The methodological framework of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Comprehensive Migration Flow Survey (CMFS) is based on the collection of primary data, which provides information on migration flows towards Europe from Afghanistan whilst focusing on eight thematic areas: (1) migrant profiles, (2) migration routes and trajectories, (3) resourcing the journey, (4) the role of intermediaries, (5) vulnerability factors in origin, transit and destination countries, (6) migration drivers and decision making, (7) role of the diaspora, and (8) migrants’ perceptions towards Europe. The data DTM collected under the CMFS in 2016 among Afghan migrants included six target populations: Afghan potential migrants in Afghanistan, Afghan potential migrants in Pakistan, Afghan migrants in transit, Afghan migrants in final destinations, Afghan households who stay-behind (households with a migrant journeying to or currently in Europe) and Afghan returnees. Due to the nature of the target population groups, respondents for these surveys were sampled using basic random sampling in combination with snowball sampling in main target locations. The sample sizes of Afghan respondents were as follows: a) Potential migrants in Afghanistan: 958 respondents, b) Potential migrants in Pakistan: 294 respondents, c) Afghan migrants in transit countries: 1,890 respondents d) Afghan migrants in final destination countries: 623 respondents e) Stay-behind in Afghanistan: 982 respondents, f) Returnees in Afghanistan: 264 respondents. To best identify the target population and develop a more robust interviewee-interviewer relationship, the data collectors who conducted the surveys spoke the same language of the respondents.

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**STATISTICAL NOTE**

**Multiple answers**: When this label is found next to a graph or a question it means that a single respondent was allowed to provide more than 1 answer. For this reason, totals do not add up to 100%.

**CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS**

**Proof of Registration Cards (PoR)**: Identification cards issued by the Pakistani National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) on behalf of the Government of Pakistan. POR card holders are legally recognized as registered refugees by the Government of Pakistan and UNHCR.

**Migration facilitator**: refers to anyone that is involved in the facilitation of migration services (irregular and regular) via air, land or sea routes in exchange for money. Those services can reach from consultative services for visa application and acquiring (fraudulent) documents, to transportation arrangement, to the facilitation of border crossings. The term used does not intend to neglect the differences in services and often used terms for those persons providing the migration services.
294 Afghan potential migrants to Europe and Turkey were interviewed in Pakistan. Men composed 98 per cent of the sample population. Seventy-six per cent of the respondents were aged between 18 and 34 years. Most respondents were single (48%) and did not have children (60%). Ninety per cent of the total lived in Pakistan for over 5 years and were either a refugee (38%) or were Proof of Registration (PoR) card holders (49%). Nearly one in two respondents was born in Afghanistan.
**EDUCATION**

Sixty-one per cent of the Afghans in Pakistan had some sort of education while 39 per cent had no education. Twenty-eight per cent of the respondents had secondary education, 13 per cent primary education and 1 per cent had a bachelor’s degree.

Most returnees had some level of education

- 61% With education
- 39% No education

**EMPLOYMENT**

Almost 8 out of 10 returnees (79%) were employed prior to migration. Most of them were daily labourers (35%). Thirty-three per cent were self-employed or business owners, 7 per cent worked in the transportation industry and 7 per cent worked in the food sector.

**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

- 21% Unemployed

**TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT BEFORE MIGRATION**

- 35% Daily labour
- 33% Self employed
- 7% Agriculture/food
- 7% Transport/driver
- 5% Clerk/shop assistant
- 3% IT/electronics
- 3% Hospitality/tourism
- 3% School job/social work
Two out of three Afghans had family or friends in Europe or Turkey before their departure. When asked to specify the type of network they had, 54 percent reported having family and relatives abroad. Seventy-four per cent of the networks lived in three countries: Germany (32%), Turkey (28%) and the UK (24%). Only 17 per cent of the respondents received financial support from their network in Europe to financially support the cost of their migration journey. Family and friends in Europe and Turkey mostly shared information on lifestyle in Europe (19%) and the job market (18%).
COMPREHENSIVE PROFILE OF AFGHAN POTENTIAL MIGRANTS IN PAKISTAN

REASONS AND DRIVERS OF MIGRATION

MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO MIGRATE TO EUROPE  
multiple answers

- Work abroad (57%)
- Lack of Jobs (45%)
- Security situation in Afghanistan (23%)
- Study abroad (19%)
- Concerns for personal security (15%)
- Lack of educational opportunities (11%)

99% Of the respondents already knew where they wanted to migrate

26% Of the respondents have been internally displaced at least once in their lifetime

MAIN TRIGGERS FOR MIGRATION  
multiple answers

- Fear of deportation (38%)
- Concerns for personal safety (15%)
- Many people are leaving so I decided to leave as well (11%)
- Lack of livelihoods/job opportunities (11%)

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Thirty-nine per cent of the respondents did not make the decision to migrate independently. In 32 per cent of the cases, this decision was made by their parents. The main intended destination countries for Afghan respondents in Pakistan were Turkey (32%), Germany (21%), and the UK (20%). Respondents reported that the main reasons for choosing a certain destination country were to find a job (84%) and to get protection/be safe (21%).
DO YOU KNOW WHAT AN ASYLUM PROCEDURE IS?

77% No
33% Yes

IF YES, WHOM EXPLAINED THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE TO YOU?

- 32% Migration facilitator
- 28% Television
- 21% Family/friends in Afghanistan
- 7% Case workers in destination
- 6% Other migrants
COMPREHENSIVE PROFILE OF AFGHAN POTENTIAL MIGRANTS IN PAKISTAN

REASONS AND DRIVERS OF MIGRATION

DO YOU HAVE A VISA TO TRAVEL TO EUROPE?

- 70% NO
- 12% I do not want to answer
- 18% Yes, for Europe or transit country

WITH WHOM DO YOU INTEND TO TRAVEL?

- 20% With migration facilitator
- 26% Alone
- 60% People I will meet

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT MIGRATION TO EUROPE

- 31% Friends out of Afghanistan
- 25% Friends in Afghanistan
- 18% Migration facilitator
- 18% Family in Afghanistan
- 16% Family in Europe
- 5% Internet
- 5% Village elder
- 6% Other

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COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION FLOW SURVEY (CMFS)
Fifty-nine per cent of the potential migrants would advise family and friends to migrate to Europe. Respondents would consider staying in Afghanistan if a number of factors would change. Increased safety was cited as the main factor for considering staying in Afghanistan by 7 people out of 10. Other important factors were the availability of jobs (6/10 people), higher salaries (2/10 people) and improved governance (2/10 people).

**WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE IN AFGHANISTAN TO DECIDE TO NOT MIGRATE?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Reported by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improvement of the security situation</td>
<td>7/10 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to jobs</td>
<td>6/10 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher salaries</td>
<td>2/10 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased governance</td>
<td>2/10 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND**

- **Would not migrate if the given indicator will change**
- **Would migrate even if the given indicator would change**

Note: this qualitative question was coded by using thematic analysis and allowing for multiple answers. Each indicator was divided by the total number of respondents and multiplied by ten to illustrate the number of respondents in 10 people who would (not) migrate if the given indicator will change.
COMPREHENSIVE PROFILE OF AFGHAN POTENTIAL MIGRANTS IN PAKISTAN

MIGRATION FACILITATORS

70%
Of the respondents have found a migration facilitator

WHAT WILL THE MIGRATION FACILITATOR ARRANGE FOR YOU?

45%
Transportation/ travel to transit/ destination country

28%
Shelter

23%
Enter in a specific transit or destination country

20%
Food

20%
Legal documents to enter or stay in a transit or destination country

HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR MIGRATION FACILITATOR?

37%
Family

30%
Village elder

33%
Other

HOW WILL YOU PAY FOR THE JOURNEY?

42%
Sell assets

37%
Borrowing money

21%
Other

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One in two respondents expected to face problems while en route to Europe. The primary expected problems were predominantly detention/arrest (48%) and risk of life (40%). Secondary expected issues were also detention/arrest (46%) and risk of life (32%).

**Expected Challenges of Migration**

- **Primary Expected Challenges**
  - A: Detention/arrest (48%)
  - B: Risk of life (40%)
  - C: Being shot at (19%)
  - D: Deportation (8%)

- **Secondary Expected Challenges**
  - A: Detention/arrest (46%)
  - B: Risk of life (32%)
  - C: Deportation (12%)
  - D: Issues with border crossing (7%)