



GPI

Global Partnership
for Financial Inclusion

G20 National Remittances Plan

France 2023

Biennial Update

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR FINANCIAL INCLUSION

TEMPLATE FOR G20 NATIONAL REMITTANCE PLANS

BIENNIAL UPDATES AND ANNUAL PROGRESS MONITORING

Annex 3: Annual Monitoring for the National Remittance Plans

Progress Monitoring of National Remittance Plans

This process is intended to help identify achievements made under the National Remittance Plans. It is encouraged that GPFI members work collaboratively across their Government, to provide an update on progress, achievements and changes that have occurred since the development of the National Remittance Plans.

For the last 12 months, please provide summary data for the key remittance trends in your country and region, such as number and types of providers, main corridors, costs (including how much they have fallen and why), improvements to legislative and regulatory environment. Where possible include the latest available data for the following: remittances sent and/or received as percentage of national GDP, total remittance inflows and/or outflows by region, percentage of total remittances (sent and/or received) for your country as a share of total regional remittance flows, and size of the migrant population within your country. The following questions are intended to provide guidance for this purpose.

Country remittances profile - FRANCE

1. Please provide remittance outflows and/or inflows (country-level data from the central bank as per the IMF BPM 6 Framework, if possible, please provide the data denominated in USD):

Year	Inflow (if 1b or 1c)	Outflow (if 1a or 1c)
2021	EUR 222 million	EUR 12 719 million
2022	EUR 231 million	EUR 12 996 million

Source: National Balance of payments statistics (Banque de France)

2. Is your country (a) mainly a remittance-sending country, (b) mainly a remittance-receiving country or (c) are both sending and receiving significant?¹

France is a major remittance-sending country. The resident workers' remittances to other countries accounted to EUR 12,996 billion in 2022 (EUR 12,719 billion in 2021), whereas EUR 0,231 billion were sent from non-resident workers to France the same year (EUR 0,222 billion in 2021).

¹ Classification of a country as a sending or a receiving country or both is left to the countries themselves. However, please note that, in general, high-income countries are considered sending countries to low- and middle-income countries. There are exceptions. Some middle-income countries have large migrant populations originating from low-income countries and can be classified as both sending and receiving countries.

3. Please provide the migrant stock as a share of total population:

Year	Migrants/Population
2021	10,3%
2022	N/A

Source : [Population immigrée et étrangère en France | Insee](#)

4. Please list main corridors for international remittances sent.²

Country	2021 (EUR million)	2022 (EUR million)
Morocco	2 703,5	2 730,6
Algeria	1 571,0	1 586,7
AÇORES ET MADÈRE	1 237,7	1 250,1
Tunisia	969,0	978,7
Spain	665,0	671,7
Senegal	436,2	472,4
China	453,0	457,5
Serbia	344,0	386,9
Viet Nam	350,0	353,5
Madagascar	281,5	284,3

Source: *National Balance of payments statistics (Banque de France)*

5. What is the average cost of sending \$200 from your country? Provide available quarterly data for the latest 4-6 quarters.

Q4 2022	5,75%
Q3 2022	6,09%
Q2 2022	6,41%
Q1 2022	6,69%
Q4 2021	6,41%
Q3 2021	6,21%

Source: [Print \(worldbank.org\)](#)

Furthermore, France has been among the G7 countries with the most important decrease in total average cost to send remittances (from 6,09% to 5,75%), after Germany (from 7,02% to 5,98%) and Japan (from 7,82% to 7,22%).

6. Please list main corridors for international remittances received.³

² Main corridors for a sending country include those that are the largest receivers from that country in terms of volume.

³ Main corridors for a receiving country include those that are the largest senders for that country in terms of volume.

Country	2021 (EUR million)	2022 (EUR million)
Côte d'Ivoire	27,9	29,0
Congo	23,4	24,3
Gabon	20,7	21,6
Cameroun	15,8	16,4
Italy	11,1	11,5
United States of America	9,7	10,0
Spain	8,9	9,3
Senegal	8,2	8,5
United Kingdom	8,2	8,5
Germany	6,9	7,2

Source: National Balance of payments statistics (Banque de France)

Competition in the market

7. Please indicate if there was any change in the types of remittance service providers (RSPs) allowed in your country due to regulatory reforms (column 1) and please fill in the rest of the table to the extent feasible:

	Allowed to provide remittance services (1)	If "yes"			
	[Yes/No]	Number of providers of each type	Market share for each provider type? (in terms of number of transactions)	Average cost of sending \$200 if 2a or 2c	Average cost of receiving \$200 if 2b or 2c
Commercial banks	Yes				
MTOs	Yes				
Postal network	Yes				
Mobile money operators	Yes				
Fintech platforms	Yes				
Remittance hubs	N/A				
Others (please specify)	N/A				

Regulatory environment

8. Changes in transparency requirements as specified in regulations/circulars/guidance in the past year:

No change in 2022.

9. Please describe any new relevant legislation for remittances that have been passed since the last NRP update, including:

- Are there any simplified CDD measures in place for specific channels and/or below a transaction amount limit? Are there any government-issued e-ID facilities, and are they used for financial services?

In France, according to Article L. 312-1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code (FMFC), any consumer residing in France or in the UE has the right to open a payment account with basic features (being specified by decree in Articles D. 312-5 et seq. of the FMC). In case of refusal by credit institution, consumers may request the Banque de France to designate a credit institution to open a basic bank account free of charge.

According to Article L. 312-1-3 of the FMFC, credit institutions are also required to propose a specific offer, including basic services (listed in Article R. 312-4-3 of the FMFC), to financially fragile clients at a maximum cost of 3€ per month. Banking charges applicable to this specific offer cannot exceed €4 per transaction and €20 per month. Financial fragility is mainly assessed against (i) the existence of repeated irregularities and payment incidents during three consecutive months and (ii) the amount of resources credited to the account. Are also considered as financially fragile (i) the consumers registered at the payment incident register held by the French Central Bank during three consecutive months and (ii) the consumers admissible to over indebtedness procedures.

Opening in a remote way is not governed by legal provisions

- Are regulatory sandboxes or similar regulatory tools to facilitate emergence of new business models available?

No regulatory sandbox is currently operated in France. However, both the financial market authority (AMF) and the Banking and Insurance sector authority (ACPR) implemented a Fintech Hub, with the aim of providing applicants with insights on the regulatory framework and legal advices.

- AML/CFT regulations for account opening and ongoing customer due diligence.
- Use of agents by RSPs and agent exclusivity
- Competition policy
- Consumer protection:
 - No changes
- Non-bank payment service providers licensed to provide international remittance services including use of digital or mobile wallets.
- Regulatory compliance of products and services offered by fintechns.

Payment infrastructure

Please describe if there have been any changes in the following since the latest drafting/updating of the NRPs:

10. Do non-bank RSPs have access to the national payment infrastructures?

No but regulation could evolve shortly to enable non-bank PSP to access payment infrastructures

11. Are there interfaces between payment systems in your country and payments systems in other countries? If so, which countries and what type (e.g., ACH, card switch, etc.)?

Yes, there are pan-European interfaces (TIPS, the Eurosystem's Instant Payment Settlement system ; RT1, a pan-European ACH), as well as bilateral/multilateral links under development such as the one between TIPS and Sweden.

12. Have you issued any new legislation on fintech and/or non-bank financial institution that strengthens and advances the payment infrastructure?

In 2015, the European Union passed the second directive on payment services, which gave a legal framework to open banking. On June 28th, the European Commission released a new proposal for a payment services regulation (equivalent of a third directive), which would bring several precisions on open banking and would guarantee the access of non-banks to payment infrastructures. Another proposal of the Commission, released the same day, aims to set a framework for open finance: allowing customers to use third party providers to access their financial data. Both proposals should be adopted by the European legislator by the end of 2024. Not specifically on Fintech, the European Union issued a regulation on markets in crypto-assets (MiCAR).

13. Are there any Incentives to promote the digitization of payment infrastructures in line with the FSB's work on enhancing cross-border payments (the Stage 3 Roadmap)?

The ECB has developed a European Retail Payment strategy, which included cross-border payment as one of the dimensions. In France, the National Payments Committee issued a payments strategy in 2019 for the period 2019-2024. The main goal of the payment strategy is to promote the digitization of payments. See here for more information: [190227 - en national cashless payments strategy 2019-2024.pdf \(banque-france.fr\)](#).

Access to financial services

If 2a or 2c:

14. Have there been any changes in migrants' access to services provided by regulated RSPs? If you monitor migrant workers' level of financial inclusion in your country, including transaction account ownership, to send remittances in cash and digitally via regulated channels, please provide the latest figures.

No. Financial inclusion is promoted through a variety of regulations and incentives, including protections for vulnerable populations ([see report](#)), provided they comply with regulatory requirements (KYC, AMF/FT regulations...). There is no specific Financial Inclusion policy towards migrants but specific information and advice may target refugees in case of crisis ([see link available in FR/EN/Ukrainian](#)).

15. Have the requirements for migrants to open a transaction account (are they the same as for any other citizen) changed since the latest NRP draft/update including the cost structure of these accounts? Do these accounts have a cost? What is the account ownership levels for the migrants (if this information is available)?

No changes in 2022.

16. Please list any changes in, new additions to the solutions that help promote equal access to financial services (including ID, digital ID, e-KYC and/or credit registry platforms by bank and non-bank RSP).

eID is a powerful tool to promote access to financial services but most of the countries from which migrants are coming do not operate eID schemes. On the other hand, the development of remote identification services – including online verification of identity documents – opens new possibilities. In France, such services have to be certified by The National Cybersecurity Agency of France (ANSSI) and the certification process covers the verification of foreign identity documents. The scope of documents covered by the verification tools can vary from one applicant to the other but so far, the majority of certified providers cover a wide range of identity documents (around 400 for the “best in class”). These solutions, when used by traditional financial institution, make access to financial services easier.

On a different note, we also observe that fintech companies targeting specifically the migrant population are emerging, working in collaboration with NGOs (see [Welcome Place](#) for example)

Governance and Risk Management

17. Have there been any policy reforms in the type of risk management practices are required for RSPs (financial, legal, operational, cyber, fraud, and reputational risks)?
18. Have there been any changes in the existing AML/CFT regulations/guidelines available for non-bank RSPs for their relations to banks or their customers?

EBA Guidelines on policies and controls for the effective management of ML/TF risks when providing access to financial services, in the drafting of which the ACPR took an active part, were published on the 31 of March 2023.

These Guidelines clarify the interaction between the access to financial services for the most vulnerable customers (including refugees, homeless people...) and institutions’ AML/CFT obligations, in order to enable banks to ensure appropriate customer due diligence while taking into account the specific situation of these customers.

ACPR Guidelines on virtual asset service providers were published in November 2022. They specify the AML/CFT requirements to which they are subject, particularly as regards risk assessment, KYC and monitoring of transactions (procedures for using blockchain analysis tools, customer due diligence measures to be applied in the context of transactions involving anonymity-enhanced cryptocurrencies/privacy coins or in the event of ransomware, etc.), and asset freeze measures. In the context of the measures taken by the European Union in relation to the conflict in Ukraine, the document sets out the alert criteria for attempting to breach or circumvent restrictive measures with virtual assets.

EBA Guidelines on the use of Remote Customer On boarding Solution were published on 22/11/2022. They set out the measures financial institutions (including non-bank RSPs) must take to comply with their due diligence obligations when using technological solutions to establish remote business relationships with new customers, including via Internet. In particular, they are intended to strengthen the reliability of customer ID verification in a technology-neutral framework by promoting best practices aimed at (i) better verifying the authenticity and integrity of the identity documents provided and (ii) ensuring that the customer is the actual holder of these documents (and not the author of an identity theft).

Regulation (EU) 2023/1113 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on information accompanying transfers of funds and certain crypto-assets and amending Directive (EU) 2015/849 was published on the 9th of June 2023. [The main contribution of the Regulation is to extend the transparency requirements for transfers of funds to crypto-asset transactions, in line with the travel rule of the FATF]. Furthermore, the text includes some progress with regard to the transparency of transfers of funds. In particular, it promotes the use of the Legal entity identifier (LEI) to enhance the effectiveness of controls on transfers from/to legal persons. In addition, the text provides that the European Banking Authority (EBA) should issue guidelines on the policies, procedures and controls that RSPs should put in place to ensure compliance with national or European restrictive measures (embargoes, asset freezes, etc.) when transferring funds or crypto-assets.