

Survey Snapshot

ITALY | April 2017

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

Cumulative surveys: 488

This snapshot forms part of a wider, ongoing data gathering project with respondents who have recently transited through North Africa on their way to Europe. To date, data has been gathered from 488 respondents in Italy coming from countries such as Nigeria (26.6%), Eritrea (12.5%), Gambia (10.6%), Côte d'Ivoire (9.2%), Mali (7.8%), Senegal (6.8%), Ghana (6.0%), Bangladesh (4.9%), Guinea (2.9%), Cameroon (2.7%), (and cumulatively 10.0%) Ethiopia, Togo, Pakistan, Sudan, Central African Republic, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Niger, Libya, Nepal, Congo, Afghanistan, and Guinea Bissau.

Findings in this snapshot are based on interviews conducted with 35 interlocutors in Rome. 7 respondents came from Nigeria, 6 from Gambia, 5 from Eritrea, 5 from Senegal, 2 each from Côte d'Ivoire, Pakistan, Guinea, Ghana, and 1 each from Togo, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Cameroon. 28 respondents (80%) were male and 7 (20%) were female.

INTENTIONS

- 11 respondents (32%) reported Libya to be their first intended destination and 10 reported Italy as their initial destination of choice. As for rest of the respondents, 6 (18%) respondents had other European countries as their intended destination, 2 had selected Algeria, and 1 had Mali as their final intended destination. 4 respondents (12%) did not have an intended destination when leaving their countries.
- When asked about change in plans, 19 respondents (56%) stated that their plans remained the same while 15 respondents (44%) said that they had changed. After arrival in Italy, 29 respondents (82.9%) expressed their intention to stay while 6 (17%) stated their decision to move onwards.

JOURNEY

- All respondents arrived in Italy via the Central Mediterranean route through Libya. 22 respondents (62.9%) arrived at the point of departure in Libya from Niger, 5 from Sudan, 4 from Algeria and 1 each from Chad, Turkey, Ghana, and within Libya. 30 respondents out of those who answered the question reported to having used the services of a smuggler for this segment of the journey (94%). Comparatively, all respondents used such services crossing into Italy.
- 26 respondents (74%) reported travelling alone while 9 (26%) reported making the journey with someone. Out of those who did not travel alone, the majority (5 respondents) reported travelling with a friend. As regards to the cost of the journey, 14 (40%) respondents reported paying less than 1000 USD for their journey, 12 (34%) reported paying between 1000 and 5000 USD, and 6 (17%) respondents reported a total cost of more than 5000 USD with the highest paid amount being 15000 USD. 3 respondents reported having their journey paid for (by employers, for example), did not remember, or declined answering the question.
- Respondents reported seeking information by speaking with others and/or using social media forum. 16 respondents reported getting information on various aspects of the journey by talking with others including other migrants, smugglers, or friends and family. The majority (15 respondents) spoke to migrants living abroad. 8 respondents relied on social media for information. 11 respondents stated that they had not sought information prior to their journeys.

RISKS AND ABUSES

- The majority of respondents reported experiencing and/or witnessing various abuses. 28 respondents (80%) witnessing the death of others, 15 of which occurred in Libya, 10 in the desert, and 3 at sea. 28 respondents (80%) reported experiencing and/or witnessing detention. A significant portion of those who experienced detention reported being and/or witnessing others being detained by the *Asma Boys* (local gangs), bandits, and smugglers. Other parties responsible for detention included the police and rebels. 22 respondents (63%) reported being and/or witnessing others being forced into labour, 21 of whom reported it taking place in Libya. 32 respondents (91%) reported were and/or experienced others being subjected to physical abuse. The majority (34%) reported bandits as being the perpetrators of physical abuse, followed by smugglers, members of *Asma Boys*,

police, and employers. 29 respondents (85%) reported experiencing and/or witnessing others experiencing robberies.

QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS

"If you tell your friends 'do not cross because it is hard', nobody is going to believe you. Also, I think that it is better to die in the Sea than to be alive in my country."

-Male respondent from Eritrea in Rome on 4/4/2017

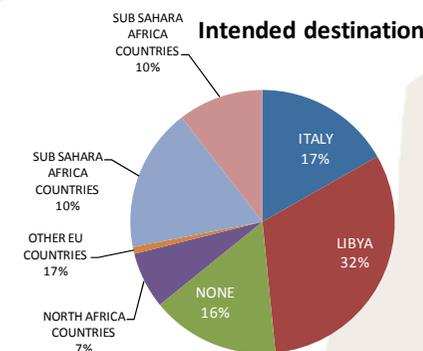
"A Nigerian lady, who is here in Italy, paid for my journey. I knew everything. I knew what I would encounter. I did it because I love my son and my mom, I want to improve their lives."

-Female respondent from Nigeria in Rome on 3/4/2017

"In Libya, when you go out on the streets, as soon as they see that you are black, they start screaming and running after you."

-Male respondent from Senegal in Rome on 20/04/2017

STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN OF CUMULATIVE SURVEY DATA



Risks and abuses (experienced and/or witnessed)

