



MEDITERRANEAN CITY-TO-CITY MIGRATION

CITY MIGRATION PROFILE TANGIER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



This document is a synthesis of the city of Tangier Migration Profile and Priority Paper drafted in the framework of the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project (MC2CM). The project aims at contributing to improved migration governance at city level in a network of cities in Europe and the Southern Mediterranean region. More information is available at www.icmpd.org/MC2CM.

GENERAL OVERVIEW (2014)	
Political and administrative context	<p>Tangier is the capital of the Prefecture of Tangier Assilah and the Tangiers-Tetouan-Al Hoceima region.</p> <p>The municipality has four administrative districts: BNI Makada (38.3% of the total population), Charf-Mghogha (21.2%), Charf-Souani (13.9%) and Tangier-Medina (28.6%)</p>
Population	947 952
Share in national population	4.6%
Foreigners as a proportion of the city population	<p>0.5%</p> <p><i>This figure underestimates the number of foreigners in the city</i></p>



MIGRATION PATTERNS

Given its remarkable economic dynamism and geographical location at the gates of Europe, Tangier has become an attractive city for people seeking better living conditions or those transiting to the Northern Mediterranean coast. Various international migratory movements from both the North and South take place here. The Spanish and French are the main nationalities originating from the North in Tangier. There are also some Syrian refugees and migrants from sub-Saharan Africa.


While these migration flows are difficult to quantify, they are highly visible within the different spaces of the city. Socio-economically disadvantaged immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa can be found on the outskirts of the city, often in precarious settlements. Most of these immigrants work in the informal sector. In contrast, immigrants from the North generally enjoy better living conditions and are spread out along the territory of the city.

MIGRANT POPULATION

The city has little data on immigration (workforce, legal status, gender, nationality, etc.). Data from the 2014 Population and Housing census (RGPH) on emigrants and immigrants reported that there were 5,145 foreigners in Tangier, i.e., 0.5% of the total city's population, and 6% of foreigners across the country. This figure reflects only the population that was present at the time of the census. The current number of foreigners is actually much higher. According to the African Union of development associations, there are close to 3,000 immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa. The surveys undertaken suggest that most of these immigrants are young men who have a relatively high level of education and work primarily in the informal sector. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported 275 refugees and asylum seekers established in Tangier in 2016.

LOCAL MIGRATION POLICY

The provisions taken under the country's new national migration policy and presented in the national strategy on immigration and asylum (2014) seek to ensure the better inclusion of migrants. An analysis of the situation in Tangier, however,



reveals difficulties implementing this policy at the local level. Indeed, the skills and the municipality's limited financial and human resources prevent the city from effectively addressing migration issues.

The municipality has adopted an approach that seeks to increase its recognition as an institution intended for supporting and guiding migrants, supporting and guiding non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in the field of migration and inclusion, enhancing migrant cultures, and helping develop a local pact for the management of migratory issues. This multidimensional approach mobilises international cooperation tools and helps increase elected City Councillors' awareness of migration issues.

Within the framework of the MC2CM project, stakeholders from Tangier (including actors from the municipality, the voluntary sector and devolved state services) have identified the following priorities:

1. **The mobilisation of the institutions involved in the inclusion of migrants**
2. **The fight against xenophobia and racism**
3. **The development of community actions in relation to immigration**
4. **Gaining awareness of migratory movements in the city**
5. **The hosting and support of migrants**
6. **Migrant health**
7. **Housing and accommodation for migrants**
8. **Access to employment**
9. **The schooling of migrants' children**



MAINSTREAMING MIGRATION

Channels of dialogue and communication among local stakeholders have been put in place at the city level to facilitate the development of solutions (including temporary) for inclusion of migrants. The upsurge in spaces, opportunities and events for exchange and dialogue is a necessary first step towards the process of inclusion, participation, and integration.

Migration governance stakeholders at local level

Municipality of Tanger

According to the municipal Charter which defines the responsibilities of the city of Tanger, the city has no clearly defined prerogatives in the field of migration. Education, employment, health and housing do not fall within the municipality's responsibilities. Under certain conditions and relative to specific aspects, these responsibilities may be shared with the State or may be transferred to the municipality by the State.

However, based on the laws and charters governing the functions of the Commons (which highlights the promotion of economic, social and cultural development), Tanger strives to set up childcare facilities and frameworks for action. It is also receptive to NGOs working in the field of migration.

The following municipal services are the most involved in migration issues:

- The municipality ChairEl departamento de relaciones externas
- The Department of external relations
- The Department of Cultural Affairs

In addition, the city may make proposals and suggestions and voice its opinions in matters of common interest within the jurisdiction of the State or of any other legal personality under public law

Conseil régional des Droits de l'Homme Tanger (CRDH)

This public body has a service specialised in the analysis and monitoring of migration and the handling of migrants' complaints and grievances (that affect their rights).

CRDH is at the forefront of the regularisation campaign launched at the end of 2013

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) active in the areas of migration and integration in the city

ATTADAMON	Assistance and support for children in difficult circumstances
AHLAM	Promotion of the rights of migrants with a focus on gender issues
Rencontre méditerranéenne pour l'immigration et le développement	Wide range of activities for migrants
Clinique Juridique Hijra	Legal and social assistance to migrants, refugees and emigrants
Voix des migrants	Association of immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa
Centre d'accueil des migrants	Support and assistance to migrants
Tanger Accueil Migrants (TAM)	Support and assistance to migrants
Maroc Intégration	Migrants' association
Collectif des communautés subsahariennes au Maroc	Association founded by sub-Saharan African students
Union Africaine des Associations de Développement	14 sectors of activity including migration which is considered a priority sector. Within this framework, special attention is paid to the organisation of events and activities to promote cooperation and co-development
Al Khaima	Priority action for the protection of children born to sub-Saharan African migrants
Ponts Solidaires	Migrants' association

Most of these associations receive public funding (Department responsible for migration, Ministry of youth and sports, Ministry of education). Two associations receive financial support from the municipality: Union Africaine des Associations de Développement and Maroc Intégration



INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Coordination and cooperation at the city, regional and national levels

The municipality has initiated a process of institutionalisation of its cooperation with some local NGOs (financial support and consultation by the municipal authorities). The regional Council has begun to take ownership of the issue of migration. Considerable resources at this level, combined with its cooperation with the municipality will help reinforce Tangier's actions and improve the inclusion of migrants in its territory. The Ministry of migration leads some ad hoc activities, alone or with other NGOs and government departments. However, the ministry has as yet no representative body in Tangier. The UNHCR occasionally visits Tangier and is working on setting up a consultative network in the city in the near future.


INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In addition to cooperation agreements with the Spanish regions of Catalonia and Andalusia, the city of Tangier is part of 2 programmes funded by the German Development Agency (GIZ). The first programme concerns the capacity-building of elected officials in migration management, and the second seeks to encourage the international exchange of experiences relating to best practices for the inclusion of migrants.

Since 2016, Tangier is also the headquarters of the Moroccan network of intercultural cities and has thus joined the network of intercultural cities initiated by the Council of Europe and funded by the European Union. This network seeks to promote cultural diversity, tolerance and openness within cities. Its action is fully aligned with the comprehensive programme whose objective is to defend migrants' rights and fight all forms of exclusion and xenophobia. The Moroccan network has entered into a cooperation agreement with its Spanish counterpart .

PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Surveys have shown that while European migrants are generally perceived positively, migrants from sub-Saharan Africa are generally perceived in a very negative light. These contrasting perceptions are due to lack of awareness among citizens on human rights issues of migrants. The development of actions undertaken by associ-



ations relative to migration issues will undoubtedly enhance civic awareness of the problems migrants in the city face and strengthen the activities carried out by public institutions. Activities primarily targeted at promoting the rights of migrants from sub-Saharan African and fostering co-existence are organised by both associations and the city of Tangier.

MIGRANTS' ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO SERVICES

	Education and vocational training	Employment and entrepreneurship	Social affairs	Protection against discrimination	Accommodation	Political participation and inclusion in local decision-making processes
Competence	No	No	No	No	No	No
Implementation instrument			<p>Already existing mechanisms managed by the municipality enable it to address some migrant health issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease vector control program <p>Provisions in the budget to allow for the burial of destitute people</p>		The municipality has the authority to open shelters for women in difficulty	
Policies and projects relevant to migrants' integration	The city of Tangier supports the voluntary sector committed to the schooling of migrant children in public schools and the vocational training of youth		Migration has come with new challenges for which the city is not prepared (health of pregnant women, pathologies related to tropical ecosystems, financial barriers to access to health care)			
Migrants' access	Despite the obligation to educate migrants' children, sub-Saharan children experience difficulties accessing school because of the low response from local school authorities (under the Ministry of National Education), arrangements at the national level, and low awareness among migrant parents					
Comments	The role of the city is limited to the maintenance of the spaces in which basic education is given, aid to students in need, and the creation of child care facilities which is a responsibility the city shares with the State. The municipality may encourage relevant State authorities to address school-related problems within its territory	The municipality has no authority with regard to employment and entrepreneurship. It may, however, help raise awareness, for instance on the economic sector, the migration policy of the country, and the necessary measures for the inclusion of migrant workers. The city can also make requests concerning migrant workers to state authorities	The city's actions are limited to maintenance of health clinics under its jurisdiction. The municipal structure (the municipal's hygiene office) is not intended to provide health care. The municipality may request health services to intervene in public health issues on its territory		The municipality has no authority to build accommodation. It can lobby other state authorities on housing-related issues in its territory and thus raise their awareness about the need to develop an action plan for migrants' access to accommodation.	The 2011 Constitution allows foreign residents to vote in local elections

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD),
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www.icmpd.org/MC2CM

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