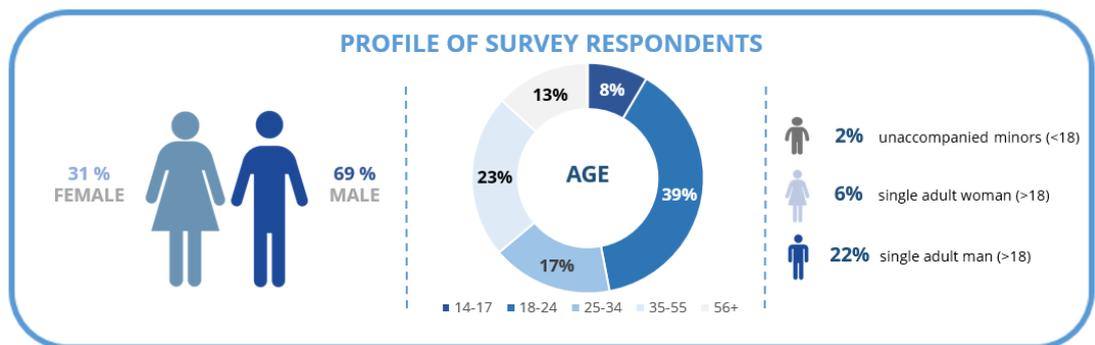


The Migration Pulse

Sudanese migrants and refugees in Libya

BACKGROUND

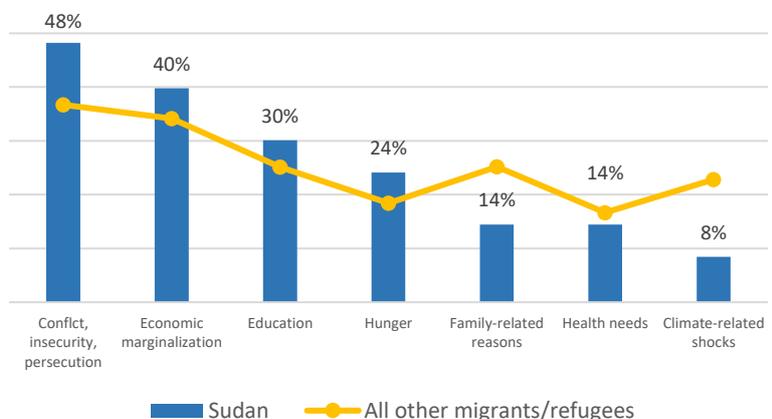
Over the past years, migration to Libya from neighbouring countries has acquired significant global attention. As of December 2018, IOM ranks Sudan among the top five countries of origin with 77,305 individuals, accounting for 12% of the total population of migrants/refugees in Libya. The current political and economic instability in the country has further exacerbated the already fragile situation of these groups, which are in need of protection and other assistance to meet their basic needs. WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping unit (VAM) has set-up the Migration Pulse initiative to understand what is driving people to leave their country of origin, what are their needs, food security perceptions and the challenges they face, as well as their future plans. By using innovative web surveys¹, the Migration Pulse was able to collect anonymous data from a random sample of 1,432 migrants/refugees in Libya² between September and October 2018, including 83 respondents from Sudan.



DRIVERS OF MIGRATION

Conflict and insecurity triggered nearly half of Sudanese respondents to leave their country of origin, thus representing the main drivers of migration. The protracted nature of the conflict in many parts of Darfur can largely explain this finding. The patterns of conflict have also disrupted traditional livelihood activities, which emerges as the second main driver of migration (40%), followed by education (30%) and hunger (24%). Figure 1 shows that Sudanese respondents reported conflict, economic marginalization, education and hunger to a greater extent compared to all other migrants/refugees³.

Figure 1: Drivers of migration, Sudanese migrants/refugees vs other groups



LIVELIHOODS

A breakdown of how migrants/refugees are sustaining themselves reveals that 77 percent of Sudanese respondents in Libya rely on unstable livelihoods as their main income source, including casual labour (60%), support (13%) and high-risk activities (4%). As a result, only 23 percent receive a wage on a regular basis. Women show a higher dependency on support and high-risk activities (23%) compared to male respondents (14%). A similar pattern is observed among recent arrivals (2017/18 – 21%) in comparison with migrants/refugees arrived before 2017 (13%).

Nearly 8 out of 10
Sudanese respondents
rely on unstable livelihoods

¹ WFP contracted RIWI Corporation to implement web-based surveys using its patented Random Domain Intercept Technology (RDIT™). Detailed information regarding RDIT can be found on the service provider's website: <https://riwi.com/>

² Given the sample size and the nature of the web-based methodology, these findings only cover literate, connected internet users; hence, they are not representative for the Sudanese migrant/refugee population in Libya.

³ Migrant/refugee respondents originated from 26 countries, of which the top countries covered include Egypt, Niger, Chad, Nigeria, Mali and Ghana.

REMITTANCES

Nearly half of Sudanese respondents (45%) reported having sent money/goods back home during the previous year. The majority of them (43%) was able to send remittances only 1-2 times during the same reference period. It was found that only one out of five respondents send remittances on a regular basis (more than six times per year); a slightly higher share compared to the general migrant/refugee population (13%). The main reason which reduces migrants/refugees' ability to send remittances back home is the lack of money, with 65% of respondents reporting not being able to afford it. The absence of a transfer mechanism was mentioned as the second main reason (11%).

Figure 3: Remittances frequency and constraints, Sudanese migrants/refugees vs other groups

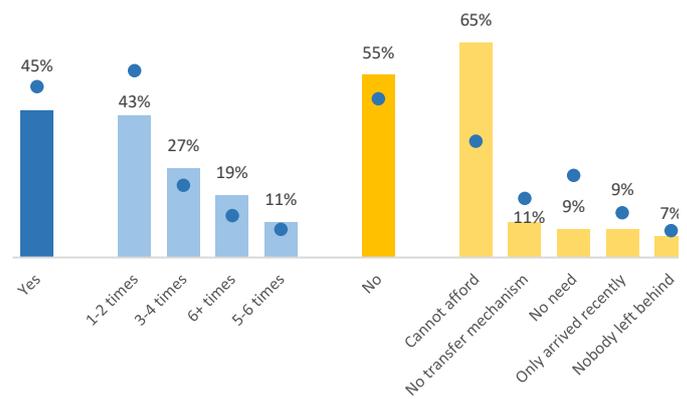
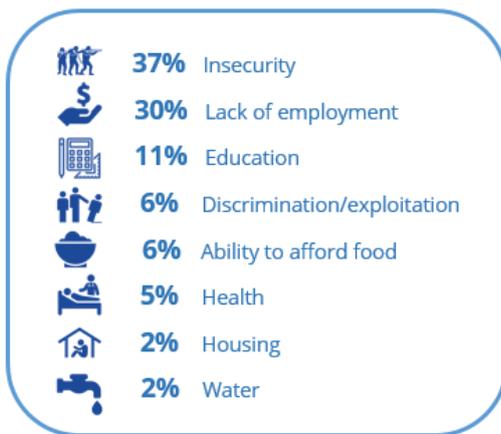


Figure 2: Main challenges and needs, Sudanese migrants/refugees



INTENTIONS TO MOVE

Most Sudanese respondents (31%) expressed the desire to move to a European country in the near future. Those who plan to stay in Libya account for 28 percent of respondents, a share that is significantly lower in comparison with all other migrants/refugees (45%). On the contrary, a higher number of respondents plans to move back home (24% vs 18%). The remaining (17%) desire to move to another country. Recent arrivals (55%) and respondents with unstable livelihoods (52%) show a higher tendency to keep continuing their journey outside Libya to reach other countries. Of those planning to continue the journey, nearly half reported the presence of family/friends in their destination, thus confirming the

FOOD SECURITY PERCEPTIONS

One of the main objectives of the Migration Pulse was to capture migrants and refugees' perceptions about their ability to meet food needs. Respondents were asked if they felt worried about having enough food to eat in the previous 30 days. This fear was reported by 61 percent of Sudanese in Libya and was particularly felt by recent arrivals (71%) and respondents with unstable livelihoods (64%) who also claimed the inability to afford food among their main challenges.

CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

Insecurity, lack of employment and access to education were reported as the three main challenges in Libya. The number of respondents facing insecurity (37%) is significantly higher compared to the other migrants/refugees in Libya (18%). Although only indicative, the inability to afford food was particularly mentioned by minors (14%), migrants/refugees with unstable livelihoods (8%) and recent arrivals (8%). Female respondents experience higher discrimination and exploitation (11.5%) compared to their male counterparts (3.5%). Finally, the ability to cover health needs was found to be particularly challenging for recent arrivals (10.5%) and females.

IN THE WORDS OF RESPONDENTS

Through an open-ended question, respondents were asked to describe what it would take to improve their lives.



The main themes reported relate to the lack of money, livelihood opportunities, housing and security.

"I wish I could travel to a safer place where I can find better education and job opportunities"