



North Waziristan Agency

MIR ALI and MIRAN
SHAH

IDP RETURN INTENTION SURVEY

Phase 2 Return-
January-2016

Protection Cluster

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/pakistan/protection>

Background

North Waziristan Agency (NWA) is situated on the Pakistan – Afghanistan border and adjacent to South Waziristan Agency, Kurram Agency, the Frontier Region (FR) of Bannu, FR Karak in FATA and Bannu and Hangu districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Miranshah is the main town and also the agency’s headquarters. Other major towns include Mir Ali and Razmak. NWA consists of three subdivisions and nine tehsils. The total geographical area of NWA is 4,707 Sq. Km. Main tribes include Utmanzai and Dawar Wazir.

Since 2001, NWA was the centre of different activities of armed non-state actors. Different groups of non-state actors used to operate in or from NWA. When negotiations between the government and the armed non-state actors failed, security forces carried out targeted bombing of the suspected militant hideouts in late May 2014 which resulted in the displacement of over 60,000 people from NWA into Bannu, D I Khan, FR Bannu and other adjacent districts. On 15th June 2014, the Government of Pakistan (GoP) announced a full scale operation against the armed non-state actors in NWA, resulting in more displacement.

As of 31 December 2015, a total of 71,101 registered families remained displaced¹. The majority of the displaced families are living in host areas where they rent houses or are staying with relatives and extended families in Bannu, DI khan, and Lakki Marwat. After FDMA de-notified a number of villages in NWA, three returns took place from March – December 2015 and around 32,901 families returned to their places of origin by 31 December 2015².

On 6th Jan 2016, during a Return Task Force (RTF) meeting held at the FDMA office in Peshawar, FDMA informed the Humanitarian community that they will start the return of IDPs families of Stage-2, Phase 4, to 15 villages of Mir Ali and Miranshah tehsils of North Waziristan Agency as the area had been declared safe for return.

Denotified villages on 6th Jan 2016

Tehsils	Village Names
Mir Ali (11)	Arabkot, Issori , Karamkot , Khaddi , Marsi Khel (S) , Mitta Khel, Naurak , Palestine , Pirano Killi , Singar , Zeraki
Miranshah (4)	Arkh Ghundai , Tappi , Tir Katte , Toll Khel

Objective and Methodology

During the RTF meeting, FDMA requested the protection cluster to conduct the Return Intention Survey (RIS). Responding to this request, and in-line with the Return Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in February 2012, but also in accordance with the “Return Policy Framework for IDPs from FATA” signed by FDMA in 2010, the Protection Cluster and its members agreed to conduct a series of consultations with the displaced population to capture their intentions and position vis-à-vis the announced return process. It should be understood that the Guiding Principles on Internal

¹ UNHCR IDP Fact Sheet, 31 December 2015.

² UNHCR IDP Return Fact Sheet, 31 December 2015.

Displacement are clear on a government’s responsibility to respond to the needs of IDPs during displacement and in displacement until attaining durable solutions, including sustainable returns. However, a government may request assistance from the humanitarian community to assist and facilitate returns.

The return intention survey (RIS) was conducted by IVAP; the data collection was done through their call centre in Peshawar from 11 – 15 January 2016.

Sampling Frame and Sampling Unit

Number of responses by village		
Village Name	Number	%
Tappi	133	42%
Khaddi	66	21%
Zeraki	27	9%
Tol Khel	20	6%
Marsi Khel	20	6%
Issori	18	6%
Naurak	7	2%
Arkh Ghundai	5	2%
Pirano Kaly	5	2%
Mita Khel	5	2%
Arab Kot	3	1%
Karam Kot	3	1%
Palastine	1	0.3%
Tir Katte	1	0.3%
Total	314	100%

The criteria for selecting the geographical area and deciding upon the sampling unit selection was not difficult as the government had already announced the return for the 15 villages in Mir Ali and Miranshah tehsils of North Waziristan Agency. These 15 villages were selected in the geographical areas as sampling unit.

The biggest challenge faced was that most of the cell numbers were either switched off or not responding which affected the data collection. The original sample calculated was not sufficient to complete the target so the reserve sample was used. In addition, 211 families were randomly selected from the remaining list to complete the target.

While drawing the sample size from the given population list, probability sampling technique was chosen. Total random

sample of 314 families (with replacement) was generated from a population data of 1,712 families.

Moreover, a reserve computer generated sample of 314 families was also generated from the same population randomly. The purpose of this reserve sample was to complete the sample and replace those beneficiaries who were not traced down in the first round.

For determining the sample size, standard statistical procedure was used, while calculating the sample size, the terms used are;

Confidence Level: 95% confidence level was used explaining if the sample was re calculated with the same interval it will contain 95% of the desired population response.

Margin of Error (Confidence Interval): Margin of error is the deviation of the responses from the desired response and it was it was calculated by using the formula:

$$\text{Margin of Error} = 1/\text{square root of the sample size}$$

By using the above formula we get 5% margin of error for our sample size.

Profile of the Respondents

97% of respondents were male (306 respondents) and 3% were female (8 respondents).

Age Breakdown of the respondents		
Response	Total	Percentage
< 18 yrs	2	1%
18 - 25yrs	99	29%
26 - 35yrs	123	36%
36 - 60 yrs	84	25%
More than 60 yrs	6	2%
Grand Total	314	100%

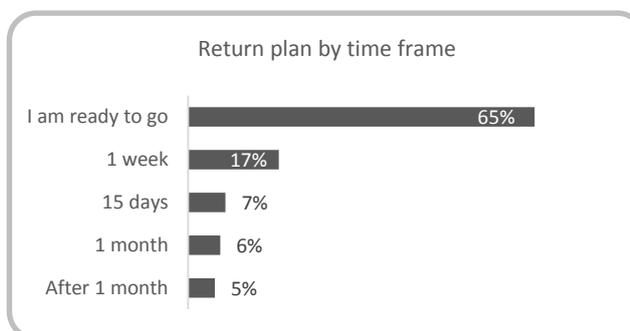
Majority of the respondents were from Tappai and Kaddi areas, 42% and 21% respectively. Majority of the sampled population (90%) are aged between 18-60 years while 1% are under 18 years.

93 % of them are displaced since 1-2 years and 1% are displaced for 2-3 years. Most of the respondents (90%) are registered as IDPs.

Main Findings:

a) Return Intention

Contrary to other return intention surveys conducted by the protection cluster, this time 100 % of the respondent are willing to return to the area of origin by different time frames. 65 % of the respondents show their willingness for immediate return followed by 17% in a week, 7% in two week time while 6 % and 5 % in a month and after one month respectively.



The main reasons for return are : 49 % responded that we have no other options/life in displacement is worse than in area of origin as their main reason for return, 33% responded that they now feel safe to return and 6% replied that because everyone else is going so it's time to return.

Reasons	%
We have no other option	49%
It is safe now	33%
My house is there	7%
Because everyone else is going	6%
Others	3%
My business is there	1%
Good time to rebuild home	1%
Good time to cultivate	0.3%

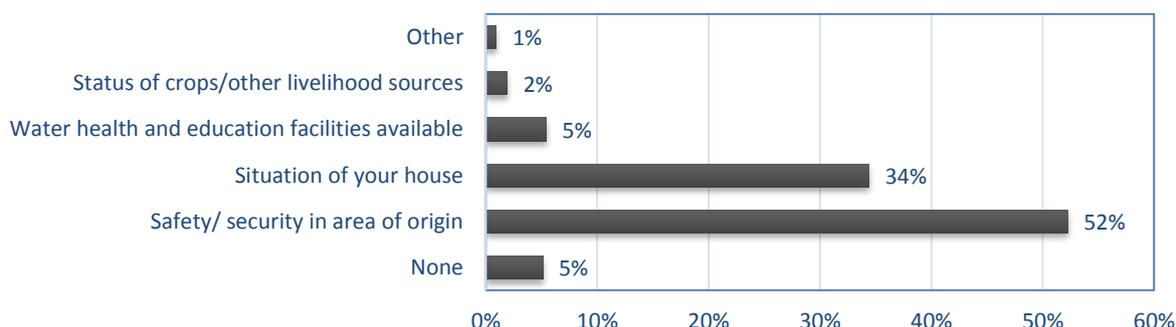
Unlike previous return intention surveys this time 42% of respondent reported that decision of the return is taken by the community elders, 36% by family members/HoH followed by 22 % by the political authorities.

b) Informed and voluntary nature of return

In order to establish the informed and voluntary nature of the return, a series of additional questions were asked to know the level of information the IDPs have about the areas of return. Out of the 314 respondents, 64 % still need reliable information as they lack information about their place of origin. 21% receive information from other people who are already in the area of origin or who visited the area, 6% visited their houses, 3% received information from family members and the media, 2% from members from the community and 1 % from government officials.

Source	Total	Percentage
People with No Information	201	64%
I visited my home	20	6%
From other people who are in my area of origin or visited	65	21%
Family members (who did not yet visit the area)	9	3%
Other members of the community (who did not yet visit the area)	6	2%
Media	9	3%
Government officials	3	1%
Religious authorities	1	0%
Grand Total	314	100%

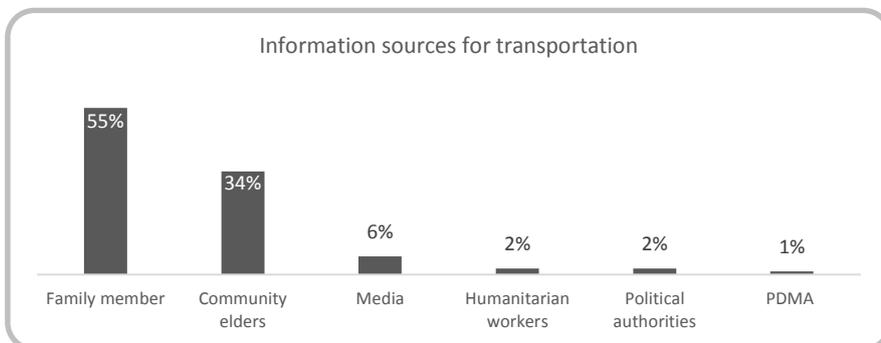
52 % of the respondents suggested that they need more information about safety and security of the area, 34% about the situation of houses and 5 % need information about the status of basic services like education, health and wash facilities.



83 % people interviewed indicated that they are not aware of any kind of information campaign about return process and return package which was done by the Government or the humanitarian community. Only 17% said that they have received information about the return from the government authorities, elders and family members.

From 17% who had information about the return process, 63 % pointed out that the information was useful and 37% indicated that the information campaign was somewhat helpful.

The graph below explains the information scores related to transportation. On asking the question about the return assistance package and information about mode of transportation, 55% of the IDP indicated that they came to know through family members, 34% by community elders, 6% by media, and 2% by political authorities and humanitarian workers.



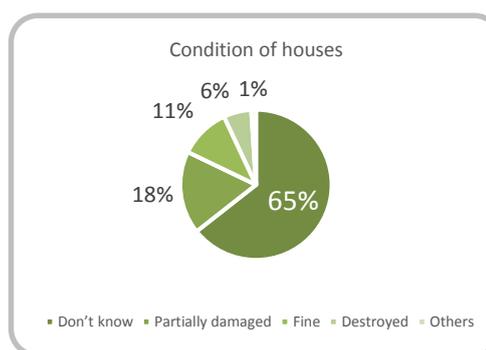
59% of the consulted IDPS feel that they were involved in making the decision about the return while 41 % did not take part in it.

It is worth mentioning here that 25% of the interviewees reported that they were informed by the political authorities that assistance would stop if they did not return while 75% reported that they were told that they must return.

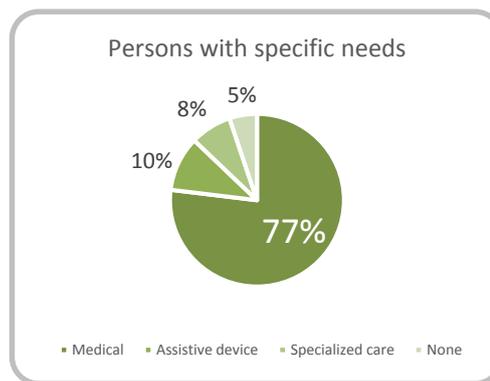
Reasons of Pressure	Total	Percentage
Assistance will stop	1	25%
I was told I must return by political authorities	3	75%
Grand Total	4	100%

c) Concerns and challenges

According to 65% of the respondents, they did not know about the condition of their houses in the area of origin, while 18% reported their houses has been partially destroyed and the 11% reported that their houses are fine while 6% reported that they houses are completely destroyed. Asked about the intention to resettle somewhere else, 99% of the respondent replied no as they are not willing to resettle in place of displacement or elsewhere in the country.



Out of 314 people interviewed, 30 replied that they need medical assistance in the area of return; 10 % requested for assistive devices due to presence of person with specific need in their family while 8% requested for specialized care.



100 % of the respondents informed that there are no separated or unaccompanied children and 90% stated there are no specific concerns about women and girls while 10 % indicated there are some issues

related to pregnant women especially during the return phase. It is however worth mentioning that out of 314 respondents, only 8 were female.

Below figure is the breakdown of concerns as expressed by 32 respondents (7%):

Type of concerns regarding women and girls	%
Due to security reason women will not openly movement in NWA	16%
Health issues	16%
Health will be the big issue for female. Lady doctor will be required in case of emergency	13%
Health will be the big issue	13%
If there is any pregnant woman she may face problem during travel	9%
No availability of hospital	3%
No hospital and school will be Functional	3%
No hospital and school will be Functional, No water and electricity	3%
No idea yet but problem will be for all women.	3%
Right now we are not in the position to tell anything but problem will be for female. Because we are returning after very long time	3%
We could not expect before returning	3%
When we reached to our area then we will be in the position to tell you about that	3%
Women, children and old ones might suffer during travel if proper arrangements are not made regarding transport and queues	3%
Yes women will face the problem but no idea yet what will be the problem	3%
Yes, the pregnant women will face the issues	3%
Yes, the pregnant women will face the issues. And health issue will be the big problem in case of emergency	3%

Conclusion and Recommendations

100% of the IDPs interviewed expressed the intention to return and the vast majority of the IDPs are not under pressure to return.

Humanitarian/ early recovery actors should be granted unimpeded access to areas of return by the civil and military authorities to carry out and directly monitor project implementation and to conduct return monitoring.

Access to credible and quality information is very important at this time to help IDPs make an informed decision about their return. Currently, this information is being accessed through

informal sources. It is important for government and humanitarian workers to engage with the IDPs and provide them with the necessary information.

The last indicator in the questionnaire was related to suggestions interviewees had for the authorities regarding returns. After analysis, the results are find below:

- Provision of quality education facilities including schools and colleges in the area of origin.
- Steps to restore and improve the infrastructure system, electricity and communication as soon as possible.
- Provide health facilities and safe/clean drinking water and electricity in area of origin.
- Peace and security should be ensured to make the return process easy.
- Damaged houses to be rebuilt and provide more financial assistance in return package which should not be limited to 6 months but for longer term.
- Initiatives to be taken to create livelihood opportunities.
- Government to provide the damage compensation to those whose houses are damaged.
- Awareness campaigns should be conducted prior to the return process for defining all the steps and assistances that will be provided to the beneficiaries.
- Ensure persons with special needs have access to necessary resources during their return and in the area of origin.
- Security, shelter, and access to basic facilities are important concerns reported by the IDPs. Clear social and economic development policy of the area of origin needs to be made and communicated along with security policy to help the community build its resilience to militancy and extremism.
- Continuous consultations with families who have returned to their villages in NWA will be of paramount importance. Authorities should continue to grant and enhance humanitarian access in areas of return to allow for an unhindered process of return and protection monitoring and consultations with the affected population.

ANNEX :

RIS QUESTIONNAIRE

GI1. Interview Date

GI2. Interviewer Name

PI1. Name of the Respondent

PI2. Phone Number of the Respondent

PI3. Gender and Age of the Respondent

Male

Female

Age

PI4. Place of origin – village

1	Tappi	Miranshah
2	Tir Katte	Miranshah
3	Marsi Khel (S)	Mirali
4	Singar	Mirali
5	Palestine	Mirali
6	Pirano Killi	Mirali
7	Naurak	Mirali
8	Karamkot	Mirali
9	Issori	Mirali
10	Khaddi	Mirali
11	Arabkot	Mirali
12	Arkh Ghundai	Miranshah
13	Zeraki	Mirali
14	Mitta Khel	Mirali
15	Toll Khel	Miranshah

PI5. Are you registered?

Yes

No

PI6. No of family members

of Males -----

of Females -----

PI7. How many in the family are pregnant/ lactating women

PI8. How many persons with disability in the family?

PI9. How many elderly persons in the family?

PI10. Are they with you?

Yes

No

PI11. If “NO” in PI10, where are they?

In the area of displacement

In the area of return

PI12. What support do they need?

Medical

Psycho-social

Assistive device

Specialized care

Displacement Information

"DI1. When did you leave your area of origin?"

Less than 1 year

1 – 2 years

2 – 3 years

3 – 4 years

4 – 5 years

More than 5 years

INFORMED & VOLUNTARY NATURE OF RETURN

IV1. Do you have information about the situation in your area of origin?

Yes

No

IV2. If YES in IV1, from where did you receive information about your area of origin?

A. I visited my home

B. From other people who are in my area of origin or visited

C. Family members (who did not yet visit the area)

D. Other members of the community (who did not yet visit the area)

E. Media

F. Government officials

G. Religious authorities

H. Humanitarian workers

X. Other(please specify)

IV3. Do you need more information on any of these issues?

A. Safety/ security in area of origin

B. Situation of your house

C. Water health and education facilities available

D. Status of crops/other livelihood sources

X. Other (please specify)

IV4. Would an organized visit to the areas be useful? (If NO skip to IV6)

Yes

No

IV5. If Yes in IV4, who should go?

1. Community leaders,

2. Male heads of households,

3. Women,

4. All of above

5. Other

IV6. Are you aware of the transportation and compensation grant/assistance given by the Government? (If NO skip to IV9)

Yes

No

IV7. From whom do you have information about the assistance package to return? 16

Political authorities,

Community elders,

Family member,

Media,

Humanitarian workers

PDMA

IV8. Are you aware of any information campaign conducted in your community on the return process itself?

Yes

No

IV8a. If YES in IV8, was the information provided:

Very helpful

Somewhat helpful

Not helpful

IV9. Who is primarily responsible for making the decision to return?

Political authorities,

Community elders,

Family member/ HOH

Humanitarian workers

IV10. Do you participate in decision making process?

Yes

No

IV11. Are you under pressure to return? (If NO Skip to RR1)

Yes

No

IV12. If IV11=Yes, how are you under pressure?

- 1. I was told I must return by political authorities
- 2. I was told I must return by elders/community members
- 3. I was told I must return by humanitarian workers
- 4. The assistance I receive in displacement is inadequate
- 5. Assistance will stop
- 6. I feel unsafe here
- 7. Other (please specify)

RR READINESS TO RETURN PERMANENTLY

RR1. Do you want to return to your area of origin?

- Yes
- No

RR2. If NO in RR1, why not?

- A. House destroyed or damaged
- 17 B. Land destroyed or damaged
- C. I Don't have land
- D. My house is occupied
- E. Markets still closed back home
- F. I/my family has more livelihood opportunities here
- G. Lack of health services in areas or return
- H. Lack of education services in areas of return
- I. Lack of livelihood opportunities in areas of return
- J. Lack of specialized services (children, PWDs) in areas of return
- K. Not enough financial resources for the journey back home
- L. Not physically fit to travel right now (myself or family member)
- M. No knowledge about assistance in return areas
- N. Assistance is insufficient
- O. There are safety issues.
- P. I don't know
- Q. None, the situation is fine
- R. Due to sectarian issues
- X. Other (please specify)

RR3. If YES in RR1, what is the timeframe?

- I am ready to go
- 1 week
- 15 days
- 1 month
- After 1 month

RR4. If RR1 is YES, why do you want to return?

- A. It is safe now
- B. Good time to rebuild home
- C. Good time to cultivate
- D. School begins
- E. We have no other option/life in displacement worse than in area of origin
- F. Because everyone else is going
- X. Other (please specify)

RR5. If RR1 is Yes, will you be taking all your family members with you?

- Yes, they are with me
- No
- Some will return later
- Other

RR6. If you are leaving your children behind, where will these children stay?

- Relatives
- Madrassa
- Institution
- Other (please specify)

RR7. Do you have separated and unaccompanied children accompanying you? 18

- Yes
- No

HN HUMANITERIAN NEEDS

HN1. Are there any specific concerns about women and girls returning?

- Yes,
- No

HN2. If HN1=Yes, what are they? (Open)

HN3. What is the condition of your house in your area of origin?

- 1. Destroyed
- 2. Partially damaged
- 3. Don't know
- 4. Fine
- 5. Other (please specify)

AR ALTERNATIVE TO RETURN

AR1. Would you prefer to re-settle somewhere else instead of returning to origin area?

- Yes,
- No

AR2. If yes, where?

MISCELLANEOUS

M1. If you could only give one suggestion to authorities regarding your returns, what would it be? (open)

Note: **Separated Child:** Separated children are those separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary care-giver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

Unaccompanied Child: Unaccompanied children are those who are separated from both parents and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible to do so.