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| **Rapid Assessment in Como: Individual interview**  **Analysis of migration trends and profiles of children migrating to Italy and Greece** | |
| **03 February 2017** | **C:\Users\Megan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\REACH logo white (for a coloured background).jpg** |

**Individual interview**

*Target group: separated and unaccompanied children from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia aged 16 and above*

##### 1. Introduction

HELLO! My name is (*name)*, and I work at REACH, an organisation which supports UNICEF - the UN Agency for Children. Thank you for the opportunity to talk to you today. As you know, a lot of people have arrived in Italy in recent years and UNICEF would like to know more about the situation of people like you that come to Italy.

This interview is in no way related to the Italian or any other government. This means that what you tell me here has no impact on your asylum request – not in Italy or anywhere else. We make this sure by not asking you any questions which can be linked back to you, like your name or other very personal information. Whatever you say today will not have any impact on that process or the situation of you and your family. So please speak freely.

The aim of this research is to improve the conditions of refugees and migrants and we believe that the best way to understand your situation is to hear your point of view, as you are the only ones who can tell us how things actually are. In the long term, we hope that this research will help other people from [country of origin of the participants].

I would also assure you that this interview is voluntary. I will ask you general questions about your education, your trip and your plans for the future.

At any point during the interview, if you feel like there are questions that you would not like to answer, please feel free to say so. You can also interrupt the interview at any point, if you want to do so. It should take around 45 minutes.

I understand that you might not want to give information about yourself, but remember that everything you're telling me is anonymous, this means I'm never going to write down your name or tell anyone where you are.

Some of the things I will ask you may be difficult to talk about and may make you feel upset. If you do not want to answer a question, or if you want to stop the discussion at any time, then please tell me. I will respect your decision and will not ask you to continue if you do not want to do so. However, if I feel that your well-being is in danger, I will discuss this with you.

Do you have any questions for me at this point?

##### 2. Metadata

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| **Code** | **Question** | **Modality** | **Answers** |
| na | Interview date | Single |  |
| na | Interview starting time | Single |  |

##### 3. Profile of UASC transiting

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| **Code** | **Question** | | **Modality** | **Answers** |
| RQ1A-11 | Location of the interview | | Single | 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| na | **1. Do you agree to take part in the interview?** | | Single | 1. Yes  2. No  98. Don’t know  99. Don’t want to answer |
| RQ1A-1 | Sex of the interviewee **(based on DO)** | | Single | 1. Female  2. Male  98. Don’t know |
| RQ1A-2 | **2. How old are you?** | | Single | 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  98. Don’t know  99. Don’t want to answer |
| RQ1A-4 | **3. In which country were you born?** | | Single | 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  97. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  98. Don’t know  99. Don’t want to answer |
| RQ1A-4 | **4. In which province/region?** | | Single | 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  97. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  98. Don’t know  99. Don’t want to answer. |
| RQ1A-7 | **5. What is your nationality?** | | Multiple | 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  97. Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  98. Don’t know  99. Don’t want to answer |
| **Personal profile**  RQ1A-07  Education received prior to migration by type and grade | | **7. Did you ever go to school before coming to Italy? Until which age?** **What was last grade you were in?**  *Prompts:*  *-Specify which kind of school (home-schooling)*  *-* *how old were you when you stopped going to school?* | | |
| **Personal profile**  RQ1A-12 | | **9. Tell me about who was taking care of you when you were in [last country of residence]. Are you still in touch with them, where are they now?** | | |
| Presence of parents and caretakers | | Prompts:  -*Parents*  *-Other family members (brothers/extended family)*  *-Other caretakers (not family members)*  *-None, I was alone* | | |
| Location of parents and caretakers | | Prompts:  -*In the country of origin*  *-Country of destination*  *-Lost their track/ not in touch with them anymore* | | |

##### 4. Decision making on transiting through Italy

**Narrative:** I know that there are many questions... How is it going? Do you want to take a small break? Ok, so now I would like to discuss how you decided to leave your country.

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| **Decision making**  RQ2-01  RQ2-02 | **10. What were the main reasons why you left your last country of residence and came to Italy? Did you leave alone? If yes, why?** |
| Reasons behind the decision to migrate; to migrate alone | *Prompts:*  *- if he/she travelled with friends, siblings or family members and lost them during the way, or separated at some point ask how/why*  *- If appropriate, stress on the reason why he/she left alone*  *- socio-political: Conflict, Political, economic, religious, and ethnic persecution, discrimination (also sexual),*  *- Personal: Separated child, marriage, family problems (tensions)*  *- Differentiate between:*  *1. How did the idea first develop that migration could be positive (rather than negative)? 2. How was the destination chosen? 3. How was the route to get there chosen?* |
| New | **11. When you left your last country of residence, what was your initial plan?**  *Prompts:*  *- did you already know that you wanted to travel through Italy to another country (rather than staying in Italy)?*  *did they have another country in mind? If so, why? If reasons incl. ‘freedom, econ opportunity, etc’ prompt: Italy is also part of the EU, also freedom – why not Italy?*  *- If yes to ‘wanted to travel through from the very beginning: why? Reasons to prompt: heard bad things about Italy’s reception system, knew that if stays long procedure before can go elsewhere, ; have family/friends in other countries, I know that in country X the social/education/health system is very good; I speak the language and I have better chance to integrate;* |
| New | **12. If you were thinking of staying in Italy, when did you plan/decision change? Why?**  *Prompts:*  *- in a country that you passed during your journey, once just arrived in Italy, after staying some time (how long) in a centre in Italy*  *- Why? What made you decide? E.g. conditions in the centre, advice/stories from other people, etc* |
| New | **14. Who was involved in your plan?**  Prompts  *- How did you decide that you would just travel through Italy? Was it you who decided or your parents? Did you ask your parents/family/friends for advice? Who took the final decision that you should go through Italy?*  *-focus on the dynamics of the decision making process leading to the decision of traveling through Italy, rather than staying in Italy (which actors intervened: family members, friends, smugglers)*  *- who decided the final destination*  *- which factors/who made you leave alone (was it a forced decision; was it imposed by family members; was autonomous/independent decision?)*  ***Note****: diaspora involvement; networks relied on* |
| **New** | **13. How did you decide? what information did you use to take your decision? Who did you listen or talk to decide whether you wanted to stay or travel through Italy?**  Prompts:  Capture whether any of the following information tools were used:  *- If ‘advice/stories of other people’: where? who (refugees/migrants, volunteers, service providers)? What did they say?*  *- Traditional media (TV, Newspaper, Radio)*  *- Social media,*  Capture what kind of information each of the source above gave:  - *personal stories, news ‘objective information*  Capture which information was most trusted/relied on most and why  ***Note****: Networks relied on* |
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##### 5. Risk perception and vulnerability factors of UASC transiting through Italy

**Narrative**: Is everything fine? Would you like to take a small break? If all is good, please continue.

##### Now, I would like to discuss the journey you made to come here and the countries you have seen along the route.

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| **Personal Profile**  RQ1A-11  Point and date of arrival | **15. Do you remember when and where exactly you arrived in Italy?**  Prompts:  -*Name of the city, the region or the facility*  *-approximate date of arrival* |
| **Personal Profile**  N/A | **16. Are you familiar with the application for asylum/international protection? Did you already ask for asylum since your arrival in Italy? Why not?**  **Please remember that all information you will provide is anonymous and confidential, this means that we will not record your name and we will not share any information you give us with any public authority or government.** |
| Application for International Protection | Prompts:  *- no idea of what her/his legal situation is*  -*talked with some institutional officers (police), reception centre managers, lawyers, but not really aware of his/her legal situation*  *- informed about his/her situation (refer to Modulo C3)*  *-try to understand how the information wasobtained (legal assistance in centers, friends, institutions)* |
| By reason | Prompts:  *- Don’t want to ask*  *- Want to leave Italy so will ask elsewhere*  *- Have had no access to legal services*  *- Very little chance to get asylum* |
| **Decision Making**  RQ2-09  Average time past before dropping out | **17. For how long did you stay in the first reception center?**  Prompts:  -*Name of the facility/ies (specify their locations)*  *-mention the city or the name of center*  *-approximate length of staying* |
| **Inspiration and intentions**  RQ5-02  Push and pull factors leading to the decision to leave the center | **18. Why did you leave the center?**  Prompts:  - *Make a distinction between push factors (bad conditions in the center)*  *and pull factors (want to join family members; friends; reach another country)* |
| **Risks and vulnerabilities**  RQ4-05  Risks identified before taking the decision to come to Como | **19. Before deciding to leave the reception center did you think about any risks that you might encounter during the journey across Italy?**  Prompts:  *- Running out of money, getting robbed, never reaching my country of destination, Getting hurt, Getting kidnapped or lost.* |
| **Intentions and aspirations**  RQ5-03  RQ5-04  Source of information used to travel onward/stay put, by reason | **20. How did you decide to come to Como? What information did you use?**  Prompts  *-provide examples: Traditional media (TV, Newspaper, Radio) Social media, Family/friends back home, Family/friends in Italy and the final the country of destination you plan to reach, Smuggler*  *- focus on the information gathering* |
| **Risks and vulnerabilities**  RQ4-03  other issues faced in Italy during the journey | **21. How did you travel to here? Did you stop during your journey across Italy? How many times and where? For how long?**  Prompts  *-reasons behind the decision to stop (running out of money; being kidnapped, getting lost, getting robbed, imprisoned)*  *-understand if they are linked to the problems/ protection issues mentioned above*  *-specify the frequency and the duration of the stops, did you find a shelter or receive support from other associations/transit camps*  *- enquiry on whether the child was sent back from Switzerland, returned to Rome or had to take other routes;* |
| **Decision Making**  RQ2-10 | **22. Why did you take this particular route?**  Prompts  *- Why did you come to this border? Is it linked to the country of destination? Were the travel arrangements easier?*  *- If they are aware of other bordering cities, try to understand why they chose to come to Como* |
| **Risks and vulnerabilities**  RQ4-01  RQ4-03  Protection/other issues faced in Italy during the journey | **23. Can you describe your journey across Italy? Which issues did you experience?**  Prompts  *-did you face any problems? (running out of money; being kidnapped, getting lost, getting robbed, imprisoned)*  *- Protection issues encountered (be very careful in asking these. In case, drop!)*  *- Forced labour*  *- Detention*  *- Sexual exploitation*  *- Organs trafficking* |
| **Risks and vulnerabilities**  RQ4-02  RQ4-04  Protection/other issues witnessed in Italy during the journey | **24. During your journey across Italy, do you remember witnessing/ seeing other people facing problems?**  Prompts  *- Specify if he/she witnessed any protection issues*  *- Specify what is the most common profile of people who seem to be at risk for:*  *- Being forced to work without pay or for very little pay*  *- Being held against your will*  *- Being offered sexual work*  *- Being offered marriage*  *- Being offered payment for blood or organs*  *- Being asked to sell drugs*  *- specify which kind of issues they experienced: (running out of money; being kidnapped, getting lost, getting robbed, imprisoned)* |

##### 6. Intentions and aspirations for the future

Finally, there are just few questions left that will focus on your future.

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| **Intentions and aspirations**  RQ5-05  Intention to stay in Como | **25. How long do you think you will stay in Como?**  Prompts   * *level of awareness of the legal requirements and migration policies* * *Individual aspirations and objectives in Como* * *Concerns about staying in Como* |
| **Intentions and aspirations**  RQ5-08  Expectations before leaving versus current situation | **26. Is your current condition very different to what you expected before leaving the reception centre? If yes, how? What did you expect to be different?**  Prompts  -*focus on the perceptions before leaving*  *-how/why they have changed* |
| **Intentions and aspirations**  RQ5-07  UASCs with fear about the future by reasons | **27. Can you tell me what your aspirations and desires are for the future?**  *Prompts*   * *How you do imagine yourself in the (country of destination)* * *What would you like to do in the (country of destination)* |
| **Intentions and aspirations**  RQ5-07  UASCs with fear about the future by reasons | **28. Can you tell me which are your biggest concerns about the immediate future? Why? (SKIP in case of arising signs of distress)**  Prompts  *-delays in bureaucratic procedures,*  *-lack of job perspective,*  *-not being able to join friends/ family*  -*focus on the reasons behind these fears* |

##### 7. Conclusion

**De-escalate:**

* We have finished with the questions, thank you so much for your time and sharing your experiences
* Do you have any questions for me now?
* What are your plans for later today?
* If you have questions later on you are welcome to contact me.
* Also, please remember that you will remain anonymous and we will not share your name with anyone else

If there is anything you are unhappy with or wish to complain about, you can also contact Giulia my supervisor, by Whatsapp or phone at the following number 351 180 09 93

##### 6. Metadata

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| **Code** | **Question** | **Modality** | **Answers** |
| na | Interview ending time | Single |  |