

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION INTO ITALY: Evidence from a field survey^{*}

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Abstract: The Survey on illegal migration in Italy (SIMI henceforth) aims to analyse the phenomenon of clandestines migrating to or through Italy. SIMI contains information concerning the main demographic, economic and social characteristics of a sample of 920 clandestines crossing Italian borders and apprehended during 2003. Individual motivations to migrate, migrants' intentions to return, their expectations about income at destination and their intended remittance rates are collected within SIMI and discussed in this paper. Evidence generally corroborates the predictions of the pertinent literature on development economics with respect to the decision to migrate. Apprehended illegal migrants expected to earn about 8-10 times their income at home, had they reached final destination. The median cost of the trip is more than a yearly average income. One of the conclusions of the survey is that future migratory flows may be massive, as the interviewees (typically in the mid-20s and with family and friends at home that are ready to join in the future) perceive themselves as frontrunners among nationals in their age cohort.

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1. Introduction

Defining “illegal migration” is not an easy task,² as it is a very complex phenomenon; as such, reliable measures of its dimension are rare. As a matter of fact, although national and international statistical institutions provide accurate statistics concerning the populations of legal migrants, they only produce estimates on illegal aliens.

A broad and useful classification distinguishes between stocks of illegal migrants (measuring illegal foreign residents or illegal foreign workers) and illegal migration flows (illegal entries), (see, e.g., Hanson, 2006, for an excellent survey on the US-Mexico case and Jandl, 2004, for a comprehensive survey of methodologies used to estimate the dimension of the phenomenon in Europe). Although both categories are strictly intertwined, in some European countries – such as Italy or Spain, where illegal immigration is only a recent issue and in some cases transitory – measuring illegal flows is a preliminary step to estimating the population of illegal residents.

In Italy the appropriate official statistical source is the database on apprehensions at the Ministry of Interior Affairs, reporting the flows of migrants caught when attempting to cross into Italy. This database presents a breakdown of the apprehended illegal aliens by country of origin. According to the 2004 Caritas Yearbook – an annual report drafted mainly by using the above-mentioned database by the non-profit organization Caritas – in 2003 border controls in Italy seized 105,739 foreign citizens without valid visa and were effective in 62 out of 100 cases.³

A second difficulty in studying the phenomenon of illegal migration from an economic or sociological perspective derives from the lack of individual survey data, especially in Europe, thus leaving unanswered questions concerning the illegal migrants’ determinants, demographic characteristics and expectations.

Illegal migrants sometimes become “observable”. For instance, this is the case when amnesties transform them into legal migrants (see, e.g., Levingson, 2005 for a survey on nine regularisation programmes in the US and Europe and Blangiardo 2003 on the 2002 Italy’s regularisation of illegal migrants). However, surveying regularised migrants has two main drawbacks. First, it will be possible to interview only individuals who have already been residing in the country for a considerable span of time, thus missing fresh information on the

² Generally speaking, “clandestines” are defined as individuals who enter unlawfully a country or overstay the expiration date of their visas, whereas “asylum seekers” are those who remain despite not being granted the “political refugee” status.

³ The extent of enforcement is proxied by the ratio of actual expulsions to the number of clandestines involved in a year.

current determinants of illegal migration. Second, such research undergoes a serious sample selection bias, specifically a survivorship bias, since any survey will oversample those illegal migrants who staid, possibly anticipating having a higher probability of being regularised.

Taking a different approach with respect to previous experiments of data collection concerning the immigrant population in Italy (see, e.g., Strozza, 2004), this paper hinges on an alternative source of data, entirely drawn upon the flow of illegal migrants entering Italy in 2003.⁴

In particular, we build upon the nation-wide data collection conducted from January to September 2003 by AGIMI-Otranto⁵ under commission of a team of researchers at the Department of Economics, University of Bari. The outcome of this joint effort is the Survey on Illegal Migration into Italy (SIMI henceforth) which collected information via a questionnaire on the main demographic and socio-economic characteristics of a sample of 920 illegal immigrants, as well as their motivations and expectations about the future. We identify “illegal immigrants” (i.e. our sampling units) as (at least 18-year old) clandestines or asylum seekers who have been staying in Italy for a period no longer than 6 months. The statistical reliability of the information collected counts on a precise definition of the sampling unit, which allows to delimit the reference population, and on an innovative methodology designed on purpose to provide a sufficiently reliable picture of an illegal migrant in Italy.⁶

This paper presents both the methodological aspects and the basic descriptive statistics on the characteristics of those illegal immigrants who declared to be willing to settle down in Italy (or in another prospected country of final destination), had they not been apprehended.

Section 2 presents our definition of illegal immigrants and details our sampling design. Section 3 illustrates the questionnaire. Section 4 reports the general results of the whole sample by drawing some remarks on the phenomenon of illegal immigration. Section 5 concludes.

2. The statistical design of SIMI

In this section we present the main characteristics of our survey. We start by defining what we exactly mean by “illegal immigrants”. This involves also a precise juridical

⁴ Devillanova and Frattini (2006) present a similar study by collecting data on illegal migrants that have used health facilities at the NGO “Naga” in 2001. However, the data collection was limited only at the province of Milan, whereas our study covers many Italian regions.

⁵ AGIMI is a multicultural and multi-religion non-profit organization assisting migrants throughout Italy, and beyond.

⁶ It is rather well-known that including a sufficient number of non representative individuals would bias the results.

definition according to the current laws in Italy. Secondly, we briefly describe our sampling method.

2.1 Defining illegal migrants

According to the current Italian law on migration, (D.lgs. no. 286/98 T.U. passed in 1998 and partly modified by the law no. 189 in July 2002, the so-called Bossi-Fini Law), immigrants stopped by the Italian Police without valid pieces of identification are taken to *hosting centres*, more precisely either Centres of Temporary Permanence (CTPs) or Reception Centres (RCs) depending on their status. Illegal aliens remain in hosting centres up to 60 days to be identified. They may apply for political asylum and if they do so, they are sent to RCs. Otherwise, they are considered illegal aliens and are issued either a rejection decree (and are accompanied to the closest border) or an expulsion order – in this latter case they are obliged to leave the country within three days. Therefore, at least in principle, hosting centres correspond to the most effective place to do the sampling and collect interviews.

According to the Ministry of Interior Affairs, in 2002 the CTPs hosted an overall population of 17,466 individuals; 23.5% in Apulia, 30.4% in Sicily, 14.9% in Lombardy, 12.8% in Lazio, 9.4% in Piedmont, 4.5% in Calabria and the remaining 4.4% in Emilia Romagna.

Thus the presence of clandestines in hosting centres depends on the occurrence of two events:

- i. arrival in Italy has taken place when interviews are collected;
- ii. upon arrival, the immigrants were apprehended by the police.

According to our definition, there are many drawbacks in our data collection which we would like to point out right at the start.

First, we notice that the clandestines who were apprehended (and are thus part of our sample) are only a portion of all the illegal immigrants in Italy, but their precise measure is very difficult (if not impossible) to quantify. In particular, the data collection at the hosting centres completely misses all the immigrants that can rely on well-organised social networks and are not apprehended, this being a source of bias in our estimates, and violates the principle of random sample selection.⁷ Second, the re-admission agreements signed over the years by the Italian government with various countries of origin of illegal immigrants raise an

⁷ A sample can randomly be selected if a known and positive probability of being included in the sample corresponds to each unit in the reference population and each observation is selected in an independent way. When these requirements are not satisfied the selected sample is biased.

additional problem.⁸ As a result of such agreements, migrants coming from those countries and apprehended in Italy on their arrival are immediately repatriated, without any need of identification. Thus, migrants coming from those countries would be hardly interviewed, as there is a smaller probability for them to reside in the hosting centres.

Third, due to their psychological condition, apprehended migrants would be reluctant to respond to the questionnaire, especially after filling in other compulsory questionnaires (one for the police, one for the hosting centre and one in case of asylum seeking). Besides the high refusal rate, the reliability of correct and true answers is a key issue. In view of this, we devoted much care to the questionnaire design (i.e. order of the questions, repeated questions but in different format, etc.) and to the definition of the sampling unit. The former allowed some form of double check for the presence of false answers, whereas the latter aimed at picking up the most reliable and willing-to-cooperate individuals. In particular, we set up the data collection in the following three ways:

- i. interviews were performed only after a sufficient number of days from migrants' arrival;
- ii. clandestines were also selected in additional meeting points, classified as Helping Centres (henceforth HC), such as public canteens, voluntary services, where migrants were more willing to co-operate, without risking their anonymity;
- iii. the clandestines interviewed in the three types of centres (CTP/RC/HC) had reached Italy by less than 6 months. This short period minimises the measurement error when interviewers were asked to recall previous events. Note that one of the aims of the survey was to obtain an accurate recollection of earnings and expenditures before migration, as well as future expectations before departure.

Hence, more precisely, the observational unit is identified according to the legal status of the clandestines and in our study we consider the following four categories:

a) individuals applying for asylum or refugee status, i.e.:

- individuals under temporary protection for humanitarian aid;
- individuals who should be repatriated to a country where they would be persecuted for reasons concerning race, gender, language, religion, opinions, citizenship, personal or social condition or who would be repatriated to a country

⁸ The list of countries which, from 1996 till 2003, signed re-admission agreements with Italy includes: Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Macedonia, Georgia, Yugoslavia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Tunisia.

where they would not be protected from prosecution (ex art.19, 1° comma, D.lgs. no.286/98).

b) individuals waiting for a rejection decree and to be taken to the closest border: the rejection decree is usually issued by the local authority (Questore) to an individual who reached Italy avoiding border controls and was stopped immediately after her/his arrival.⁹

c) individuals waiting for an expulsion decree: the decree is issued by the local authority (Prefetto) when the migrant avoided border controls and was not rejected yet.

d) clandestines: i.e., a foreigner with an expired (or no) visa who has been on the Italian territory for no longer than 6 months and usually attends a typical migrant meeting point, like a “soup kitchen”, orientation provided by voluntaries and NGOs, etc.

2.2 The sampling design

SIMI features a two-stage design. In the first stage we selected the main Centres of Temporary Permanence, Reception Centres and Helping Centres in four out of the eight Italian regions mostly affected by illegal immigration – namely Apulia, Calabria, Sicily and Friuli-Venezia Giulia. Figure 1 shows the regions where the presence of illegal aliens is significant and the regions selected for SIMI.

In the second stage, after selecting the Centres,¹⁰ we drew a *random sample* from the individuals that were present there. Due to the extreme variability of the phenomenon, the “a priori” composition of the sample¹¹ was not deemed as suitable and instead we turned to “dynamic sampling”, i.e. a continuously-updated sampling based on the presence of migrants in hosting centres or meeting points at different interview times.¹²

⁹ According to the current law on migration, when there is no prompt carrier for the immediate rejection, the foreigner can be detained in a Centre of Temporary Permanence.

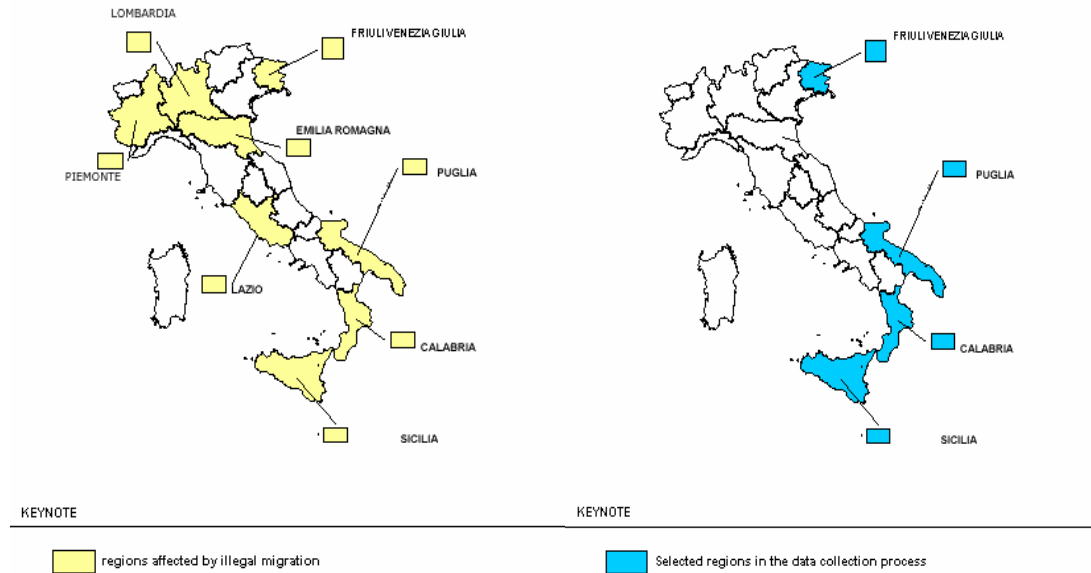
¹⁰ The full list of the Centres selected is reported in Appendix 1.

¹¹ This technique needs a prior knowledge of the population’s main characteristics (such as gender, nationality composition, final destination of the clandestine flows, etc.), but this information was not available ex-ante. Moreover, previous annual flows by nationality could only be partially helpful, as there is no guarantee that the phenomenon cyclically repeats from year to year.

¹² Such a methodological approach is not completely new: it moves from Blangiardo (1996), who proposed the “sampling by meeting points” while managing with a survey on the presence of foreign people in Italy. It is also a special case of Fabbris (1989) technique called “sampling by area”, recognized as the best technique available when the population size is unknown and/or a name list is unavailable.

Figure 1

Italian regions with Centres of Temporary Permanence and Reception Centres and Italian regions selected in the survey



The distribution of the questionnaires over the ten centres was determined according to their different capacity, measured for instance in terms of number of seats in the selected hosting centres or number of meals served at the selected canteen. Thus, the estimated 1,000 questionnaires were distributed on the basis of a global “hosting index”, under the hypothesis that centre capacities would not be reduced during the interviewing period. However, we had to review all the relative capacities because of relevant changes, i.e. the shutting down of some centres and the opening of new ones during the data collection period.

According to dynamic sampling, every week the interviewers drew a random sample on the basis of the centre arrival lists by nationality and gender (i.e. our stratifying criteria). All the planned interviews were carried out by this type of “dynamic sampling” according to the actual arrivals in each centre from the 1st January 2003 till the 30th September 2003.

Trained interviewers (helped by linguistic and cultural mediators) managed the interviews locally and selected weekly representative samples; they closely followed the guidelines of the research team and provided weekly statistics on the new arrivals and the collected interviews.

Overall, 920 interviews were collected in the 10 centres representing 10.82% of all the 8,502 clandestines who were hosted in the selected CTP/RC/HC in the period January-

September 2003 (Appendix 1 reports the list of centres and the distribution of the interviews).¹³ Interviewees belonged to 55 different nationalities.

3. Questionnaire design and some common definitions adopted

The main aim of SIMI is the measurement and understanding of migrants':

- 1) living standards before migration;
- 2) expectations for future living standards in the country of destination;
- 3) costs and individual measure of risk and uncertainty involved in the migration.

The questionnaire consists of 95 questions over 5 sections (see Appendix 2). Question order, questionnaire's length and contents were crafted to balance our research interests with the interviewees' psychological condition.

The first section (**A**) is the only one filled in by the interviewer. It collects information on the centre where the interview takes place, the legal status of the interviewed, his/her arrival place or apprehension place in Italy and his/her nationality/ethnicity and gender. If the nationality declared by the interviewee is uncertain or there is a strong "a priori" that the interviewee is lying, the interviewer is asked to report the most likely nationality from an insider's point of view. Section A contains also a few questions, to be filled in at the end of the interview, judging the quality of the answers provided by the interviewee, in particular the ones on income and wealth.

Section B samples interviewees' main demographic features, like various life quality indexes in the country of origin (e.g. access to public utilities and occurrence of past crises), educational attainment (including language skills), age, health status, job type and skills before migrating.

Special interest is paid to the interviewee's: individual earnings, family earnings, consumption expenditures. To minimize non-responses an answer grid is also proposed to the interviewee.

In **Section C** the current financial condition is examined (home ownership, car ownership and financial exposure). A set of questions also investigate the financial sources tapped to migrate. Following the literature, here we expect to find out that informal institutions (mainly "family and friends") play the most important role for two main reasons, i.e. liquidity constraints and strong family ties.

¹³ Along with the sampling ratio of 10.82%, we have a sampling error rate of 3.05%, with a confidence level of 95%. We refer to D'Uggento and Chiuri (2004), Table 1 for a more details on sampling, representativeness and post-stratification.

Section D assesses income expectations, the sought for final destination and future projects (i.e. future income, job type, earnings, intention to remit and future plans to return back home).

The last **Section (E)** investigates motivation(s), travel mode(s) and costs to migrate. The final question is a tentative way to overcome the lack of a “matching sample” of non-migrants in the country of origin, whereby the interviewee is asked a personal judgement on the reasons which kept their relatives and friends (of the same age cohort) from migrating.

The structure of the questionnaire and its answer grids are based on the results of a pilot study (see Chiuri and Ferri, 2001). In September 2000 we collected data on 150 illegal migrants for whom an open questionnaire was designed and the types of questions addressed were tested.

To ensure data comparability we adopted *a priori* a set of common definitions as regards two important concepts for SIMI: household and country of origin. The definition of “household” for people arriving from developing countries may not coincide with the one usually adopted in the western world and may even differ through the various developing nations (see Deaton, 1997 and Grosh and Glewwe, 2000). In the country of origin a household is usually a group of people living together and eating together, whereas for our purposes it would be better to follow lineages to which groups of households belong. Thus, we define as household “a group of people linked by blood ties or married co-residing in the same house”. This definition was carefully explained to the interviewee when submitting the questionnaire. Also, the concept of country of origin might not be trivial if, previous to crossing to Italy, the interviewee had already migrated from his/her birthplace to another country. Therefore, we consider the country of residence, under the requirement that he/she has been living there for the past two years or longer. For the clandestine who had already migrated and left his/her birthplace, the reference place is the one where he/she settled down most recently.

4. Illegal immigrants’ characteristics, motivations and future expectations

Over half of the clandestines interviewed in SIMI were “applicants for asylum or refugee” (58 percent), “pure clandestines” made about a third (30 percent) those “waiting for an expulsion order” reached 10 percent; only the remaining 2 percent were “waiting for a rejection order with accompaniment to the closest border” (see Table 1).

Table 1 about here

The cross-check of migrants’ status was done on the basis of their declared nationality. Indeed, “political refugees or applicants for asylum” came from countries where political

turmoil recently occurred – Iraq (almost 10 percent of the sample), Liberia (9.0 percent) and Sudan (5.4 percent). Countries with consolidated migratory traditions, like Morocco, Senegal, Turkey, Pakistan, Albania and Sierra Leone followed.

An overall assessment of the quality of the interviews is contained in Table 2. Interviews lasted on average one hour and twenty minutes. Interviewers reported a score of about 7, in a 0-10 range, for both the degree of comprehension by the interviewee and the reliability of income and wealth variables provided.

Table 2 about here

In the following sections, we report the statistical description of the main variables measured in SIMI.

4.1 Demographic variables

On average, the representative illegal migrant was about 27 years old, but the age distribution was highly concentrated in the first bracket 18-30 years (about three quarters of the sample) and 15 percent of the sample was between 31 and 35 years old (see Table 1).

As expected, the vast majority of the interviewed clandestines were males (86.4 percent). The few women came mostly from Eastern Europe (Ukraine, Kosovo and former-Yugoslavia), proving that for women, more than for men, a major role in the decision to migrate is played by cultural contiguities.

The data collected allow us to detect also individuals' health status according to two distinct indicators which are correlated and allow a cross-check. Firstly, a self-assessment showed that 73 percent of interviewees judged as very good their own health status. This is satisfactorily consistent with the picture derived from declared weight and height: in particular, on average 68.9 kg and 171.9 cm for men (58.7 kg and 165.4 cm for women).

Concerning religious beliefs, more than a half of the sample declared to be Muslim (57.9 percent), with the second largest share for Catholic Christian (22.7 percent), followed at a distance by Orthodox Christian (10.1 percent). This type of information is largely consistent with declared nationalities.

Regarding the family situation, 68 percent of the interviewees declared not to have children. However, they have grown up in large families, as the number of family members left in the country of origin reaches a peak in the class 3-5 relatives (46.8 percent), with a non-negligible number of positive answers in the classes 6-7 and 8-10. Less than 50 percent of the interviewees with children declared to have “small children”, only around 30 percent have brought 1 or 2 kids with them, whereas the majority left their children in the country of origin.

4.2 Living standards in the country of origin

Socio-economic conditions of the interviewees in the country of origin are measured by considering the “geographical origin” within the country (whether coming from big cities or from the periphery and countryside) and the availability of different utilities in the original home and are summarised in Table 3.

Table 3 about here

Regarding the “geographical origin”, we do not detect a direct link between the type of place of origin (rural/urban) and the decision to migrate. The interviewee’s origins were almost fairly distributed between countryside (38.9 percent) and urban centres (47 percent), followed by a more limited share coming from large cities (14.4 percent, with more than a million inhabitants).

The variable “geographical location of the place of origin” was designed to obtain information on the “proximity” of public services. This is addressed by a series of questions. About half of the individuals in the sample lived in a centre close to a big town (less than an hour distance with the interviewee usual mode of transportation). A second group (27.4 percent) was located 1 to 2 hours from the centre, whereas for the remaining 22.5 percent it took more than 2 hours to reach the closest urban centre. The proximity of schools and hospitals confirms the previous picture: about 3/4 of the interviewees were less than an hour far from schools (75 percent) and almost 2/3 from the closest hospital (61.4 percent).

The information gathered on hygienic conditions, summarised by the availability of drinkable water and main utilities (electricity and telephone lines) helps classifying living standards. Almost all of those interviewees with drinkable water at home were also equipped with electricity. Overall, about 63 percent lived in a house with electricity. Conversely, around 20 percent of interviewees had neither electricity nor drinkable water. Non-essential services, like telephone lines, are much less frequent. In particular, only a third of the interviewed had a telephone line (with also electricity) and 66.9 percent could not afford to have one.

4.3 Financial exposure of the interviewees

The analysis of the financial conditions of the interviewees (section C of the questionnaire) shows a situation of poverty: more than 3/4 of the clandestines owned no car, even though 56 percent of them owned (together with their family) the house they lived in 2002; conversely, for 1/4 of the interviewees the house was rented or sub-rented and only in a

few cases it was free of charge (see Table 4). To further prove the low level of wealth in the countries of origin, interviewees declared not to own any further real estate or lands in 80.3 percent of cases.

Table 4 about here

However, most interviewees had no outstanding personal or family debts; among those who incurred debts (26 percent), these mainly came from relatives or friends. The median loan still outstanding was 1,500 US\$ with average maturity about 3.7 years, with a modal class of 2-3 years.

4.4 Occupational status, income and expenditure variables

A traditional push factor broadly analysed by the pertinent literature is the expectation to earn more in the country of destination. This seems confirmed by our data since, as reported in Table 5, most of the interviewees stated they were “not employed” in the country of origin during 2002, followed by about 1/4 of “employed” and by a limited number of “self-employed” (13.9 percent). Moreover, the majority of the “not employed” were simply “unemployed” (73.7 percent), students (10.2 percent) or housewives (6.1 percent).

Table 5 about here

Among the group of the “employed” in the country of origin, around 17 percent of the interviewees were working as farmers, followed by artisans (11.4 percent), masons/carpenters, salesmen/dealers. Overall, the private sector absorbed 88 percent of the “employed” at home, whereas, interestingly enough, the public sector was almost completely absent.

Before describing the informational content collected on income and expenditure variables, a preliminary notice is needed: in social surveys it is very difficult to obtain reliable measures of income. People are usually uneasy to declare their own earnings to unknown people. Such a problem was even worse in our case, due to the psychological condition of illegal migrants.

Therefore, in designing the questionnaire we took special caution in dealing with income, adding extra bracketed questions, in order to reduce the non response rate (see questions B20-B20A, B23 -B23A and B25 -B25A).

The declared individual monthly income (a median value of 105 US\$)¹⁴ had a very high variability, due to the extreme heterogeneity of the socio-economic conditions of the

¹⁴ All the questions regarding income and wealth required an answer in current 2003 US\$ to avoid problems of conversions from the many local currencies involved.

interviewees, but followed a positive bimodal skewed distribution, which is very frequent for income variables (see Table 5). For half of the sample, the interviewee was not the only one to earn income in the family and monthly family earnings reached a median of 190 US\$.

A common method used to check the quality and reliability of income variables is to compare the declared income with expenditures for food and beverages. The low level of monthly family income in 2002 was also consistent with a low amount of monthly expenditures for food and drinks, the median was equal to 100 US\$; 25 percent of interviewees were in the lowest three brackets.

4.5 Human capital indicators and skills

The first investigation regarding the level of human capital of our sample is educational attainment. In particular, we considered four indicators (reported in Table 6): literacy, schooling, ability to drive and knowledge of the main (relevant) foreign languages.

Table 6 about here

Most of the interviewees stated to be literate (85.8 percent), although only about 1/3 of them has a driving licence (33.2 percent). We also found a considerable level of schooling: almost half of the interviewees in the sample spent more than 9 years at school, some achieving high school and in a few cases (5 percent) even a university degree.

Knowledge of foreign languages was obviously correlated with both the level of schooling and the colonial past of the country of origin. In fact, restricting the analysis to the “good/very good” knowledge ranks and excluding Arabic as a foreign language (since this is the main mother tongue in our sample), the most common foreign language was English (31 percent) followed at a remarkable distance by French (15 percent) and Italian (14.1 percent). The knowledge of German was poor for all levels.

The questionnaire allowed also detecting individual skills by directly asking the interviewee the type of job qualification he/she thinks having. About 72 percent of the answers showed low-skill qualifications, as e.g. cleaner or farmer. 18 percent of our sample stands out as the types of job the migrants would feel to be more qualified at. We considered them as skilled workers as they declared having professional qualifications which would require basic mathematical tools; this was the case for e.g. carpenters, salesmen or electricians. We found it rather interesting that the mode “no skill” occurred with a frequency of 10 percent only.

4.6 Motivations, travel mode and costs of migration

Table 7 contains information concerning the intended final destination and the main reasons to migrate illegally. Almost 3/4 of interviewees in our sample had Italy as the final destination country, followed by Germany (10 percent) and France (5 percent). In particular, the most sought-after Italian regions were Lombardy (almost 23 percent), Friuli-Venezia Giulia (15.7 percent), Lazio (13 percent), Apulia (6.5 percent), Campania (5.7 percent) and Veneto (4.9 percent). This distribution closely resembles the official data on the presence of regular immigrants in Italy, with a greater concentration in big cities like Milan (in Lombardia) or Rome (in Lazio) and in the North Eastern regions.

Table 7 about here

Our interpretation is confirmed by the answers to the question (D02) which investigated the reasons for choosing a specific destination: 37 percent of the interviewees chose the final destination, because attracted by the presence of friends or to reunite with family members. However, for a considerable portion of the sample (82.3 percent), there was no relative already in the final destination, and only one relative for 10.3 percent. In other words, the interviewed clandestines seem to be the *front*-runners since no relatives were present in the destination and they were the first to migrate in the families. About 28.7 percent expected to find a job more easily compared to other places, whereas 10 percent deemed to obtain more easily political asylum.

Almost all of them chose the final destination because they gained information especially from friends and relatives already migrated (45 percent), followed by information obtained through the media (TV and newspapers, 21.4 percent) and through friends and relatives in the country of origin.

For most of the interviewees the decision to emigrate was apparently very costly, not only from an economic point of view. About 90 percent of interviewees in the sample had been living in the village of origin for 10-25 years, providing evidence that they had stable social roots. This result partly contradicts the idea of an initial internal urban migration before going abroad.

Regarding the interviewees' main reasons to migrate, in half of the cases clandestines left their country of origin "to earn money", followed by those who wanted to be politically free (20.76 percent), especially the asylum seekers. Relevantly, 14.6 percent declared that they wanted "to earn greater safety (not only economic)".

The deterioration of the internal socio-political and economic situation in the village of origin (residence) has been identified as one of the motives for illegal migration in previous studies (see e.g. Chiuri, De Arcangelis and Ferri, 2005). To this end clandestines in the sample were asked whether, in the previous 5 years, disasters, epidemics, famines, social conflicts or economic and financial crisis had occurred in the village/town of origin. The answers were strongly correlated with the nationality of the interviewees. According to the results, natural disasters, epidemics and famines did not seem to show simple correlation with the illegal emigration event: almost 2/3 answered that none of such events occurred in the previous 5 years. As expected, the exception is represented by migrants from Sudan and Somalia. On the contrary, the ratios were inverted for the question on social conflicts: 67.54 percent of interviewees in the sample stated unanimously that social conflicts occurred in the past 5 years. The main countries of origin in this case were: Liberia, Iraq, Sudan, Turkey, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Eritrea, Kosovo, Somalia, Palestinian Territories and Israel. Finally, the percentage was even higher when considering economic and financial crises. About 85 percent of the interviewees in the sample declared to have witnessed economic-financial crises in the previous 5 years (main countries of origin in this case: Liberia, Iraq, Sudan, Senegal, Turkey, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Eritrea and Palestinian Territories).

Several aspects of the trip (length, costs, etc.) are reported in Table 8. Regarding the length of the trip, we distinguish four main groups: the first one (30.1 percent) made a short trip, lasting a week or less, followed by trips taking from 1 to 3 months (17.3 percent). The remaining two groups (about 10 percent each) concern longer itineraries, lasting 3-6 months and 1-3 years, respectively.

Table 8 about here

One of the elements affecting the decision to migrate is its cost and the way to finance the trip. The overall cost faced to reach Italy was, on average, very high: more than 50 percent of the sample paid between 501 and 2,500 US\$, with a non-negligible part (17.3 percent) paying more than 2,500 US\$. The median cost was 1,500 US\$. As to the transport mode, most commonly migrants came by ship (22.9 percent), followed by bus (15.0 percent), truck (12.4 percent), car (10.8 percent) and finally raft/boat (10.2 percent).

More than half of the interviewees in the sample did not run into debts in order to finance their trip, whereas, for those who answered positively (44 percent), the main financing source was still the informal sector (relatives and friends). Given the relevant role of the family in providing financial assistance to migrants in developing countries, it might well be the case

that the financial links and the outstanding wealth and debts are highly under-reported due to the difficulty to capture intra-family transfers, which are an important part of the phenomenon.

The maturity of the loan to finance the trip seemed to follow a distribution similar to the overall outstanding debt, although the average maturity was shorter (less than 2 years) with most observations concentrated in the brackets up to 3 years. The average amount of such a debt was equal to 1,666 US\$, with a peak in the class between 1,000-2,500 and high frequencies also in the class from 0 to 1,000 US\$.

4.7 Income expectations, remittance behaviour and return migration

The main aim of Section D in the questionnaire was to unveil their expectations on future income, type of desired job, remittances and future plans to return back home.

Regarding expectations (at the time they decided to migrate), clandestines were asked which type of job they were anticipating to get once in the final destination. The predominant answers were “mason/carpenter”, “farmer/forester” and “cleaner”. Note that these jobs were in accordance with the qualifications they declared to hold in a previous question (B18B) as discussed in section 4.5. More than half of the interviewees expected to earn a monthly wage between 500 and 1,000 US\$, with a median of 850 US\$ (see Table 9).

Tables 9 and 10 about here

As reported in Table 10, 54 percent of the interviewees declared it is very important to repatriate part of their income (this reaches 81 percent if we consider also the answer “important”). A little more than 1/4 of the interviewees would have liked to send from 20 to 40 percent of their earned income, whereas some 27.4 percent were willing to remit home from 41 to 60 out of 100 US\$.

When asked whether they were expecting to return home, almost 60 percent of the interviewees answered affirmatively, thinking to stay far from home from 3 to 10 years.

About 2/3 of the interviewees did not know that Italy had recently passed a new immigration law but most of those who knew correctly anticipated that the new law would make crossing Italian borders more difficult.

Table 11 about here

The last question addressed in the interview aims to pick up information on a missing aspect of the phenomenon: the people who remained at home and decided not to migrate, although with similar economic conditions and belonging to the same age cohort. In particular, we asked the interviewees why their friends or relatives (of their age) remained in

the country of origin instead of migrating. The most common answer was “lack of finance” (almost 31 percent), but 16.9 percent answered that non-migrants were planning to migrate in the next future (see Table 11). Only in the view of a small portion of the sample (about 10 percent) friends and relatives remained in the country of origin because they are more risk-averse.

5. Conclusions and future work

Little is known about the phenomenon of irregular migration although this has become one of the most common modes for immigrants to reach Europe, as a consequence of the recent tightening in immigration policy throughout the EU.

SIMI made an attempt to grasp the key features of this phenomenon from the vantage point of the clandestines interviewed in hosting centres in Italy. The main value added of SIMI is then to provide fresh, “at the gate” information on immigrants’ expectations about the future the migrants would imagine for themselves in the western world. From our data we find that migrants expect to earn about 8-10 times what they earned home, but also that the migration project cost about 15 times their declared monthly income.

When turning to the individual characteristics, in accordance with the literature on development economics, migrants belong to a sort of “middle class” in the country of origin. Most of them owned their house in the country of origin and about ¼ of the sample declared to have a car at home. Also their skill level is not negligible. Six to eight years of schooling is the median bracket of school attainment; almost 20 percent of the sample declared a school degree of secondary education or higher.

The survey provides information also on the intentions to remit and the intentions to return. About 50 percent of the sample declared they intended to stay less than 10 years. Moreover, they aimed to a remittance rate between 40 and 60 percent of their income.

The survey offers also a measure of possible future migration flows when considering the answers to the question regarding why people in the same age cohort (typically the mid-20s) decided not to migrate. About 50 percent answered that they did not migrate “because of lack of funds, but they will certainly do it in the future” (by quoting the exact answer provided in the questionnaire); only 10 percent declared their peers decided to stay home because they were more risk averse.

The data set offered by SIMI may have many potential applications to better understand some individual characteristics of the migration project. For instance, it is important to study whether the remittance behaviour of migrants is linked to their intentions to return and how

(see Chiuri, Coniglio, Ferri and Serlenga, 2006). Moreover, the unique data on individual illegal migrants, like their skill levels and intentions to return, may help study whether more skilled migrants are more likely to return home, since illegality prevents them to fully use their skills in the destination labour market (see Coniglio, De Arcangelis and Serlenga, 2006).

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Table 1 Sample Characteristics

<i>Type of interviewee (in percent)</i>	
Clandestine	29.82
Asylum Seeker	58.09
Others	12.08
<i>Gender (in percent)</i>	
Male	86.41
Female	13.59
<i>Average Age (in years)</i>	27.16
<i>Main Countries of origin (in percent)</i>	
Iraq	9.57
Liberia	9.02
Sudan	5.40
Morocco	5.11
Senegal	4.78
Turkey	4.78
Other	61.34
<i>Religion (in percent)</i>	
Muslim	58.32
Catholic	22.87
Orthodox	10.18
Other	8.63
<i>Interviewees with children (in percent)</i>	32.02
<i>Average no. children (sub-sample with children)</i>	1.87
at home (in percent)	70.35
at destination (in percent)	29.65

Table 2 Characteristics of the interviews

	Median
<i>Evaluation (1-10 range)</i>	
comprehension of the interviewee	7.35
reliability of information on income	6.85
reliability of information on wealth	6.83
<i>Duration of the interview (in minutes)</i>	80

Table 3 Living standards at home

<i>Original location of the migrant (in percent)</i>	
village (0-5,000)	38.95
town (5,000-100,000)	23.19
city (100,000 and more)	37.85
<i>Median distance (in hours) from</i>	
Big city	2.58
School	2.10
Hospital	2.40
<i>House facilities (in percent)</i>	
Electricity	74.37
Drinkable water	63.76
Telephone	33.08

Table 4 Financial exposure at home

<i>House ownership (in percent)</i>	56.28
<i>Car ownership (in percent)</i>	23.93
<i>Financial exposure of the family</i>	
Families indebted (in percent)	25.78
median outstanding debt (in US\$)	1,500
median maturity (in years)	2
<i>Main lenders (in percent)</i>	
Banks	10.76
Relatives	40.81
Friends	41.70
State	5.83

Table 5 Occupational status, income and consumption at home

<i>Occupational status in 2002 (in percent)</i>	
not employed	58.21
Employee	27.49
self-employed	14.30
<i>Individual income</i>	
median (in US\$)	105
median bracket (in US\$)	51-100
<i>Family income</i>	
median (in US\$)	190
median bracket (in US\$)	101-500
<i>Consumption for food and beverages</i>	
median (in US\$)	100
median bracket (in US\$)	51-100

Table 6 Measures of skills

<i>Years of schooling (median bracket)</i>	6-8
<i>School degree (in percent)</i>	
none	15.32
primary school	27.08
middle school	30.85
general secondary school	13.87
vocational secondary school	7.88
University or higher	4.99
<i>Foreign language proficiency</i>	
Percent with at least one good level	63.96
<i>Job qualification (in percent)</i>	
no qualification	9.78
unskilled	72.02
skilled	18.20
<i>Have a driver licence (in percent)</i>	33.20

Table 7 Motivations to migrate

<i>Final destination (in percent)</i>	
in Europe, except for Italy	22.72
in Italy	75.55
elsewhere	1.73
<i>Reasons for final destination (in percent)</i>	
to rejoin with family and friends	36.18
for ease of job searching	29.04
for ease of obtainment political asylum/visa	10.06
for greater tolerance	8.56
for linguistic knowledge	3.09
for previous experience	3.06
Other	10.01
<i>Main reasons to migrate (in percent)</i>	
to earn more	51.85
to be politically free	20.76
to earn greater safety	14.57
to ensure a better future to children	8.04
to rejoin with family and friends	3.48
to get health care	0.65
Other	0.74
<i>Occurrence of a natural crisis in the past 5 years</i>	36.04
<i>Occurrence of a social conflict in the past 5 years</i>	67.54
<i>Occurrence of an economic and financial crisis in the past 5 years</i>	84.93

Table 8 Economic characteristics of the trip

<i>Median cost of the trip (in US\$)</i>	1,500
<i>Indebtmnt for the trip (in percent)</i>	
Yes	44.43
No	55.57

Table 9 Expectations at destination

<i>Expected type of job at destination (in percent)</i>	
unskilled	83.03
skilled	16.97
<i>Expected monthly income at destination (in US\$)</i>	
Median	850
median bracket	501-1000
<i>Expected probability of being apprehended (median)</i>	
in Italy	0.54
in the final destination (if not Italy)	0.53

Table 10 Remittances and return

<i>Remittance rate (out of income, in percent)</i>	
median bracket	40- 60
<i>Intention to return (in percent)</i>	
yes	58.95
no	41.05
<i>Expected length of stay (in percent)</i>	
up to 2 years	15.47
3-10 years	30.25
more than 10 years	3.19
don't know	51.09

Table 11 Potential for migration

<i>Why, do you think, friends and relatives of your age remained in the country of origin? (in percent)</i>	
for lack of finance	31.39
they will migrate in the future	16.85
they are more risk averse	10.02
other	41.74

Appendix 1. Further details of the sampling design

The selected Centres of Temporary Permanence (CTP), Reception Centres (RC) and Helping Centres (HC) where clandestines were interviewed are:

- a) *I.C.S. HC (Gorizia, Friuli Venezia Giulia)*, helping centre mainly for asylum seekers;
- b) *Caritas RC-S. Anna (Crotone, Calabria)*, it gives hospitality to clandestines applying for asylum or refugees;
- c) *Lorizzonte RC–Squinzano (Lecce, Apulia)*, it gives hospitality to clandestines applying for asylum or waiting for an expulsion order;
- d) *Coop.Interetnica HC –(Bari, Apulia)*, helping centre for regular and irregular migrants;
- e) *Regina Pacis CTP–S. Foca (Lecce, Apulia)*, it gives hospitality to clandestines waiting for an expulsion or a rejection decree,
- f) *Croce Blu HC-(Foggia, Apulia)*, helping centre mainly for asylum seekers;
- g) *Spirito Santo-Caritas RC-Vittoria (Ragusa, Sicily)*, it gives hospitality both to regular and irregular immigrants with a helping centre and a free canteen;
- h) *Borgomezzanone RC (Foggia, Apulia)*, it hosts asylum seekers;
- i) *Caritas HC–(Crotone, Calabria)*, it works together with the Caritas Reception Centre-S. Anna, as a helping centre for both regular and irregular immigrants;
- j) *Don Tonino Bello RC-Otranto (Lecce, Apulia)*, it operates mainly as a centre of first assistance, but from time to time also as a reception centre.

All the Centres were carefully selected, following various criteria, above all, according to the centre-specific task, according to the quality of the interviewers, etc. For each centre it was necessary to apply for a special permit to enter and operate within it. The permits were not easy to obtain from the local authority (Questore) and in some cases they were denied. As a consequence, we had to drop some centres that were initially selected. Table 12 contains the sample composition by centre.

Table 12 Sample composition by centre

Name and type of Centre	%	Name and type of Centre	%
I.C.S. HC- (Gorizia)	27.17%	Croce Blu HC- (Foggia)	8.91%
Caritas RC-S. Anna (Crotone)	18.15%	Spirito Santo-Caritas RC-Vittoria (Ragusa)	8.48%
Lorizzonte RC–Squinzano (Lecce)	12.17%	Borgomezzanone RC –(Foggia)	1.96%
HC Coop.Interetnica - (Bari)	11.85%	Caritas HC– (Crotone)	1.63 %
Regina Pacis CTP–S. Foca (Lecce)	9.13%	Don Tonino Bello RC-Otranto (Lecce)	0.54%

Note: HC= helping centre; RC= reception centre; CTP=Centre of Temporary Permanence.



Appendix 2. The Questionnaire

Department of Economics - University of Bari and AGIMI Otranto Survey on illegal migration in Italy - Questionnaire



We would be grateful if you could spend few minutes to help us understand your motivations and aspirations. We guarantee that all the information kindly provided is totally anonymous and will be used only for academic research purposes. Your co-operation is precious to us and may help future migrants like yourself.

Section A – INFORMATION EDITED BY THE INTERVIEWER

FIRST NAME, LAST NAME of the Interviewer : _____

A01	Questionnaire No.	_____
A02	Date of the interview	_____
A03	Region of the interview	_____
A04	Reception Centre Centre of Temporary Permanence Listening Centre	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> (Centre name)
A05	Situation of the interviewee: 1. Applicant for asylum, refugee 2. Waiting for rejection 3. Waiting for expulsion 4. Clandestine	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
A06	Stopping place (province) or arrival place in Italy	_____
A07	Nationality of the interviewee	_____
A08	Ethnicity of the interviewee	_____
A09	Gender of the interviewee	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>

Section A – (to continue) INFORMATION EDITED BY THE INTERVIEWER

Please fill in at the end of the interview

Evaluation on the state of the interview		Please, assign a score from 1 (minimum) to 10 (maximum)
A10	What is your judgment on the level of the interviewee understanding of the questions asked?	_____
A11	How do you evaluate the information about income by the interviewee with respect to the truth?	_____
A12	How do you evaluate the information about wealth by the interviewee with respect to the truth?	_____

Time at the end of the interview _____ Duration of the interview _____ minutes

Notes and comments:

**SECTION B: DEMOGRAPHIC
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INTERVIEWEE**

B01: How many inhabitants does your city (village) of origin (of residence) have?

1. 0-1.000 4. 100.001-1.000.000
 2. 1.001-5.000 5. 1.000.001 e più
 3. 5.001-100.000

B02: How far is your city (village) of origin from the nearest urban centre (capital or other big city) with your usual mode (car, bus, etc.) in hours?

- 0 <1 1 - 2 2- 4 4+

B03: How far is your house from the nearest school with your usual travel mode in hours?

- 0 <1 1 - 2 2- 4 4+

B04: How far is your house from the nearest hospital with your usual travel mode in hours?

- 0 <1 1 - 2 2- 4 4+

B05: Has your house electric energy?

1. YES 2.NO

B06: Has your house drinkable water?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B07: Has your house a telephone line?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B08: For how many years have you been living in the city / village of origin?

1. less than 5 3. 10-24 years
 2. 5-9 years 4. 25+ years

B09: Did any natural disaster, epidemic or famine happen in the village (/ city) of origin (residence) in the last 5 years?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B10: Did any social conflict happen in the village (/ city) of origin (residence) in the last 5 years?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B11: Did any economic and financial crisis happen in the village (/ city) of origin (residence) in the last 5 years?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B12: What is your level of knowledge of the following foreign languages?

English:

- 1.very good 2.good 3.basic 4.null

French:

- 1.very good 2.good 3. basic 4. null

Arab:

- 1.very good 2.good 3. basic 4. null

German:

- 1.very good 2.good 3. basic 4. null

Italian:

- 1.very good 2.good 3. basic 4. null

B13: Can you read and write?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B14: How many years of school have you attended?

- 0 1-5 6-8 9-11 12+

B15: What is your highest degree?

1. Nobody 4. Secondary school (general)
 2. Primary school 5. Secondary school (technical /vocational)
 3. Middle school 6. First Degree

B16: Do you have a driving licence?

- 1.YES 2.NO

B17: Which job qualification do you hold?

1. Farmer / forester 13. Artisan
 2. Tailor 14. Translator
 3. Cook 15. Secretary
 4. Mechanician 16. Financial adviser
 5. Mason / carpenter 17. Physician / chemist
 6. Electrician / plumber 18. Lawyer
 7. Driver 19. Teacher
 8. Sales men /dealer 20. Employee
 9. Shoe-maker 21. Official / Executive
 10. Hairdresser 22. Professional servant
 11. Cleaner 23. Entrepreneur
 12. Social assistant 24. None

B18: What was your occupational state in the country of origin during 2002?

1. Not employed
 2. Employee
 3. Self- employed

B18A: If "not employed "

1. Unemployed 4. Housewife
 2. On military service 5. Retired
 3. Student

If "not employed " please proceed to B21

B18B: If "employed"

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Farmer / forester <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Artisan <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Tailor <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Translator <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Cook <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Mechanic <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Financial adviser <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Mason / carpenter <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Physician / chemist <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Electrician / plumber <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Driver <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Sales men /dealer <input type="checkbox"/> | 20. Employee <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Shoe-maker <input type="checkbox"/> | 21. Official / Executive <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Hairdresser <input type="checkbox"/> | 22. Professional servant <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Cleaner <input type="checkbox"/> | 23. Entrepreneur <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Social assistant <input type="checkbox"/> | 24. None <input type="checkbox"/> |

B19: If employed in which sector?

- B19A:** 1. Governmental sector
 2. Private sector
 3. Other sector

B19B:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Education <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Art and culture <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Industrial Sector <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Health care <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Handicraft <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Sport/tourism <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Construction <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Finance and credit <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Management <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Army and police <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Trade <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Other activities <input type="checkbox"/> |

B20: How much did you earn per month in the country of origin in 2002 or before your departure? **Suggest e.g. the last earned income**

\$ (or specify other monetary unit)

IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS

B20A: What is your monthly income:

1. 0-50 \$
 2. 51-100 \$
 3. 101-250 \$
 4. 251-500 \$
 5. 501+ \$

B21: What is your marital status:

1. Single 3. Widow/ er
 2. Married 4. Separated / divorced

B22: Is there any other income earner in your household (consider only the family members cohabiting)?

- 1.YES 2.NO

If answer No please proceed to B24

B23: How much did you and your family earn per month in 2002 or before your departure?

\$ (or specify other monetary unit)

IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS

B23A: What was your family monthly income:

1. 0-100 \$
 2. 101- 500 \$
 3. 251 -500\$
 4. 501- 100 \$
 5. 1001+ \$

B24: How was the combined monthly family income earned during 2002?

1. Constant 3. Very varying
 2. Varying 4. I don't know

B25: How much did you and your family spend per month for food and drinks in the year 2002 or before your departure?

\$ (or specify other monetary unit)

IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS

B25A: Your family monthly expenditure for food and drinks in 2002 was between:

1. 0-50 \$
 2. 51-100 \$
 3. 101-250 \$
 4. 251-500 \$
 5. 501+ \$

B26: How old are you? **B27: How would you describe your health?**

1. Very good 4. Bad
 2. Good 5. Very bad
 3. Neither good nor bad 6. I don't know

B28: What is your weight (in kg)? **B29: What is your height (in cm) ?**

B30: What is your religion?

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1. atheist | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Hyndu | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Buddhist | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Moslem | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Christian Catholic | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Protestant | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Christian orthodox | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B31A: Number of relatives (people cohabiting) currently with you**B31B:** Number of family members left in the country of origin**B32:** Do you have any children?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

If answer No please proceed to C01**B32A:** Number of children's less than 18 years old currently with you**B32B:** Number of children's less than 18 years old left in the country of origin**SECTION C: FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE INTERVIEWEE****C01:** Did you or your family have one or more cars during 2002?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

C02: The house you lived in during 2002 was:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. owned by the family | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. free of charge | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. rented or sub-rented | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C03: Did you or your family own other real estates in 2002?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

If answer to C02 2, 3 or 4 and to C03 No proceed to C05**C04:** Have you or your family sold any house or real estate owned during 2002 or before your departure?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

C05: Do you or your family currently have any debt-repay?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

If answer No please proceed to C09**C06:** Whom do you have to re-pay the debts to?

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Banks | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. State | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C07: What is the maturity of the loan? (in years)

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 0-1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20 + | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

C08: How much do you still have to re-pay?\$ (or specify other monetary unit)**IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS****C08A:** The debt- repay is still between:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | 0-500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | 501- 1000 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | 1001-2500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. | 2501-5000 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. | 5001+ \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C09: Do you or your family need to repay debts to finance the cost of your trip?

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1.YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

If answer No please proceed to D01**C10:** To whom do you have to re-pay debts to finance the cost of your trip?

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Banks | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. State | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C11: What is the maturity of the loan? (in years)

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 0-1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20 + | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|

C12: Amount of the debt to finance the cost of the trip\$ (or specify other monetary unit)**IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS****C12A:** The debt to finance the cost of the trip is between:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | 0-500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | 501- 1000 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | 1001-2500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. | 2501-5000 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. | 5001+ \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION D: INCOME EXPECTATIONS AND FUTURE PROJECTS**D01:** What is your final destination?**D01A Nation:**

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Austria | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Ireland | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Belgium | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Luxembourg | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Denmark | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Holland | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Finland | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Norway | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. France | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Spain | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Germany | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Sweden | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Great Britain | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. U.S.A. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Italy | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D01B If Italy, which region:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Piedmont | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Marche | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Val d'Aosta | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Lazio | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Lombardy | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Abruzzo | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Trentino | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Molise | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Veneto | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Campania | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Friuli | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Apulia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Liguria | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Basilicata | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Emilia Romagna | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Calabria | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Tuscany | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Sicily | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Umbria | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20. Sardinia | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D02: Why did you choose your final destination?

1. to reunite with family members
2. for friendships and knowledge
3. for previous experience
4. for linguistic knowledge
5. for ease of job searching
6. for greater tolerance
7. for ease of obtainment political asylum
8. for ease of obtainment of the visa
9. to contain the trip costs
10. for another reason

If multiple answers (max 3) mark more boxes

D03: By the time of your departure, what did you think, in your own mind, were the likeness of being stopped in Italy? (in a scale from 0 to 10)

- | | | | | |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| No possibility | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Absolute certainty 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | No answer 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If final destination Italy please proceed to D05

D04: By the time of your departure, what did you think, in your own mind, were the likeness of being stopped in the country of final destination? (in a scale from 0 to 10)

- | | | | | |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| No possibility | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Absolute certainty 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | No answer 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D05: By the time of your departure, what type of job were you expecting to get in the final destination?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Farmer / forester | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Artisan | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Tailor | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Translator | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Cook | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Mechanic | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Financial adviser | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Mason / carpenter | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Physician / chemist | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Electrician / plumber | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Lawyer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Driver | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Sales men /dealer | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20. Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Shoe-maker | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21. Official / Executive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Hairdresser | <input type="checkbox"/> | 22. Professional servant | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Cleaner | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23. Entrepreneur | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Social assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24. Nobody | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D06: When you left, what monthly income were you expecting to earn in the final destination?

\$ (or specify other monetary unit)

IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS

D06A: What monthly income were you expecting?

1. 0-250 \$
2. 251-500 \$
3. 501-1000 \$
3. 1001-1750 \$
4. 1751+ \$

D07: How important you think is sending part of your income earned in foreign countries to your relatives in the country of origin?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. very important | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. unlikely | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. important | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. impossible | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | 5. I don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If answer 3 or 4 please proceed to D09

D08: Out of 100 dollars earned how many dollars will you likely send to your relatives remained in the country of origin?

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 0 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21-40 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> | 61-80 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1-20 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> | 41-60 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> | 81-100 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D09: Are you expecting to return home?

1. Yes 2. NO

If answer No please proceed to D11

D10: How long are you expecting to stay far from home?

1. Few months
2. 1 or 2 years
3. 3-10 years
4. More than 10 years
5. I don't know

D11: Do you know that Italy recently passed a new immigration law?

1. Yes 2. No

If answer No please proceed to E01

D12: You think that with the new law it is:

1. easier to come to Italy
 2. as easy as before to come to Italy
 3. more difficult to come to Italy
 4. I don't know

SECTION E: MOTIVATIONS, MODE AND COSTS OF MIGRATION

E01: Day of departure from the country of origin

____|____|____|

E02: Day of arrival in Italy

____|____|____|

E03: What is your main reason to emigrate?

1. to earn
 2. to rejoin with family and friends
 3. to earn greater safety (not only economic) for you
 4. to insure a better future for your children
 5. to be (politically) free
 6. to get healthcare
 7. to study
 8. Other

Please, allow one answer only

E04: Number of relatives (people cohabiting) already in the final destination

E05: Number of relatives (people cohabiting) migrated to other destination

E06: In the past have you already been in the final destination?

1. Yes 2. No

If answer Yes please proceed to E08

E07: From which source did you get information concerning the country of destination?

1. from TV / newspapers 3. from friends and relatives migrated
 2. from friends and relatives in the country of origin 4. other source

E08: Number of nations crossed during your last trip

- 1-2 3-4 5-7 8+

E09: Did you ever stop in a nation for more than three months during your last trip?

1. Yes 2. No

E10: From what nation did you reach Italy?

- | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Albania | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Macedonia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Algeria | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Morocco | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Austria | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Montenegro | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Bosnia | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Syria | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. France | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Slovenia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Greece | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Switzerland | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Germany | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Turkey | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Israel | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Tunisia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Lebanon | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Libya | <input type="checkbox"/> | to be specified | _____ |

E11: What transport mode did you use to arrive in Italy?

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 1. afoot | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. auto | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. airplane | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. ship | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. bus | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. ferry | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. truck | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. train | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. raft / boat | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If multiple answers mark more boxes

E12: How much did you pay overall to reach Italy from your country of origin?

transport cost per person

\$ (or specify monetary unit)

IF THE AMOUNT IS NOT PROVIDED, SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING BRACKETS

E12A: The cost of the trip was between:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | 0-200 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | 201-500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | 501-1000 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. | 1001-2500 \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. | 2501+ \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

E13: Why do you think that friends and relatives of your age remained in the country of origin?

1. for lack of finance
 2. they are more attached to the family and the job
 3. they are satisfied of the job
 4. they are less risky
 5. they will migrate in the future
 6. other reason

Please, allow one answer only