportion of CARIM-15 female nationals on the total CARIM-15 population living in Lombardy by country of nationality and legal status (in %), 2009



Source: Ismu Foundation, Regional Observatory on Integration and Multiethnicity, 2009.

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