

ABOUT

- 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 Italy 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

This snapshot forms part of a wider, ongoing data gathering project with respondents who have recently transited the Central Mediterranean route on their way to Europe. To date, data has been gathered from 453 respondents in Italy with respondents coming from countries such as Nigeria (27.2%), Eritrea (12.6%), Gambia (9.9%), Côte d'Ivoire (9.5%), Mali (8.2%), Senegal (6.2%), Ghana (6.0%), Bangladesh (5.3%), Cameroon (2.7%), Guinea (2.7%), Ethiopia (1.8%), Togo (1.6%), Pakistan (1.1%) and (cumulatively 5.8%) Sudan, Central African Republic, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Congo, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Niger, Nepal, Libya, Guinea Bissau, Liberia.

Findings in this snapshot are based on interviews with 35 interlocutors in Rome: 9 respondents came from Mali, 7 from Nigeria, 7 from Cote D'Ivoire, 3 from Senegal, 3 from Gambia, 3 from Guinea, 2 from Eritrea, and 1 from Ghana. All respondents were male.

INTENTIONS

- 10 (30 %) respondents reported Libya as their initial planned destination, while 7 (21 %) reported their intention to arrive to Italy. 5 (15%) respondents had other North African countries as their first intended destination, 3 (9%) stated other EU countries as their planned destination, and another 3 (9%) listed Sub-Saharan African countries as their initial choice. 6 respondents (18%) reported not having a planned destination at the outset of their journey. In total, 19 respondents (56%) said they had changed their plans while en route while 15 (44%) reported not changing their plans.
- 32 respondents (91%) expressed intention to stay in Italy while 2 (6 %) stated their intention to continue their journey. 1 person did not know whether he wanted to stay in Italy.

JOURNEY

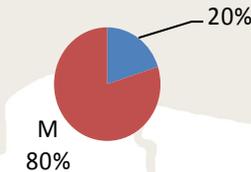
- All respondents arrived in Italy via the Central Mediterranean route through Libya. 22 respondents (63%) arrived at the point of departure in Libya from Niger, 10 (29%) from Algeria, 2 (6%) from other Libyan cities, and 1 (3%) from Sudan. 31 respondents (89%) reported using the services of smugglers for this segment of the journey while the remaining 4 reported using land transport (i.e. jeeps, cars or trucks) to enter Libya. By comparison, all respondents used such services crossing into Italy.
- While 34 respondents (97%) reported choosing their respective routes to arrive at the point of departure in Libya, only 23 out of 35 respondents (66%) claimed that the decision of crossing the Mediterranean Sea out of Libya was made by them. For those who did not make the decision to cross the Mediterranean Sea (34%), the decision was made by others who include bandits, employers, smugglers, or gangs. Only 16 (46%) reported getting information on various aspects of the journey by talking with others including other migrants, smugglers, humanitarian organizations, friends and family. 7 (20%) relied on social media for information.
- 9 respondents (26%) reported paying more than 1000 USD for the total cost of the journey, the highest cost reported being 8200 USD. 6 respondents (17%) reported paying between 500 – 1000 USD for the journey while 12 respondents (34%) paid between 10 – 490 USD. 8 respondents (23%) had their journey paid for (by employers, for example) or declined answering the question.

RISKS AND ABUSES

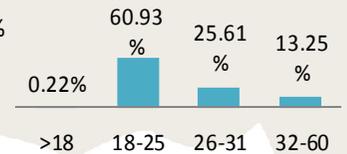
- The majority of respondents reported experiencing and/or witnessing various abuses. 28 (80%) reported witnessing deaths, 11 of which occurred in Libya, 8 at sea, 8 in the desert, and 1 in Morocco. 27 respondents (77%) reported experiencing and/or witnessing detention. For those who were detained, 10 reported a detention period of three months or longer, with the longest detention period reported being 2 years. 9 respondents reported experiencing and/or witnessing detention at the hands of official forces (i.e. police and soldiers) while 18 reported other parties (including bandits, smugglers, and gang members). 27 (77%) were and/or witnessed others being forced into labor; 31 (89%) were and/or witnessed others being subjected to physical abuse; and 29 (83%) experienced and/or witnessed robberies.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF CUMULATIVE SURVEYS

Sex distribution



Age distribution



QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS

“We spent more than 30 days in a connection house, in Tripoli. Some animals bit us, and smugglers did not allow us to go to the hospital. One of us died, poisoned.”

-Male respondent from Gambia in Rome in 03/2017

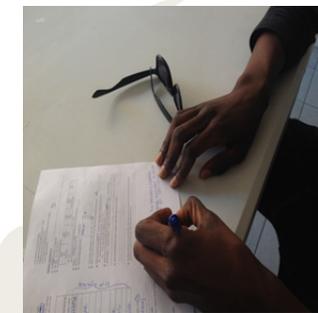
“In this journey there is not truth.”

-Male respondent from Nigeria in Rome in 03/2017

“I was told that the Sea crossing would be very easy. A boat would arrive from Italy and take me there in one hour.”

-Male respondent from Cote d'Ivoire in Rome in 03/2017

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD



A boy from Gambia writing some notes on the questionnaire paper, in a reception center in Rome



An Eritrean mother with her baby in a reception center in Rome