



KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND INTENDED PRACTICE (KAP) TOWARDS MIGRATION AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN WEST AFRICA – AN ONLINE STUDY

WAKA Well by IOM X West Africa is a campaign that seeks to prevent exploitation by empowering young people to make informed migration-related decisions. Since May 2019, the campaign has implemented online and offline activities in Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea and Nigeria – reaching more than two million people with information on safe migration and local opportunities. WAKA Well by IOM X is produced in partnership with the Federal Foreign Office of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

SURVEY AND RESPONDENTS

IOM X ran a series of online surveys from October to December 2020. The surveys were promoted via Facebook and Survey Monkey's market research solutions. In total there were eight surveys – four in English and four in French. The questions on the surveys were the same.

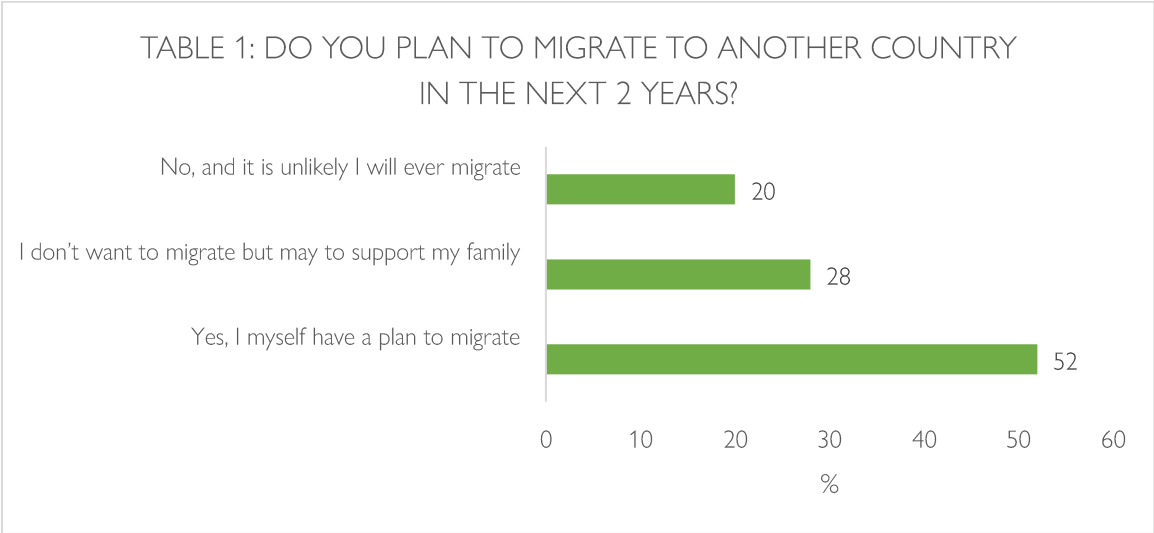
The eight surveys yielded a total of 498 respondents (182 female, 297 male and 19 unknown). All except one respondent was under the age of 45 years old. Most respondents lived in Nigeria (256), Côte d'Ivoire (137), Guinea (43) and The Gambia (34).

KEY FINDINGS:

- 80% of respondents planned to migrate in the next two years, with 28% stating that migration was necessary in order to support their family.
- 57% of respondents demonstrated that they have the correct knowledge of the risks and alternatives to irregular migration.
- 58% of respondents demonstrated that their attitudes towards regular migration and/or alternatives to irregular migration are positive.
- 67% of respondents indicated that they have or will use WAKAwell.info to help them make informed migration related decisions.

FINDINGS: INTENTION TO MIGRATE

More than half of the survey respondents (52%) indicated that they personally plan to migrate to another country in the next two years. A further 28 per cent indicate that they do not want to migrate in the next two years but may have to in order to support family. Only 20 percent of respondents indicated that they have no plan to migrate.

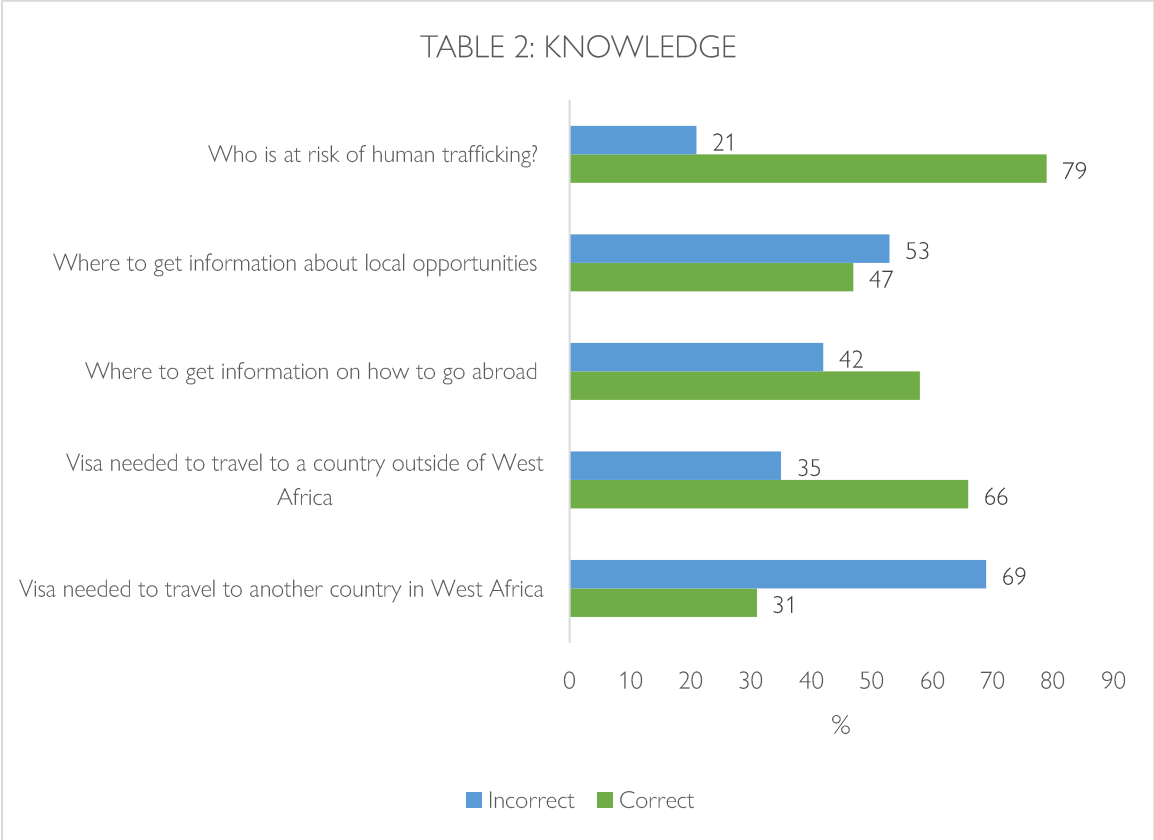


Young people in Guinea during production of the Waka Well campaign in November 2019.

FINDINGS: KNOWLEDGE

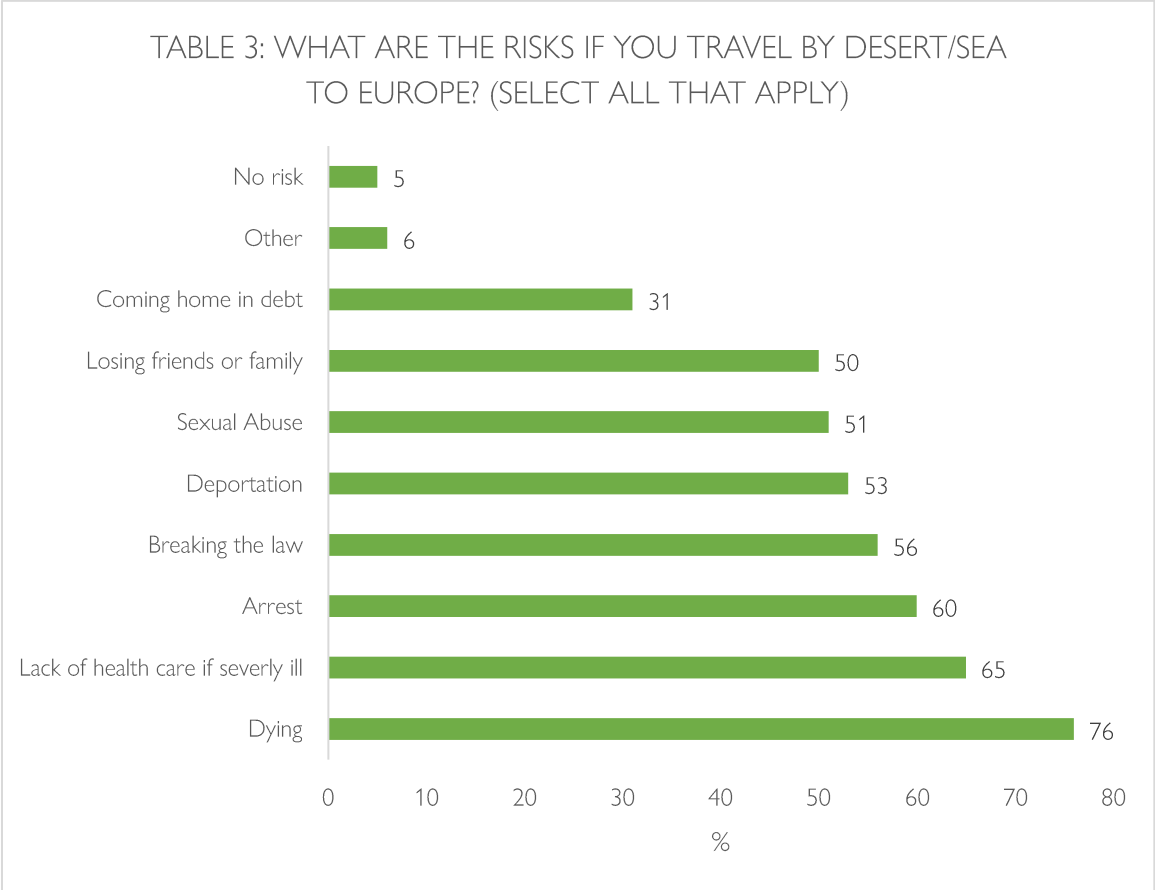
In terms of knowledge about travelling to another country in West Africa, only 31 per cent of respondents correctly indicated that a visa is **not** required. This could suggest a need for increased communication on the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) free movement protocol.

Most respondents (66%) correctly indicated that a visa is required to travel to a country outside of West Africa. However, only 58 per cent of respondents knew where to get information on going abroad, such as where to apply for a passport. This suggests a need to make information on migration related processes, such as getting a passport and applying for a visa, more accessible in the region.



A gap in information availability was also identified around knowledge about jobs, internships and professional training programmes in the respondents' own communities. When asked if they knew where to get information about local opportunities, only 47 per cent of respondents indicated that they do. Sixty-eight per cent of respondents indicated that people in their communities don't think there are opportunities for them to pursue at home. This suggests that more coordinated efforts to communicate about local opportunities may be helpful for young people in the region who are considering their life plans.

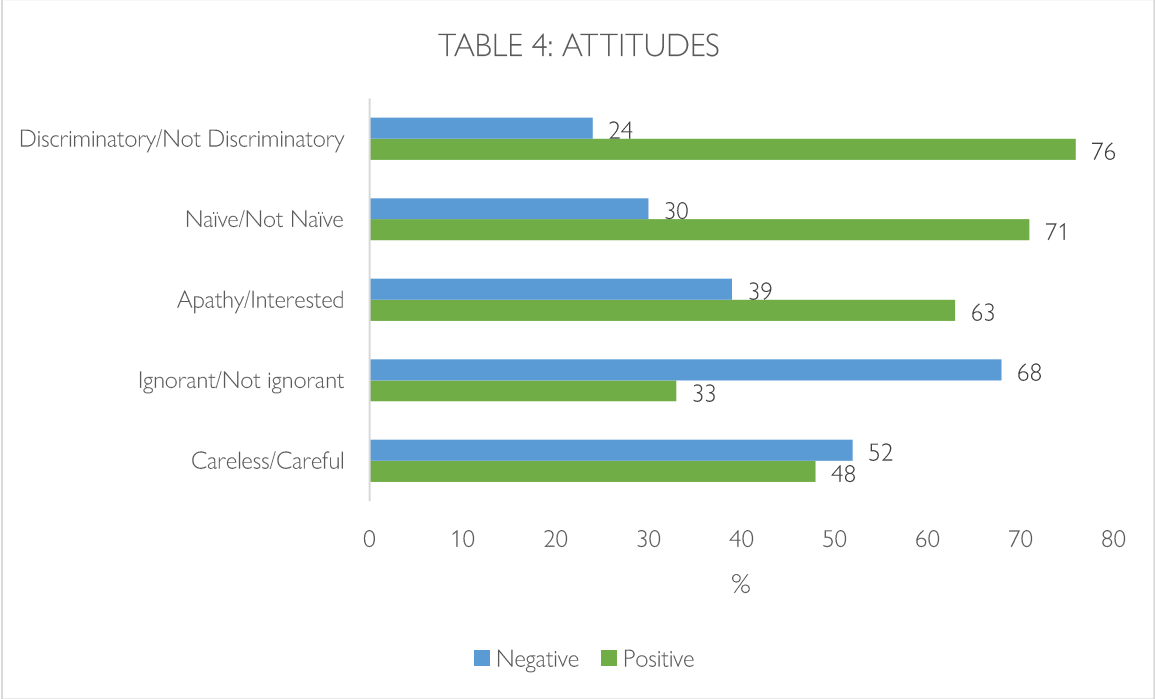
Almost all respondents (95%) indicated that there are risks associated with travelling by desert and sea to Europe. The top risks identified were dying (76%), lack of healthcare if severely ill (65%) and arrest (60%). Respondents also indicated risks of breaking the law (56%), deportation (53%), sexual abuse (51%) and losing friends and/or family (50%). This suggests that the respondents have heard testimonies and accounts of irregular migration, and that knowledge on the main risks is high. Most respondents (79%) indicated correctly that ‘men, women and children’ are all at risk of human trafficking.



Onomerike, a returnee migrant, discusses migration in her shop in Nigeria in 2019.

FINDINGS: ATTITUDES

Forty-two per cent of respondents agreed that people in their community prefer to migrate via irregular channels. However, 63 per cent of respondents agreed that it was worth the cost and time to get a visa or passport when migrating. This suggests that while the respondents believe people in their community prefer irregular migration, the respondents themselves have a slightly more favourable view of the benefits of getting a visa or passport for migration.



Most respondents (71%) indicated that it’s important to inform their parents or family about their decision to migrate. This suggests a behaviour in line with safer migration practices.

When asked whether returned migrants are easily accepted back into the community to continue their lives, 76 per cent agreed. This suggests that the respondents may not expect to be stigmatized or discriminated against as returnee migrants in their communities.

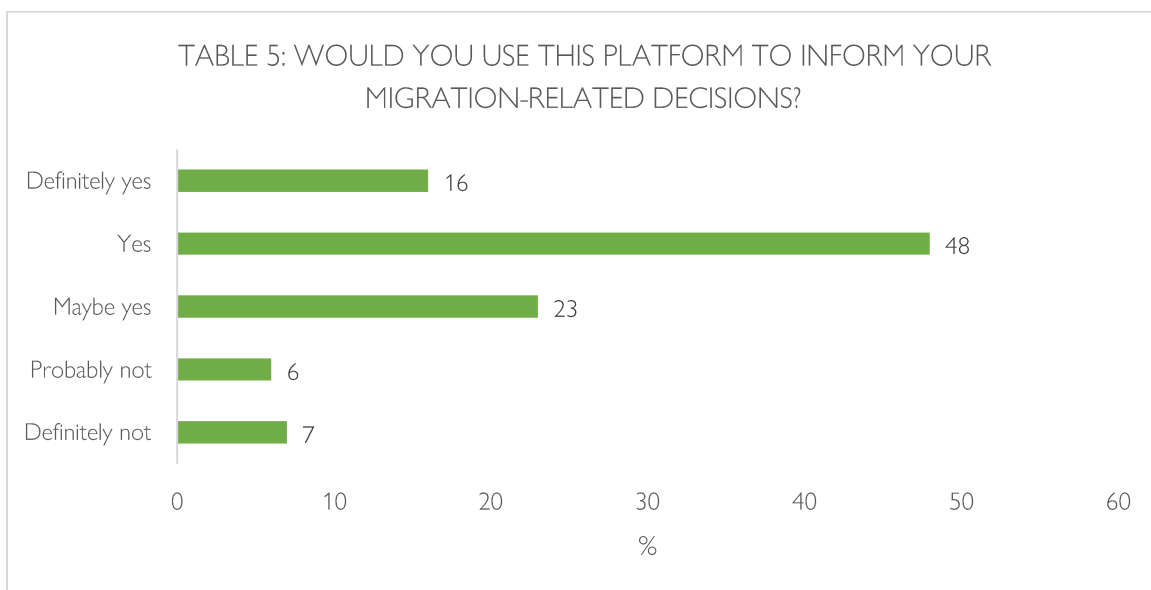


Fatoumata, a returnee migrant, tells her story at her restaurant in Guinea in 2019.

FINDINGS: BEHAVIOUR

When asked if they would visit the WAKA Well information platform, 92 per cent gave positive responses (“maybe yes”, “yes” and “definitely yes”). Almost all respondents (97%) gave a positive indication that they would recommend the platform to others. In addition, 96 per cent of respondents affirmed that this type of online platform will encourage young people in their country to seek credible information on how to go abroad, as well as local opportunities.

When asked if they would use the WAKA Well platform to inform their own migration-related decisions, 16 per cent of respondents indicated “definitely yes”, while 71 per cent indicated “yes” or “maybe yes”. Only seven per cent of respondents indicated that they definitely would not use the platform.



CONCLUSION

There is a high desire to migrate amongst the respondents, but a lack of access to accurate information on regional and out-of-region regular migration. If information on regular migration, as well as local opportunities, is made more accessible, there may be an uptake in its use to inform migration related decisions.

For further information on this report, please contact the Awareness Raising Unit at the IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa, at AWRDakar@iom.int

THIS REPORT WAS PUBLISHED IN MARCH 2021



ANNEX: SURVEY DATA

1. Surveys conducted

Survey	Survey name	Data collection start date
A	Survey on Migration and Local Opportunities (Online)	3 October 2020
B	Survey on Migration and Local Opportunities	16 September 2020
C	Enquête sur la migration et les opportunités locales (en ligne)	28 September 2020
D	Enquête sur la migration et les opportunités locales	16 September 2020
E	Survey on Migration and Local Opportunities (Online, post)	12 December 2020
F	Post Survey on Migration and Local Opportunities	3 December 2020
G	Enquête sur la migration et les opportunités locales (en ligne, post)	12 December 2020
H	Enquête sur la migration et les opportunités locales (post)	4 December 2020

2. Demographic of survey respondents

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
79 respondents (26F, 53M)	100 respondents (49F, 50M, 1 skipped)	37 respondents (8F, 27M, 2 skipped)	57 respondents (7F, 41M, 9 skipped)	27 respondents (9F, 18M)	102 respondents (50M, 50F, 2 skipped)	42 respondents (8F, 33M, 1 skipped)	54 respondents (25F, 25M, 4 skipped)
25 aged 18-35 42 aged 26-35 12 aged 36-45	66 aged 18-29 29 aged 30-44 5 aged 45-60	3 less than 18 18 aged 18-25 15 aged 26-35	40 aged 18-29 9 aged 30-44 1 aged 45-60	11 aged 18-25 11 aged 26-35 5 aged 36-35	72 aged 18-29 28 aged 30-44	1 less than 18 21 aged 18-25 20 aged 26-35	40 aged 18-29 10 aged 30-44
Nigeria (44); The Gambia (18)	Only to Nigeria	Guinea (25); Côte d'Ivoire (9)	Only to Côte d'Ivoire	The Gambia (16); 10 Nigeria (10); Canada (1)	Only to Nigeria	Guinea (18); Côte d'Ivoire (17), Mali (1); Mauritanie (1)	Only to Côte d'Ivoire

3. Do you plan to migrate to another country in the next two years?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Yes, I myself have a plan to migrate	52% (257)	51% (40)	60% (60)	43% (16)	28% (16)	14	66% (67)	20	24
I don't want to migrate but may migrate to support my family	28% (141)	36% (28)	27% (27)	19% (7)	33% (19)	10	27% (28)	13	9
No, and it is unlikely I will ever migrate	20% (100)	15% (11)	13% (13)	38% (14)	39% (22)	3	7% (7)	9	21

4. Do you need a visa to travel to another country in West Africa?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Yes	26% (129)	30% (24)	27% (27)	27% (10)	18% (10)	11	31% (32)	8	7
No	31% (155)	24% (19)	30% (30)	27% (10)	44% (25)	5	29% (30)	15	21
It depends (on country or travel conditions)	37% (185)	37% (29)	40% (40)	38% (14)	32% (18)	10	37% (38)	11	25
I don't know	6% (29)	9% (7)	3% (3)	8% (3)	7% (4)	1	2% (2)	8	1

5. Do you need a visa to travel to a country outside of West Africa?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Yes	66% (328)	71% (56)	75% (75)	62% (23)	49% (28)	17	75% (77)	26	26
No	8% (38)	4% (3)	2% (2)	11% (4)	16% (9)	3	4% (4)	1	7
It depends (on country or travel conditions)	24% (120)	22% (17)	23% (23)	19% (7)	30% (17)	6	17% (17)	12	21
I don't know	3% (17)	4% (3)	0%	8% (3)	5% (3)	1	4% (4)	3	0

6. Do you know where to get information on how to go abroad (such as where to apply for a passport, getting the right documents that are needed to migrate to another country)?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Yes	58% (290)	49% (39)	78% (78)	49% (18)	67% (38)	8	62% (63)	15	31
No	42% (208)	51% (40)	22% (22)	51% (19)	33% (19)	19	38% (39)	27	23

7. Do you know where to get information about local opportunities (such as information about available jobs, internships, professional training programmes, and more)?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Yes	47% (232)	24% (19)	74% (74)	35% (13)	56% (32)	3	60% (61)	6	24
No	53% (266)	76% (60)	26% (26)	65% (24)	44% (25)	24	40% (41)	36	30

8. What are the risks if you travel by desert/sea to Europe? (select all that apply)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
No risk	5% (26)	9% (7)	3% (3)	14% (5)	5% (3)	3	2% (2)	3	0
Sexual abuse	51% (254)	29% (31)	51% (51)	43% (16)	54% (31)	9	59% (60)	25	31
Arrest	60% (299)	46% (36)	60% (60)	51% (19)	63% (36)	13	63% (65)	28	42
Deportation	53% (264)	44% (35)	71% (71)	38% (14)	37% (21)	13	66% (67)	19	24
Losing friends and/or family	50% (251)	38% (30)	48% (48)	46% (17)	65% (37)	14	45% (46)	24	35
Breaking the law	56% (277)	51% (40)	65% (65)	38% (14)	56% (32)	11	62% (63)	22	30
Lack of health care if severely ill	65% (324)	52% (41)	73% (73)	51% (19)	67% (38)	14	69% (70)	30	39
Dying	76% (378)	56% (44)	73% (73)	70% (26)	89% (51)	21	75% (77)	34	52
Coming home in debt	31% (154)	32% (25)	27% (27)	35% (13)	28% (16)	10	28% (29)	18	16
Other	6% (30)	11% (9)	8% (8)	8% (3)	2% (1)	1	1% (1)	5	2

9. Who is at risk of human trafficking?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Only women	2% (11)	5% (4)	0%	5% (2)	2% (1)	2	0% (0)	1	1
Only women and children	14% (69)	19% (15)	19% (19)	0%	11% (6)	5	18% (18)	2	4
Men women and children	79% (394)	67% (53)	79% (79)	73% (27)	86% (49)	20	80% (82)	35	49
Not sure	5% (24)	9% (7)	2% (2)	22% (8)	2% (1)	0	2% (2)	4	0

10. People in my community prefer to migrate through irregular channels (via sea or desert). (Attitude: Careless/Careful)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Don't agree at all	29% (143)	18% (14)	27% (27)	35% (13)	46% (26)	4	22% (22)	14	23
Don't really agree	19% (96)	10% (8)	24% (24)	14% (5)	18% (10)	8	24% (24)	9	8
Agree to some extent	35% (175)	42% (33)	37% (37)	43% (16)	32% (18)	5	38% (39)	14	13
Agree	12% (60)	19% (15)	10% (10)	3% (1)	4% (2)	10	10% (10)	4	8
Agree completely	5% (24)	11% (9)	2% (2)	5% (2)	2% (1)	0	7% (7)	1	2

11. People in my community think that there are no opportunities for them to pursue at home. (Attitude: Ignorant/Not ignorant)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Don't agree at all	17% (85)	8% (6)	11% (11)	22% (8)	30% (17)	4	8% (8)	13	18
Don't really agree	16% (82)	13% (10)	16% (16)	16% (6)	14% (8)	2	17% (17)	17	6
Agree to some extent	37% (186)	30% (24)	40% (40)	43% (16)	37% (21)	9	40% (41)	12	23
Agree	23% (113)	35% (28)	27% (27)	16% (6)	12% (7)	10	24% (24)	6	5
Agree completely	8% (42)	14% (11)	6% (6)	3% (1)	7% (4)	2	12% (12)	4	2

12. It is not worth the cost and time to get a Visa and/or passport. (Attitude: Apathy/Interested)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Don't agree at all	38% (191)	33% (26)	44% (44)	32% (12)	28% (16)	11	42	15	25
Don't really agree	25% (124)	22% (17)	29% (29)	16% (6)	21% (12)	5	34	10	11
Agree to some extent	20% (99)	19% (15)	19% (19)	30% (11)	25% (14)	4	18	7	11
Agree	15% (73)	19% (15)	7% (7)	19% (7)	19% (11)	6	4	7	6
Agree completely	4% (21)	8% (6)	1% (1)	3% (1)	7% (4)	1	4	3	1

13. It's not important to inform my parents or family on my intention to migrate – I'll contact them when I arrive in my destination

(Attitude: Naive/Well-Informed)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Don't agree at all	55% (273)	48% (38)	68% (68)	41% (15)	56% (32)	13	58	20	29
Don't really agree	16% (80)	20% (16)	15% (15)	16% (6)	12% (7)	6	19	2	9
Agree to some extent	15% (72)	14% (11)	8% (8)	22% (8)	14% (8)	2	11	12	12
Agree	11% (53)	15% (12)	5% (5)	22% (8)	9% (5)	5	7	8	3
Agree completely	4% (20)	3% (2)	4% (4)	0%	9% (5)	1	7	0	1

14. Returned migrants are easily accepted back in the community to continue with their lives. (Attitude: Discriminatory)

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Don't agree at all	9% (43)	15% (12)	6% (6)	11% (4)	14% (8)	2	3	3	5
Don't really agree	15% (74)	18% (14)	13% (13)	8% (3)	14% (8)	4	13	7	12
Agree to some extent	32% (159)	25% (20)	39% (39)	35% (13)	33% (19)	8	35	12	13
Agree	32% (161)	34% (27)	31% (31)	30% (11)	19% (11)	10	38	14	19
Agree completely	12% (61)	8% (6)	11% (11)	16% (6)	19% (11)	3	13	6	5

15. How likely is it that you will visit the WAKA Well online platform (website and/or Facebook page)?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Definitely not	3% (14)	1% (1)	1% (1)	5% (2)	4% (2)	0	3	1	4
Probably not	4% (18)	4% (3)	3% (3)	5% (2)	7% (4)	0	2	2	2
Maybe yes	33% (165)	25% (20)	27% (27)	30% (11)	42% (24)	6	29	21	27
Yes	36% (178)	37% (29)	31% (31)	43% (16)	32% (18)	14	41	13	16
Definitely yes	23% (113)	33% (26)	28% (28)	16% (6)	16% (9)	7	27	5	5

16. Would you encourage others to visit the WAKA Well online platform (website and/or Facebook page)?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Definitely not	1% (5)	0%	1% (1)	0%	0% (0)	0	1	2	1
Probably not	2% (10)	1% (1)	3% (3)	5% (2)	2% (1)	0	1	0	2
Maybe yes	28% (141)	28% (22)	26% (26)	16% (6)	28% (16)	5	38	11	17
Yes	48% (239)	49% (39)	42% (42)	57% (21)	60% (34)	14	40	19	30
Definitely yes	21% (103)	22% (17)	28% (28)	22% (8)	11% (6)	8	22	10	4

17. Will this type of online platform encourage young people in your country to seek credible information on how to go abroad?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Definitely not	2% (8)	4% (3)	0%	0%	2% (1)	0	1	3	0
Probably not	2% (9)	3% (2)	3% (3)	3% (1)	2% (1)	0	0	2	0
Maybe yes	26% (127)	27% (21)	23% (23)	27% (10)	28% (16)	9	16	11	21
Yes	46% (230)	42% (33)	38% (38)	51% (19)	61% (35)	10	46	23	26
Definitely yes	25% (124)	25% (20)	36% (36)	19% (7)	7% (4)	E	F	G	H

18. Will this type of online platform encourage young people in your country to seek credible information on available local opportunities?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Definitely not	1% (6)	1% (1)	0%	0%	2% (1)	0	1	2	1
Probably not	3% (13)	1% (1)	6% (6)	3% (1)	4% (2)	0	0	1	2
Maybe yes	25% (124)	24% (19)	21% (21)	32% (12)	26% (15)	5	22	14	16
Yes	50% (247)	51% (40)	39% (39)	51% (19)	60% (34)	16	45	22	32
Definitely yes	22% (108)	23% (18)	34% (34)	14% (5)	9% (5)	6	34	3	3

19. Would you use this platform to inform your migration-related decisions?

	All	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Definitely not	7% (36)	1% (1)	1% (1)	3% (1)	5% (3)	7	5	5	13
Probably not	6% (30)	3% (2)	2% (2)	8% (3)	5% (3)	3	7	1	9
Maybe yes	23% (114)	24% (19)	29% (29)	19% (7)	21% (12)	5	16	10	16
Yes	48% (237)	57% (45)	45% (45)	57% (21)	56% (32)	9	48	23	14
Definitely yes	16% (81)	15% (12)	23% (23)	14% (5)	12% (7)	3	26	3	2