Two migrant women, one from Congo and the other from Mali in a flat were they are accommodated in the Tunisian Red Crescent – Medenine, Tunisia 9/16

### Survey Snapshot

**TUNISIA | September 2016**

**ABSTRACT**
- MHub is undertaking field surveys with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers along key migratory routes to build up a body of data over time and to map country and regional level mixed migration trends.
- This snapshot presents early survey findings of the profiles, intentions and experiences of those moving in mixed migration flows who have recently arrived in Tunisia in the last year.
- Though these findings cannot be considered statistically representative of the migration population, they do provide key insights into the migration process.

### KEY FINDINGS

**These findings are based on 116 interviews conducted between 29 March and 28 September in Tunis, Sfax, Zarzis, and Medenine regions of Tunisia.** Libyan migrants were the majority of interviews this month.

#### PROFILE

- In September interviews, 81% of respondents said they entered Tunisia with a valid passport and/or visa. The remaining 19% said they destroyed their documents since their intention was to use smuggler services and cross borders irregularly on their journey. Each of these respondents crossed the Libyan-Tunisia border irregularly in September.
- 59% of respondents and/or their immediate family own assets in their country of origin, primarily a house and land. All 15 respondents from Libya own a vehicle and house in Libya.
- 49% of respondents left their country of origin in search of economic opportunities, 29% due to conflict and insecurity, and 3% left to escape persecution.

#### ABUSES AND RISKS

- Some Libyan respondents (22%) described how they were detained in Libya before departing and subjected to physical abuse.

#### ONWARD MOVEMENT

- 18% of respondents intend to head onward to Europe, mainly France and Italy, certain that reaching Europe would notably improve their lives; 20% would like to return home to their country of origin. This 38% cited a lack of economic opportunities and poor conditions in Tunisia as reasons. Respondents made this decision after less than one year in Tunisia.
- 59% of respondents intend to stay in Tunisia. 18% of which stated they were unhappy there but were still unsure of a better alternative, while 41% stated they were happy and for the time being they intended to stay. The unhappy respondents cited reasons such as difficult conditions and limited economic opportunities, with racism and discrimination as an additional factor for those from Sub Saharan countries. Respondents that were happy had employment and an establish social network.

### QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS

- **“If you have young kids then don’t stay in Libya, it is too hard for them, they will be traumatized by all the violence around them. Leave the country for now and return when it calms down.”** - Female respondent from Libya in Tunis on 18/09/16

- **“I am young and I can only advise someone young like me not to stay in the country and not to carry arms or get involved in all these conflicts that we have in the country.”** - Male respondent from Libya in Tunis on 16/09/16

- **“When you don’t have a job here (Tunisia) it is very difficult to live here. Tunisians take advantage of us here and everything for us Libyans becomes very expensive.”** - Female respondent from Libya in Tunis on 21/09/16

- **“Each one of us has his own story and reasons to leave his country. But if I can advise, I would not advise any one to leave his country unless he has no other choice.”** - Female respondent from Congo Brazzaville in Medenine on 27/09/16

- **“I need to be in a peaceful place, I am fleeing from war. In my country my brothers took the arms, and are part of the conflict, when it reaches that point then you become a target and your life is in danger. I had to leave my country to survive”** - Female respondent from Mali in Medenine on 27/09/16

### DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF INTERVIEWEES

**PHOTO FROM THE FIELD**

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