Call for publications for the Special Volume on African Migration Governance to be published in the *African Migration Journal* (AMJ), an international peer-reviewed journal of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration (ACSRM)

African migration relates to various dimensions and implications (economic, social, political, environmental, and geopolitical), thereby underlying the need to enhance understanding of its complex patterns, drivers, trends, and impacts.[1] With the increasing migration pressures and persisting unfavorable structural conditions, many African countries have become origin, transit, and destination countries.[2] Most African countries face challenges related to migration governance[3] due to migration's multifaceted trends and their development, humanitarian, and security implications.[4] They often lack sufficient policymaking capacity, robust institutional frameworks, and human and financial resources to address migration governance-related challenges.[5]

The complexity of Africa's migration shows the need to enhance the capacities of African Member States and Regional Economic Communities on migration policy and governance. Strengthening migration governance and the role of migration for inclusive and sustainable development of the African Continent

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[1] Giménez-Gómez, J.-M., Walle, Y. M., & Zergawu, Y. Z. (2019). Trends in African Migration to Europe: Drivers Beyond Economic Motivations. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *63*(8), 1797-1831. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022002718823907; Flahaux, ML., De Haas, H. African migration: trends, patterns, drivers. CMS 4, 1 (2016). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40878-015-0015-6; Adepoju, A., 2004, Changing Configurations of Migration in Africa, Migration Policy Institute, http://www.migrationinformation.org/feature/display.cfm?ID=251, consulted on December 2023.

[2] Adepoju, Aderanti, 'Trends in International Migration in and from Africa', in Douglas S. Massey, and J. Edward Taylor (eds), *International Migration: Prospects and Policies in a Global Market* (Oxford, 2004; online edn, Oxford Academic, 1 Aug. 2004), https://doi.org/10.1093/0199269009.003.0004, accessed 9 Dec. 2023.; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (2018) (UNCTAD, Economic development in Africa Report 2018 *Migration for Structural Transformation*, https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/aldcafrica2018_en.pdf (Consulted in December 2023)

[3] Le Coz C. and Pietropolli A. (April 2, 2020) *Africa Deepens its Approach to Migration Governance, But Are Policies Translating to Action?* Feature article https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/africa-deepens-approach-migration-governance , consulted in December 2023

[4] African Union and IOM (2020) African Migration Report, International Organization for Migration (IOM) https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/africa-migration-report.pdf, consulted in December 2023

[5] Le Coz C. and Pietropolli A. (April 2, 2020) Africa Deepens its Approach to Migration Governance, But Are Policies Translating to Action? Feature article https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/africa-deepens-approach-migration-governance , consulted in December 2023

implies giving a voice to African migration researchers and policy experts to lead in generating knowledge on migration governance within the context of Africa. Hence, limited reliable and up-to-date migration data and analysis and a lack of in-depth qualitative studies on the migration governance landscape and challenges hinder the development of a robust migration governance system in the African continent.

Migration governance relates to sets of institutions and schemes to improve how migration is managed and governed, and the kaleidoscope of actors engaged directly or indirectly, formally or informally, to better handle migration issues. Migration governance underlies the assumption that migration is not appropriately or well-managed in various parts of the world.[6]

This special volume aims to deepen understanding of:

- Africa's migration patterns, trends, and dynamics.

- Africa's migration governance-related challenges and opportunities, including the governance of the (labor) migration and development nexus; irregular migration, human trafficking, and smuggling; climate change-induced migration; and skilled international migration, among other issues.

- the theoretical, methodological, and conceptual implications of studying African migration governance.

- gaps in implementing national, regional, continental, and international instruments and aligning national legal and policy frameworks with related international instruments.

- effective policy options to address Africa's migration governance challenges.

Suggested thematic areas (among other things and without pretending to be exhaustive)

- General overview of African migration trends, patterns, and dynamics.
- General overview of African migration governance.
- African migration governance: theories, concepts, and methods.
- The governance of migration and development nexus.
- The governance of labor migration.
- The governance of African diasporas.
- The governance of irregular migration.
- The governance of human trafficking.
- The governance of the smuggling of migrants.
- The governance of climate change-induced migration and mobility.
- The governance of skilled international migration
- The governance of international migration of health professionals.
- The governance of international student migration.
- Governance of remittances transfer.
- Governance of gender and migration nexus.

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[6] Pécoud, A., and Thiollet, H., 2023. *Research Handbook on the Institutions of Global Migration Governance*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar

- Governance of migration and health nexus.
- Governance of climate immobility.
- Governance of forced migration (refugees, internally displaced persons, asylum seekers).
- Governance of low and unskilled migration.
- Data and knowledge gaps on migration governance.
- Local migration governance (municipalities, local authorities in general).
- Trade unions, employers' organizations, and African migration governance.
- Migrant and diaspora associations, NGOs, civil society associations, religious institutions, and Africa's migration governance.
- Governance of the root causes of Africa's migration.
- Legal, institutional, and policy frameworks, governance mechanisms, and challenges regarding intra-African migration.
- Institutions and regulations of Africa's migration governance.
- Politics of Africa's migration governance.
- Assessment of the African Union's legal, policy, institutional frameworks, and practices on African migration governance in Africa.
- Assessment of African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) legal, policy, institutional frameworks, and practices on African migration governance.
- Assessment of national legal, legislative, policy, and institutional frameworks and practices on migration governance in Africa.
- Assessment of migration policies (national migration policies, national labor migration policies, diaspora engagement policies, migration and development policies, anti-human trafficking and anti-smuggling policies, etc.).
- Human rights-based approach to migration governance.
- Criminalization of African international migration.
- Border control, border management, and border governance.
- Securitization of international migration.
- African migrants' human rights violations, vulnerability to exploitation, abuses, and violence.
- Assessment of migration governance indicators (IOM Migration Governance Indicators, IMEX, etc.).
- African migrants in detention camps in transit and destination countries.
- Migration intermediations or brokering in the context of irregular and regular migration.
- Global migration governance debates and African migration governance.
- Global Compact on Migration (GCM) and African migration governance.
- New African migrant profiles (older people, precarious candidates, migrant workers).
- African migrants' access to social protection.
- New destinations of Africa's migration.
- Impacts of migration on agriculture and other economic sectors.
- Impacts of European policies on migration and intra-African and extra-continental migration, etc.
- International organizations and African migration governance.
- Research agenda on African migration governance.

Notices to the authors

This special volume is underpinned by an interdisciplinary perspective and endeavors to enhance understanding of the complexity of African migration governance by considering various aspects of migration governance (migration and development, labor migration, irregular migration, human trafficking, just to name but a few) and migration governance architecture (institutions, regulatory frameworks, politics, actors, interests underlying African migration governance), various theoretical and methodological approaches, the local, national, regional, continental, international and global levels, as well as the historical, contemporary perspectives and future scenarios related to African migration governance. It also scrutinizes African migration governance's social, economic, environmental, political, and geopolitical implications. The manuscripts submitted in this Special Volume can adopt a theoretical, empirical, or practical (policy) standpoint.

Manuscripts should be sent in Word and follow the African Migration Journal's submission guidelines (visit the link: https://www.acsrm-au.org/publication/african-migration-journal/ and see attached).

Abstracts and entire manuscripts should be sent to the following email address: Ibrahima.Dia@africa-union.org

All manuscripts will systematically undergo a thorough anonymous peer review, and their originality will be scrutinized.

Schedule and timeline

The deadline for submitting the entire manuscript is **31 March 2024**.

Members of the Editorial Committee of the Special volume on African Migration Governance to be published by the *African Migration Journal*, an international peer-reviewed journal of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration (ACSRM):

- **Ibrahima Amadou Dia**, Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration (ACSRM), African Union Commission (AUC)

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