



North Waziristan Agency

Mir Ali Tehsil, Ghulum Khan, Miran Shah, and Spinwam

IDP RETURN INTENTION SURVEY

November 2015

Background

North Waziristan Agency (NWA) is part of FATA and is bordering Afghanistan, South Waziristan Agency, Kurram Agency, and the Frontier Region (FR) of Bannu and FR Karak. Miranshah is the main town and also the Agency's headquarters. Other major towns include Mir Ali/Spinwam and Razmak. NWA consists of three sub-divisions and ten tehsils. The total geographical area of NWA is 4,707 Sq Km. Generally the population is conservative and insular, both socially and religiously. Main tribes include Uthamanzai, Wazir and Dawar.

The Pakistan military forces conducted airstrikes much earlier than the launch of the full-fledged military operation in June 2014. The initial airstrikes in February 2014 resulted in displacement of people to the nearby districts of Bannu, DI Khan, Tank, Lakki Marwat and Kohat. Many of the families returned to their places of origin between February and June as calm prevailed. However, on 15 June, the Pakistan government announced a full-fledged operation. On 18 June 2014, the curfew that was in place was relaxed and people started fleeing North Waziristan (NWA).

As of 16 March 2015, a total of 102,424 families have been verified and registered as IDPs. With the exception of a number of families who are residing in Bakhakhel Camp, almost all IDPs are living with host families or in rented accommodation while a small number of families (1427) are living in spontaneous settlements. From March –June 2015, two returns took place to North Waziristan after de- notification of the villages by FDMA.

On November 17th 2015, a return task force (RTF) meeting took place at FDMA. FDMA informed the humanitarian community that they will start return to 25 Villages of four tehsils of Mir Ali, Ghulam Khan, Miran Shah, and Spinwam from mid- December 2015 onwards as the area had been de-notified and declared safe. The authorities planned a phase wise return and for the first stage, around 12-15,000 families were identified by FDMA for return to the 25 villages of above mentioned four tehsils.

Methodology

The protection cluster agreed to conduct a Return Intention Survey (RIS) with IDPs originating from Mir Ali Tehsil, Ghulum Khan, Miran Shah, and Spinwam to determine the intention of the displaced families to return to their places of origin- in line with the Return SOPs endorsed by the Humanitarian

Country Team (HCT) in February 2012, but also in accordance with the “Return Policy Framework for IDP from FATA” endorsed by the FATA authorities in 2010.

The RIS was jointly conducted by cluster members IVAP and EHSAR from 23 – 27 November 2015. The data was collected through their call centers in Peshawar and Bannu respectively. In addition, IVAP facilitated the analysis of the data.

Geographical coverage and Sampling Unit

The 25 de-notified villages were selected as the sampling unit. The biggest challenge that the enumerators faced was that most of the cell numbers were either switched off or they were not responding which affected the data collection. As a result, the team could only come up with data from the following nineteen villages (table 1).

Table 1

Place of Origin		
Villages	Total	Percentage
Aziz Khel	11	3%
Brumi Khel	2	1%
Ghulam Khar	6	2%
Ghundai Khel	1	0%
Ghundai Killi	5	1%
Gulak Khel	12	4%
Hakim Khel	52	15%
Kamsorabi	82	24%
Khaliwal	1	0%
Marsi Khel	31	9%
Mir Khan Khel	1	0%
Mir Khan Khillli	26	8%
Mubarak Shahi	71	21%
Nagar	6	2%
Palolao	18	5%
Pirano Killi	2	1%
Raji Khel	3	1%
Sher Khel	5	1%
Tal	3	1%
Grand Total	338	

While drawing the sample size from the given population list, probability type of the sample was chosen where every element had an equal chance of occurrence. A systematic random sample of 338 families (and a back-up sample of 312) was generated from a population data of 2812 families with an interval of 8. Moreover a reserve sample of 312 families was also generated from the same population

with an interval of 9. The purpose of this reserve/back-up sample was to complete the sample and replace those beneficiaries who could not be reached in the first round. For the left over families, a random list was generated as required. The original sample calculated was not sufficient to complete the target so the reserve sample was used. On top of that, additional families were randomly selected from the remaining list to complete the target.

For determination of the sample size, standard statistical procedure was used, while calculating the sample size. Following is the methodology used:

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.

Sample Interval:

Sample Interval: Sampling interval was obtained by dividing the population upon the sample size which is; $2812/338 = 8.31952$

Profile of respondents

As the society, especially in tribal areas and generally in Pakistan, is heavily male dominated, the sample reflects the same. There were 98% males and 2% females respondents.

Gender Breakdown		
Gender of Respondent	Total	Percentage
Female	8	2%
Male	330	98%
Grand Total	338	100%

Majority of sampled population (96%) are aged between 18 to 60 years while 1% are under 18 years. 99% of the population is displaced since 1 to 2 years and 1% is displaced for 2 to 3 years. Most of the respondents (99%) are registered.

Age of Respondent		
Age	Total	Percentage
< 18 yrs	5	1%
18 - 25yrs	106	31%
26 - 35yrs	120	36%
36 - 60 yrs	98	29%
More than 60 yrs	9	3%
Grand Total	338	100%

Results

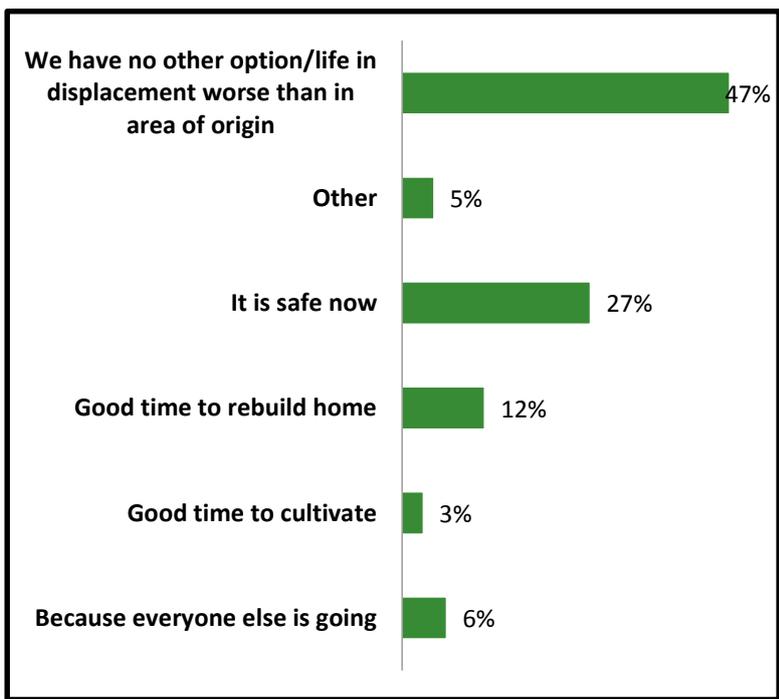
This section presents the main findings of the survey.

a) Return Intention

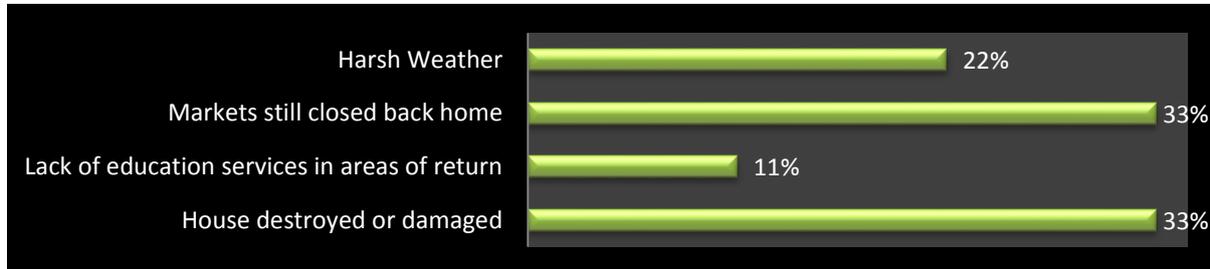
97% of the respondents indicated that they want to return to their areas of origin.

Return Intention		
Intention	Total	Percentage
No	9	3%
Yes	329	97%
Grand Total	338	100%

The reasons for return are: 47% responded that “life in displacement is worse than the area of origin/ no other option” as primary reason for return, 27% stated that the area of origin is now safe to return and 12% think its good time to rebuild their homes.



The 3% who do not want to return stated that destroyed/damaged houses and non-functional markets are the reasons (33%) for not returning while 22 % stated that harsh weather made them decide to remain displaced and 11 % quoted the lack of education facilities.



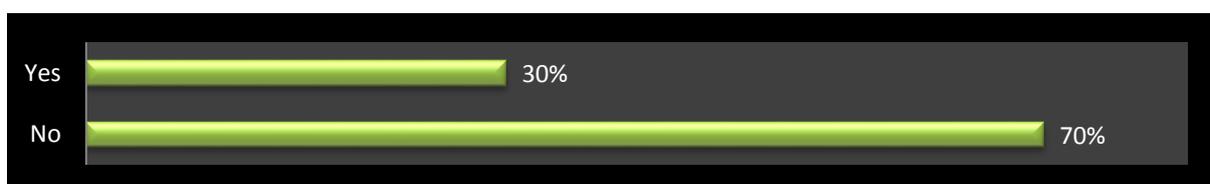
There is also a clear perception that the decision to return is generally made by the political authorities (51% of the respondents), 33% of the respondents stated that the decision is made by the community elders, while 17% responded that family members make the decision.

Decision Regarding Return		
	Total	Percentage
Community elders	111	33%
Family member/ HOH	56	17%
Political authorities	171	51%
Grand Total	338	100%

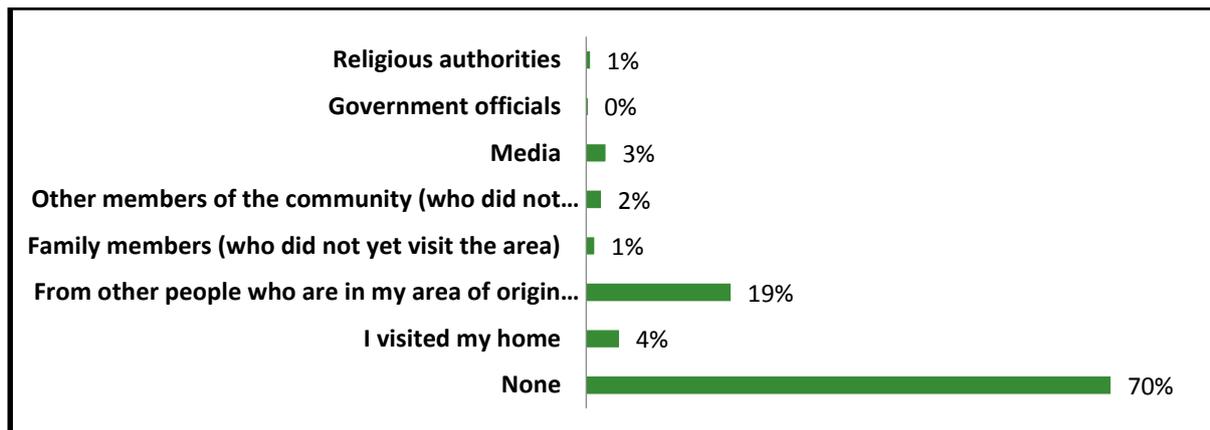
b. Informed and voluntary nature of return

A series of questions were addressed to the NWA IDPs to ascertain the level of information that they possessed regarding their areas of origin/return, the need for additional information and the decision-making process on which the decision to return would be based.

Of the 338 respondents, 70% felt that they did not have enough information on their areas or origin/return.

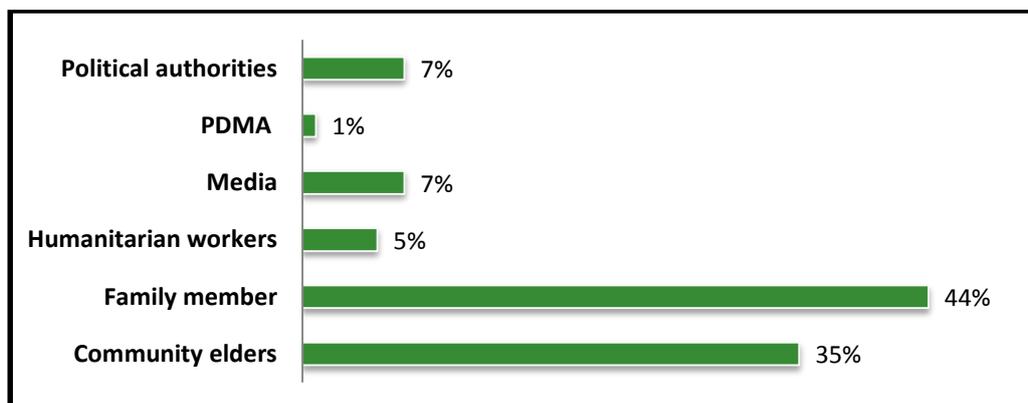


In terms of source of information, 19% of the respondents reported to receive information from people who are in the area of origin and 4% of the consulted IDPs reported to have visited the house in area of origin themselves. Only 3% of the consulted IDPs reported to receive information from media

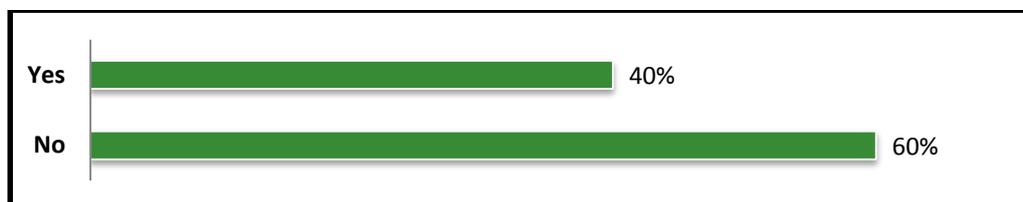


When asked about their knowledge on the return assistance package, 62% of IDPs did not seem to be aware about the assistance that IDPs generally receive during and upon organised return processes. This might be related to the relatively sudden decision of the authorities to de-notify the four tehsils (25 villages).

Amongst the 38% who affirmed to be aware of the return package, 7 % stated that they had received this information from the political authorities, 7% from the media, 35% from community elders, and 44% from family members.



Signalling a possible lack of awareness and information initiatives on the return process and the assistance, 60% of the consulted IDPs indicated to be unaware of any information campaigns conducted on the return process by the authorities or by humanitarian workers.



From the 40% who had knowledge about the return process and package, 50 % found the information useful while 44% and 6% respective indicated that the information campaign was somewhat and not helpful.

Usefulness of Campaign		
Level	Total	Percentage
Not helpful	8	6%
Somewhat helpful	60	44%
Very helpful	67	50%
Grand Total	135	100%

A significant percentage of consulted IDPs (72%), feel that they do not actively participate in the decision making process.

Level of Participation		
	Total	Percentage
No	243	72%
Yes	95	28%
Grand Total	338	100%

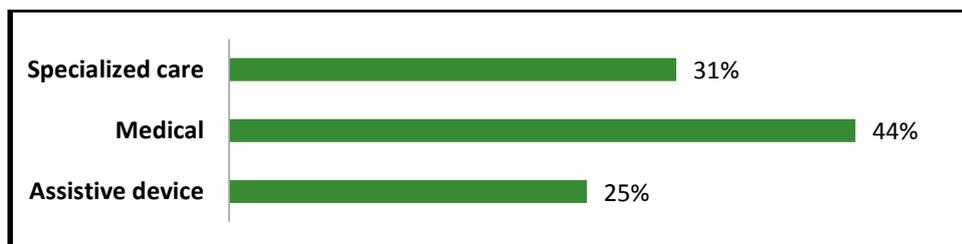
In terms of the voluntary character of the return, 98% of the respondents affirmed not to be under any pressure to return. Amongst the very few IDPs (2%) who signalled some form of pressure, 67% identified the political authorities as the main source, while 33% of the IDPs believe that assistance will stop.

c. Concerns and challenges

When asked if people are aware about the conditions of their houses, 263 respondents indicated not to know while 11% indicated that their houses are partially destroyed and 4% fully destroyed.

Condition of House		
	Total	Percentage
Destroyed	14	4%
Don't know	263	78%
Fine	23	7%
Partially damaged	38	11%
Grand Total	338	100%

Out of 338 people interviewed, 22 replied that they were accompanied by a family member with a disability. It was indicated that 44% of them are in need of medical assistance, 31% need specialised care and 25% are in need of an assistive device (25%).



99% of the respondents informed that there are no separated or unaccompanied children and 93% stated there are no concerns about women and girls in the process of return and settling back. **It is, however, important to note that out of 338 respondent, only 8 were women.**

A complete breakdown of concerns as expressed by 22 respondents (7%) is presented in the figure below:

Concerns Regarding Women and Girls		
	Total	%
cultural Issues	2	9%
Female use to collect wood.but now govt is not allowing them to go out	1	5%
Female will face health issue.	1	5%
Fetching Water, Hospital, collecting wood	3	14%
Health concerns,specially reproductive health	7	32%
I cant say anything on that time but female will face some issues.	1	5%
Restriction of movement due to Cultural Issues as well as security protocol by Law enforcement agency.	1	5%

we need special care for our female. Because we are expecting respect from government	1	5%
we will face the issue of health in case of any emergency for our female. And also will face issue of water. And we will not allow our female to bring water from other area.	1	5%
we will wait a lot on the pick point. When we reached there then we will know exact situation and concerns	1	5%
Cant say anything Now	1	5%
when you are in darkness then you have no idea what will be happening to you.	1	5%
wife is pregnant, cant travel	1	5%
Grand Total	22	100%

Conclusions and Recommendations:

97% of IDPs interviewed expressed the intention to return and by expressing this preference, the vast majority of the IDPs do not seem to be under pressure.

However, awareness about return procedures, information regarding return packages and knowledge about the situation in the places of origin is low and needs to be improved in order for the displaced population to make informed decisions and for the returns to be safe and dignified.

Continuous consultations in areas of return will be of paramount importance. Authorities should grant and enhance humanitarian access in areas of return to allow for an unhindered process of return, protection monitoring and consultations with the affected population.

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.

The last indicator in the questionnaire was based on the feedback and suggestions of the respondents regarding return, the common understanding after analysing the data is find below:

- ✓ Provision of quality education facilities for boys and girls including schools and colleges in the area of origin.
- ✓ Provision of winterization kits including Sweaters and Blankets for current winter season.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ To speed up return process, damaged houses to be rebuild and more financial return assistance which should not be limited to 6 months but for longer.
- ✓ Transportation assistance for returning to areas of origin.
- ✓ Livelihood opportunities to be created.

Annex A

Return Intention Survey

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

S.No	Villages	Tehsil
1	Aziz Khel	Mir Ali
2	Aziz Khel(W)	Mir Ali
3	Brumi Khel	Mir Ali
4	Ghulam Khar	Ghulam Khan
5	Ghundai Khel	Miranshah
6	Ghundai Killi	Miranshah
7	Gulak Khel	Ghulam Khan
8	Hakim Khel	Mir Ali
9	Kamsorabi	Miranshah
10	Khaliwal	Ghulam Khan
11	Marsi Khel	Mir Ali
12	Mir Khan Khel	Mir Ali
13	Mir Khan Khillli	Mir Ali
14	Mubarak Shahi	Mir Ali
15	Nagar	Miranshah
16	Palolao	Miranshah
17	Pirano Killi	Mir Ali
18	Raji Khel	Mir Ali
19	Sher Khel	Ghulam Khan

20	Tal	Miranshah
21	Saur dag	Spinwam
22	MG Ziarat	Spinwam
23	Usman Khel	Spinwam
24	Nana Khel	Spinwam
25	Narai Killi/Sarewk	Spinwam

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
- "H. Religious authorities"
- I. 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?

- 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"
- "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 of 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"
- "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?

- 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

M2. 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.