

## Separated Families Assessment Questionnaire

Version 1.2 – 18/01/2017

### Note to interviewers:

REACH is conducting this study on behalf of the Mixed Migration Platform, a partnership between seven humanitarian organisations to provide quality information about and for people on the move.

This questionnaire is intended for individual interviews with people who are part of *separated families*, meaning that one or more of their family members has migrated to Europe. The assessment aims to examine how people decide to migrate, and how migration affects the family members left behind.

When conducting each interview, note that you do not have to ask all the prompts, instead use the ones that are most relevant to understand the main questions in each section. When writing notes, try to be as specific as you can. You do not have to write everything, but ensure you note the key information, including quotes where they help to explain a point.

☞ Please fill out sections 1 & 2 **before** the interviewee arrives.

☞ Write or tick boxes as appropriate

### Section 1. Basic information

Form ID: (Eg. SYR01)

Interviewer name:

### Section 2. Selection criteria

Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Woman <input type="checkbox"/> Man
Displacement status	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-displaced <input type="checkbox"/> IDP <input type="checkbox"/> Refugee
Nationality	<input type="checkbox"/> Iraqi <input type="checkbox"/> Syrian <input type="checkbox"/> Afghan
Location of interview	Town/City: _____ Country: _____
Date of interview	Day: _____ Month: _____ Year: _____

☞ Please read this section to the participant

### Introduction and informed consent

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I work for humanitarian organisation called REACH. We would like to speak to you today because we are conducting a survey of people with family members that have travelled to Europe.

The survey will last around 45 minutes. It aims to better understand the reasons why some people travel and some stay behind, as well as to understand the ways in which migration has affected people like you who stayed – both positively and negatively.

The survey is completely confidential and the answers you give will have *no impact* on any assistance you may receive or any services you may access.

However, we are interested in hearing about your experiences in order to better understand your problems, concerns and aspirations. When you answer these questions, please give as much detail as you can. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, you do not have to answer the question and can move on to the next one. You can also stop the interview at any time.

Before we start, do you confirm that you are happy to take part in the interview? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☞ If the person agrees, please continue with the interview. If not, thank them for their time.

☞ The next questions are about the **person being interviewed**

### Section 3: Profile

Name/pseudonym Are you happy for us to use your first name? If not, can you provide a pseudonym?

Age: How old are you?

☞ Only if refugee or IDP

Place of origin Where is your place of origin? \_\_\_\_\_

Length of displacement When did you leave? (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been living in this current location? (specify months / years)

Socio-economic background

What was your family's main source of income in the past month?

☞ The next questions are about the **person who migrated**

Relationship to migrant(s)

Which family member(s) left for Europe?

Migrant age(s)

Eg. *Brother / cousin*. For each, note their age and gender, if not already clear.

Migrant gender(s)

Use as many lines as you need.

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

☞ **NOTE:** if several family members left together, ask about **them** in the following questions. If family members left at different times, ask the following questions about **one member or group at a time**.

Migration key facts

Where is the person that migrated now? (list all cities, countries)

When did they leave from here? (month, year)

How long did it take them to reach Europe? (specify days or months)

How long did it take them to reach their intended destination? (specify days or months)

☞ If this person has since returned, when and why?

## Section 4: Decision-making

☞ This question is about who decided to **go** and why

**Decision-making process:**

Tell me about the decision for this person/these people to migrate.

Prompts:

4.10 For those who **left**, was it an individual or joint decision? If a joint decision, **who else** was involved?

4.11 Did the person discuss the decision with any other people (eg. other family members, friends, community members) before travelling? Who and when?

4.12 What were the specific reasons behind the decision to travel?

4.13 Of these, which were most important?

☞ This question is about who decided to **stay** and why?

Prompts:

4.20 For those who **stayed**, was it an individual or joint decision?

4.21 If a joint decision, who else was involved?

4.22 Did the person discuss the decision to stay with any other people (eg. other family members, friends, community members)? Who and when?

4.23 What were the specific reasons behind the decision to stay?

4.24 Of these, which were most important?

☞ This question is about how the **idea** of migration developed

Prompts:

4.30 For the person who left, do you know **what** first 'planted' the idea for this person to travel to Europe in the first place?

4.31 **When** (month, year) did migration first start to feel like it might be a good rather than a bad option for this person?

4.32 What were the events or reasons that helped the initial idea turn into a **viable possibility**?

4.33 What were the reasons for migration to be a viable option for this person, but **not for you or other family members**?

4.34 Of these, which were most important?

👉 This question is about how the person decided upon a **destination**

Prompts

- 4.40 Can you remember when the person who left first decided on a **destination**?
- 4.41 What were the reasons for choosing this destination? Which were most important?
- 4.42 How did they choose a destination? Who (if anyone) influenced this choice?
- 4.43 Did the intended destination change either before or during travel? If so, why and when?
- 4.44 What were the reasons for this **location** to be a viable option for this person, but **not for you or other family members**?
- 4.45 Once they left, did the intended destination change? If so, why and when? Did this have any effect on the decision for you or others to travel as well?

👉 This question is about how the person decided upon a **route**

Prompts

- 5.50 Can you remember when the person who left first decided on a **route**?
- 5.51 What were the reasons for choosing this route? Which were most important?
- 5.52 How did they choose a route and a means of travel? Who (if anyone) influenced this choice?
- 5.53 What were the reasons for this **route** to be a viable option for this person, but **not for you or other family members**?
- 5.54 Either before or during travel, did the intended route change? If so, why and when? Did this have any effect on the decision for you or others to travel as well?

## Section 5. Preparation for travel

👉 This question is about **how** the family prepared for this person to leave

**Preparations at household level:** Once the decision was made to travel to Europe, tell me about the preparations for the journey.

Prompts:

- 6.10 Who (if anyone) helped to pay the costs associated with the journey?
- 6.11 Were you able to use existing savings? Or were other strategies used? If so, what? How (if at all) did they affect the rest of the family?
- 6.12 Did you and your family make any “**contingency plans**” to ensure the wellbeing of the rest of the family once this person left? If so what? (Examples might include: moving in with friends or other family members, applying for official documentation because the head of household will leave, transferring or selling assets to stop them being acquired by force etc.)

## Section 6: Effects of migration on those left behind

👉 This section is about how migration has **affected those left behind**

**Practical changes** Tell me about some of the changes to your everyday life since your family member(s) left for Europe.

Prompts:

For you and other remaining family members, have you seen any changes in relation to...

- 6.10 **Livelihoods**? If so, what? Who was affected?
- 6.11 Household **income**? If so, what? Who was affected?
- 6.12 Access to **humanitarian aid**? If so, what? Who was affected?
- 6.13 **Security / protection**? If so, what? Who was affected?
- 6.14 **Services** (eg. healthcare, education, access to legal documents) If so, what?
- 6.15 Have there been any other challenges, including things you were not expecting?
- 6.16 Are there any other positive changes, including any you were not expecting?
- 6.17 Overall, have the changes been positive or negative?

**Changing relationships, aspirations & intentions** Tell me about any changes to relationships, aspirations and intentions in your family since this person/people left for Europe

Prompts:

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- 6.20 *Has migration changed people's roles and responsibilities within the family? If so, how?*
- *Who earns the money?*
  - *Who manages the family's assets?*
  - *Who makes the decisions about healthcare, education, and other spending?*
- 6.21 *Has migration affected men, women, boys or girls in the family differently? Ask about whether different members of the family are doing different things compared to before? If so what?*
- 6.22 *How have **you** personally been affected by these changes?*
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- 6.30 *How often are you in contact with the family member(s) who migrated to Europe? How do you stay in touch?*
- 6.31 *If you or other family members planned to travel to Europe in the future, have plans or intentions changed? How and why*
- 6.32 *Has your perception of the migration journey changed? If so, how?*
- 6.33 *Has your perception of life in Europe changed? If so, how?*
- 6.34 *Overall, does migration to Europe seem to you to be a more or less of viable option than before your family member(s) left?*
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**Open question**

Is there anything else you would like to tell me about that you have not been able to mention so far?

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👉 *Please read this section to the participant*

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**End of interview**

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This is the end of the interview. Thank you very much for taking the time to speak with me today – we really appreciate your help. Before we finish, do you have any questions for me?

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**Additional notes**

👉 *Use this space for extra notes. Ensure you write the relevant section and prompt number.*

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