



9th MED-HIMS Regional Workshop MED-HIMS 'Light' Model Manuals

Radisson Blu Hotel Paris Boulogne
18-19 January 2018

REPORT ON THE MAIN OUTCOMES (Final version of 2 May 2018)

A. Introduction

1. The *Workshop on the MED-HIMS 'Light' Model Manuals* was held in Paris on 18-19 January 2018, back-to-back with the *4th Meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Working Group on Migration Statistics (EMWGMS)* of 17 January 2018. Both meetings were organised by the Management Team of the Expertise France MEDSTAT IV Consortium with the collaboration of the MED-HIMS Project Implementation Unit (PIU), EUROSTAT and the other international organisations supporting MED-HIMS. The meeting was funded by the MEDSTAT IV with further funding provided by IOM MENA.
2. The main objectives of the workshop were to review the final revised MED-HIMS Model Questionnaires (MQs) – 'standard' version and to discuss the first draft of the MQs – 'light' version. These main working documents were prepared by the Chief Technical Adviser of MED-HIMS (CTA) in consultation with other experts and according to the decisions and orientations issued from the previous workshop that was held in Marrakech in July 2017. The agenda of the meeting is shown in Annex 1.
3. The meeting was attended by officers and experts representing EUROSTAT (Cooperation Unit), UNSD, ILO (Department of Statistics), IOM (Global Migration Data Analysis Centre, GMDAC), ONS-Algeria, BSC-Libya, CAPMAS-Egypt, CAS-Lebanon, HCP-Morocco, CBS-Palestine and INS-Tunisia, the National Observatory on Migration of Tunisia and the relevant experts of MED-HIMS and MEDSTAT IV. The detailed list of participants is given in Annex 2.

B. Main outcomes of the meeting

Model Questionnaires – 'standard' version

4. The CTA began the meeting by noting the purposes for the four general changes made to the MQs 'standard' version, most of which were agreed upon in the workshop held in Marrakech in July 2017:
 - Adding a new 'Individual Questionnaire for Immigrant' (other than forced migrants, already included before) as MQ-6;

- Changing the title of MQ-7 (formerly MQ-6) towards ‘Household Socio-economic Characteristics Questionnaire’;
 - Replacing previous labour force questions by the ILO standard labour force questions, as agreed upon in the previous workshop in Marrakech in July 2017;
 - Updating the reference data from 2000 to 2005, to continue to focus on recent migrants, taking into account the passage of time;
 - Incorporating various other refinements and a few additions, based on:
 - a. Discussions held in Marrakech (including on household income category); and
 - b. The experience of using of the data in preliminary multivariate analyses of the determinants of migration/return migration/migration intentions/remittances based on the 2013 Egypt-HIMS for studies carried out by the CTA and Richard Bilsborrow at University of North Carolina in October 2017 on behalf of the World Bank.
5. Some specific changes to the ‘standard’ version included:
- Additional/better questions in the MQ-1 household screening questionnaire to identify/distinguish usual immigrants from forced migrants in section 4;
 - Modifying the main education level question in MQ-2 and all other individual modules, and obtaining education of the out-migrant at the time of departure as well as at the time of the survey (when still living abroad);
 - Adding questions for those married more than once on dates of ending marriage and remarriage, and on children not living with the emigrant;
 - Adding question on work at time of emigrating to current residence abroad;
 - Broadening question 503 on presence of friends/relatives abroad at time of migration to those living then in the current country of residence vs. other countries;
 - Adding question on funds taken by migrant when left to live in current country abroad (802); and
 - Getting information on both the first and second most important uses of the funds remitted to the survey household from abroad, and on the approximate value (proportion) of funds compared to total household income.
6. For return migrants (MQ-3), most changes correspond to the above, but obtaining additional information on:
- The migrant’s level of education and employment prior to leaving the survey country for the first time and then prior to returning;
 - In Section 5: adding subjective question on whether the return migrant feels he/she has a better job now than in previous country abroad;
 - Plus new questions on investments made in the survey country while abroad and since returning, including starting a business, and whether had any problems in starting a business;
 - A few questions were also added in Section 7 on whether respondent or children had any difficulties in the survey country after returning/arriving.
7. Non-migrants, in MQ-4, are to be asked a few more questions about:
- Their current employment and their short-term international mobility, in terms of visits abroad (under 3 months); and
 - Whether other household members intend to migrate abroad (424-426).

8. Forced migrants, in MQ-5, have additional questions on:
 - Departure from their origin country for the first time, and reason, etc. (104-107);
 - Whether had to pay anyone to facilitate movement (123-4);
 - And whether anyone in family group moving had difficulties en route (127-9);
 - Migration intentions (302-4, 308-9); and
 - A whole new section on marriage and children was added (Section 4) to correspond to the other individual questionnaires.
9. Concerning the MQ-7: Household socio-economic characteristics questionnaire, a set of very simple yes-no questions, developed by Richard Bilsborrow, were added to obtain the approximate total income category of the household.

MED-HIMS Model Questionnaires – ‘light’ version

10. Concerning the main topic of discussion at the workshop, the ‘light’ MQs were developed to be overall about half as long as the full version, so it will cost somewhat less and take less time to administer. However, it was explained by the CTA and the Sampling Expert that the ‘light’ version is not generally recommended for the *first MED-HIMS international migration survey* in a country, but is rather intended to be implemented after the first, full questionnaire is used, analysed and published, since the light one does exclude many potentially useful variables even if it includes the majority of the main ones. Nonetheless, at the country level, the decision about the type of survey and content of the questionnaires will depend on the objectives of the survey as stated by the country’s NSI in the survey Project Document. For example, Egypt is planning to conduct a second round MED-HIMS, and CAPMAS is going to use mainly the ‘light’ version but they will add several questions from the standard version which are of interest to the Ministry of Migration and the newly established Migration Statistics Unit at CAPMAS.
11. Concerning the eligibility to the ‘light’ individual MQs, the following main features were considered or stressed:
 - MQ-2: Out migrants:

Only one out-migrant (emigrant) is to be randomly selected for the individual interview, rather than interviewing all eligible emigrants (as in the ‘standard’ version).
 - MQ-3: Return migrants:

Only one return-migrant is to be randomly selected for the individual interview, rather than interviewing each of them (as in the ‘standard’ version).
 - MQ-4: Non-migrants:

It was also decided to select a smaller sample of non-migrant households, since there are such large numbers of individual non-migrants interviewed already in the migrant and return migrant households.
 - MQ-5: Forced migrants:

It was decided to apply the same selection rules adopted in the ‘standard’ version for the selection of forced migrants eligible for the individual interview when they are not related by blood (e.g., if there were 7 or more adult forced migrant men or women living in a dwelling or a room in a dormitory-type situation, a maximum of 4 will be selected for the individual interview).
 - MQ-6: Immigrants:

Similarly, for immigrants not related by blood, the selection rules adopted in the ‘standard’ version will be used in the ‘light’ version.

12. The main changes for other MQs consisted of the following:

- MQ-7: Household socio-economic characteristics questionnaire: compared with the ‘standard’ version, the draft ‘light’ version includes a shorter module on housing characteristics, and reduced list of objects and assets owned by the household, while the modules on transfers/remittances to/from non-household members residing abroad and the household income categories were excluded.
- MQ-8: Community Characteristics Questionnaire: It was agreed not to include this questionnaire in the ‘light’ version.

13. There was much discussion regarding eliminating more questions from the main standard individual questionnaires for the ‘light’ version, with pressures to reduce especially from delegates from Morocco and Tunisia which are planning already to implement a light version in 2018 and 2019, respectively. However, in some cases questions dropped by the CTA in the draft for discussion were eventually added back in, due to their importance found in the preliminary advanced analysis of data from the 2013 Egypt-HIMS, or interest/recommendation of stakeholders (e.g., both the ILO and World Bank recommend to get data on costs paid by migrants to recruiters, which is also included in the IOM GMDAC Data Portal already).

14. Active discussion also occurred regarding what to ask concerning background of respondents (e.g., use of the internet, computers and cell phones). Questions concerning reasons, such as for migrating, were reduced to the main reason, deleting specification of a secondary reason.

C. Follow-up

15. The new version of the ‘standard’ and ‘light’ MQs and other related manuals will be available in early 2018, as some participating countries move forward with plans for further implementations. However, all these tools could be further revised according to a request of integration of few questions and other details for the purposes of developing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation system for the EU Trust Fund for North Africa specified by ICMPD / MENOA Project in the last weeks.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Work programme

Annex 2 – List of participants

Annex 1 – Work programme

Workshop on the MED-HIMS ‘Light’ Model Manuals Meeting organised by MEDSTAT IV

**Radisson Blu Hotel, Paris Boulogne
18-19 January 2018**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA (Version of 6 January 2018)

Working time: 9.00–13.00 & 14.30–17.30

Working language: English

Day 1

Opening of the meeting

Session 1 – Unfolding of work and discussion on the revision of the MED-HIMS model manuals and the drafting of the MED-HIMS “light” model manuals

Session 2 – Review of the revised versions of the MED-HIMS Manual 1 (Model Questionnaires), Manual 2 (Survey Design and Organisation) and Manual 3 (Instructions for Supervisors)

Session 3 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-1 (LMQ-1): Household Questionnaire

Session 4 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-2 (LMQ-2): Individual Questionnaire for Out-Migrant

Session 5 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-3 (LMQ-3): Individual Questionnaire for Return Migrant

Day 2

Session 6 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-4 (LMQ-4): Individual Questionnaire for Non-Migrant

Session 7 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-5 (LMQ-5): Individual Questionnaire for Forced Migrant

Session 8 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-6 (LMQ-6): Individual Questionnaire for Immigrant

Session 9 – Review of the MED-HIMS “Light” MQ-7 (LMQ-7): Household Socio-economic Characteristics

Session 10 – Summary of decisions

Annex 2 – List of participants

		Name	Institution/ Organisation	Function	Email
1.	Mrs	Amal Lakehal	Office National des Statistiques, Algérie	Directrice des Statistiques de la Population et de l'Emploi	amel.lakehal.ons@gmail.com
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